**GREAT BRADLEY PARISH COUNCIL**

Minutes of a meeting of the Parish Council held on 19 January 2022 at 7.30pm

**Present**:

Councillors: P Spires (Chairman), H Bennett, A F Sugg, West Suffolk Cllr P Stevens (part), Suffolk County Cllr B Bennett (part), Speedwatch Co-ordinator P Hart (part) and Clerk P Lewis. One member of the public was present.

**Open Forum for items not on the agenda:**

R Cameron spoke to the Parish Council about his plans to submit a planning application at Mill Farm, The Street. Currently, the property is in a poor state of repair and sits very close to the main road. The proposal is to demolish the current house and rebuild a family dwelling to sit further back, away from the road. Mr Cameron anticipates the project should take a year to 18 months to complete. The Parish Council thanked Mr Cameron for taking the time to explain his plans in advance of the pre-app stage and look forward to considering the application further in due course.

Cllr Bennett asked if a response had been received to correspondence sent to Hareview regarding the encroaching hedge. **Clerk said she hadn’t actioned but will send a letter next week (w/c 25th January).**

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| **Item:** |  | **Action:** |
|  | **Apologies for absence**  None. |  |
|  | **Receive Councillors Declarations of Interest regarding in any agenda item**  None. |  |
|  | **Forum - 10 minutes is set aside for members of the public to raise any village matter on the agenda**  None. |  |
|  | **Minutes and confirmation of payments approved at meeting 24 November 2021 – approval and signature.**  These were approved. |  |
|  | **Matters arising from those minutes:**  **5.1 Maintenance jobs – memorial bench repairs/replacement. Any update?**  Jubilee Bench – Clerk had an exchange with C Ryder who thought the bench could be repaired when the weather improves. Clerk accepted the offer of help but **should enquire as to when the work will be carried out?**  **5.2 Village Noticeboards. To replace the Parish Council noticeboard outside the village hall and Clarendale noticeboard. Any update?**  Cllrs Stevens and Bennett offered to cover the cost from their Locality Budgets. **Clerk to confirm via email before placing the order with H Stebbings.** **Clerk to ask handyman for a quote to install.** | **Clerk**  **Clerk** |
|  | **West Suffolk Council – report from Councillor Peter Stevens.**  Omicron Hospitality and Leisure grants up to £6,000 are available, although probably doesn’t apply to any establishment in the village. These grants are being rolled out to help businesses post pandemic.  Recycling and waste strategy is under review with a new weekly food and roadside glass collection being considered. Options are being discussed with Suffolk Waste Partnership.  Second stage of the Local Plan consultation is due in March 2022. Further details have not yet been published.  Cllr Stevens offered a contribution from his Locality Budget towards the purchase of two new oak noticeboards. **Clerk to formally request via email.** | **Clerk** |
|  | **Suffolk County Council – report from Councillor Bobby Bennett.**  Report attached (appendix A)  Cllr Bennett also offered a contribution from her Locality Budget towards the purchase of two new oak noticeboards and a new AutoSpeedWatch sign (see item 10). **Clerk to formally request via email.** | **Clerk** |
|  | **Highways: any matters to report.**  **8.1 Speeding outside Spring Barns – to discuss possible traffic calming measures with SCC (Bobby Bennett).**  Clerk asked about the Traffic Working Group formed to target speeding through connecting villages. Cllr Bennett said she will ensure the Clerk is invited to the next meeting (tbc). P Hart would also like to be involved.  Illegal parking on St Matthew’s Lane continues. **Cllr Sugg to keep a log of times/dates as it occurs.** | **Cllr Sugg** |
|  | **Public Footpaths (PRoWs): any matters to report.**  None. |  |
|  | **Speedwatch Group – update from co-ordinator.**  P Hart presented the latest data taken from the VAS sign.  Proposal received to purchase a new AutoSpeedWatch sign. The sign records during daylight hours and can be moved to various locations in the village. Data is uploaded to the Cloud and will automatically send details of speeding vehicles to the police. There is an annual subscription charge. It is recommended to purchase an additional solar panel to harvest additional power during the winter months when light levels are low. The overall package cost is circa £800. Cllr Bennett offered to contribute towards the purchase. **P Hart to send estimate to Clerk.**  PC thanked Paul for putting the data together and making the proposal. | **P Hart** |
|  | **Planning - any applications received to date, and any shown on the West Suffolk Council website up to the date of this meeting.**  None. |  |
|  | **Correspondence - any received to date.**  Email from M Brophy re: wildflower areas. It was agreed to allow a 2m strip adjacent to the recreation ground to grow wild. **Clerk to speak to the grass cutter.**  Also requested that the Clerk posts meeting agendas and minutes on Facebook. Noted – **Clerk to action.**  Email from J Bailey re: condition of trees in the ditch between the Clarendale path and the recreation ground. Agreed not to intervene but to suggest residents wrote collectively to The Thurlow Estate to raise this issue directly. **Clerk to respond.**  Email from C Ryder re: the compost area at the Millennium Oak and the Millennium Bench (as per item 5.1 above). **No further action.**  Email from R Slyvester-Bradley re: missing ‘Suffolk’ sign at Sipsey Bridge. **Clerk to report to Highways.** Also enquired about the possibility of having a permissive path running from Sipsey Bridge (from the Carlton direction) to footpath one. Agreed to make enquiries via the landowner. **Clerk to action.** | **Clerk**  **Clerk**  **Clerk**  **Clerk**  **Clerk** |
|  | **Recreation Area: any matters to report:**  **13.1 Thurlow Estate to install a five-bar gate for easier access. Any update?**  No further update received. **Clerk to email Thurlow Estate.** | **Clerk** |
|  | **Village Hall: any matters to report.**  Not much to report. The new heating system is up and running. New shingle has been applied to the car park area. |  |
|  | **Village Newsletter (The Bugle) & printer contract (Kerbury) – printing to be outsourced and printer contract to be reviewed. Any update?**  Clerk looked at outsourcing the printing of the newsletter, but it is too costly (£400 for each edition). Clerk explained the print run takes two days and uses in the region of 1500-2000 sheets of paper. PC should consider the environmental impact of this. PC discussed alternative options including delivering the newsletter digitally (via email) with a limited number of hard copies made available from a lidded box sited on the village hall wall. **Cllr Sugg to make enquiries with the Village Hall Committee. Clerk to email the new Bugle Editor and canvas parishioner’s opinions via a pole on Facebook.** | **Cllr Sugg**  **Clerk** |
|  | **Finance:**  **16.1 To set Budget and Precept demand to West Suffolk Council for 2022/23. Chairman to co-sign Precept demand**  It was agreed to set the Precept at 13,000. Chairman and Clerk signed the request form. **Clerk to return to West Suffolk.**  Chairman thought the budget should include a sum for cutting the permissive paths. Clerk thought the landowner undertook these cuts. **Clerk to clarify.**  Funds allocated for purchasing dog waste bags are more than the initial sum (£120). Clerk thought it will be closer to £300 by the end of the financial year. **Agreed to cover the cost but Clerk should look for cheaper alternatives.**  **16.2 Accounts for payment/cheques required to date - see separate list**  These were approved (see attached).  **16.3 Budget update & bank reconciliation**  Reviewed.  **16.4 Closure of Barclays bank account – any update?**  Clerk had not received a response after numerous attempts to make contact.  **Clerk to formally complain to Barclays.** Should escalate to the Financial Ombudsman, if no response is received. | **Clerk**  **Clerk**  **Clerk**  **Clerk** |
|  | **Project list – update**  **17.1 Queen’s Green Canopy. Agreed to plant seven silver birch trees – any update?**  **Clerk to ask the Thurlow Estate for permission to plant seven trees on the recreation ground.** To include a brick plinth with commemorative plaque. Chairman had acquired a cost for the trees (budgeted in 22022/23 financial year). | **Clerk** |
|  | **Village events**  **18.1 To consider events for 2022/23 incl. Queen’s Platinum Jubilee (2 – 5 June)**  Planning meeting held and various options discussed. PC agreed to book Henry’s Hog Roast for the Jubilee Lunch on 5 June. **Clerk to arrange.** Also agreed the PC would provide a bar and desserts.  PC agreed to organise the lighting of a Beacon. **Clerk to email C Ryder and enquire whether we could have the beacon next to the jubilee bench** (opp the church). C Ryder to light the Beacon, if agreeable. Alternative location is in the churchyard. Cllr Sugg has a brazier. PC to see if this could be mounted onto a post and cemented in place? **Clerk to make enquiries - where did Thurlow PC acquire their brazier?** Potentially ask metal work/blacksmith students to make one as a project. **Chairman and Clerk to make enquiries.**   * 1. **Village litter pick (20 March)**   **Clls Sugg and Bennett to provide refreshments. Clerk to advertise on Facebook and in the Bugle.** | **Clerk**  **Clerk**  **Chair/Clerk**  **Sugg/Bennett** |
|  | **Matters for consideration for the next meeting:**  As above. |  |
|  | **Dates of next meetings:** 16 March, 27  April  (Annual Village Meeting),18 May – Annual Meeting of the Parish Council, 22 June (approve accounts 2021/22), 21 September, 23 November (pre-budget planning meeting) |  |

There being no further business the Chairman thanked everyone for their attendance and declared the meeting closed at 22.15pm.