

**Minutes of the Buxton with Lamas Parish Council Meeting
held in Buxton Village Hall on Monday 11th March at 7.30pm**

PRESENT

Councillors:

Mrs Nichols	Mrs Barnes	Mr Riley	Mrs Charmley
Mr Shaw	Mrs Powell	Mrs Warren	Mrs Kammoun

Also in attendance:

Clerk to the Council: Laura Apps-Green

23/121 WELCOME & APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE – Apologies were given and accepted by full council for Rev Goodman and Mr Goodman.

23/122 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATION – Village Hall for Mrs Nichols and Mrs Powell.

23/123 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS - The minutes from the previous meeting held on February 12th were previously circulated, agreed and signed off by full council.

23/124 MATTERS ARISING – Clerk informed council that the church clock is currently being cleaned and will be back in place in early April.

23/125 ADJOURNMENT – A resident informed council that Footpath 4, the section under Pile Bridge, is in a bad state of repair with most of the path having disappeared into the river. It is thought that the damage is being caused by dog walkers. Clerk to report this to Highways and request that signs are put up and mention this issue in the March edition of the Round. Clerk to put this issue on the April PC agenda.

23/126 REPORTS – Cllr Riley reported that NCC has a £40 million shortfall. Central government have agreed to give £9 million towards the provision of social care, exactly how this will be spent is undecided.

Cllr Riley has been very busy as Portfolio Holder for Finance at BDC. The previous committee had committed all reserve funds to capital spend resulting in a £300,000 deficit for the current financial year. Next year there will be an even bigger deficit of 1 million. Through a lot of hard work Cllr Riley has got the books to balance and agreed the budget for the coming financial year by repurposing the funds held in reserve. He has been able to do this without a cut in services and without borrowing any money. There has been a small increase of 10p per week in the council tax.

Cllr Riley has retained the Member ward grant scheme and developed a community grant scheme.

11 houses have been built and BDC is once again a registered housing provider. Cllr Riley has also been instrumental in reducing the council's reliance on consultants, saving around £200,000 a year.

23/127 PLANNING

Greater Norwich Local Plan – The Inspector has cleared everything and endorsed the proposed plans.

Neighbourhood Plan Steering group – Mr Curtis reported to council that the document would be submitted to BDC later in the week, which will be the start of Regulation 16, a 6 week formal consultation. It will then be looked at by an independent inspector, then in a public referendum where everyone gets to give a vote, and lastly Full Council formal agreement. Thanks were given to Mr Curtis and the NP team for all their hard work on this.

Planning Applications – Freeholm – All AGREED to support this planning application

23/128 FINANCE

Bank reconciliation – February's bank rec was given to Scrutineer for her approval.

Receipts and payments schedule – payments made or pending were presented:

Chairman, April 2024

Method	Name	Description	Amount £
BACS	Laura Apps-Green	Flowers for Balay park	118.44
BACS	Barnwells	Round	300
BACS	Norfolk Cleaning Co	Cleaning Balay	120
BACS	Laura Apps-Green, Norfolk Pension Fund, HMRC	Pay, pension, tax, mileage, phone	1297.03
Total			1835.47

Clerk also asked for approval to pay an invoice to the NP consultant, all AGREED.

Risk Assessment 2024 – Clerk presented an updated risk assessment for the council, all approved and agreed it.

Parish Online mapping system – Clerk requested to reregister with this online service to help with mapping questions and also to log the council's assets on. All AGREED.

Santander Savings Account – Clerk reported that individual identification was needed and therefore a new form has to be submitted.

Any other finance matters – None

23/129 HIGHWAYS (and FOOTPATHS) RIVERS & VILLAGE MAINTENANCE MATTERS

Long term plans for traffic calming – On Lion Road SAM is too near to the start of the 30mph zone so it picking up the vehicles about 20 yards before they get to the zone, which means the readings will be slightly too high in most cases, distorting the 85th percentile upwards.

Cllr Shaw is the only councillor who analyses the data collected and shares it with the police. It was felt that this is important information to share with the community. Cllr Riley thanked and congratulated Cllr Shaw for his hard work on this. It was AGREED to place some of the information collected by Cllr Shaw in the May edition of the Round. Cllr Shaw to bring some proposed wording for this to the April meeting.

Buxton village hall and play area – It was reported that a volunteer from a nearby village has agreed to look after and maintain the defibrillator situated on the village entrance. The Football club were supposed to look after the unit.

Cllr Riley raised the issue of the replacement windows at the village hall. As Cllr Riley's County Councillor budget is being used to contribute towards the new bus stop, he would like the PC to put the money set aside for the bus stop towards a contribution for the new windows. Clerk to add this to the PC agenda for the April meeting for formal agreement. Any new windows would mirror the design of the current windows but the material would be different. It is not clear if planning permission would be needed.

Footpaths, maintenance and closures –

- Bulwer road – Large pothole on the bridge
- Little Hautbois Road – large pothole by the farm track

23/130 BALAY PARK

Grounds maintenance quotes for Balay park – Clerk received 2 quotes for the work. Garden Guardian was £1000 less than Norse and would fix the price for 3 years. All AGREED to appoint Garden Guardian for 3 years.

Draft Biodiversity Policy and Action Plan – Clerk presented a draft action plan and policy document – All AGREED with both documents.

23/131 OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY MATTERS - None

23/132 CORRESPONDENCE & REPORTS OF MEETINGS ATTENDED – None

23/133 LATE CORRESPONDENCE & AGENDA ITEMS (For Information only) – Clerk was asked to resend out the rota for the play area inspection. Cllr Warren raised the issue for the overgrowth on the river Bure and the need to have it cut back. Clerk to put it on the April PC agenda. Clerk reminded council that the Annual Parish Meeting would take place before the Annual Parish Council meeting on May 13th at 6:30pm.

23/120 CLOSURE OF THE MEETING – There being no further business the Chair closed the meeting at 9:00pm.

DRAFT