

Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting of Little Bealings held at Bealings Village Hall

on Monday, 2 March 2020 at 7.00pm

Present: Mr I Ransome, Mr M Garnham, Ms D Head, Dr C Hopkins, Mr D Hunter, Ms H Saagi and Mrs M Wilson (Parish Councillors), Mr Colin Hedgley (District Councillor) and 16 residents/members of the public

In attendance: Mrs C Ramsden, Clerk to the Parish Council

Mr Ransome, as Chairman of the Parish Council, took the chair and welcomed those present, especially District Councillor Colin Hedgley and the speaker for the 'Climate Emergency: What you can do in Little Bealings' talk which would follow the meeting. He explained the purpose and structure of the meeting. He asked if anyone was recording the meeting; no one said that they were.

Apologies: There were no apologies for absence.

Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on 4 March 2019: The minutes were confirmed as a true record and signed by the Chairman of the meeting.

Matters Arising from the Minutes: No matters were raised.

Parish Council Chairman's Report

The report is at Appendix 1. The Chairman read the report.

There were no questions.

Other Reports

District Councillor's Report

The report is at Appendix 2. Mr Hedgley advised that his full report would be available on the Parish Council's website. He added:

- he had had an interesting year as Chairman of ESC Council, meeting other leaders and mayors about the Ipswich Northern Route proposal. Environmental concerns had led ESC to introduce cuts to the amount of paper it used, for example ending the provision of paper copies of planning application consultations to local councils, which he recognised could lead to complaints
- he had spent all of his Enabling Communities budget in the last year, and could have spent much more. He was pleased that £1,160 had been found to fund wi-fi for Bealings Village Hall.
- that the leader of ESC was against any further Ipswich Northern Route proposals with the leader's full statement included in his report.
- ESC would be taking over responsibility for car parking enforcement from the police from May and had appointed 20 staff to ensure that parking restrictions were enforced.

He was keen to assist anyone if they cared to contact him, and to receive requests for funding.

There were no questions.

Friends of the Admiral's Head (FoTAH)

The report is at Appendix 3. The Chairman of FoTAH presented a summary of the report. He corrected a statement in the report that, in respect of a Parish Council application for a Public Works Board Loan, a local referendum would be necessary. In fact there would need to be good consultation with residents, but not a referendum.

In response to questions he said that FoTAH had not spoken with any other potential buyer and he did not think it would be feasible to join with a commercial buyer in a joint bid. A commercial buyer would be welcomed, but they would want to run the pub their way and he thought that it would be very difficult to persuade a commercial buyer to combine with a community entity. He confirmed that, with the community bid rejected by the owners and no intention to increase the offer, it was "a long game" and it was not known if other bids had been made – or been made and rejected.

A resident commented that the Tuddenham Fountain pub had had its sale price substantially reduced recently and he considered the FoTAH offer price of £275,000 to be very fair.

Bealings Village Hall Trust Report

The report is at Appendix 4. A member of the Village Hall Management Committee presented the report and added:

- that urgent work had recently been carried out to re-roof the flat roof extension to the Hall at a cost of £10,500, as the roof had been about to give way
- that the successful bid for funding for wi-fi for the Hall meant that it should be installed by the end of the month and would benefit the Parish Councils and private hirers.

In response to a resident's concern about anti-social car and motorbike behaviour in the car park, as a result of the recent resurfacing, he confirmed that all incidents are reported to the police. The resident suggested that a concrete surface would deter such use and the Committee member advised that, once the wi-fi was completed a CCTV camera could be installed in the car park. Another resident suggested that a Nest camera could be added to the wi-fi. Number plates could be recorded and alerts sent to the Management Committee. The Chairman stressed that all incidents should be reported to the police as the higher the number of recorded incidents the more likely it was that resource would be directed at the problem.

Angela Cobbold Hall Report

The report is at Appendix 5. The Chairman of ROPETH presented a summary of the report. He also thanked two residents for their work running the Community Lunch Club.

There were no questions.

Parochial Church Council Report

The report is at Appendix 6. The Secretary of the PCC read the report.

There were no questions.

Stop! The Ipswich Northern Bypass Update

The report is at Appendix 7. The Chairman read the report.

There were no questions.

Any Other Business:

Public Works Board Loan (PWBL):

A resident said:

- that they supported the idea of raising money via a PWBL and increasing the precept, but could a loan be used elsewhere? There were now competing assets in the village and some focus was needed. £350,000 had been raised in all, and he wondered what the Village Hall could do with all of that funding. A PWBL could be used to support the Hall, the Angela Cobbold Hall and the Church instead of the pub; they do not have to make a profit and there are no risks. There are risks in funding the pub.

There were no further matters raised.

The Chairman closed the meeting at approximately 8.05pm.