**GREAT BRADLEY PARISH COUNCIL**

Minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held on 16th November 2016 at the Village Hall

**Present**:

Councillors: Simon Kiddy (Chairman), Helen Bennett, Nicky Pizey, Anne Smith, Pat Spires. Also County Councillor Mary Evans (part) and Clerk John Barnett.

**Open Forum:**

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| **Item** | Nothing raised | **Action** | |
| 1 | **Apologies for absence:**  Councillor K Joyce and Borough Councillor Jane Midwood. |  | |
| 2 | **Councillors Declarations of Interest in any item on the agenda:**  None declared. |  | |
| 3 | **Minutes of the last meeting:**  The minutes of the last meeting of the Parish Council on 14th September 2016 were approved and signed together with the payments approved at that meeting. |  | |
| 4 | **Matters arising from the minutes:**  None |  | |
| 5 | **St Edmundsbury Borough Council:**  Borough Councillor Jane Midwood had sent in a report:  *Please accept my apologies for not being with you tonight, this week I shall be away at the Riding for the Disabled (RDA) National AGM and on Monday 21 November I will be at an extraordinary meeting of the Borough Council.  Once again our bin regime has changed and this time I do not believe that we (neither St Eds BC Councillors, nor householders) have received enough information as to the reasons for the about turn on disposal of clothing and shoes etc. However, having visited the Great Blakenham recycling site earlier this year I can understand why problems might have arisen — I did a report on the visit for Parishes outlining the awful conditions in the sorting shed and the unpleasant sight of bales of waste clothing split open and the contents strewn on the floor. Unfortunately, I am certain that the new regime will lead to increased fly tipping but it clearly was not cost effective and bin contamination was a major problem.  Next Monday’s Extraordinary Meeting of the Borough Council has been called to discuss devolution plans and West Suffolk’s (St Edmundsbury and Forest Heath’s) response to the far reaching proposed changes to local government funding and governance. It will be interesting to listen to the arguments put forward — personally I remain unconvinced that we need an elected Mayor.  Development Control (formerly known to most as “Planning Consent”) has proved to be the most difficult new subject for me as a member of the Borough Council. I would be very happy to discuss with Parishes and residents any concerns they may have over local applications.  Best wishes to all; please get in touch if you feel I can help and an early Happy Christmas to all Parish Councillors and residents.* | |  | **Highways matters:**  None further reported. |
| 6 | **Highways matters:**  Clerk explained the meeting he had had with 2 Kier personnel on-site at Spring Barn to show them where the flooding was occurring. They said that they hoped to be able to put in a couple of extra drains at that point and raise some of the kerbing whilst they were doing patching work on the B1061 through the village . This might alleviate the severe flooding problems at this point. The B1061 is scheduled to be closed from 13th - 16th December for the patching which is in preparation for re-surfacing next year. The diversion is 20+ miles but County Councillor Evans said they had to follow rules which obliged them to use equivalent roads and not use by-roads. Great Bradley residents and others in the local area will know the easy short cuts.  The white-lining at the Karro factory dangerous crossroads was reported as faint and in need of immediate attention. County Councillor Evans said that Highways were aware of it. |  | |
| 7 | **Suffolk County Council:**  County Councillor Mary Evans said that a new drainage team had been set up including Hen Abbott (known from Vehicular Activated Sign assistance). Mary said she was very interested in the information from Kier about the problem and what they would do at Spring Barns.  All 3-4 year olds will get 30hrs free nursery care from next year.  The Ipswich call centre is now set up with interactive maps so information is immediate.  They are currently looking after 4 Syrian families and will have another 3 by Christmas. |  | |
| 8 | **Planning applications:**  None |  | |
| 9 | **Correspondence:**   1. Information has been received from a Parishioner regarding a number of missing footpaths signs. Clerk to liaise with Charles Ryder regarding general signage and possibility of obtaining roundels and to keep the Parishioner informed. 2. SALC has sent a survey form through which the Councillors answered the questions and the Clerk will fill in online. 3. Clerk has written with thanks to Borough Councillor Jane Midwood for the Locality Budget grant towards the very successful Queen's 90th birthday celebrations in the Big Lunch on the Recreation Area in the Summer. 4. Clerk said that he had received information from East Anglian Air Ambulance that they are offering to come to villages and give a talk/presentation on their service. Councillor Bennett said that the VHMC is considering using this service to make a combined evening with a first aid course and also a further defibrillator course. | Clerk  Clerk | |
| 10 | **Village Hall:**   1. Proposal that the Parish Council pay for the occasional spraying of weeds on the car park. It was likely to be once or twice per year and the Council felt that their contractor had the correct equipment and was best placed to do this. It was approved to £40 per year. 2. Electrical work. Clerk reported that there was outstanding electrical work consisting of:    1. New emergency light over the kitchen door - quote £75    2. Heating switch covers replacement - Clerk estimate £90    3. PAT testing - Clerk estimate £75    4. Fire alarm repair - Clerk estimate £50 3. Consider upgrading broadband connection to superfast fibre. Clerk said that the Village Hall's biggest contract to Slimming World was won with the fact that Great Bradley Village Hall had a broadband connection. However the previous week that connection had failed. The fault has subsequently been rectified. Clerk was suggesting upgrading to superfast fibre because his experience with that had been flawless (apart from the one week failure early on which has not been repeated). Other Councillors with superfast fibre said their experience had not been flawless with intermittent breaks. The cost of upgrade would be £120 pa. It was agreed to not go ahead with this for the time being. | Clerk | |
| 11 | **Recreation Area:**  Metal glade edging. Clerk said that the Locality Grant from Mary Evans at Suffolk County Council is now confirmed and he will speak to Mr Ryder about asking for assistance with installation and then order the necessary amount. It is not likely to be undertaken until the Spring. | Clerk | |
| 12 | **Bonfire Night:**  Everyone agreed the event had been a great success. The gate collections had totalled £574 and the overall income was up to £1101. There was a profit on the night of £72 which may be put towards next year's fireworks depending upon prices next year. | Clerk | |
| 13 | **Pre-budget planning:**  The following items were discussed and approved to go into the draft budget alternatives that the Clerk will produce for Councillors for the next meeting:  Carry-over items (budgeted and/or items for which grants have been approved/received but which have not been started/completed from this year):   1. Glade metal edging 2. Harvest Horkey   New items for inclusion in draft budgets 2017/18:   1. Outdoor table tennis table £460 2. Extend Village Garden. This is assuming the cost to be simply plants and soil improver Councillor Bennett said that they have a rotavator which could be used to turn the soil over and prepare the ground. Clerk to check with the garden volunteers if they are happy to continue with an extended garden size. 3. Cloud storage - the better option recommended, at £230. Clerk asked to explore grant possibilities for this. 4. Archive exhibition 5. Big Lunch 6. Bonfire Night 7. Village Hall - soffits repair/replace 8. Village Hall - lightweight folding chairs | Clerk  Clerk | |
| 14 | **Archive exhibition:**  A team of 5 volunteers has been working for 3 years on the village archives in an office kindly provided by Charles Ryder. They have been identifying and cataloguing all the papers and digitising all the pictures. There is to be an exhibition of some of these archives on Friday evening 24th February and Saturday morning 25th February 2017 at the Village Hall. The VHMC has decided to assist with this and relieve the Parish Council of the burden of providing the usual refreshments. They will have a cash bar and snacks on Friday evening and bacon rolls and coffee/tea on Saturday morning and activities for youngsters.  Councillor Spires asked the Parish Council to pay for 4 photo holder files each containing double-sided (essential for photographs with information written on the reverse) clear plastic inserts for use in the exhibition and longer term safe storage. This was agreed - Councillor Spires will purchase the files. | PS | |
| 15 | **Cloud server/storage:**  Eventually it is planned to digitise all the village archives in order that they may be made available to all over the internet. Mike Brophy has been advising the archive group on the means to achieve this. He recommends the use of a personal cloud server aka Network Attached Storage which only requires a one-off cost unlike online storage which requires annual payments. The option he prefers costs £230 and has mirror imaging so includes automatic back-up in the device. It would be a home-based device and Mike is happy to set it up and host it from his premises. It would be a resource for the whole village with a great many village uses and with particular regard to the archives it would make everything available world-wide. The great advantage is that individuals, once approved, anywhere can use the site, and then they can add to the site by uploading their individual items/files/pictures/information. |  | |
| 16 | **OneSuffolk hosting moving from free to paid for:**  Mike Brophy says the village website is unaffected by this but there is a single holding page for the Parish Council which will cost £100pa. It was agreed unnecessary to pay for this unused service and it will be allowed to lapse. The domain www.greatbradley.org.uk is held privately within the village and it was agreed to pay for this 12 month charge at a cost of £6.99 + VAT and see if it can be transferred to the Parish Council easily. | Clerk | |
| 17 | **Finance:**   1. Accounts for approval/payment. A total of 21 payments to a value of £3,286.60 was approved. | Clerk | |
| 18 | **Project List:**  Councillor Kiddy ran through the latest updated Project List. | Clerk | |
| 19 | **Matters for consideration at the next meeting:**  Set Budget and Precept for 2017/18. |  | |
| 20 | **Village events notified:**  19th November - Quiz Night at Village Hall  3rd December - coffee morning at Village Hall  24/25th February - archive exhibition at Village Hall |  | |
| 21 | **Dates for next meetings:**  The next meeting dates are: 18th January and 15th March 2017, 26th April (Annual Village Meeting), 17th May (Annual Parish Council Meeting), 28th June (approve 2016/17 accounts before 30th June deadline). The 2 final dates for the year were agreed at 13th September and 15th November |  | |
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There being no further business the Chairman thanked everyone for their attendance and declared the meeting closed at 9.10pm