

# Bawdsey Parish Council

## Minutes of Meeting of the Parish Council

Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> November 2018 at 7.00pm

Bawdsey Village Hall

<b>In Attendance</b> –Chairman Andrew Block (AB), Clls Liz Mark (LM), Brian Johnson (BJ), Rawdon Saunders (RS), Andrew Rouse, (AR) Emma Aldous (EA), Richard Tricker (RT), SCDC Cll Christine Block, (CB) SCC Cll Andrew Reid, Jenny Webb (Clerk), 5 parishioners	
<i>Meeting called to order by Chair AB at 7.00pm.</i>	
<b>1. Open Forum-</b>	
<b>2. Chairman’s welcome and Apologies:</b> Chairman AB welcomed councillors to the meeting. Apologies received from Cll Chris Mann	
<b>3. Councillor’s Declaration of Interests:</b> Cll AB, CB and RT declared an interest in the Scottish Power Windfarm project; Clls AB, AR and BJ for Bawdsey Coastal Partnership; Cll AB for CLT, CB for Broadband Group	
<b>4. Signing of Minutes:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. <b>Minutes of 12<sup>th</sup> September 2018</b> One change was made <b>to item 5 Report from SCDC Cll CB</b>. The number of proposed affordable houses is 4 not three. The minutes were then approved. Proposed by Cll LM, seconded by Cll BJ.</li> <li>ii. <b>Minutes of Extraordinary Meeting</b> held on 21<sup>st</sup> September 2018 were signed as a true record. Proposed by Cll BJ and seconded by Cll LM</li> </ul>	
<b>5. To receive reports from SCC and SCDC:</b> Cll Andrew Reid of SCC highlighted several items in his report, namely Lowestoft’s Lake Lothing Third Crossing and the “Outstanding” rating from the CQC to Mid Suffolk Home First. A consultation on SCC budget savings of £25 million which have to be made 2019/2020 ends tomorrow. <b><i>His report for this period can be read on the village website under docs for this meeting.</i></b> Cll Saunders offered congratulations on the smooth transition to larger green bins but thought the annual renewal process was unsatisfactory. He also thought that planning notices in the EADT was unclear and that ideally they should be listed in alphabetical order according to the place names of the planning sites. Cll Mark voiced concerns about the poor state of the pavements in the village. Clerk to contact Highways and report this online, ccing Cll Reid. <b>Report from SCDC Councillor Christine Block:</b> The proposed area for the Deben Ward under the new East Suffolk District Council has doubled to include Bromeswell, Butley, Sutton Heath and Eyke. The Deben Peninsula branch of the Coastal Communities Team has submitted an application to the Coastal Revival Fund for a grant to carry out a feasibility study for the renovation of the Tin Chapel - a late December decision is expected. A branding firm Yellow Belly is looking at a marketing strategy to develop tourism for the Deben Peninsula, especially out of season, to boost the local economy. They are currently working on Visitor Profiles. The CCT is also arranging a meeting for those involved in the four foot-ferries to look at a possible out-of-season service. BPC has said they would put £250 towards the cost of operating the Felixstowe Ferry-Bawdsey foot- ferry in winter.	Clerk
<b>6. Progress Reports: i. Clerk’s report, incl. current finance report.</b> The report of correspondence and actions can be read on the village website. Clerk drew attention to the fact that Bawdsey Radar Trust has won a Quality of Place award from SCDC for the conservation of the Transmitter Block. There is a balance of <b>£7,016.33</b> in the current account; <b>£7,268.23</b> in the BQVC account and	

**£6,020.79** in the Savers Account. The next tranche of precept has been paid in together with £400 from SCDC to pay for our external audit. The sale of Velux windows has netted £2,000.

**ii. Village Hall and Recreation Ground Committee update:** Cll Saunders reported the death of long-standing committee member Doreen Bull. Her relatives have asked for any donations to be given to the VHRGC for its work. Thanks were given to Chris Mann for his help at the bonfire and fireworks. The metal gates at the Recreation Ground have been dented by a speeding vehicle. Although they are insured, there is an excess of £100. Further security measures have been discussed including security lighting and CCTV cameras. Further work on the upstairs room in the VH is needed and a quote is being sought. The VH tower needs painting and a quote will be sought for someone to do this. Scaffolding will cost £500. There are plans to reduce the grass area around the War Memorial provided the foundations are not endangered. Regarding the Emergency Committee, phone numbers will be displayed. A keypad facility for access to the VH by committee members is being set up. A reprint of the Emergency Leaflet will be necessary for new residents.

**iii. Coastal Matters:**

**a) Deben Estuary Partnership update:** Costings to enable the Bawdsey ferry to continue over the winter are being undertaken in order to access grant aid. Regarding Flood Cell 1, a design statement is being drawn up by the IDB and measurements taken to shore up the river wall; this improvement is key to "holding the line." The stability of the whole estuary is at stake and could affect Woodbridge, Martlesham and Felixstowe Ferry. The DEP is against the Coastal Path route following the Deben as the area is sensitive to disturbance and has many listed species.

**b) BCP update:** The tender for the Bawdsey Shoreline Management Plan review has been awarded to Jacobs (formally CH2). A preliminary site visit will take place on 12<sup>th</sup> December.

**c) Alde and Ore Estuary Partnership** The AOEP has received costings from the IDB for upgrading the river walls. Plans for the next few years will be decided with priority given to the upper estuary. The costs are higher than anticipated but potential grants may also be higher.

**iv. Scottish Power:** Cll Tricker said that drilling at the Landfall site has been continuing and has been very noisy. Cll Mark complained about bad driving by one of their contractors, Murphys. Cll Tricker said that he will ask SP when the drilling will come to an end and will also share concerns about contractors' poor driving.

**v. Emergency Plan:** A Committee Meeting has been arranged for Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> November at 7pm in the VH.

**vi. Speedwatch:** Rob Johnson has written a report giving statistics for the SID which is having a positive effect on speeding in the village. In two weeks in October the team completed 16 one-hour sessions at different times of the day ranging from 8am to 4pm. During this time 15 vehicles were recorded speeding in excess of 37mph. These have been reported to Suffolk Police and will receive a letter from them.

In the fortnight from 26<sup>th</sup> October- 11<sup>th</sup> November, the average incoming and outgoing speed was 26.63 mph. On the downside, the maximum speed recorded through the village was 70mph! The Speedwatch team recommends paving slabs are put beneath each SID post as the ground is very uneven and presents difficulty in using a ladder to put up and take down the device. (See report on website). The team also recommends the post at the start of the village be moved to the Scottish Power passing place further down the road. Lastly there is a problem with the second battery which is not charging properly. This has been reported to Elan City and will be replaced.

**7. Finance: a) The following cheques were approved:**

Clerk's Salary (net): £420.60

Clerk's expenses: £9.26

Cll Tricker

<p>HMRC (Clerk's tax) £105.00 SCDC Bulletin (September) £19.79 Village Voices Advert £29.00 CAS (website) £60.00 Royal British Legion (poppy wreath) £15.00 Elan City-UK (SID) £2,360.39 Cll Saunders (money for hose clips for SID) £25.98</p>	Clerk
<p><b>b) To approve a Draft Budget for 2019-20 and agree precept:</b> The Finance Committee had gone over budget figures for 2019-20 at their last meeting and recommended the budget to full council. These figures were shared with councillors and further discussed. Higher than expected costs for the local elections in May 2019 were flagged up by the Clerk which depend on whether the election is contested or not. Highways improvement costs could be paid for from reserves and from a SCDC Locality Grant. The Budget was proposed by Cll Aldous and seconded by Cll Rouse. The Finance Committee recommended a rise of 2% to the precept rising from £7,500 to £7,650- to be finalised at January's meeting.</p>	Clerk
<p><b>8. To consider current planning applications: a) DC/18/4196/FUL: Installation of a 24 metre lattice tower onto which radios will be affixed to enable improved internet connectivity in the surrounding area:</b> Clls AB and RT and SCDC Cll CB declared an interest in this application. Councillors looked at the plans and position of the tower. No objections were raised but the Clerk was asked to contact the owners of East Lodge to gauge their opinion before responding to the application. <b>b) Updates on Orwell Housing and School Meadow schemes</b> New documents from Highways and from Anglia Water have been put up on the SCDC Planning Portal applying further conditions to the Orwell Housing development proposal. Clerk asked to print out docs and share with councilors. Plans for the School Meadow site have been amended including the lay-out and higher design specs. Four affordable houses are included <b>c) Newly received appeal relating to a change of condition on the new build farmhouse on the Manor Farm Estate DC/17/2954/FUL:</b> Clerk asked to ascertain the nature of the Appeal and notify councilors. If it were a minor change, councilors would be minded to permit a change of condition. (<i>This related to a desired change in the colour of foundation bricks from red brick to grey. BPC did not object</i>)</p>	
<p><b>9. To receive an update on the Community Land Trust and the necessity of a further Housing Needs Survey:</b> The Community Land Trust is now a legal entity and is fully compliant, with a Mission Statement and a bank account. Following a series of meetings with Trustees, it has emerged that a new Housing Needs survey would be desirable with information being collated by an independent organisation <b>not by the Parish Council</b>. The form is quite long with questions relating to income but all answers are anonymous and respondents don't have to answer financial questions if they don't want to. The justification for having a new HNS is that it will provide the level of information needed to access grants, to prove need and provide evidence to fend off potential developers with grand designs. Parishes won't need to fund the HNS; it was pointed out that several collection points would be necessary. A representative from SCDC is willing to come out to talk to the parish council about it on request. A set of membership forms for the CLT is held by Chairman Andrew Block.</p>	
<p><b>10. To address concerns of residents with regard to noise levels at PGL and the noise implications of the lake proposal:</b> Chairman Andrew Block reminded councillors that the high noise levels on the PGL site only came to the attention of the council in the wake of PGL's latest planning application to construct a recreational lake. The Parish Council has listened to residents' concerns and highlighted the issue of the existing noise levels in its submission to planners. Its current strategy is to follow this up by pinpointing the sources of the noise- the relevant structures and</p>	

<p>their position vis-a-vis near-by residences and by measuring the actual decibels in relation to permissible levels. SCDC Cll Christine Block has written to the relevant planning officer querying whether the positioning of the existing structures on high ground follow the original plans submitted at the time with an option for enforcement. SCDC needs to scrutinize PGL's Noise Management Plan and assess how it impacts on residents. The mitigating landscaping for the earlier planning applications has not yet been put in place and will take years to grow and is not likely to be effective. Residents who were present at the PC meeting were asked for further comments. Key concerns were the cumulative effect of the noise, the duration and the nature of the noise which is high pitched and incessant. It was felt that heritage concerns have taken priority over residents' well-being. BPC intends to seek a meeting with SCDC to discuss the noise issue and to see whether PGL has been compliant regarding the conditions for previous planning permissions. Clerk asked to ascertain whether legal advice would be forthcoming from SALC.</p>	<p><b>Clerk</b></p>
<p><b>11. To review the progress of the plans for the Coastal Path and highlight issues arising:</b> The route of the coastal path in this area is potentially quite contentious. It seems that landowners and the DEP would walkers to cross from Felixstowe Ferry to Bawdsey by means of the foot-ferry rather than walking up the Deben which is part of Flood Cell 1. Since the Parish Council has not been asked for its views, a letter is to be written to Natural England expressing the council's concerns about this stretch of the coastal path as well as the stretch from Bawdsey Quay to East Lane which necessitates walking up Ferry Road.</p> <p><b>12. To consider the need of a Community Help scheme:</b> This item was deferred until January's meeting.</p> <p><b>13. To consider sharing representation at SALC meetings with other peninsular villages:</b> Cll Liz Mark is unable to attend these meetings in the future. Sharing representation will be discussed at the next joint meeting of peninsular councils on 31st January 2019. Clerk to ask whether any Bawdsey councillor is free to attend the next area meeting on 3<sup>rd</sup> December at Stratford St Mary. (Cll Aldous volunteered to attend)</p> <p><b>14. To decide dates of next meetings:</b> The dates of the next two meetings are Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> January and Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> March. Cll Johnson gave his apologies for his absence at January's meeting.</p> <p><b>15. Matters to be brought to the attention of the Council including any further reports:</b> The toilets at Bawdsey Quay have been refurbished and should be open in April 2019 following connection to PGL's new sewage system. An expression of interest has been registered with the Leader funding stream with relation to the renovation of the tin chapel. It should be clear by December whether an application would be welcomed. A full grant application would cover the purchase of the site and construction costs and is to be prepared for January.</p>	<p><b>Andrew Block/Clerk</b></p> <p><b>Clerk</b></p>

<b>Date of next meeting: Wednesday 23 January at 7pm</b>
<i>Meeting ended 10.00pm</i>

Signature: .....

Date: .....

*Andrew Block - Chair of Bawdsey Parish Council*