

Minutes of an Extraordinary Meeting of Bergh Apton Parish Council on Wednesdays 16th March 2022 at 7.00 pm in the Church

Members present:

David Skedge (chair), Janet Skedge, Sheridan Winn, Ian Ratcliffe, Steven Mitchell

In Attendance: Clerk Angela Tregear, 2 members of the public

1. To receive apologies for absence & declarations of interest
Apologies received from Steve Whitby and Hugh Porter
2. To approve the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 2nd March 2022
Minutes approved by all and signed by the Chair.
3. To report progress on items not on the Agenda arising from last meeting
Clerk reported that she had been in touch with one of the organisers of the Jubilee Picnic in the Park who said that they were still in the early stages of planning the event, but that the £200 grant from SNC would be useful. Clerk has applied for this.
4. Open forum for Public Participation: an opportunity to hear from members of the public
2 members of the public present to observe
5. Planning: To agree comments on the following application:
2022/0480 - Land West Of Washingford Barn Cookes Road Bergh Apton Norfolk. Proposal: Retrospective application for field access to highway, new frontage fencing and hedge planting.
The site notice has been taken down after being up for only 2 days - it should be displayed for 21 days. The Clerk will contact SNC and inform them of the site notice removal and see if the consultation period needs to be extended.
Immediate neighbours do not appear to have been informed of the application – the Clerk will also raise this with SNC.
It was decided that the PC would object to this retrospective application on the grounds that the large metal gate and fence is out of keeping with the surrounding area and the hedge has not been planted exactly as it was (i.e. there is a large gap for the gate). The Councillors also disagree with the land owners claim that this is an agricultural meadow as no crops or grass have ever been grown there – there is therefore no need for an access gate or fence.
6. To discuss improvement of visibility at the top of Mill Road
The Speedwatch team reported that there was very nearly a serious accident here on 15.3.22, and that this is a regular occurrence. Also, the police officer supporting the Speedwatch has said that there is no possibility that the 'Give Way' sign be converted to a 'Stop' sign in the near future due to lack of resources and this not being a priority. Alington PC have suggested looking into whether anything can be done about the maintenance of hedges near the junction to improve visibility.

7. Finance:

- 7.1 Cheque approved to Action Play & Leisure for outdoor gym - £8070
- 7.2 Cheque raised and approved to PCC for churchyard maintenance – £639.20
- 7.3 Cheque raised and approved to SNC for dog bin emptying - £178.56
- 7.4 Cheque raised and approved to Autela for payroll services Q4 - £52.20
- 7.5 Cheque raised and approved to Clerk for March salary - £184.60