



**MINUTES OF NOAK BRIDGE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
HELD AT NOAK BRIDGE VILLAGE HALL ON TUESDAY 16th JULY 2024 at 7.00pm**

CHAIRMAN: Cllr Mark Cottrell

CLLR'S PRESENT: Cllr Jacqui Dowton; Cllr Paul Daft.
Cllr Christopher Bateman; Cllr Terri Sargent (acting clerk)

ALSO PRESENT: Cllr Stuart Allen; Cllr Malcolm Buckley; Cllr Tony Ball

90/2024 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:
Cllr Paul Daft; Borough Cllr Alex Myers

91/2024 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. None given

92/2024 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS:
To receive and agree the minutes of Noak Bridge Parish Council held on 18th June 2024. The minutes are a true and accurate record of the meeting - **Agreed** and signed by the chairman

93/2024 NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN CONSULTATION:
Cllr Sargent reported, the final draft Neighbourhood Plan and supporting documents have been submitted to Basildon Council and have been uploaded onto the website Neighbourhood Plan page. Basildon Council will instruct consultants to prepare screening reports on the Strategic Environmental Assessment and Habitats Regulation Assessment, a final report will be issued after consultation

94/2024 CO-OPTION OF PARISH COUNCILLORS:
Members considered, co-opting two Councillors to the two Parish Council vacancies, a Co-option advert and the make-up of the Personnel Committee for the forthcoming year to carry out interviews. Cllr Bateman proposed, the Co-option of two Cllrs, the advert to run until 16th August and the Personnel Committee to be made of Cllr Cottrell, Cllr Dowton and Cllr Sargent, seconded by Cllr Dowton - **Agreed**

95/2024 BANK ACCOUNTS UPDATE:
The chairman reported investigating Metro, National Westminster and Lloyds banks and will report findings back at the next meeting. Cllr Sargent reported speaking to Nationwide and was informed they are not currently issuing business bank accounts.

96/2024 COMMUNITY PROJECTS UPDATE:
Cllr Dowton outlined a proposal from MK Illuminations, At Last Events, for Christmas Lights to be fitted on two trees in Coppice Lane, one at the School and the other Coppice Lane Pond, over the festive period at a cost of £4,700 per annum for a three-year period. In addition, three commando sockets fitted on lamp posts to power the lights at a cost of £750.00. The chairman to seek permission to install the sockets and display the lights on the trees. Cllr Sargent asked for an update on the suggestion at the last meeting for a real Christmas Tree be erected on the mound by the Noak Bridge sign and to remove the existing tree, permission had been granted from Basildon Council to her request. Cllr Cottrell to give a full update at the next meeting and proposed the Council go ahead with the Christmas Tree Lights proposal, seconded by Cllr Dowton - **Agreed**

97/2024 ESSEX COUNTY COUNCIL SALT BAG SCHEME:
Members considered the Salt Bag scheme and declined the offer as they did not have the capacity to manage the project.

98/2024 CLERK INTERVIEWS UPDATE:
Clerk Interviews took place with three candidates in July with no appointment made. The Parish Council agreed to re-advertise the clerk post.

99/2024 COUNCIL TO CONSIDER CEASE LETTER:
The council considered to issue a cease and desist regarding a malicious posting on social media. After a lengthy discussion the chairman would seek advice and report back to the next meeting

100/2024 NEWSLETTER:
Cllr Sargent reported there were several newsworthy articles and as soon as the information was complete, she would make a start on the newsletter

101/2024 FINANCE:
Council to consider:
Monthly Bank Reconciliation
Monthly Budget Sheet
July Payments

Bluestone Planning - £4,489.50
Village Hall Hire July - £150.00
Parish Online Mapping Software - £153.60
National & Essex Association of Local Council Affiliation Fee - £650.59
Association of Basildon Local Councils Annual Fee - £20.00

Member considered all payments - **Agreed**

102/2024 TO NOTE MEETINGS AND REPRESENTATIVES:
Thursday 18th July 2024 ABLC - Cllr Cottrell
Thursday 25th July 2024 Local Councils Cllr Terri Sargent; Cllr Cottrell - Cancelled

103/2024 PLANNING APPLICATIONS: None
PLANNING APPLICATIONS DECIDED: None

104/2024 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION (15 MINUTES):
A resident reported the Tudor Style Bus Stop was still awaiting repairs to the posts
Village hall project manager spoke of the PC investing in the village hall as a community asset, with a plan to install solar panels on the hall roof and replace the inefficient expensive gas heating with a more reliable electric system and sell spare electricity back to the grid
Request for dates of regular Litter Picks to be published in the newsletter
A resident queried when the Fore Street Planning Application would go to committee
A resident spoke of the untidy parking area and hedge outside the doctors' surgery

105/2024 BOROUGH/COUNTY COUNCILLORS REPORT:
Cllrs Ball and Buckley reported on the bus shelter replacement programme new supplier
Potholes can be reported on the What Three Word App

106/2024 TO NOTE CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED: Noted

107/2024 DATE OF NEXT MEETING:
17th September 2024

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 9.00pm

Signed
Chairman.....

Date.....