

**Minutes of Bawdsey Parish Council Annual Parish Meeting  
Held Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> April 2022 at 7pm  
Bawdsey Village Hall**

**Attendees**

Cllr Andrew Block (Chairman) (AB)  
Cllr Brian Johnson  
Cllr Clare Walker

Tina Hughes (Clerk)

4 Members of the public in attendance

Apology from Gemma Orr Bawdsey Manor General Manager (due to COVID)

**1. Welcome and Introductions**

Cllr Andrew Block welcomed everyone, and introductions were made for parishioners new to the parish and explained although the council do all regular parish council activities, for example planning and consultations, where members of the public do attend, this meeting would be about how the Council have strived to make Bawdsey safer

People were invited to ask questions during the proceedings

**2. Review Main Events from 2021-22****Coastal Protection – Safety from the Sea**

- a. Beach Defence at Bawdsey Manor – A well-attended public meeting was held regarding the Manor's proposed sea defence plan (DC/21/5480/FUL), the Council commented on the need for Sea Defences, but they have unexpected consequences, in one section is defended and another starts to erode rapidly. Unsure of the current state of the planning application (Awaiting Decision at 24/4/2022) Beach will be closed once work gets underway. Bawdsey Manor also due to excavate for a lake after Easter, have made another planning application, as want to close electric cable running under lake (Permitted 29/03/22). Have approached Bawdsey Manor to ask for regular meetings or briefings, as works on these scales have a big impact on village, due to traffic and residence living nearby to works, yet to have a response.
- b. Coastal Path – Coast disappearing at alarming rate between the Manor and East Lane, no possible footpath along the top, still intention to run Coastal Path along the coast, has been with secretary of state for several months, decision unknown, feel another letter explaining how bad coast continues to be and not a safe place to put a footpath. Shingle Street have been in touch with Natural England who are organising coastal path and advised it will not be launched until Mid-summer 2023

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- c. Deben Marine Centre (DMC) – Background, have been involved with measuring beach levels in front of manor and alongside of the Deben since 2013, photo posts have now been introduced at various points, providing very interesting pictures on how the coast is changing, especially due to storms. An exhibition was held at the shelter summer 2021, regarding the measuring and photos, was well received. Environment agency encouraged chair of the Deben Estuary Partnership to apply for a specialised grant, Coastal Community Champion, which gives money to communities to keep an eye on the coast in their area and have an interest in their environment, this grant will be concentrating on erosion. Has enabled the DMC to put on another display in 2022 and now have a Tide Gauge and a Weather Station on edge of Bawdsey Manor estate. Will also include water quality monitoring, which started in Woodbridge. Credit given to people who put together the bid, as only organisation that achieved this in East Anglia.

### **Quiet Lanes**

Application completed about two years, applied for all lanes, as all narrow and need care navigating, latest correspondence received shows where the signs will be installed, the [link](#) to access information. Everything delayed due to COVID and shortage of material. County highways will put up posts and then the council must collect signs and fasten these on the posts. Acknowledge mixed opinions and people feel signs will be ignored, but is an increase in signs being installed and in legal terms it puts onus on motorist to be aware that they should be driving carefully, a road where there will be people, horses and dogs, so if motorists causes an accident, then they will held responsible, hope is that it will eventually register with people and they will take more care, not a place for racing, which happens in East Lane.

### Questions and comments

Public – Quiet Lanes do not have a speed restriction; condition of road governs how you should drive? Worry is the ditches in East Lane and people not knowing road and that there are ditches are steep

AB – No speed restriction, it basically is saying drive carefully, narrow lane, be aware, hoping to get speed restriction on East Lane

### **Speed Limit Application**

Councillors all agreed traffic has become problem, recent filming underlined this and amount of traffic coming in since COVID. Under advisement, will be trying to get a 20mph speed limit for the whole of East Lane, rather than trying different areas and parts of lanes, the school, narrowness of lane, access to beach and community support, will all help support this application. Have already had some feedback regarding draft of document, would welcome any other feedback or evidence supporting application, i.e., accidents or near accidents, if can collate may help case, will also speak with community police officer, feel may be significant and valuable.

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### Questions and Comments

Public – Would like to see 20mph through whole village, others agree and feel majority of village would agree.

AB - Have been advised would need to apply for a '20mph zone', which would be far more difficult to achieve and to apply for the one road. A lot of policies and criteria to meet and costs to cover, highways have already indicated will need a full public consultation

Public – would be good to start the speed cameras up again, stopped due to COVID and never started again

AB – Not sure where we are with this and if we have a speed gun, can look into this

### Bawdsey Quay

- a. Markings – happened at long last, PC put some money towards, appear to be working well.
- b. Approach Road – Asked at last parish meeting about bollards, how long are they there for? Advised they were a temporary traffic order lawyers put in place, legal for 6 months, does not look pretty, but eliminates parking all the way down the quays. Latest design estimate £8772 for the work, East Suffolk has confirmed funding will be available, a public consultation will be needed for this.
- c. Benches – As a parish, received money from Film people to put benches in, hope a few will civilise area, a couple of steps to take to finalise

Shingle Street put up notices appealing for people's better nature about parking, two signs where road is slightly wider so people could pass, solid line makes it harder, signs said passing place do not park, lasted one week, were destroyed.

These are the main areas as a parish council we have been struggling with, some have been ongoing for years, things do not happen quickly, but other things such as planning applications are normally short term. Have a variety of talents on the council, so Bawdsey are very lucky in this respect.

### 3. Open forum

#### Village Hall Committee

Bawdsey Fete – Combined Fete and Jubilee celebrations did not have to advertise in the past, although had a record fete last year, lot of stuff did not come out, lost several key players, this year will only do stalls if people volunteer before, so far have bare minimum, if does not go well, then will need to consider if will go ahead in future years. To keep things going need these funds.

Jubilee Tree – Tree to be planted at back of village hall and money has been given for two benches, one will be placed at back of village hall and the other on recreation ground

Play Area – Enormous problems, 5 years ago did not need any care, green slime started to develop on equipment, since then moss has been rife and need to keep cleaning, month ago, had 12 wheelbarrows, spoke with James Mallinder, has put in touch with organisation where could get grants, had two quotes to put in plasticised surfaces, £52,000 and £32,000, feel is the way need to go, need to raise funds, committee are considering closing park. Have looked at other playgrounds and all have problems which will mean ongoing costs. Need an expert to give advice, Norse have said whatever do will have ongoing problems. In wrong place, but will cost lot of money to move

Question from public - How well used is it? Unsure at moment

PCC

Church Wall Repair – Put out for tender, waiting for quotes, not as many buttresses needed as first thought, two rather than four, need to look the same

Jumble Sale – was disappointing, after COVID feel need to make extra approaches to make people feel comfortable, not sure how do that, but finding way slowly, using reserve funds, feel need to do this as only way will reach out.

Parish Council has increased precept to reflect that it may have more demands on it from local organisations and contributing towards works undertaken in parish

Comment

Public – Would like to thank parish council, do a good job.

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