

**MINUTES**  
**Blundeston & Flixton Parish Council Meeting**  
**Held on Monday 20<sup>th</sup> March 2023 at Blundeston Village Hall at 7.30pm**

1. **Present:** - Mr G Wade (Chairman), Mr S Rees (Vice Chairman) Miss M Wright, Mrs B Shaw, Mrs G Soanes, Mr P Button, Mr K Blowers, Mr R Leach, Mr S Perks and 6 Parishioners.
2. **Apologies:** Apologies of Absence -Mr C Harris, Mr E Harris, and Cllr P Ashdown
3. **Approval of Minutes:** Minutes of the previous meeting held 20<sup>th</sup> February 2023 were approved.
4. **Declaration of interests-** Steven Rees has a declaration of Interest re Planning Application DC/23/0582/FUL | Proposed single storey rear extension, a detached garage and front porch | Ivy Cottage 29 The Street Blundeston Lowestoft Suffolk NR32 5AA
5. **Clerk's Report-** Nothing to Report

**15 Minutes for Parishioners input** - Agenda suspended for this item.

A Parishioner on behalf of Blundeston in Bloom asked to create a central board displaying all the sponsors who support the village, the floral displays and planters. Our aim is to streamline all the advertising and have the sponsorship on individual Perspex (or similar material) plaques, 8" x 8". Currently the signs are all different sizes and tend to overshadow the main event which is the plants themselves. Would the PC be happy for us to change their sponsorship sign and move it to this central board near the hall? This was agreed at the meeting.

6. A Parishioner asked for some advice regarding an incident that happened on Lowestoft Road a few weeks ago where an uninsured driver struck one of the residents as they were reversing into their drive, the area concerned has already had 2 fatalities in recent years, and they have asked if they could have some traffic calming as the speed camera only operates at the bottom of the road it was asked if Anya would contact the Police and that Cllr K Robinson would see what can be done.
7. **Other Parish Business (Parish Councillors) The following matters were discussed with the councillor's present-** It was asked again about the white Road Markings in the village. Cllr K Robinson said it is in his report to deal with this issue as soon as possible.  
Also some kind Donations have been given from the Plough Inn of £158.40 on New Years Eve for the Play Park and the Mr Mason and Miss and Mrs Fitzgerald kindly donated £50.00 for the play park for our help with the Memorial Bench in the Millennium Green.

It was mentioned about the parking restrictions at the school and to ask if these can be enforced. Cllr K Robinson said that maybe if a double yellow line was put down it would help but this would hinder other road use throughout the day. He will have another look at this issue.

Another Parish Councillor wanted to say a really big thankyou to all who turned out to help with the Annual Village Litter Pick about 20 people turned out, including some scout cubs and the cub leader, they managed to cover the whole village and the good news is that there has been a reduction in the amount of rubbish from last year's litter pick.

Another bit of good news is that the Blundeston Shoot Syndicate that meet on a few Saturdays in the season and then they celebrate the season in the Plough Inn at the end of the year and they have a charity raffle and we decided this year that we would give half the proceeds to one of our syndicate members that needed some rehabilitation at the Norwich Rehabilitation Centre and the other half we would give to the Play Park fund and that we raised £910.00 for the Play Park.

It was asked as to why Short Road was closed. It was closed due to a power cut due to underground cables so they had to dig the road up to repair them.

At the last meeting it was agreed that the parish would take up the kind offer from East Suffolk Councils Bulb scheme only they come in packs of 500. It was agreed that 2 packs of Daffodil bulbs will be ordered.

It was also asked if it would be possible to have a Road Sweeper in the village as we have had a lot of rain and the mud is covering up all the lines in the road this was asked before the Annual Litter pick but still has not been done Cllr Keith Robinson said that we are on the rota.

Another Parish Councillor said that it was nice to see Mel Wright back at the meetings again and glad that she was feeling better.

**8.County Councillors Report:** (Cllr Keith Robinson) and (Cllr Edward Back)

Cllr Keith Robinson mentioned that he went for a drive in the village with the District Highways Engineer and videoed the length of the road's with the issues with the white lines, this has been taken back to report on. We also have looked at the bend in Lound Road and Hall Road and will freshen up all the signs. A councillor asked how long we will have to wait for this to be actioned, Keith said about 13 weeks.

**9.District Councillors Report:** (Cllr Paul Ashdown) Sent his Apologies for this meeting.

**1Planning This Planning Application has been approved prior to the next meeting**

DC/23/0582/FUL | Proposed single storey rear extension, a detached garage and front porch | Ivy Cottage 29 The Street Blundeston Lowestoft Suffolk NR32 5AA

**This Planning Application has been approved prior to the next meeting**

DC/23/0652/FUL | Small single storey extension on side of existing property 3.5m out by 12.280m (length of bungalow) | 6 Meadowlands Blundeston Lowestoft Suffolk NR32 5AS

**This Planning Application was approved at the meeting.**

DC/23/0784/FUL | Rear extension | Drives End Hall Lane Blundeston Lowestoft Suffolk NR32 5BL

8. **Play Park**-We have a date of the 17<sup>th</sup> April 2023 for the work to begin on the Play Park this is subject to weather conditions and the work is expected to last for a couple of weeks. Also, I would like to thank Keith and the Thursday night gang for getting the site levelled off.

In terms of the funding we sent an Application into the Geoffrey Watling charity and we have been awarded £3,000 and the CIL Application opens on the 1s April and all the forms are ready to send off and will ask for £25,000. The Tesco Community Grants have been successful and will start on 1<sup>st</sup> April so we will now be one of the three to vote for we need to come top in the region if we came first we would get £1500 second £1000 if third £500 so keep putting your tokens in for Blundeston.

The current short fall is around £1500.

In terms of NGF play using the village hall when the work is being done I have spoken to them and they said they can work around this as the Village Hall is struggling for funding and cannot lose the income from not hiring the hall for 2 weeks'NGF Play have said they will hire a Portaloo and invoice us, and they will bring their own generator for the electrics but they will need access to water and the outside tap, they will have 2 vehicles and trailers and will park on the grass between the hall and play park this was all agreed.

It was asked if the conifer hedge along the side of the Play Park should be cut but due to nesting birds this will have to wait.

9. **Blundeston Charity Trust-Trustees**

Trustees of the Charity stand for a 4-year term. Mrs. Julie Hetherington and Mr. Paul Button have come to the end of their 4-year term and offered themselves reelection. Mrs. Julie Hetherington and Mr. Paul Button were proposed by Mel Wright and seconded by Glenis Soanes and unanimously reelected to stand as trustees of the Charity for a further 4-year period.

10. **Hopton Harriers**- have asked to hire the playing field for football they agreed to clear all the mud and any mess, and they have all their own equipment, and insurance it was agreed to give this a go and see how it goes as this would be good income for the Village Hall.
11. **Photo ID for Election Voting**- Cllr Paul Ashdown has asked us to remind everyone to take photo ID if they go to vote.
12. **Skate Park**- Simon Walker sent us a report regarding the skate park it was agreed Anya would send the report to the Insurance Company to see if this would be enough to cover the insurance and ask their advice.

13. **Millennium Green Footpath**-We had a new quote for the footpath to be done but as this was over £500 we will need to get another 2 quotes.

14. **Barbara Shaw**- mentioned about a Coffee Morning on April 1<sup>st</sup> at the village hall in aid of Brain Tumour Research

- **Finances-**

**Income-** - £38.34 Gofundme for Play Park  
£1530.00 Adnams Community fund for Play Park  
£20.00 Cash donation for Play Park Fund

**Expenditure-** £30.00 Clerks Telephone Expenses  
£5.00 Statutory Declaration for Playing Field Renewal Documents  
£30.00 The Rose Garden (Flowers)  
£264 Waveney Fencing new gate post

- **Correspondence**

Hopton Harriers fc use of your 11 aside playing field at rear of building.  
Availabilities for Hire of Blundeston Village Hall

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**Emails**

SALC area forums 2023

NEWS BULLETIN - 27th February 2023

The Rural Bulletin - 28 February 2023

Campaign to target motorists using mobile phones while driving

Tracked Applications have been updated Planning applications

Initial consultation on the Custom and Self-Build Housing Supplementary Planning Document -

Consultation extended to 5pm Thursday 16 March 2023

Initial consultation on the Rural Development Supplementary Planning Document - Consultation extended to 5pm Thursday 16 March 2023

Monthly Newsletter ( Cllr K Robinson

online Joint SALC area forum - with Chris Bally ESC CEO - Thursday 16th March 7pm

Ice Cream Van

Broads Authority Briefing March 2023

Suffolkonboard bus timetable updates

Plus any correspondence received after publication. Updates to this agenda can be found on our website at [www.parish-council.com/blundeston](http://www.parish-council.com/blundeston).  
Clerk

Anya Coleman Parish

Next Meeting is on Monday April 17<sup>th</sup> 2023

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.21pm