**GREAT BRADLEY PARISH COUNCIL**

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 8th September 2010 in the Village Hall

**Present**:

Councillors: Rowan Sylvester-Bradley (Chairman), Simon Kiddy (Vice-chairman), Gill Brown, Karina Joyce, Kate Noakes, Anne Smith. Also present County Councillor Jane Midwood (part), Police Sgt Kevin Horton (part) and Clerk John Barnett.

**Open Forum:**

County Councillor Jane Midwood presented the Council with a cheque for £800 from her Locality Budget. This is towards the cost of a digital projector and is to be shared with Cowlinge Parish Council and is also for use by local groups in the 2 Parishes. Chairman Councillor Sylvester-Bradley thanked County Councillor Midwood for the grant and said the projector had been purchased. A photo of the cheque presentation was taken for the Bradley Bugle and the Haverhill Echo.

Councillor Midwood went on to give her report. She had been at the Health Scrutiny meeting the previous day discussing mental health particularly. There is a proposal to join with Norfolk as there are currently no young person’s beds available in Suffolk and the hope is that there could be provision with the two Council’s combined.

The new wind farm proposal near Stoke by Clare has a public meeting this Friday.

A reminder to everyone that the Police SNT meeting is at Chedburgh tomorrow and they are all now open to the public.

Police Sgt Kevin Horton reiterated that if anyone had any issues then they could come to the meeting in Chedburgh tomorrow. Thefts from outbuildings remain a constant problem and everyone is asked to be constantly vigilant and report anything suspicious immediately. The public are the eyes and ears of the Police and can be vital in solving these crimes. There has only been one crime this year in Great Bradley in April and one in Little Bradley in February. There will be 2 Police representatives at the NW meeting in the village on 22nd September.

Two representatives from the Village Hall Committee were present to discuss the ‘Sportathon’ due to take place on 25th September. The decision has been taken to move the event from the Recreation Area to the Village Hall due the possibility of poor weather at the end of September. This will make the event more of a Bar-B-Q and children’s tea and games.

The ‘Open Weekend’ committee that has provided the grant of £250 has emailed to say that the money must be returned unless the village commits to running the event next year on 22nd - 24th July. The suggestion was that the Village Hall Committee and the Parish Council therefore split the cost and pay for this year together. Wendy Mansfield said that the cost would be no more than the original grant received (i.e. £125 each) and likely to be less. Councillor Sylvester-Bradley said that was in order as the PC had a budget for this type of event.

Wendy Mansfield said that the VHMC were very keen to run the event next year on the specified date which would mean the grant money could be retained. There would be more time to organise the event next year.

Wendy Mansfield said that there is to be a ‘Sportathon’ meeting soon and because of the change of venue and type of event flyers would be organised to go to all households. This could be tied in with another flyer to publicise the NW meeting on 22nd. All helpers for the original Sportathon have agreed to help on 25th September.

Councillor Sylvester-Bradley asked about the telephone connection to the village hall for the proposed broadband there. Wendy Mansfield said that the Village Hall Chairman Edward Fletcher had the details for that and would contact the PC shortly.

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| **Item** |  | **Action** |
| 1 | **Apologies for absence:**  Councillor M Parsons |  |
| 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 18th August 2010 were approved and signed. |  |
| 4 | **Matters arising from the minutes:**   1. Proposed broadband connection at the Village Hall. Information is anticipated from the V Hall Chairman. Once the information available, if required, the Clerk and Councillor Sylvester-Bradley are to organise the installation . Councillor Brown said that the WEA course leader had offered to prepare the donated laptop for group use without charge. This was thought an excellent offer. 2. Village Garden. Councillor Sylvester-Bradley said that a meeting was arranged with Ron & Cathy Bell and Sue and Rowan Sylvester-Bradley to discuss a plan for the area. Councillor Sylvester-Bradley said that any ideas from anyone else would be welcome. 3. Demand Responsive Transport. Councillor Smith said that the presentation of the new transport system for this area at Wickhambrook had been rather poor. The bus appeared somewhat small but only time will tell. Initially the public will only be able to book seats from 6 days in advance of requirement to the day before. However, it is hoped that by the end of September they will be accepting same day bookings. The Clerk said that one piece of good information was that in the trial area once users had made contact for the first time they found it a very personal and user-friendly system. 4. Stephen Ryder memorial seat in the Glade. Councillor Sylvester-Bradley said that the seat was being collected by the manufacturer for repair and needed protecting during transport. He asked for any packing materials available. Councillor Smith and Joyce both offered cardboard packing. 5. Councillor Kiddy said that there was an error in the Village Guide just issued to all households. Clerk to amend for future editions. | Clerk/RSB  RSB  RSB  Clerk |
| 5 | **Suffolk County Council:**   1. Councillor Jane Midwood’s report was taken earlier. 2. Suffolk Registration Service - consultation. The Clerk said that the main difference was to change from 6 districts currently to one. This should provide greater flexibility for access for the public as the current service points would continue but the public could choose which to visit which is not the current situation. The Clerk was asked to respond favourably to this consultation. | Clerk |
| 6 | **Police/Neighbourhood Watch:**  An open meeting has been arranged on 22nd September to try to re-invigorate Neighbourhood Watch in the village. Councillor Sylvester-Bradley said that previous NW coordinators could be invited. However, it was felt that it was possibly too long ago to be relevant. Councillor Brown said that NW was thriving 20 years ago but the telephone cascading method changed and people dropped out. Councillor Smith offered to do refreshments. | AS |
| 7 | **Planning applications:**  The following decisions have been received from St Edmundsbury Borough Council:   1. 4 Evergreen Lane - installation of 1300lt domestic heating oil tank is granted. 2. Mathews Farm Barn - erection of garden store (revised scheme) is granted. |  |
| 8 | **Correspondence:**   1. SALC - consultation from new coalition government on Council Tax referendums. After discussion the Clerk was asked to respond that smaller Councils could be under great difficulties if sudden, unexpected but essential, large expenditure arose which triggered a costly referendum. Therefore Councils under a precept level of £50,000 should be exempt from referendums. 2. Coffee Caravan. The first visit is due tomorrow and the Afternoon Club is going to meet at the Caravan | Clerk |
| 9 | **Postponement of Sportathon:**  Councillor Brown proposed supporting the Sportathon this year on 25th September to a maximum budgeted sum of £125. This was seconded by Councillor Smith and approved |  |
| 10 | **Request received to purchase shade/weather protection for village functions:**  This was put back to item 16.1 |  |
| 11 | **Request received to purchase a loudspeaker system for village functions:**  This was put back to item 16.1 |  |
| 12 | **Water pipeline presentation:**  Councillor Sylvester-Bradley said that the presentation from the water company is the only one they are planning to give before construction starts and has been specifically requested for Great Bradley. Councillor Brown proposed that the Parish Council should pay cost of the Village Hall hire. This was seconded by Councillor Noakes and agreed. Councillor Smith agreed to do refreshments for this. | AS |
| 13 | **Bonfire Night/fireworks:**  Councillor Brown proposed that an application be made for a Temporary Event Notice at a cost of £21 in order that alcohol can be sold at the Bonfire night. This was seconded by Councillor Noakes and agreed. | Clerk |
| 14 | **To consider planting of daffodils at the top of Hall Road:**  Councillor Sylvester-Bradley said that Charles Ryder had offered to plant some daffodils on the green triangle at the top of Hall Road. Councillor Joyce said that the daffodils would improve the triangle for only a month or so but it would certainly be better than as it is currently. It was agreed that daffodil planting should go ahead but preferably with the more natural smaller varieties.  Councillor Sylvester-Bradley said that he would convene a ‘Tidy-up’ meeting to follow-up progress. | RSB  RSB |
| 15 | **Recreation Area:**   1. Proposal to purchase a separate basket hoop or fun chute for smaller children. This was discussed at length. Several alternative designs were examined but it was felt that the fun chute illustrated in the Abbey Gardens could be preferable. Clerk to establish the supplier. In the meantime it would be added into the budget for next year. 2. Information regarding hedgework. Councillor Sylvester-Bradley said that Charles Ryder had put forward a plan to renovate/renew the hedge along the Clarendale side. This would involve planting a new hedge on the inside of the ditch this Autumn. When this has grown sufficiently the old hedge would be removed leaving only the fully grown, sound trees. Another hedge on the inside of the ditch would be planted along the Fox Green side. Councillor Sylvester-Bradley said that in order to allow this hedge to grow without damage it would be necessary to ask the 3 householders who can currently exit their property directly onto the Recreation Area and cross the ditch, to no longer enter the Recreation Area this way. Councillor Kiddy felt that it should not be necessary to ask people to stop entering the Recreation Area that way. However, after some discussion a majority agreed that they should be asked not to enter the Recreation Area from their gardens. | Clerk  RSB |
| 16 | **Finance:**   1. Pre-budget planning. Ideas that could be incorporated into budget alternatives for the next meeting were put forward as:    1. Gazebo or party-tent. It was suggested that this needs to be good quality or it would have a very short life    2. Loudspeaker system for use at village functions both indoor and outdoor. Councillor Smith said that the installer of the V Hall loop system had offered to recommend a suitable system. The cost is likely to be around £200    3. Tidy-up    4. Lower basket hoop or fun chute for smaller children    5. Footpaths map. Councillor Smith said that there was another good example of this near the Affleck Arms in Dalham. She is hoping to produce the artwork for this on computer software.    6. Seat on footpaths - perhaps near Footpath 4.    7. Repair/maintenance of assets - particularly the play area items and other high value assets.    8. Enhancement to Play Area: - Smaller children’s slide and things that move on the train 2. Accounts for payment. Councillor Brown proposed the approval of 8 cheques for payment to a total of £1443.86, seconded by Councillor Smith and all approved. | Clerk  Clerk |
| 17 | **Project List:**  The list was reviewed |  |
| 18 | **Village Events:**  None notified |  |
| 19 | **Matters for consideration at the next meeting:**  Nothing reported |  |
| 20 | **Dates for next meetings:**  The next meeting dates are 17 November and 26 January 2011 |  |

There being no further business the Chairman thanked everyone for their attendance and declared the meeting closed at 10pm