

**BUNWELL PARISH COUNCIL**  
**www.bunwellpc.info**

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**MINUTES** of the **Parish Council Meeting** held on Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> October 2023 at the Village Hall, Bunwell.

**Cllrs Present at the Meeting:** Cllr J Chapman (Chair), Cllr R Smith, Cllr S Spooner and Cllr D Ward

**Also Present:** Parish Clerk and 2 members of the public.

<b>MINUTES</b>	<b>ACTION</b>
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- 1. To receive apologies for absence** –Cllr Rupert Watson sent his apologies.
- 2. To record declaration of interest from Council members in any item to be discussed** – there were no declarations of interest.
- 3. To agree the minutes of the Parish Council meeting on 6<sup>th</sup> September 2023** - The minutes of the previous meeting on 6<sup>th</sup> September 2023, pages 471-476, having previously been circulated to all members, were signed by the Chair.
- 4. To discuss matters arising from the previous Parish Minutes** –
  - 4.1. Update on Anglian Water Sewerage System – The Parish Council have had no response to their report or invitation to comment on future development. From historic minutes and documents, it was found that there were delays in September 1995 when the system was first installed due to problems with capacity and effectiveness. Furthermore, in 2004 a letter had been received by the PC from the CEO of Anglian Water, commenting that the system was inadequate and drains would need to be sealed to prevent the ingress of rain water into the vacuum system, with additional longer-term measures needed to prevent ongoing issues during periods of high rainfall. There have been no major improvements made to the system since then and excess rainwater causes flooding and back-up at the lower end of the sewerage system. A further letter will be sent to Anglian Water, with a copy to the District Councillor, County Councillor and local MP asking for their help. Clerk
  - 4.2. Update on painting the telephone boxes which house the defibrillators - Mr Gledhill reported that he will be painting the telephone box on The Turnpike soon and Cllr Chapman said that the telephone box opposite the shop will be painted when weather and time permit, possibly next spring.
  - 4.3. Update on renewed lease for the Playing Field – Eastons reported that they are waiting to hear from their solicitors with a revised lease.
  - 4.4. New carry cases have been fitted to the two defibrillators housed at Bunwell and Carleton Rode Primary Schools and all defibrillators have new pads.
- 5. To receive the County Councillor and District Councillors' Reports** – There were no reports from the County or District Councillors.

- 6. Resident's Questions** – The question of the lack of NHS Dentists was raised and the problems which will arise as the population increases. Residents were encouraged to write to their MP, Richard Bacon, asking for his help in bringing the matter to the attention of the Government.
- 7. To receive and discuss correspondence** – emails received had been forwarded to Cllrs and dealt with as required.
- 8. Highway and Footpath Matters** – Clerk
- 8.1. Update on entrance of footpath from George Close to Church Lane – The Turnpike Bunwell Residents' Association reported that they had been in contact with Eastons and they have agreed that some dead elm trees and part of the hedge can be cut back to improve the sight lines from the path onto Church Lane. The Clerk will contact Highways Department again to ask that they install road signs warning of a concealed entrance. Clerk
- 8.2. To discuss pedestrian safety along the Turnpike - a suggestion that the speed limit on this section of The Turnpike should be reduced from 40mph to 30mph had been passed to Highways Dept for their views but no reply had been received. They will be approached again. In the meantime, the PC will look into providing safety measures, such as additional signage, which could attract funding from NCC under the Parish Partnership Scheme. The possibility of setting up a Community Speedwatch Group was discussed and volunteers will be asked for to join the scheme. A minimum of 6 people are needed and they will be required to commit to at least one hour each week. All training is given by the Police and they provide equipment and agree sites where speed checks are to take place. Carleton Rode Parish Council have said that they are interested in joining with Bunwell PC in providing volunteers for the scheme. The local police will also be contacted to ask if they have any up-to-date figures for speeding vehicles in the village, particularly along The Turnpike. Clerk
- 8.3. Repair and refurbishment of fingerposts on Low Common – these repairs will be carried out when new timber posts are delivered. Cllrs Chapman and Smith
- 8.4. The Footpath Warden, Cllr Spooner, reported that all footpaths in the parish are in good order, but the entrance to FP8 is still waiting for the landowner to provide the required 1.5 metre width. The recent RoSPA report on the play equipment suggested that a fence be erected to reduce the risk of children going through the gap in the hedge straight onto the road. Cllrs Chapman and Smith will meet on site to assess the situation.
- 9. Playground/Village Hall** – The Parish Council is waiting to hear from the Village Hall Committee confirming that they have agreed the details of the new fencing required. Mr Gledhill reported that the Climber Box had been removed and two new barbecue benches had been installed. The quote from Action Play and Leisure for the other repairs needed was discussed and councillors agreed that the proposed work should go ahead. Mr Gledhill will contact them and make the necessary arrangements.
- 10. Bunwell Planning Development Group** – There have been no further developments concerning the Village Cluster Housing Plan.
- 11. Planning Applications – to discuss and vote on any new planning applications** – Applications Nos. 2023/2566, 2023/2782 and 2023/2881 were considered by the councillors and there were no objections. Planning Application 2023/3005 for the erection of a 2-bedroom bungalow behind 75 Bunwell Street was Clerk

discussed. A previous application in 2021 was refused and the PC comments at the time included that the site was too small, there was insufficient parking and access for two properties, there would be a lack of privacy and the property would be too close to the boundary with Harveys. These comments were still relevant and the Parish Council objections would be forwarded to the Planning Dept.

**12. Finance**

- 12.1. Payments for September had been circulated and councillors agreed to these transactions.
- 12.2. Cashbook balance – this had been circulated to all Councillors and was noted.
- 12.3. The half-yearly statement had been circulated to all Councillors and they agreed the figures.

**13. To consider possible celebrations for the D-Day 80-year Anniversary** – The anniversary takes place on the 6<sup>th</sup> June 2024 and councils are invited to celebrate the occasion with the lighting of beacons. Cllr Chapman will invite neighbouring councils to join Bunwell in the celebration. Mr Gledhill said that there will be a special service in Church on Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> June with music and readings.

**14. To receive matters of importance from Councillors** – No matters were raised which had not already been discussed.

**15. To receive items for the next Agenda for Consideration** – To follow up items raised above.

**16. Date of next meeting** – Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> November, 2023 at 7.30pm.

**Meeting Closed 9.35pm**

<b>BARCLAYS COMMUNITY ACCOUNT</b>	
<b>BALANCE AS AT 06.09.23</b>	<b>£0.10</b>

<b>RECEIPTS THIS MONTH – UNITY TRUST CURRENT ACCOUNT</b>			
<b>BALANCE AS AT 06.09.23</b>			<b>15,498.87</b>
<b>DATE</b>	<b>RECEIVED FROM</b>	<b>DESCRIPTION</b>	<b>ACTUAL AMOUNT</b>
29.09.23	South Norfolk Council	Precept	<b>7,250.00</b>
<b>BALANCE C/FWD</b>			<b>22,748.87</b>

<b>PAYMENTS FOR APPROVAL THIS MONTH: UNITY TRUST CURRENT ACCOUNT</b>					
<b>BALANCE AS AT 06.09.23</b>				<b>15,498.87</b>	
<b>PAY TYPE</b>	<b>PAYEE</b>	<b>DESCRIPTION</b>	<b>ACTUAL AMOUNT</b>	<b>VAT</b>	<b>PAYE</b>
BACS	CGM	Playing Field Grasscutting Aug	323.34	53.89	
BACS	St John Ambulance (Pd by J Chapman)	2 x Defib Carry Cases	161.94	26.99	
BACS	PKF Littlejohn	Audit of AGAR	252.00	42.00	

BACS	Jason Goddard	SAM2 upkeep and move and remove wooden climbing frame	300.00		
BACS	Wix.com (Pd by M Ridgwell)	Yearly Domain name renewal	12.46	2.07	
BACS	Wix.com (Pd by M Ridgwell)	Yearly Website hosting	93.60	15.60	
BACS	M Ridgwell	Sep salary & exps	292.75		64.60
BACS	Leisure Bench	2 x BBQ Tables	922.80	153.80	
	Unity Bank	Bank Charges	18.00		
		<b>Total</b>	2,376.89	294.35	64.60
<b>BALANCE C/FWD</b>			<b>£13,121.98</b>		

**CASHBOOK BALANCE: 04.10.23**

Details		CR	DR	
Cash Book Balance Brought Forward (Barclays Saver A/c & Unity Bank)	<b>A</b>	<b>15,498.97</b>		
Receipts this month (see listed above)	<b>B</b>		<b>7,250.00</b>	
		Payments this month (listed above)	<b>C</b>	<b>2,376.89</b>
		Cash Book Balance Carried Forward (=A+B-C)		<b>20,372.08</b>
		<b>Barclays Savings A/c balance</b>		<b>0.10</b>
		<b>Unity Balance</b>		<b>20,371.98</b>
		<b>TOTAL CASH IN BANK:</b>		<b>20,372.08</b>