## **Bawdsey Parish Council**

## Minutes of Meeting of the Parish Council

Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> September 2016 at 7.00pm

Bawdsey Village Hall

In Attendance – Chairman Brian Johnson (BJ), Clls Liz Mark (LM), Rawdon Saunders (RS), Chris Mann (CM), Mark Dovey (MD), Richard Tricker (RT), Andrew Rouse (AR) and Andrew Block (AB), SCDC Cllr Christine Block (CB), Jenny Webb (Clerk)

Meeting called to order by Chair BJ at 7.00pm.

- 1. Open Forum-No issues were raised
- 2. Annual Report from SCC and SCDC -Report from Andrew Reid SCC was circulated to all councillors (see attached) Key points were the new plans for Devolution, Raising the Bar Community Fund Grant and Adopt a Post Office. Regarding the case for Devolution, the council expressed their strong opposition to the appointment of a joint mayor for Norfolk and Suffolk. Report from SCDC Councillor Christine Block: CB told the council that central government wants a mayor in order to have a body accountable for the additional income supplied by Westminster which is dependent on building the requisite number of new homes. SCDC is against the concept of an elected mayor. A final decision will be made by the end of October and if agreed, it will be implemented early in 2017. The move from Melton Hill to premises near Wilford Bridge will take place between October and November. The merger with Waveney is continuing apace. Another matter of great urgency is the state of the river frontage opposite Felixstowe Ferry where the rate of erosion is alarmingly swift with the shingle behind the piling disappearing at a great rate. A consultation report has been put together by Greg Guthrie on the area fronting Bawdsey Manor. Helen Burningham has also done work on the Knolls which will be affected. There is the danger that if the river flows more swiftly, it will put pressure on Flood Cell 1.
- **3.** Chairman's welcome and Apologies: Chairman was pleased that all councillors were able to be present. SCC Andrew Reid sent apologies.
- **4. Councillor's Declaration of Interests**: Clls RT and AB declared an interest in Scottish Power Windfarm project.
- **5. Signing of Minutes as a true record:** The Minutes of Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> July and those of the Extraordinary Meeting on 2<sup>nd</sup> September were signed by Chair BJ. Cll Andrew Rouse volunteered to be present at an agenda-setting meeting with BJ and Clerk at the beginning of November.
- 6. Progress Reports for information:
- i. Clerk's report plus financial update. These were circulated to all councillors and can be found on the website. Finances are in a healthy state with £2,685.26 in our current account including £1,000 grant to BQVC; £7,276.90 in the BQVC account and £4,001.33 in our Savers Account. The second half of the precept will be paid at the end of September. A half-yearly analysis of the budget will be presented at November's PC meeting. Clerk highlighted the fact that BPC will have to pay £50 a year now for its OneSuffolk website as SCC is withdrawing its grant on 1<sup>st</sup> November. Clerk was asked to ascertain whether

Clerk

support will be included in this amount. She was also asked to send Clls the agenda for the East Suffolk Forum at Trinity Park in November when it arrives with workshops offered. Thanks were offered to Cll Chris Mann for having cut the verge by the Bawdsey-Alderton footpath after an inadequate job by Norse. BJ thanked Clerk for the production of the Welcome Leaflet. BJ has replied to the letter from Sarah Stephens offering assistance in speeding survey, compensation for Scottish Power and village sign. Alderton is just collating its results for the Housing Needs Survey and will send them to Bawdsey Clerk very shortly.

- ii. Village Hall and Recreation Ground Report: Report on website. Cll Saunders highlighted the fact that the closure of Alexanders College will mean a loss of £500 a year from Bawdsey Manor for use of the tennis courts.
- iii. Coastal Protection Update: a) Bawdsey Coastal Partnership: The HR Wallingford Report investigating coastal erosion has been presented to the BCP, the minutes of which are awaited. The Environment Agency replied to a letter penned by BJ expressing disquiet about the delay in the publication of this report, stating they will provide BPC with a copy in the fullness of time. We must also be aware of pressure from coastal authorities to amend the Shore Management Plan. P b) Deben Estuary Partnership: See Christine Block's report above.
- iv. Emergency Planning: All corrections to the plan have now been made. Bawdsey and Alderton have registered its EP with the JEPU. The system is now up and running with the installation of emergency lighting the last part of the plan. Clls were reminded that a new letter asking residents for their areas of expertise in any emergency was necessary since 60 changes of ownership of properties have taken place since the last letter was sent out. More Emergency Leaflets are also needed. They cost £230 for 400 copies. (Budget for EP is £150). Clerk and Chairman to review letter.
- v. Scottish Power: Cll RT gave the following update. The partnership between Vattenfall and Sp has been dissolved. There is to be a revision to the cabling/ducting system with EA1-cabling- and EA3-ducting. EA4 is not going ahead. Early planning for EA1 North and EA2 is taking place, are due to start in 2025. A wildlife survey of Great Crested newts is in ongoing. A discussion ensued regarding an item in the Wallingford report which highlighted coastal erosion. It was suggested this might have an effect on SP cabling plans and it was a matter of debate whether this information should be passed on to the relevant agencies including DEP, SCDC Planning and SP. Cll Tricker is looking into a media awareness plan with Sandra Carter and ex-councillor Tony Osmanksi on the issue of compensation/community benefit. SP has dismissed this in the past stating that installing underground rather than overhead cables is compensation enough. (Cll Tricker is attending an Annual Tree Forum as tree warden. Ash die-back is prevalent in both Norfolk and Suffolk)

7. Finance:: a) Payments listed below were authorized

i. Clerk's wages: £499.98

ii. Clerk's expenses: £2.70

- iii. Peter Wain expenses BQVC £220
- iv. SCDC (August bulletin) £31.10
  - b) Cll Andrew Block will contact Barclays asking for a new mandate for an online facility with Clerk as administrator
  - c) New figures for the BDO external audit were approved

**BJ/Clerk** 

BJ/RT

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8.	Highways: Malcolm King from Highways has yet to conduct a speeding survey in the	
	village. On the back of this survey Clls agreed that BPC should contact the new head	
	teacher of Bawdsey CEVP to ask for parents to be reminded of the 30mph speed limit	Clerk
	via the school newsletter. Hollesley PC is thinking of buying a VAD device and BPC has	
	asked to be kept informed about the possibility of sharing this. The community initiative	
	Speedwatch will be discussed with Malcolm King and other possible deterrents such as	
	putting 30mph stickers on dustbins which would be a voluntary measure.	
9.	<b>Decorative Sign:</b> Cll MD will bring his proposal for a village sign to November's meeting.	MD
10.	To consider Quiet lane designation: Following an item in the Bulletin, Clerk has not	
	received any indications of interest in designating any of Bawdsey's lanes Quiet Lanes.	
	Clls thought that Red House Lane and East Lane were self regulating due to the	
	narrowness of the roads as well as their winding nature. There has been mixed reaction	
	from Shingle Street residents to their access road being so designated. Hollesley PC will	
	hold a public meeting before any implementation.	
11.	Planning Matters: A new application for the erection of a single storey extension to the	
	rear of 12 The Street has been received. Plans were circulated to councillors. A serving	
	order has been sent to Mr Chapman who put up an illegal fence on the grassy area in	
	Shingle Street. Clerk was asked to ascertain if the file was still with Michaelle Coupe and	Clerk
	to enquire what the current state of affairs is. The planning application on "Ronina" has	
	been passed after the owners agreed to put a tiled roof on their extension. The site at	
	Manor Farm is under offer.	
	To consider funding options for BQVC project:	
13.	To consider implications of the sale of Bawdsey Manor: These two items were looked	
	at together. Following news about the sale of Bawdsey Manor, BPC decided to seek a	Clerk
	meeting with SCDC but this has been put on hold until after Cll C Block has met with	
	chief executive Andy Jarvis to talk about BQVC project in its entirety. In the meantime,	
	BPC – acting as an agent for SCDC- has instructed Claret to proceed with the installation	
	of an independent water system and a self-lay application has been sent off. In addition,	
	a Section 50 application has been made to Highways. The work is anticipated to take	
	place in January once all the permissions have been received. With regard to sewage,	
	civil engineers, Chicks, is to advise on the final scheme having carried out a	
	topographical survey and a survey of the drainage system already in place. A sewage	
	disposal site will be designed without impinging on the former lake if possible. The lake was infilled some years ago and questions have been asked regarding possible	
	contamination.	
	The sale of Bawdsey Manor has already generated a lot of interest but it has also	
	created uncertainty. Business partner Di Clouting could be served with notice to quit	
	from her present position at the Boathouse Café; it is possible the premises could be	
	broken up into several lots, including the buildings and facilities on the water frontage	
	such as the jetty and slipway, the café and the sailing school. How the sale of these	
	facilities will affect the BQVC project is as yet unknown. The loss of these elements could	
	affect the sustainable economy of the area so it is vital that BPC address these concerns	
	together with SCDC.	
	Funding options were discussed. Queries have been raised about the Leader Fund and	
	the amount of public money BQVC has already received which could jeopardize this	
	application if public funding goes above a certain level. Private monies must therefore	

be raised in order to qualify for Leader. Ideas to address the funding shortfall included	
crowd funding, private loans and grants. (Any loan from SCDC would be seen as public	
monies and interest rates would be high.) It was seen as important to launch an appeal	
for local donations as a matter of urgency, followed by full crowd funding. This could be	
publicized through the Bulletin, Village Voices and local free papers. The council agreed	
to authorize the Working Group to look into all options for fund raising. A statement to	
this effect from will be drafted as part of a longer document setting out the new	Clerk/BJ
situation, reiterating the council's commitment to the project and putting forward	
possible actions which CII Block can share with AJ at her meeting. BJ has already written	
to business partner offering her the full support of the council.	
14. Matters to be brought to the attention of the council: Cll L Mark was granted permission to buy a poppy wreath for Remembrance Sunday. She also alerted the council to the setting of new constituency boundaries which could affect Suffolk MPs. Cll Block gave feedback on a planning briefing at SCDC where Nick Newton gave an interesting talk on tree preservation orders and Robert Scrimgeour talked about non designated heritage assets. He encouraged parish councils to put together a list of these assets to share with planning officers. Such lists are generally linked to Neighbourhood Plans. Clerk will ask for more cards explaining the term.	Clerk
Dates of next meetings: 16 <sup>th</sup> November at 7pm.	
Meeting ended 9.35pm	

Signature: ...... Date: ..................

Brian Johnson - Chair of Bawdsey Parish Council