Minutes of the meeting of the council

Held on 10th July 2023

Present – Cllr Skinner (chair) Cllr Mason, Cllr Watkins, Cllr Ellis, Cllr Hempsall

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| 37/23 | Apologies received from Cllr Suggitt  |
| 38/23 | No declarations were made |
| 39/23 | The minutes of the meeting held on 17th April were agreed proposed Cllr Hempsall, seconded Cllr Ellis  |
| 40/23 | Public participationConcerns were raised about the roadworks that appear to have been completed, but signage still remains. Cllr Skinner said these were due to be cleared shortly.Track noise was discussed- resident was advised to keep a diary and report the issue to the environmental enforcement officer at BDC |
| 41/23 | Updates Local plan - Cllr Skinner read out report from Cllr Suggitt outlining the progress of the local plan (see report attached to these minutes), Cllr Skinner will draft a reply to BDC for approval.Cllr Mason suggested contacting other interested bodies regarding the possible outcome of the local plan update ie wildlife groups and the enviroment agency. Ex- councillor Walsh will be contacted for updates on her previous work in this field.County broadband – no further progress had been made on this issue, BARN will be contacted for talks |
| 42/23  | Defibrillator – Cllr Skinner has sent further letters to local businesses requesting support  |
| 43/23 | Proposed development at North End – the district council has been approached regarding a village wide consultation. Failing this the council agreed to support the proposal. Proposed Cllr Skinner Seconded Cllr Watkins |
| 44/23  | Highway rangers will be contacted regarding potholes and other issues |
| 45/23 | Planning – no applications recieved |
| 46/23 | Finance – payments agreed proposed Cllr Skinner seconded Cllr WatkinsRevisions to the bank mandate have been delayed due to the clerk leaving  |
| 47/23 | Clerk’s resignation was acknowledged. |
| 48/23 | County councillor – no report |
| 49/23 | Cllr Suggitt’s report attached  |
| 50/23 | **The next meeting was scheduled for Wednesday 20th September at 6.30pm** |

The meeting closed at 7.46pm

Signed by Cllr Skinner

Chair of the council

DISTRICT COUNCILLORS’ REPORT JULY 2023

Following the elections in May, the council is settling down with the influx of some new members and a number of induction sessions are in hand to give support to members who may not be familiar with the machinations of local government. The leader has confirmed a Cabinet and the summer edition of Transforming Breckland lists all the newly elected members of council and provides a guide as to how to contact members by email.

Sarah Suggitt and Phil Cowen both hold cabinet positions with Sarah, deputy Leader of the Council, is the executive member for Strategic and Operational Planning whilst Phil is the executive member for Finance, Revenues and Benefits.

We have spoken in the past about the Local Plan Review and we have been advised that the Inspector has indicated that they are content with our partial Review that addresses issues and aspects emanating from our current plan, and we are therefore optimistic that when the full review is complete that we will receive a similar response.

The full review has yet to delve into the detail but officers are engaged in sifting through the hundreds of sites that have been offered up and members will soon be able to interrogate the shortened list and discuss with local communities, their thoughts as well. Thus far, no decisions have been made with regard to any sites that have been put forward through the call for sites.

Our contract with Serco who collect our bins is being fine tuned as the new central operational site in Watton beds in, but we await with keen interest announcements from Westminster regarding a suggested universal waste service that may see many more discrete recycling bins where households may be required to separate recyclables on the ‘doorstep’ together with a universal national bin colour arrangement and perhaps garden waste being treated in a different manner.

Otherwise the business of running and managing the council continues with officers and members engaged upon the preliminary phases of developing our budget for the next financial year.

**Sarah Suggitt and Phil Cowen**

July 2023