



BATTISFORD PARISH COUNCIL

<http://www.battisford-pc.gov.uk>

FINAL MINUTES

of BATTISFORD PARISH COUNCIL MEETING held at Battisford Village Hall on 16th July 2024

Present

Cllr J Cook (Chair)
Cllr J Pope

Cllr A Card
Cllr J Wilson

C.Cllr K. Oakes
D.CllrD.Pratt

No residents
No Clerk

Minutes: Cllr J.Pope

2024/72	MEETING ADMINISTRATION – Previous Chair to open meeting	
a.	Meeting opened by the chair and it was established that no recordings were to be made.	
b.	To consider & Approve Apologies for absence. Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr Kerry and Cllr Greenwood.	
c.	To receive Declarations of interest on agenda items Declarations of Interest on agenda items – None were given.	
2024/73	To Approve the Draft Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting of 18th June 2024 and for the Chair to sign as a true record.	
a.	Matters arising from the minutes of 18 th June 2024 not on the agenda–It was noted the item numbers should be changed and the date changed from 17 th to 18 th June. 24/68 b) change to: provided No matters arising not on the Agenda. Chair to sign in due course.	
2024/74	PUBLIC PARTICIPATION - For members of the public, County Councillors & District Councillors to speak.	
a.	Public invited to speak – none present.	
b.	To receive Suffolk County Council monthly report from Cty Cllr K Oakes – Cty Cllr Oakes confirmed there was no written report because of the General Election. Cty Cllr Oakes reported she has received an estimate of £2002 for the replacement road signs. She confirmed she has agreed for it to proceed but it may take some time to be completed.	
c.	Cty Cllr Oakes has met with Keith Sampson from the County Council Highways Dept about the redesign of the road junction at the east end of Straight Road. The safety audit of the junction concluded it will not be redesigned because it does not meet the criteria. Concerns were raised about a queue of traffic in Church Road which may include lorries and farm vehicles. There have been no serious incidents. The benefit versus value for	

	money ratio indicated it should not be taken forward. It could cost up to £20,000 and Cty Cllr Oakes could not allocate that amount from her budget. A Cllr suggested that perhaps the hedge could be cut or even moved further back to improve visibility on the corner. <u>To receive District Council monthly report from Dst Cllr D Pratt</u> – No written report received but D Cllr Pratt reported that he had been following up complaints about intermittent bin collections from Stoke Drive and he expected this to be resolved. D Cllr Pratt asked Councillors to follow up on the information he had sent about the Bowl Meadow development and whether the developer had carried out the requirements of the planning application.	
2024/75 a. b. c.	Chair and Councillor Reports / Updates (on the night not requiring a decision) <u>Chairman report</u> – The Chair thanked Councillors for their help on the Parish Council stand at the village fete on 29th June. He also thanked the Fete committee, Village Hall committee and Gardening Club committee for their hard work in making it a very successful day. The Chair and Councillor Wilson now have the Parish Council files. These will require checking, collating and some will be identified for archiving. This could be done at the Village Hall. <u>Councillor report(s)</u> – No Councillors had anything to report. No Clerk report submitted.	
2024/76 a. b. c.	Administration and Governance <u>To discuss Parish Council meeting start time.</u> Deferred to September meeting to gauge all Councillors' views. <u>To discuss Parish Council email system and website.</u> Cllr Greenwood is still unable to access the system. Councillors agreed that the system is not easy to navigate and the designated names are not popular, being long and possibly creating problems when Councillors change. Agreed: Chair to contact the server and discuss options. To report back at a future meeting. <u>To discuss Parish Clerk Vacancy</u> Discussed options for advertising for another Clerk. SALC have advised that there is a shortage of Clerks. Chair to follow up.	
2024/77 a. b.	ENVIRONMENTAL/ FACILITY / ASSET MATTERS <u>To discuss update on installing white gates by the 30MPH limit signs</u> Deferred. <u>To discuss the Woodland Plan: Cllr Cook</u> Cllr Cook confirmed that the Woodland Plan is almost complete. Some items in the Plan include consideration of a Community Orchard selective felling of trees to allow light in and clear self-seeded saplings, clearing the understory and checking the safety of the woodland. The canopy around the pond will also be trimmed to allow in more light.	

c.	<u>To discuss any Battisford and Combs Fete outcomes/actions.</u> The Fete was a successful community occasion. The stand represented the Parish Council well. The jar of sweets competition worked well again. The Chair thanked Cllr Kerry for this. It was agreed that the Parish Council leaflet should be redesigned slightly, particularly the size. It was also agreed to invite Combs Parish Council to share the stand at the next Fete. The Local History display attracted people to the stand in 2022. Cllr Pope to liaise with Cllr Ottewell at Combs about a possible joint Local History display at the next Fete.	
d.	<u>To discuss correspondence to cycle time-trial organisers</u> Cllrs agreed there have been some safety issues around the time-trials. The organisers do not have to notify the Parish and some warning would be appreciated. They have happened on most Tuesday evenings during the summer. It was agreed the Chair would initially speak informally to the Stewards.	
e.	<u>To discuss alleged breach of planning control: Bowl House, Battisford. Cllr Greenwood.</u> It was agreed that the facts of the application should be clarified for the Council. D.Cllr Pratt agreed to follow this matter up. To be deferred.	
2024/78	FINANCE Todiscuss and authorise payments of invoices payable in July 2024 i. MSDC Dog and Litter Bins – Invoice not yet received. ii. Clerk wages July- no advice received. iii. Clerk Office Allowance and Mileage. No advice received. Councillors Agreed for Chair and Vice Chair to sign off when the amounts are received.	
a.		
b.	To discuss the need to appoint an interim Responsible Financial Officer. Cllr Kerry to continue to be non-signatory member to undertake quarterly reviews. As she is not a signatory, Cllr Kerry meets the rules and can check invoices, payments and income.	
c.	Quotes for cemetery gates. Item deferred, awaiting two more quotes.	
2024/79	Planning Consultations Received National Grid Norwich to Tilbury – consultation extended to 24th July. Discussed - It is clear the project is planning on not using the underground route, although there is still active opposition to pylons. There will be a 50m pylon dropped into the valley at Hascot Hill. There have been objections to this.	
a.		

b.	Planning application DC/24/02889. Holly Farm, Deadman's Lane – change of use of outbuilding to annex. Unanimous support. Chair to email Planning Officer.	
2024/80	Items for next Agenda No items were put forward, apart from those deferred above.	

Planning Link: <https://planning.baberghmidsuffolk.gov.uk/online-applications/>

Meeting closed approx.8.40pm