

Brancaster Parish Council

Minutes of the meeting of Council held on Tuesday 3rd September 2024 at 6.30pm

The meeting was held in Brancaster Staithe Village Hall

Present: Cllr T de Winton (Chair), Cllr S Bocking, Cllr C Borthwick, Cllr A Dovey, Cllr W Gardiner, Cllr T O'Sullivan, Cllr S Ullswater

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

Meeting began at 6.33pm

2024.09.03.01 - Declarations of Interest

- a) No Declarations of Interest were received.

2024.09.03.02 - Apologies for absence

- a) Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs Bax, Carpenter and Osborn.

2024.09.03.03 - Minutes

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

Prop: Cllr Bocking; 2nd: Cllr O'Sullivan; unanimous

- b) Clerk noted locks for noticeboards were on order.

2024.09.03.04 – Public Comments 1

- a) Subjects raised were:
- Parking/cones/blockage of road by tractors – Clerk to write to NCC Cllr Jamieson (copying MP) expressing concern over continued delays to Traffic Regulation Orders.
 - Foul water – need to report to NCC directly.
 - Phone boxes – compliment on painting, now need shelves.

2024.09.03.05 - Reports

- a) Chair's report. Cllr de Winton noted the apparent success of Tennis Week with no reports of major problems. He had attended court relating to the rough sleeper, who did not attend and was subsequently arrested - situation continues. Had spent time with other Cllrs on the SHADCRA agreement.
- b) Report from Borough Councillor. Cllr de Winton noted that a Planning Meeting had taken place – 1,100 homes at West Winch had been given outline permission – this partly to ensure that the Borough, rather than an Inspector, kept control of conditions etc. Concern was expressed over roads etc.
- c) Report from County Councillor. Cllr Jamieson was not present and had sent no notes.
- d) Report from Clerk. The Clerk noted the bike racks were now in place. He could now claim back money from the Borough for these. A streetlight needed repair - still awaiting info from Westcotec about the guarantee, before commissioning repair by TT Jones. More correspondence than usual relating to things not relevant to PC.

Signed:

(Chair)

Date: 1/10/2024

2024.09.03.06 - Finance

- a) The Clerk presented the finance figures. Balances totalled just under £149K. After 50% of the financial year, 50% of budgeted spending had been made. VAT claim to be done soon for c.£6K.
- b) All expenditure as listed in the pack was approved for payment¹.

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

2024.09.03.07 - Planning

- a) Planning Applications were considered:
 - a. 24/01219 - Part demolition, Internal alterations and two storey and single storey side extensions (Valley Farm House, Valley Farm Road, Brancaster Staithe) – Council agreed to make no objection to this application.
 - b. 24/01491 - Demolition of garage and conservatory, construction of new garage, car port and living room extension and thermal upgrading including new wall and roof finishes and alterations to windows and doors etc (Farthings, Cross Lane, Brancaster) - Council agreed to make no objection to this application.
- b) A late application had been received: 24/01407 - New Dwelling to be used as holiday let (The Nook, 6 Common Lane, Brancaster Staithe). It was agreed to defer this to a Zoom Planning Meeting on 17th September.
- c) Clerk noted a response had been received to the query about 2½ storey buildings. These did not count as third storeys for the purposes of planning decisions.

2024.09.03.08 - Delegated decisions etc.

- a) Delegated planning responses had been sent following the Zoom meeting on 27th August. These were published online.

2024.09.03.09 - Other matters

- a) Cllr Borthwick noted she had met the Handyman ref the bike racks, an Asset Group meeting was being sorted to consider next project, and she had delivered the Clerk's letter to the Bell's Charity, which was now under consideration.
- b) It was noted that the Brancaster Play Area report contained no urgent actions. There was £9K in ring-fenced funds for future projects.

2024.09.03.10 - Correspondence and requests

- a) Following a short discussion, the consultation on the Borough Local Plan was noted, without further comment².
- b) Clerk noted he had responded to a request from Ringstead PC ref Neighbourhood Plan Inspectors.
- c) Correspondence about litter/bins on the Beach had been forwarded. It was noted that this had been forwarded to the National Trust – response awaited. Concerns over the NT opposition to designating the Beach as a "Bathing Beach" were expressed – Cllr Gardiner to pursue. Cllr de Winton to request agenda item for Brancaster Commons Committee ref maintenance of the Boardwalk (clarity on reporting issues etc.)

2024.09.03.11 - AOB and agenda requests

- a) Cllr Dovey was asked about watersports activity this summer – lower, possibly due to poor weather.

¹ See below

² Links to this had been put on social media etc., and Members of Public were encouraged to comment, copying Council in.

Signed:

(Chair)

Date: 1/10/2024

- b) No agenda items proposed for next meeting.

2024.09.03.12 - Public Comments 2

- c) Subjects raised were:
- Boardwalk – National Trails role
 - Comments on bins and water quality

2024.09.03.13 - Next meeting

- a) The next meeting was confirmed as being on Tuesday 1st October 2024 at 6.30pm in Brancaster Village Hall. A reminder of the Planning Meeting on 17th Sept was made.

2024.09.03.14 - 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) Council considered the contract and appointment of a new Clerk. There being late suggested changes Council agreed to further discussion. [Cllr Bocking left the meeting]
- c) Council noted and agreed the wording of the final agreement relating to SHADCRA dropping its claim against Council which had been signed by lawyers. [Cllr Borthwick was present for this but took no part in discussion or vote.]

Meeting ended at c.8.20pm

Expenditure:

Inv Date	To	For	Amount	of which VAT	budget
	Community First Responders	donation	£3,000.00	£0.00	s.137
25/7/24	Littlejohn	Audit	£504.00	£84.00	admin
	ECS - sep	Computer	tbc		admin
	Tomato - aug - total	Streetlights	tbc		utilities
12/8/24	Tony Rout	Phone Boxes	£2,000.00	£0.00	reserves
16/8/24	Marcus Townshend	Grass Cutting	£122.50	£0.00	open spaces
16/8/24	Marcus Townshend	Hedge	£290.00	£0.00	open spaces
22/8/24	BSBDVH	Room Hire	£30.00	£0.00	reserves
22/8/24	TT Jones - Oct-Dec	Streetlights	£130.80	£21.80	utilities
	Barclaycard	various	£72.87	£12.31	admin
30/9/24	Salaries/tax/NI/pension	Salaries	£1,754.26	£0.00	salaries

Signed:

(Chair)

Date: 1/10/2024