



**MINUTES OF NOAK BRIDGE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
HELD AT NOAK BRIDGE VILLAGE HALL, COPPICE LANE, BASILDON, ESSEX, SS15 4JS
ON TUESDAY 28th NOVEMBER 2017 @ 7.30PM**

CHAIRMAN: Cllr. Terri Sargent.

PRESENT: Cllr. Mark Cottrell, Cllr. Vicki Jarvis

ALSO PRESENT: Parish Clerk Anna Bain, Cllr. Tony Ball and 7 Members of the Public.

17/306 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:

Cllr. Jane Bunting, Cllr. Malcolm Buckley, Cllr. Stuart Allen.
Members received the apologies tendered.

17/307 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:

Cllr. Terri Sargent, Minute 312, 313 and 316, Borough Cllr.
Members noted the declarations of interest made.

17/308 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING:

The minutes of the Parish Council Tuesday 17th October 2017 were received for approval.

Proposed Cllr. Cottrell seconded Cllr. Jarvis - **Agreed**

17/309 CLERK CONTRACT AND NEW POLICIES:

Members considered the following:

Clerk Contract

Equality & Diversity Policy

Sickness & Absence Policy

Grievance Policy

Disciplinary Policy

Proposed Cllr. Cottrell, seconded Cllr. Jarvis - **Agreed.**

The Contract was duly signed by the chairman and clerk.

17/310 LEAF SWEEPING IN NOAK BRIDGE:

Cllr. Sargent and Cllr. Jarvis to survey the areas of high leaf footfall and engage a contractor to carry out the works. Proposed Cllr. Cottrell, seconded Cllr Jarvis - **Agreed**

17/311 WINTER NEWSLETTER:

A Winter Newsletter will be ready for printing and distribution in the new year.

17/312 PERMISSION TO INSTALL PREVENTATIVE MEASURES WASH ROAD PLAYING FIELD

Basildon Council were waiting for the outcome of a survey of the Land and would organise a site visit to agree the preferred preventative measures.

17/313 BASILDON BOROUGH COUNCIL PROPOSAL TO WITHDRAW THE LOCAL COUNCIL TAX SUPPORT GRANT FROM TOWN AND PARISH COUNCILS.

The chairman reported she had written to Basildon Council to ask permission to speak at the Policy and Resources Committee on Thursday 30th November 2017 on the Budget report, recommendation 3: ***That the annual grant provided to Parish Councils to supplement their respective precepts, in respect of Localised Council Tax Support (LCTS), no longer be awarded.*** The chairman added the consultation period of just five days to respond to the recommendation was insufficient to allow Parishes to meet and consider the proposal. Members noted Noak Bridge Parish Council would lose £4,744.59 if the LCTS grant is withdrawn, although the overall grant is £18,059.06. Members agreed it was considered a meagre saving to Basildon Council for the financial harm it would cause the Parishes, further noting some may have to raise their precept to recover the losses. The chairman also explained that Sajid Javid, MP, (the Minister of Communities and Local Government) had spoken at the National Association of Local Councils conference on the 31st October 2017 and was in full agreement that the LCTS should continue to be given to Parish Councils, pointing out that Parish Councils were best placed to offer tailored services. It was noted the Chairman would report back on the decision and outcome of the proposal at the next meeting.

17/314 BUDGET 2018/2019:

A member of the public suggested the Parish Council consider setting up a fund to support maintenance and improvement works to the Village Hall. The building is an asset to the Parish and needs to be looked after. The Community Association who manage the Village Hall are volunteers and the sole income comes from hall bookings and fund raising. It was agreed a Working Party would be set up to consider this and other items for the budget. Proposed Cllr. Jarvis, seconded Cllr Cottrell - **Agreed**

17/315 BANK DETAILS / FINANCE:

The Parish Council considered the following bank statements to 2nd November 2017:

- (i) Business Savings Account: £613.28.
Business Account: £85,783.88.
 - (ii) Noted the letter from HMRC debt management
 - (iii) Noted the Statement Payments:
 - Newsletter £195.00
 - Donation Air Ambulance £250.00
 - Portaloo £372.00
 - (iv) Considered the following payments:
 - PKF Limited Assurance External Audit 31st March 2016 - £360.00
 - PKF Limited Assurance External Audit 31st March 2017 - £360.00
 - Leaf Sweeping - £
 - Winter Newsletter - £
 - Clerk December salary and expenses - £
 - First Aid Training - £65.00
 - Removal of Outdoor Gym Equipment - £
 - BT Quarterly Bill - £214.68
- Proposed Cllr. Cottrell, seconded Cllr. Jarvis - **Agreed**

17/316

PLANNING APPLICATIONS:

17/01286/FULL. Location, Bensons Farm, Wash Road. Permanent change of use of agricultural building to class D2 leisure use for goal keeping academy and associated fitness training, following temporary consent **15/00830/FULL.**

The Parish Council considered the application was yet another leisure activity in the area of Noak Bridge and expressed concerns on the piecemeal retrospective leisure activities creeping up in Wash Road and Barleylands Road. They object to them continually being located in the same area where there are 42 football pitches an American football pitch, Barleylands craft and activity centre and an Equestrian centre located in this green belt area already, as well as the waste and recycling depot all using the same road network. The application for the change of use to class D2 has increased the goal academy with an additional fitness training activity. Regardless of all this activity, the Highway do not object to the application. The residents have to suffer the impact on the road network where the continual increase in leisure activities cause traffic congestion and local people have to queue to get in and out of Noak Bridge. The goal academy is situated next to the dog training school which is a very difficult spot to exit. Classes take place weekdays evenings, Saturday and Sundays, there is no respite for local residents and in their words 'the roads are a nightmare'. With proposals in the local plan for around 400 new homes on Wash Road, the roads will become permanently gridlocked. The Parish Council object to the application.

17/01550/FULL. Location: 302 Noak Hill Road. Demolition of existing chalet bungalow and greenhouses/cold frames on site and erection of a two storey block with rooms in the roof space containing 7 no flats and 2 no detached chalet bungalows with new access, parking and external works.

The Parish Council considered the application and objected on the grounds that the proposed development is out of context with the area and not in keeping with the street scene along Noak Hill Road.

Proposed Cllr. Cottrell, seconded Cllr. Jarvis - **Agreed**

PLANNING APPLICATIONS DECIDED:

17/01114/FULL. Location: Bensons Farm Wash Road - Granted

17/01100/FULL. Location: 14 Kimberley Drive - Refused

17/01307/S211. Location: 19 Kimberley Drive - Closed

17/317

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:

*A representative from the Nature Reserve Society thanked the Parish Council for the grant funding and reported the container was now fully cladded and extremely useful

*A new booking system has been introduced at the Doctors surgery with a leaflet fully explaining the new process

*A resident is donating a Christmas Tree to the community to be located at the village hall and offers of help to erect and dress the tree would be welcome

*Hedgerow in Wash Road by the grass verge at the Bridge Street entrance has been cut down and residents had complained to Basildon Council

*Resident asked for confirmation of the Parish Council issuing a statement following the closure of the Police investigation

*Resident reported how impressed they were when a light had been repaired soon after reporting. Street light 19a is not working.

17/318

BOROUGH/COUNTY COUNCILLORS' REPORT:

Cllr Ball reported he had visited Noak Bridge Primary School and had discussed the need for specific trees in the school grounds to have the height reduced, previously reported by residents. The trees were being investigated regarding Tree Preservation Order status. He had also discussed the parking problems outside the school and had been informed that teachers were parking in the confines of the school. A resident reported he lived nearby and had seen teachers parking outside the school which could result in residents and shoppers not being able to park.

17/319

TO NOTE CORRESPONDENCE:

The correspondence was duly noted.

17/320

DATE OF NEXT MEETING:

The date of the next meeting, **January 23rd 2018 @ 7.30pm.**

2018 meeting dates all at 7.30pm: February, 20th, March 20th, April 17th, May 15th, June 19th, July 17th, September 18th, October 16th, November 20th

The meeting ended at 9.10pm

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Signed by the Chairman

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Dated