

**MINUTES**  
**Blundeston & Flixton Parish Council Meeting**  
**Held on Monday 15<sup>th</sup> January 2024**

1. **Present:** - Mr G Wade (Chairman), Mr S Rees (Vice Chairman), Mr K Blowers, Mr R Leach, Mrs E Sparks, Mr C Harris, Mrs B Shaw, Mrs G Soanes, Miss M Wright, Cllr E Back, Cllr P Ashdown & 23 Parishioners were present.
2. **Apologies** Cllr K Robinson, Mr P Button.
3. **Approval of Minutes:** minutes of the previous meetings held on 11th December 2023 were approved and signed.
4. **Declaration of interests:** The Chairman declared an interest over the flooding in Lound Road
5. **Clerks Report** -Anya asked if the councillors are happy for Mel to ask someone she knows to help with the Internal Audit for End of Year as Mel cannot do this anymore. This was agreed at the meeting.

Also, it was asked if the Parish would like to change the December meeting to the 16<sup>th</sup> December 2024 instead of the 9<sup>th</sup> December 2024. The 16<sup>th</sup> December was agreed at the meeting.

6. **15 Minutes for Parishioners input** -It was asked if there was any update on the traffic survey that was discussed at the last meeting Anya said she had emailed the new police officers but still had no response from them, she will chase this up again.

It was also asked about the potholes in Orchard Close it was asked if this has been reported but as yet nothing has been done. It was asked to keep checking on the website for any updates.

There was a very long discussion about the flooding in the village in Lound Road Cllr Paul Ashdown asked all the residents to contact the landowner to sort out the ditches and for the Parish Council to write to the landowner and if we don't get a reply to contact the chief executive of East Suffolk. It was agreed that Anya will contact the landowner and the Fire Service to get a report from the 4<sup>th</sup> January when they we're called out. It was asked if the Parishioners could have a list of the Agency contact details, Cllr Paul Ashdown will forward to Anya who will pass them on. And asked if any other information could be sent to Anya, so we have a log.

It was asked about the footpath around the road to the church. Is this a right of way as a gate has been put up with a lock on. A councillor said that the church has put this up due to vehicles driving through and equipment being stolen from the church. But pedestrian access is to the side of the gate.

7. **Other Parish Business (Parish Councillors). The following matters were discussed with the councillor's present –.**  
The play Park inspections are being done weekly and they have asked if some tape could be purchased in case, we have to close any equipment off, this was agreed at the meeting.

The tree surgeon has spoken to a councillor and said that he apologised for not doing the trees in the play park but due to the bad weather conditions they have been held up but assured they will start as soon as possible.

Benches for the Millennium Green were mentioned as a revised quote was sent around it was asked how many benches do we need it was agreed to order 3 supply only we will need to store then until needed Graham has agreed to store the benches.

8. **District Councillors Report:** (Cllr P Ashdown)

District are looking at Budgets and in February will decide how council tax will be increased also the police precept will go up this year to around £13.00 per year.

District Council is under new regime that regime went through in December by a Chairmans casting vote.

The next Community Partnership Meeting is on 30<sup>th</sup> January at the over 60 club at 6.0'clock it would be appreciated if Blundeston could send a representative. Every Child between year 5 and 6 have been given a booklet to advise them to eat healthy and to be more active.

9. **County Councillors Report:** (Cllr Keith Robinson, Cllr Edward Back). Cllr Keith Robinson sent his apologies for this meeting. It has been a very busy time over the last few months due to the budget there has been some hard decisions to make out of the budget over 77% of this goes to Adult Child Services and the government have put the National Living wage up from April but they have not provided local authorities with additional funding but fortunately no front line services will be cut the savings will come from depleting our work forces by 200 through retirement and other jobs, no vacancies will be advertised unless necessary. The core funding for the Arts within Suffolk has also been cut but not until 2025 26 luckily there still is money in the pot due to it not all being spent during the pandemic in future money will now be in a project basis going forward.

**Vacancy for Parish Councillor for Blundeston and Flixton**– We now have a Vacancy for a Parish Councillor.

Mrs Debby McKernan expressed an interest in becoming a Parish Councillor and was invited to the meeting to express why she was interested. Debby said that she had lived in the village for 21 Years and now is retired and wanted to support the village in a positive manner. The Councillors unanimously agreed to co-opt Debby to the council. Graham welcomed Debra McKernan to the Parish Council.

10. **Flooding in Lound Road**

Please see comments in Point 6

11. **Hire of Field for Wedding**

It was asked if the Skate Park Field could be hired for a Wedding on the 14<sup>th</sup> September 2024 Graham has spoken to David Jeremy the landowner and he said he is happy for this to go ahead they will not be using the Village Hall everything will be hired in and Public Liability Insurance will be in place they will need it 2 day before and 2 days after. This was agreed at the meeting. There will be a cost Anya will email the details.

- **Planning- This Planning Application was still refused and more comments submitted before this meeting**  
DC/23/2245/ARM | Approval of Reserved Matters of DC/17/4182/VOC - Variation of Condition No.13 of DC/16/2157/FUL - Hybrid proads,ng application for demolition of prison and construction of 2no shop units with 4no flats, and 3no office units with car parking, 16no affordable housing units (full submission), and residential development including care home, roads and open space (outline submission) - Blundeston Phase 3 - redevelopment of the remainder of the site for a further 121 houses, with associated car parking, drainage infrastructure, open space, and access roads and Landscaping. | Former H M Prison Blundeston Lakeside Rise Blundeston Lowestoft Suffolk NR32 5BG

12.

- **Finances:**

Income-: £12.00 Recycle Clothing  
Expenditure- £420.00 Waveney Fencing Replace two concrete posts.  
£199.00 New Printer for Anya (Parish Clerk)

- **Correspondence-**

Road Flooding - Lound Road - 03 January 2024

- **Emails**

Saved search results and Tracked Applications have been updated  
Planning, Building Control & Coastal Management newsletter  
Planning Forum for Town and Parish Councils  
Monthly Town and Parish Newsletter (Cllr Keith Robinson)  
Suffolkonboard bus timetable updates  
CAS Newsletter 11/01/2024

**Any other Business**

The next meeting is scheduled for Monday 19th February 2024, at 7.30pm

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.50pm