

Draft Minutes of a Meeting of Bergh Apton Parish Council

Tuesday 18th February 2020 at 7.00 pm in The Village Hall

Members Present

Parish Council Members Present: David Skedje (chair), Janet Skedje, Steve Whitby, Ian Ratcliffe, Sheridan Winn, Joe Horton

In Attendance: Clerk Angela Tregear, Cllr Barry Stone, Cllr John Fuller, 4 members of the public

Apologies: Hugh Porter

1. To receive apologies for absence & declarations of interest
Apologies as above and no declarations of interest
2. To approve the minutes of Parish Council meeting held on 7th January 2020
Minutes approved by all and signed by chairperson
3. To report progress on items not on the Agenda arising from last meeting (see also Clerk's report on BA website)
Item 11. The District Council require us to make a fixed, unconditional offer (e.g. £5,900) to BACT to help fund the purchase of additional land for the nature reserve and then it is likely that they would match that, enabling the purchase to go ahead. Steve proposed fixed offer of £5,900, Janet seconded – all agreed. T Davy explained that a bridge would be needed to cross the Chet, once the land has been purchased and that BACT would probably require support with that, if there was any spare CIL money, as their funds would be running low by then. (see item 10) BACT have also applied to the Geoffrey Watling charity for the whole amount – they will hear the outcome of this bid in March.
4. Open forum for Public Participation: an opportunity to hear from members of the public
Members of the public were able to comment during/after Cllr Stone's report.
5. Presentation of County Councillor's Report – Barry Stone
Finance: Council tax to increase by 3.99%, but a 2% levy from previous tax year, for social care, will not be repeated. County Hall are moving to new computer system at the end of year which should help with keeping track of the budget.
There may be devolution from central to local government in the future (which may mean that things get done more quickly) as well as boundary revision, but it is likely that we will still be in the Loddon division.
Environment policy: to be carbon neutral by 2030. There will be a cross party group to set strategy to achieve 2030 target. This will include planting a million or more trees (with grants to Parish Councils to plant trees), encouraging recycling and reduced use of cars. The County Council will be working with businesses, especially transport companies, to promote the use of solar panels and all new housing developments from 2025 will have to have either ground source or air source heat pumps. They will also work with environment agencies on flooding issues and water conservation.
Speeding: Barry suggested using the SAM2 data to monitor when, how often and where speeding is taking place, then notifying the police Highways Safety Team who

may come and carry out a speed check at the relevant time/place. Member of the public asked whether there was a basic data requirement to trigger a police speed check – Barry will check.

A146: The 50mph speed limit has not yet been put in place at Hellington Corner. Green Pastures are required to pay £5,000 by legal order to NCC, as part of the planning process. Once this has occurred there should be no further hold up.

George Lane roundabout on A146: There are still some issues to be resolved regarding the gas and water mains and BT cabling. The council were hoping for a spring/summer start with completion by December but it's now looking more like a December start...

6. Presentation of District Councillor's Report (including an update on the GNLP) – John Fuller

John Fuller explained that he wasn't happy with the proposals that came back for sites for new housing in South Norfolk for the GNLP (no consideration had been given to whether a site was brownfield or not) and so he now has a new team starting from scratch. There are 97 small villages in South Norfolk, which for the purposes of GNLP, will be arranged in clusters. Bergh Apton will be with Alington & Yelverton as a cluster. Proposals will be gathered for sites in the cluster for developments of 12-24 houses of the right mix e.g. bungalows, smaller affordable houses as well as larger houses. In addition to estate developments, it is proposed that every village will also accommodate 3 additional infill dwellings as part of GNLP. SNC will take into account the capacity of schools, and brown field sites will get priority over green field sites. JF guaranteed that county wildlife sites would be protected and drainage of septic tanks into rivers would be avoided. We will hear about the proposals between July and September and be given a chance to comment on them. It was suggested that the old block works in Bergh Apton might be a suitable site.

7. To consider GNLP consultation document – report on briefing meeting from Steve and Janet

(covered above in John Fuller's report) Clerk to write update for BA newsletter.

8. To consider quotes for the playpark refurbishment

Steve proposed going with cheapest quote of £690 (K Parfitt) All agreed. Clerk to notify all concerned.

9. To consider the maintenance of the Bergh Apton village website

Steve offered to take on the management/maintenance of the village website and has discussed this with Chris, who currently maintains it. All agreed. Steve will get the passwords and admin rights and update us on his progress at a future meeting in about six month's time. Clerk to notify and thank Chris and put something in newsletter to advise parishioners to get in touch with Steve if they want to update, amend or put anything on the website.

10. To consider the use of CIL money to fund various village projects possibly including a bus shelter and bike racks.

BACT may need help with funding a bridge across Chet. Projects for 2020 – Clerk will ask for ideas for consideration in the March newsletter. Ideas to be in by 14th April to enable us to cost them and discuss at AGM on 21st April.

11. Planning

11.1 2019/2340 - Buildings on Land Off Church Loke Bergh Apton Norfolk
Redevelopment of existing commercial premises to create 4 starter commercial units – discussion of amended planning application

The councillors feel that this is an improved design on the original submission and have a preference for a timber clad finish as this is more in keeping with the natural surroundings. Clerk to submit comments to SNC planning department.

12. Finance

- 9.1 Cheques raised and approved for Clerk's salary for Jan & Feb (including tax refund) - £143.43 + £328.43
- 9.2 Cheque raised and approved to Westcotec for new bracket for SAM2 - £60 inc. VAT
- 9.3 Cheque raised and approved to Norfolk Parish Training & Support for councillor's induction training – 3 x £40 = £120
- 9.4 Cheque raised and approved to Bergh Apton Parochial Church Council for churchyard maintenance in 2019 - £525
- 9.5 Cheque raised and approved to John Ling towards BA Newsletter costs (Jan-June 2020) - £41

13. To consider arrangements for the Annual Parish Meeting on 31 March 2020

Clerk will invite all the village organisations and Janet will organise refreshments. David to give a Parish council report. It will start at 7pm for 7.30pm.

14. To agree items for next meeting (AGM)

To consider ideas submitted by parishioners for use of CIL (Community Infrastructure Levy) money.

Future Dates for Meetings:

APM 31st March 2020

AGM 21st April 2020

9th June 2020

14th July 2020

8th September 2020

Clerk's Report on matters arising from last meeting (7th Jan) not on the agenda (18th Feb)

Item 3: To consider candidate for co-option – Clerk sent off Joe's Register of Interest forms to SNC and enrolled Joe on Councillor Induction training with Sheri and Ian (4th and 11th Feb). All councillors have now completed induction training.

Item 9: Traffic and Speeding – the latest monthly graph shows an increase up from 15% to 36% of vehicles speeding in Bergh Apton with the highest speed recorded at 60mph on 29th Jan (see graph).

Item 11: To consider funding for BACT land purchase – clerk wrote to BACT to inform them of Council's decision to support BACT up to a limit of £11,800. Tony Davy replied and conveys his gratitude. (10.1.20) We have since heard that the District Council requires us to make a fixed, unconditional offer (e.g. £5,900) and then it is very likely that SNC would match it. (12.2.20)

Item 9.2: Clerk has written to HMRC to claim back PAYE tax (£113.40) (HMRC originally put me on the Basic Rate tax code but have now changed that to 1250L meaning that I no longer have to pay tax on Clerk's wages.)

