**GREAT BRADLEY PARISH COUNCIL**

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 17th November 2010 in the Village Hall

**Present**:

Councillors: Rowan Sylvester-Bradley (Chairman), Gill Brown, Karina Joyce, Kate Noakes, Anne Smith. Also present PCSO Kayla Packman (part) and Clerk John Barnett.

**Open Forum:**

The CSO Kayla packman said that there had been no recorded crimes in the area since the last meeting. However there had been some last night in the Wickhambrook and Hargrave area. Kayla asked everyone to report anything however inconsequential it may appear. She said she now has 20 villages to look after due to the budget reductions.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Item** |  | **Action** |
| 1 | **Apologies for absence:**Councillor S Kiddy and County Councillor J Midwood |  |
| 2 | **Councillors Declarations of Interest in any item on the agenda:**None declared  |  |
| 3 | **Minutes of the last meeting:**The minutes of the Parish Council meeting of 8th September 2010 were approved and signed.  |  |
| 4 | **Matters arising from the minutes:**1. The Clerk reported on the 2 recent Neighbourhood Watch meetings. The first was on 22nd September in the Village Hall and had been designed to regenerate interest and at which 16 people had been present. At this meeting sufficient numbers volunteered to carry the project forward. There are now nine Co-ordinators in Great Bradley and they recently had their first successful meeting. There will be regular meetings at coordinator’s houses in future. Coordinators for each area of the village will be delivering introductory leaflets to every household shortly. Neighbourhood Watch signs will need to be ordered at £35 each, with a minimum of one at each of the three entrances to the village. The exact locations to be investigated. It is likely that we will receive one sign free of charge.
2. Councillor Smith reported that the mini “Sportathon” event on 25 September in the village hall had been very successful. Due to the likely weather expected at the end of September the event had been scaled down to a Children’s party and barbecue. The grant received for this year’s event is carried over for use next year.
3. Broadband in the Village Hall. The telephone line has been installed and broadband enabled. Jayne Cole from SALC and Kirsty Pitwood from St Edmundsbury Borough Council came to the Village Hall and presented the laptop and router to the Parish Council and village hall committee. The router has yet to be set up. Councillor Brown donated her “accelerator” to help improve the speed of the connection.
4. Councillor Sylvester-Bradley said that the Stephen Ryder memorial seat in the Glade had gone away for repair to the supports which were cracked. They only appear to have been glued back together rather than given extra support. It is possible that metal brackets might be needed at some point.
5. Coffee Caravan visits on 9 September and 11 November. Councillor Smith said that both visits had been very good, the last one unfortunately coincided with a power cut in the village and 10 people were squeezed into the caravan. The next visit will be in the Springtime and will be back at Clarendale.
6. Bonfire night. Councillor Sylvester-Bradley said that it had been extremely successful. Councillor Brown said the fireworks were superb. Councillor Sylvester-Bradley said that there would possibly be a post event meeting of the organisers. The cattle feeding station caused a considerable amount of mud near the entrance and will be moved next year. Councillor Parsons said that he is happy to donate his gazebo to the village for events.
7. Water pipeline presentation 21 October. Councillor Sylvester-Bradley said it was a useful presentation and that there is more archaeological work still to be done surprisingly.
 | ClerkClerkRSB |
| 5 | **Suffolk County Council:**No report |  |
| 6 | **Police/Neighbourhood Watch:**Councillor Sylvester-Bradley said there had there had been a problem with three signs/posts. They may have been possibly vandalised but it might simply be a case of rot causing them to fall over. It might be sensible to collate a list of posts throughout the village that could need repair/replacement.Clerk said that there had been a meeting of the new NW members. Eight people had volunteered and the village is covered by area coordinators except for East Green. An article is to go into the Bugle to ask for a volunteer there. Regular articles are to be put in the Bugle to keep everyone up-to-date. New NW signs were discussed and thought to be best placed near the 30mph signs. Exact recommended locations to be discussed at the next NW in January. The PC will then be asked for comments and for a cheque to pay for them.   |  |
| 7 | **Planning applications:**None. |  |
| 8 | **Correspondence:**1. St. Edmundsbury Borough Council Parish conference on 22 November. Councillor Sylvester-Bradley and the Clerk are due to attend this meeting.
2. St Edmundsbury Borough Council has indicated that future Parish election costs will no longer be carried fully by the borough council. The likely cost is to be in the region of £600.
 |   |
| 9 | **Budget and Precept for 2011/12:**Councillor Sylvester-Bradley thanked the Clerk for a clear presentation of the budget. After considerable discussion Councillor Brown proposed an unchanged Precept demand for 2011/12 at £9000. This was seconded by Councillor Smith and all agreed. This is likely to produce a slightly higher Parish Council Tax demand for households due to the reduction in rural Parish grants from St Edmundsbury Borough Council. There were changes to the draft budget B suggestion, which carried the £9000 Precept, in the following spending areas:1. The Clerk was awarded a salary increase from 1st April 2011
2. Bugle newsletter printing reduced to more accurately reflect the other items also printed
3. Village Hall donation retained at the current level of £500 (in addition to the BT broadband costs) subject to information received from the VHMC regarding their needs for this.
4. Village tidy-up increased by £100 to £300
5. Gazebo/party tent - not included. Councillor Joyce said that local Scout groups provide these in other areas.
6. Loudspeaker system - not included. However, it was agreed to look into the cost of a megaphone or hiring systems
7. New seat on footpath - reduced from £300 to £150. It is hoped to be able to make this locally.
8. Enhancement to Play Train - not included
9. Maintenance of assets - increased to £400

The Clerk is to work up the Parish grant application and Precept demand in order to meet the St Edmundsbury Borough Council deadline of 10th December  | Clerk |
| 10 | **Finance:** 1. Councillor Parsons proposed the expenditure of £20 to the Royal British Legion for the annual wreath. This was seconded by Councillor Brown and all approved.
2. After discussion Councillor Brown proposed the setting up of a Direct Debit to BT for the payment of the broadband/line rental at the Village Hall which would save the £3 paper invoice charge. This was seconded by Councillor Noakes and all approved.
3. Accounts for payment. Councillor Parsons proposed the approval of 14 cheques for payment to a total of £2333.30, seconded by Councillor Brown and all approved. It was noted for the minutes that the minutes of the previous meeting stated approval for 8 cheques at a value of £1443.86. Subsequently cheque 204 was voided due to an incorrect sum being provided by Suffolk ACRE for bonfire night insurance. This reduced the cheques paid to 7 at a total value of £1338.86.
 | ClerkClerkClerk |
| 11 | **Village Events:**The following events were notified:1. Village Hall quiz Sat 27th Nov
2. Carol singing Monday 20th Dec
 |  |
| 12 | **Matters for consideration at the next meeting:**Nothing reported |  |
| 13 | **Dates for next meetings:**The next meeting date is 26 January 2011. Two further dates were agreed - 16th March and 11th May (first meeting of the new Council after elections on May 5th and Annual Village Meeting). |  |

There being no further business the Chairman thanked everyone for their attendance and declared the meeting closed at 9.30pm