

PUBLIC NOTES FOR MEETING ON 2/4/24

Please note that as these are composed of combined documents, they may not be fully accessible. If you require in an alternative form, please contact the Clerk.

Item 3 – minutes of the last meeting attached.

Item 4 – if your comments are on planning matters in the agenda, please speak here, though the Chairman may ask you to wait until item 7.

Item 6 – usual finance reports to follow (will be on website when available)

Item 7 – Planning Apps hyperlinked for access to Borough web portal. Note a Planning meeting is available for 23rd April. As there is a Cllr training session that evening, Council may elect to change this date, or hold in person rather than by Zoom, as appropriate.

Item 8 – it is likely that by the time of the meeting the Clerk will have approved a new streetlight power contract – probable report in finance above.

Item 9 – a report has been received on the AV needs for Council to consider in general terms.

A meeting on Tuesday 26th taking place for info on electronic signs. Too late for info in this pack.

Item 10 – for info 220+ emails received between 8th and 22nd March. 55 responses 21/22/24 March.

Item 13 – Annual PC meeting at Brancaster Staithe Village Hall. Council has agreed that from 2025 on this meeting will rotate annually between the two Halls.

Brancaster Parish Council

Minutes of the meeting of Council held on Tuesday 5th March 2024 at 6.30pm

The meeting was held in Brancaster Staithe Village Hall

Present: Cllr T de Winton (Chair), Cllr B Bax, Cllr S Bocking, Cllr C Borthwick, Cllr V Carpenter, Cllr W Gardiner, Cllr S Osborn, Cllr S Ullswater

Also in attendance: Simon Bower (Parish Clerk) and approximately eleven Members of the Public

Prior to the meeting some Cllrs took the opportunity to look at AV equipment – this slightly delayed the start, and some filming was done during the meeting.

Meeting began at 6.34pm

2024.03.05.01 - Declarations of Interest

- a) Declarations of Interest were received from Cllrs Borthwick (7.a.b) and Osborne (7.a.f).

2024.03.05.02 - Apologies for absence

- a) Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs Dovey and O'Sullivan.

2024.03.05.03 - Minutes

- a) *The minutes of the meeting on 6th February 2024 were accepted as a true record and duly signed.*

Prop: Cllr Gardiner; 2nd: Cllr Bax; unanimous

- b) No matters arising from these minutes were raised.

2024.03.05.04 – Public Comments 1

- a) Subjects raised were:
 - Planning – asked to contribute at appropriate item.

2024.03.05.05 - Reports

- a) Chair's report. Cllr de Winton noted much time had been spent on flooding matters – to be covered later. The rough sleeper had pleaded not guilty to the assault charge – case in November. Another charge had been made.
- b) Report from Borough Councillor. Cllr de Winton noted that the Planning Committee had approved the aviary application in Deepdale. The Borough budget had not included the staff pay rise, and he expressed scepticism over it. There had been few meetings, but the Council Tax rise for second homes had been approved.
- c) Report from County Councillor. Cllr Jamieson was not present.
- d) Report from Clerk. The Clerk noted that he had received concerns about the horse belonging to the rough sleeper, but it was difficult to report – he requested that all such reports be made direct. [Cllr Borthwick noted that the horse appeared well-cared for and in good condition.] On second homes, he had received a first response from the Borough Leader, but no follow up – it was clear there were problems determining which properties the increased charge would apply to.

Signed:

(Chair)

Date: 2/4/2024

2024.03.05.06 - Finance

- a) The Clerk presented the finance figures, which, with one or two exceptions, would be those for the end of year audit. Balances were just under £184K, with donations from the Sports Club (£11.7K) and Golf Club (£47.2K) received. Barclaycard figures were being sent to the Finance Group as requested. Not all Cllrs would be taking the Allowances, so this figure would be lower. The electricity account could not be converted to a fixed tariff with nPower, so Clerk had sought help from Cardinal Energy (price comparison company) – he sought approval for Delegated Power to agree this – Cllrs asked about renewable energy. It was agreed that the Clerk, in consultation with Cllrs, could register for a fixed tariff if totalling at least 10% less than current charges.
- b) All expenditure as listed in the pack was approved for payment¹.
Prop: Cllr Osborn; 2nd: Cllr Carpenter; unanimous
- c) The draft Asset List was approved. Clerk suggested that it might be appropriate to seek a formal valuation of assets for insurance purposes – general consent².

2024.03.05.07 - Planning

- a) Planning Applications were considered:
- a. 24/00144 - First floor extension to rear of dwelling to provide a bedroom and shower room (Pump Cottage, Main Road, Brancaster Staithe – amended). Council agreed to object on grounds of overdevelopment. It also noted concerns over the drawings, and car parking.
 - b. 24/00136 - Variation of condition 2 attached to planning permission 21/00214/F: Extension to the west of the property (September House, Main Road, Brancaster Staithe). Council agreed to raise no objection.
 - c. 24/00232 - Side extension, with new roof finishes, new external cladding and new timber windows (Stranraer, 17 Town Lane, Brancaster Staithe). Council agreed to object on grounds of overdevelopment and the number of bedrooms being against the Neighbourhood Plan.
 - d. 24/00239 - Extension and alterations to dwelling, and first floor extension to garage (Redshanks, Whiteway Road, Burnham Deepdale). Council agreed to raise no objection. Council noted that work appeared to have started on the site.
 - e. 24/00257 – Proposed cart shed and store (Barrowdale, Orchard Close, Brancaster Staithe). Council agreed to raise no objection.
 - f. 24/00280 - Reserved Matters application: Construction of one dwelling (Land At Cross Lane, Brancaster). The applicant and developer spoke, and a lengthy discussion took place. Council agreed to raise no objection.
4-4; decision taken by Chairman's casting vote
- b) No late applications were submitted.
- c) Mention was made that there was an Appeal in progress relating to 10 Branodunum – the process did not allow further submissions.

2024.03.05.08 - Delegated decisions etc.

- a) The pack listed the following Delegated Decisions (no objection) following an abortive Planning Meeting (Portal down):
- 24/00126 - Alterations to dwelling & Proposed car port (5 School Pastures

¹ See below

² Will need formal approval

Signed:

(Chair)

Date: 2/4/2024

- Burnham Deepdale)
 - 23/01611 - Variation of Conditions 1 and 3 of Planning Permission 22/01586/RM: Construction of 1 new dwelling (Land Adjoining Floyd House Marsh Side Brancaster)
 - 24/00132 - Replacement of an existing part brick part UPVC conservatory with a brick and tiled roofed summer room using the same footprint (6 The Cricket Pasture Burnham Deepdale)
- 24/00144 and 24/00136 were responded to with holding objections (dealt with as above).

2024.03.05.09 - Other matters

- a) Cllr Bax noted that she had attend the Sports Club Committee Meeting – pickleball had arrived! The Sailing Club were doing a litter pick, using PC pickers.
- b) Flooding – Clerk and Chairman reported on response from MP, meeting (date tbc) at Thornham to look at concerns over Anglian Water capacity etc., reporting of specific flooding in Broad Lane, Flood Alliance involvement and support from NALC, limits of PC powers etc.
- c) Cllr Carpenter spoke regarding the Green Day – flyers available. There would be activities, wildflower seeds, Master Composters, Beat the Bills and other information.
 - a. Council agreed that wildflower planting could be done around the margins of Brancaster Playing Field.
- d) Council noted the presence of the AV equipment – the wifi speed was a possible concern.
- e) Anthony Law was invited to speak on the recent meeting on accessibility of playground equipment. He suggested a 3-to-5 year plan for Brancaster might now include this, as some equipment was aging. Brancaster Staithe Village Hall was also aware of this initiative.
 - a. Council agreed to sign the "Everyone has the Right to Play" Pledge.

At this point the Chairman signed the Civility and Respect Pledge Certificate, approved at a previous meeting.

2024.03.05.10 - Correspondence and requests

- a) The Clerk noted general correspondence consisting of Car Park pass requests, flooding reports, but no specific issues needing reporting.
- b) Council agreed to press the National Trust for progress on the Village Green at Brancaster Staithe, including details of programme, start date and possible timeline.
- c) A free portrait of HM The King had been requested, with both Halls wishing to accept. A discussion on constitutional matters ensued with varied opinions ("niche interest", bringing the Community together etc.). Council agreed to purchase a second portrait when they become available.

6-1; 1 abst

2024.03.05.11 - AOB and agenda requests

- a) Cllr Bax noted that she had two enthusiastic volunteers to assist with D-Day Commemoration, and plans were underway for history display, tea, and beacon, with Community Choir. Sue Green was invited to describe the work of Community First Responders. These supported the 999 system, and she would be working along the Coast, possibly as far inland as Docking. She described the equipment in the "bag" noting the cost of c.£3.5K. Donations would be being

Signed:

(Chair)

Date: 2/4/2024

sought (it was noted that the next BPC window was June) and Cllrs asked that all Councils in the area be asked to contribute, though there was general assent that BPC would do so when formally requested.

- b) Cllr Carpenter asked about the Youth Club progress – possible future agenda item.

2024.03.05.12 - Public Comments 2

- a) Subjects raised were:
- Bus service – Lynx had confirmed this was decided on commercial grounds.
 - Where was rough sleeper from? – not local originally, but Wells had been location for a while.
 - Royal events – no wish for a President...
 - Hedge round Brancaster Playing Field – need for smaller equipment; reference to Asset Group.

2024.03.05.13 - Next meeting

- a) The next meeting was confirmed as being on Tuesday 2nd April, 2024, at 6.30pm in Brancaster Village Hall.

Clerk noted that Agenda requests needed to be earlier than usual due to Easter weekend.

2024.03.05.14 - Private session

- a) Council agreed to close the meeting under Standing Orders and relevant legislation due to the nature of the subjects to be discussed.
- b) [Public and Cllrs Bocking and Borthwick left – 8.23pm]. Remaining Cllrs were advised of the latest in the SHADCRA legal case – hearing delay due to Judicial absence. Discussion took place, with agreement, on ongoing legal representation.

Meeting ended at 8.45pm

Expenditure:

Inv Date	To	For	Amount	of which VAT	budget
20/2/24	Bryan Lecoche	Rough Sleeper	£2,444.26	£407.38	reserves
await	ECS - mar	Computer	£38.40	£6.40	admin
await	nPower - feb	Street Lights			
email	Anthony Law	Petrol Exp	£36.00	£0.00	admin
18/2/24	Kevin Crompton	Rubbish Removal	£120.00	£0.00	contingency
29/2/24	TT Jones - apr-jun	Street Lights	£71.40	£11.90	utilities
await	Glasdon	Dog Bin	£302.63	£50.44	contingency
resolution	Members (£375.90)	Allowances up to	£4,134.90	£0.00	allowances
28/2/24	Barclaycard	Various	£109.20	£3.20	admin/reserves
15/3/24	ICO	Data Protection	£35.00	£0.00	admin
28/3/24	Salaries incl tax/NI/pension	Salary	£1,761.05	£0.00	salaries
INCOME					
8/2/24	BCSC	donation	£11,735.00	£0.00	reserves
22/2/24	RWNGC	Car Park	£47,233.55	£0.00	reserves

Signed:

(Chair)

Date: 2/4/2024