

# Bottisham Parish Council

Minutes of Meeting 20 of the Council, held in The Poppy Room, Bottisham Sports and Social Club Bottisham, on Monday 6<sup>th</sup> January 2025 at 7.30pm.

**Present:** Cllr Jon Ogborn (Chair); Cllr Mark Overton; Cllr Maria Socea; Cllr Stephen O'Dell; Cllr Keith Morrison; Cllr Camilia Mihaescu; Cllr Nadene Cundell; Cllr Jawahar Swaminathan; Cllr Rehana Shaker.

**Members 11 (1 vacancy) Quorum 4**

**Clerk:** Sam Chambers-Turner

**In Attendance:** District Councillor Trapp; County Councillor Sharp.

**Members of the Public:** 1

**Meeting opened at 7.30pm**

## **322. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Cllr John Austin; Cllr Savannah Laurent (absent).

## **323. MEMBERS DECLARATION OF INTEREST OF ITEMS ON THE AGENDA AND REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATION**

Clerk - Council Administration – staffing matters.

## **324. TO APPROVE MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

It was proposed by Cllr Cundell, seconded by Cllr O'Dell and resolved that the minutes of meeting 18 held on 4<sup>th</sup> of November 2024 and of meeting 19 held on 9<sup>th</sup> December 2024 be approved and signed as a true record.

## **325. OPEN FORUM FOR PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

None

## **326. MATTERS ARISING/CLERKS AND COUNCILLORS' REPORTS (FOR INFORMATION ONLY)**

- Correspondence had been received about the footpath from Swaffham Bulbeck to Bottisham road.
- Engagement had been received about the footpath works being carried out on the A1303.

## **327. COUNTY AND DISTRICT COUNCILLORS REPORTS**

Councillors Trapp & Cane provided a written report before the meeting that included discussion of:

- Council reorganisation.

Councillor Sharp provided a written report before the meeting that included:

- Buses
- Council reorganisation
- Motion on tax on Family Farms
- Kingsway Solar

Full reports are available from the website or upon request from the Clerk.

## **328. FINANCES INCLUDING APPROVAL OF PAYMENT OF OUTSTANDING ACCOUNTS**

**a.** It was proposed by Cllr Overton, seconded by Cllr Cundell and resolved that the bank reconciliation for November and December 2024 be approved.

**b.** To note the receipt of:

Bank Interest: £1512.68

Burial Income: £275.00

- c. **It was proposed by Cllr Overton, seconded by Cllr Swaminathan and resolved that the outstanding accounts of January be approved and settled. Action: Clerk to set up payments.**
- d. The Responsible Financial Officer had prepared the projected budget for 25/26 with the Finance Working Group and that was circulated to all Councillors.
- e. The Council discussed a recent decision made by the Neighbourhood Plan Working Group not to pursue a Design Code. This caused concern within Council, as it would weaken the ability of the Plan to influence applications to build on our surrounding Green Belt – a particular concern in light of the recently announced plans by the government to loosen controls on Green Belt development. The potential for increased costs to Parish Council for the Neighbourhood Plan was also discussed. A letter to the Neighbourhood Plan working group drafted by the Finance Group was discussed. **It was proposed by Cllr Ogborn and seconded by Cllr Swaminathan that the letter should be sent by the Clerk.**
- f. **It was proposed by Cllr Cundell, seconded by Cllr Overton and resolved that budget for 25/26 be approved.**
- g. **It was proposed by Cllr Ogborn, seconded by Cllr Swaminathan and resolved that the precept request for Bottisham Parish Council should be submitted at £70771 - and increase of 1.2%. Action: Clerk to prepare the submission of request to EDC.**

Mrs S Chambers-Turner	Clerk's Salary November	Confidential
Mr Isaac Swift	Litter Picker November	Confidential
Mrs V Coley	Data Administration Assistant	Confidential
S Chambers-Turner	Expenses Christmas Event	£53.39

### 329. PLANNING MATTERS

#### Planning Applications

None.

### 330. SIX OAKS ENERGY

The Clerk reported that the wet signature version of the Community Benefit Agreement was now in the Parish Councils possession. **Action: Clerk to scan signed copy into the electronic filing system and retain the original in safe storage.**

### 331. KINGSWAY SOLAR FARM

A statutory consultation have been received about a proposed 500MW solar farm to be located the southeast of Cambridge towards West Wrating, Weston Conville and the surrounding areas, that will produce enough electricity to power 175000 homes. The site is to be one of the largest in the UK and is being regarded as a Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project (NSIP). The current consultation was for the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Scoping report. Although planning has not been sought at this stage, it is requirement of applying for the Development Consent Order to carry out scoping on the impact to the Environment. Bottisham will not be directly affected by the panels, but the proposed pylon corridor may cross Parish lands. It was agreed that the Parish Council wished to be remain a statutory consultee and that in the initial instance a letter should be drafted to support some concerns raised by the locality. **It was proposed by Cllr Cundell, seconded by Cllr Mihaescu and resolved that due to the tight time limit of the request that the response would be prepared and approved via email.**

**332. MOTION TO EXCLUDE**

That the public (including representatives of the press) be excluded during the consideration of the remaining item No 333 because it is likely, in view of the nature of the business to be transacted or the nature of the proceedings, that if members of the public were present during the items there would be disclosure to them of exempt information of Categories 1 & 2 Part 1 Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972(as amended).

**333. COUNCIL ADMINISTRATION**

**The Clerk excluded themselves for this item due to the nature of the discussions.**

General staffing matters were discussed by Full Council. Due to the nature of the discussion the resolutions will be held separately as they remain confidential.

**334. AGENDA ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING**

Any business and payments to be considered at a Parish Council meeting must be delivered to the Clerk for inclusion on the agenda at least 7 days prior to the meeting.

**335. DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

Parish Council Meeting, 7:30pm **Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> February 2025** at The Poppy Room, Sports and Social Club, Downing Close, Bottisham

**Meeting closed at 9:29pm**

Minute Reference	Description	Action By
328c	Set payments up for authorisation	Clerk
3278 e	Letter to be sent to the Neighbourhood Plan working Group	Clerk
328g	Submission of Precept Request	Clerk
330	Scan Community Benefit Agreement	Clerk
331	Prepare response for Kingsway Solar EIA	Clerk

*Signed J Ogborn*  
4/2/2025