



**MINUTES OF NOAK BRIDGE PARISH COUNCIL ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING  
HELD AT NOAK BRIDGE VILLAGE HALL ON TUESDAY 24<sup>th</sup> MAY 2022 at 7.30pm**

**CHAIRMAN:** Cllr Terri Sargent

**CLLR'S PRESENT:** Cllr Jacqui Dowton; Cllr Mark Cottrell; Cllr Lynn Gilliam; Cllr Paul Daft

**ALSO PRESENT:** Borough Cllr Stuart Allen; Essex County Cllr Tony Ball

**485/2022 ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN:**

Cllr Dowton proposed Cllr Sargent as Chairman, seconded by Cllr Gilliam - **Agreed**

**486/2022 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:**

Essex County Cllr Malcolm Buckley

**487/2022 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:**

To receive any declarations of disclosable pecuniary interests, other pecuniary interests or non-pecuniary interests by Members relating to any agenda items  
Cllr Cottrell, pecuniary interest, prepared finance documents for Audit

**488/2022 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS:**

To receive and agree the minutes of Noak Bridge Parish Council meeting held on Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> APRIL 2022, proposed by Cllr Cottrell, seconded by Cllr Gilliam that the minutes are a true and accurate record of the meeting and signed by the chairman - **Agreed**

**489/2022 APPOINTMENT OF VICE CHAIRMAN:**

Cllr Dowton was appointed Vice Chairman

**490/2022 DECLARATION OF OFFICE VACANT:**

In accordance with section 83 (4) of the Local Government Act 1972 the Council declared the Office of David Durrant vacant due to a failure to sign the office of acceptance within the appointed time

**491/2022 NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN:**

The chairman had circulated the Draft Neighbourhood Plan policies to members and would send to the steering group. A working party would be set up to consider the draft policies and the draft community facilities assessment. Considerations would be sent to the consultant

**492/2022 AGAR YEAR 2021 - 2022:**

The Council considered the 2021 - 2022 AGAR documents

It was noted in the Internal Auditors report that 'there is good evidence of regular review and strong financial control, the statement of financial control has not been reviewed in the audit year'. The statement of financial control will be reviewed in the July 2022 meeting

1. Annual Internal Audit Report 2021 – 2022,  
Proposed Cllr Dowton, seconded Cllr Gilliam - **Agreed**
2. Annual Governance Statement 2021 - 2022

- Proposed Cllr Dowton, seconded Cllr Gilliam - Agreed
3. Accounting Statement 2021 - 2022  
Proposed Cllr Dowton, seconded Cllr Gilliam - **Agreed**
  4. Notice of Public Rights Year End March 2022  
From 1<sup>st</sup> June to 14<sup>th</sup> July 2022, proposed Cllr Dowton, seconded Cllr Gillian - **Agreed**
  5. The AGAR documents will be submitted to the External Auditor PKF Littlejohn with a note to the effect "that the parish council does not qualify for an intermediate level procedure as the authority does not act as a sole managing trustee, the 2020/2021 external audit report did not include any 'except matters' and the authority does not have income or expenditure of more than £2,000,000  
All AGAR documents will be published on the website and posted on noticeboards

493/2022

**QUEENS PLATINUM JUBILEE ARRANGEMENTS UPDATE:**

A working party was held between the parish council and volunteers. The Beacon had been installed and the Jubilee items had arrived (Hailer, bunting, flags, children's t-shirts, LED lights, glow sticks) and were tested by the group. Two gas cannisters to light the Beacon would arrive on the day and be installed by Basildon Council with an operative to remain on site for the duration of the ceremony. Permission to use the field, insurance details and risk assessment had been accepted by Basildon Council. Marshalls were appointed and would assist with leading residents to the field and during the ceremony

494/2022

**COMMUNITY PROJECTS UPDATE:**

**Durban Lane Pond:** A row of water plants along the bare bank have been planted to soften the look and to act as a buffer against the return of the reeds. The duck house was on order and would be installed soon

**Village Entrance /Exit Signs:** Paul Downes provided mock up examples of signs that would be suitable, made of a non-wood durable material for low maintenance. Cllr Daft had contacted Abalone, the company that had made the original sign on the entrance to Bridge Street and would bring proposals to the next meeting

495/2022

**NEWSLETTER:**

The Jubilee Edition of the newsletter had been printed, posted on the website and notice boards, and delivered by Councillor and volunteers

496/2021

**FINANCE:**

1. Monthly Bank Reconciliation
2. Monthly Budget Sheet
- 3.

May Payments BACS
Bluestone Planning - £700.80
Noak Bridge Community Association Annual Hall Hire- £540.00
BT - £184.69
Newsletter Printing - £235.81
Jubilee item Invoices to date: £113.97 / £101.14 / £123.21

Members considered items 1- 3 Proposed Cllr Gilliam, seconded by Cllr Daft – **Agreed**

497/2022

**PLANNING APPLICATION:**

**22/00536/FULL Location: 33 Durban Lane, Noak Bridge**

Removal of gate (road facing) and replace with 1.8m (6ft) high fence panels

\*Parish Council Comments:

Noak Bridge is a conservation area with article 4 direction constraints. The property is road facing and can be seen by the Highway. We therefore object to the proposed fencing that would

replace the removal of the gates. However, if the applicant was to replace the fencing with Willow fencing, which is within the conservation area permitted status, we would find that acceptable and in keeping

**TO NOTE APPLICATION DECIDED:**

**None**

**PLANNING APPEAL:**

**APP/V1505/W/22/329277 Location: Bensons Farm, Wash Road**

\*Parish Council Appeal Comments

write in objection to the former planning application 21/01833/OUT and Appeal Ref: APP/V1505/W/22/329277

\*Inappropriate development in the green belt that

\* The development would seriously impact on the openness of the green belt

\* The resident amenity will be greatly impacted

- Access to the site is situated off Wash Road which is an extremely busy road, used as a rat run and a speed track

- Residents live immediately opposite the proposed site and will be impacted by noise, pollution and risk potential minor accidents when entering and exiting their properties from the existing high volume of traffic on Wash Road

- Wash Road has many sporadic small businesses that add to the volume of traffic in a residential area

- The applicants planning statement claims the land is a Brownfield although the site is within the green belt

- The Parish Council are currently developing a Neighbourhood Plan where there is a proposal to build 400

homes to the East of Wash Road. If the proposed development was to go ahead, we would like the opportunity through the Neighbourhood Plan to influence infrastructure and design of new homes.

\*This proposed development takes away any opportunity for the parish council to influence design as the application is an outline planning application

\* A planning application for homes to be built in the green belt allows loopholes for piecemeal development without any benefits to the local community

**498/2022**

**COMMUNITY LITTER PICK:**

To take place on Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> June at 11.00am meeting at the village hall. Equipment loaned from Basildon Council who would remove the rubbish the following Monday

**499/2022**

**BOROUGH/COUNTY COUNCILLORS' REPORT:**

Cllr Ball reported on the ECC AGM, he had retained his position as cabinet member for education and skills and Cllr Buckley as cabinet member for Waste.

Cllr Ball spoke of a forthcoming meeting with the cabinet member for Highways, Cllr Lee Scott who would pay a visit to look at the recently improved roundabout and changes to the lane markings and consider complaints and suggestions he had received. Cllr Scott would also consider a joint local highway project with the parish council

Cllr's Ball and Buckley have retained their annual grants of £10k to fund local projects in the Wickford /Crouch division and looked forward to receiving applications with an environmental theme

**500/2022**

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:**

A resident requested a discussion on the filming of Parish Council meetings where residents could view meetings on the internet and see decisions being made. The parish council considered the request and felt that filming of local authority meetings at such a local level would have a cost implication and would need to meet specific guidelines. Meetings are held in public where residents can attend, they are notified in advance of dates, agenda and minutes posted on the website and notice boards. The chairman concluded that filming of public meetings was on the horizon and would need to be considered in the future  
A resident informed the meeting the streetlights in Coppice Lane were still not working

**501/2022**

**NHS ENGLAND and NHS IMPROVEMENT Public Participation**

The launch of a **public consultation** on the latest draft of NHS improvements, views by 30 May  
Residents were urged to respond to the consultation

**502/2022**

**TO NOTE CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED:**

Correspondence was noted

**503/2022**

**DATE OF NEXT MEETING:**

Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> JUNE 2022 at 7.00pm

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 10.10pm

Signed

**Chairman**.....

**Date**.....