

# GREAT BRADLEY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held on 14<sup>th</sup> March 2018 at the Village Hall

**Present:**

Councillors: H Bennett, N Pizey, A Smith, A F Sugg. Also Clerk John Barnett.

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

Nothing raised

**Action**

**Item**

- 1 **Election of Chairman**  
Councillor N Pizey was elected Chairman for the meeting.
- 2 **Apologies for absence:**  
Councillors K Joyce, S Kiddy and P Spires. Also County Councillor M Evans and Borough Councillor J Midwood.
- 3 **Councillors Declarations of Interest in any item on the agenda:**  
None declared.
- 4 **Open Forum for members of the public to raise any matter on the agenda:**  
Nothing raised.
- 5 **Minutes of the last meeting:**  
The minutes of the last meeting of the Parish Council on 17<sup>th</sup> January 2018 were approved and signed together with the payments approved at that meeting.
- 6 **Matters arising from the minutes:**
  1. Discussions with the Vestey Estate. Clerk said that he had not heard back from Tim Barling. There was discussion on the vacant allotment plots and Councillor Bennett said she would put information on Facebook and The Link to say there are plots available. HB
  2. Heritage Lottery grant, archiving budget and exhibition. Clerk said that the archiving budget of £4930 had been spent to £2900. Work was continuing on the digitising and Mike Brophy was confident it would be finished in time for the grant deadline of September. Clerk asked whether the Councillors had a preference for the date of the exhibition required as a condition of the grant being either September or November (to coincide with the commemoration of the end of WW1). The preference was for a November date. Clerk said he had been in touch with the Records Office in Bury St Edmunds who had been very pleased with the news of the Heritage Lottery grant. They have said that the Parish Council records can be taken out whenever was convenient for us. Clerk to organise. The digitising of the Parish Council records is not part of the Heritage Lottery grant but completely separate project. Clerk
  3. Printer lease. Clerk said the existing lease should finish in April at which point Kerbury has promised a new and improved printer to test for a month before signing a new lease. Clerk

Signed:

Chair

Date:

4. Proposal to move the Millennium seat to the Village Hall. The garden area at the front of the hall is to be cleared in readiness for the seat. Councillor Sugg volunteered to ask the Garden group if they would clear the area.

AFS

7 **St Edmundsbury Borough Council/WestSuffolk:**

Councillor Midwood sent her apologies and enclosed a report:

Currently I have no notifications of new planning applications for Great Bradley. However if councillors have any concerns to report, please let me know.

Locality Budget grants have been applied for and approved for the Royal Wedding celebration for Gt Bradley.

At the last St Edmundsbury Full Council meeting members finally gave the official go ahead to form a single council for West Suffolk, following the sanction by the Secretary of State. The first election to the new council will be in May 2019.

In the Boundary Review proposals there is little change to the Withersfield Ward apart from the inclusion of Barnardiston - recommended to transfer from Kedington ward.

8 **Suffolk County Council:**

Councillor Evans sent her apologies and enclosed a report:

The procedure for getting the speed limit change is going through and a report is being prepared.

**Highways**

It is obvious to all of us that our roads have deteriorated as a result of the long wet winter. The mix of mild wet weather punctuated by sharp frosts has resulted in many more potholes than usual. SCC is committed to repairing them all. Do please continue to report highways defects on the website.

**Severe Weather**

The Suffolk County Council Scrutiny Committee, which I chair, will be holding an examination in early May of the various elements of the council's winter emergency response. We will be looking at issues like gritting routes, grit stocks, local grit piles, procedures for calling on farmers to help with keeping the roads clear. We will also be asking for reports on the process for announcing school closures and how SCC organised and delivered care visits to our most frail and vulnerable residents.

I would be interested to hear your view of SCC's services during the severe weather and how the community coped.

**GDPR Workshop for Charities and Community Groups**

I was approached recently to ask if I could arrange training on the new data protection regulations which come into force in late May. There has been training available for parish and town councils but not much has been done to help local groups.

I am very pleased to report that Clare resident Jayne Cole, Chief Executive of the Local Council Public Advisory Service, has very generously offered her time for free to run the workshop. Jayne has already delivered a great deal of training on GDPR to parish and town councils.

We are in the process of agreeing a date and time. Details will be circulated to community groups and charities in the Clare area when we have finalised them. The workshop will be offered free of charge but we will be asking for donations to a local good cause.

**Suffolk Fire and Rescue Service Recruitment**

For the first time in 9 years SFRS has been recruiting full time fire fighters.

**Local Boundary Review**

You will be aware that St Eds/Forest Heath are proposing new ward boundaries as part of their merger and establishment of the new west Suffolk Council.

Signed:

Chair

Date:

The proposed changes have quite a severe impact on the composition of the Clare Division of Suffolk County Council and I gather it is now highly likely that there will be a boundary review for SCC before our next elections in 2021.

The ward options, background information and a feedback form can be accessed on our website at [www.westsuffolk.gov.uk/wardoptions](http://www.westsuffolk.gov.uk/wardoptions). Hard copies of the maps are also available to view at the Council offices in Brandon, Bury St Edmunds, Haverhill, Mildenhall and Newmarket in the next few days.

9 **Highways:**

Speeding in the village. Clerk said that Councillor Evans had covered this in her report which was encouraging.

10 **Royal Wedding celebration:**

The Clerk said that the £350 Locality grant from Councillor Midwood had been received. With this sum together with a contribution from the Parish Council budget for this it was felt that the whole meal/event could be paid for. This would include main course and desserts and wines/soft drinks. A committee of Councillors Bennett, Pizey, Smith and Sugg (and any other Councillor who wished to join) would organise the event. Clerk to organise the Parish Council gazebo and any other smaller available gazebos. After discussion it was agreed there was no need for organised games as youngsters didn't need them. Clerk said he had had special offers for bunting and Councillor Bennett will check the existing stock and if more is needed the Clerk is to organise it. After the problems at the last event there needs to be information/instructions that all dogs must be on leads.

HB/NP/  
AS/AFS

HB  
Clerk

11 **Planning:**

None received.

12 **Correspondence:**

1. Suffolk County Council has sent in a survey on whether Parish Councils would be prepared to take on further services currently mandated to the County Council but which they feel might be done better/cheaper/actually done by Parish Councils. The survey was completed and showed that the Parish Council already undertakes Rights of Way (RoW) grasscutting and has full recompense from Suffolk County Council. It also undertakes verge cutting along Matthews Lane (at it's own cost) and RoW sign replacements with volunteers. The only extra area that the Parish Council was prepared to look at was perhaps grip clearing (which hasn't been actually done in many places in years) which could make a difference in very wet weather to safety on the roads. The cost would have to be fully covered by Suffolk County Council.
2. Request received from Suffolk Neighbourhood Watch Association for a donation for £50 towards their ongoing central expenses. This was approved. It was suggested that some information on NW be included in the Bugle from time to time as not everyone is on Facebook.
3. Request for another light in Evergreen Lane at/near the roundabout as it is very dark in that location which is a popular way through to the Village Hall. Clerk to send in request.
4. Information received from Inspector Cooper on recent prosecutions and driver warnings on vehicles speeding in Great Bradley. This information can be used for the information banner. Councillor Bennett said it needs to be decided where the banner will be put up next.

Clerk

Clerk

Clerk

HB

Signed:

Chair

Date:

5. Clerk said that the Bar-B-Q was being cleaned by a new company on Monday afternoon in readiness for the Fete.
6. Request received from a member of the public for a new Permissive Path from Great Bradley through to Carlton. The Council did not think this was likely to be achieved.
7. Clerk said he was coordinating with Paul McCloskey regarding the transfer of the BT broadband and line rental payments from the Parish Council to the Village Hall. The Broadband is paid up to the end of April and the line rental is monthly.

13 **Annual Village Meeting pre-planning:**

The Clerk had produced a draft agenda for discussion. New items for inclusion included information from the Vestey Estate, allotments information including request for ideas on controlling the vacant plots, new Tai Chi class at the Village Hall, also new High Energy class, any further information on new 40mph buffer zone up Bradley hill, outdoor gym equipment request for ideas for which equipment, Glade Area clear-up, Royal Wedding celebrations information update, village archives and digitising update and Autumn exhibition to commemorate the end of WW1 combined with an archives exhibition with new pictures and information on how to access the archive online for everybody.

Clerk

Clerk said that as there was no official Parish Council Chairman at present the Annual Village Meeting would have to choose someone from those members of the public attending. The Clerk will provide the usual papers (management accounts summary for 2017/18 and minutes of last year's meeting) for the meeting and a report to the meeting of the activities of the Parish Council over the last year. Refreshments to be organised.

Clerk

14 **Appointment of Data Protection Officer:**

Clerk said that further information is still awaited. There had been a suggestion that SALC might be prepared to offer this service to all their Councils at a reduced rate to the professional body recommended so far. However, there has been no further information received to date. Also information is expected from the SLCC (the Clerk's national organisation).

Clerk

15 **Permissive Path from Clarendale:**

Clerk said that at a recent RoW conference recently organised by Suffolk County Council he had seen a footbridge that appeared suitable for the ditch at the end of Clarendale. The cost was too much, however, at £950. However, the contractor did offer an alternative of two 12" x 4" planks properly supported and wired and installed for £250. This was felt much more acceptable. There was discussion on the provision of a hand-rail for extra safety and Councillor Smith suggested that Pete Smith had excellent wood skills and he might be prepared to make a hand-rail for the bridge. Clerk to enquire.

Clerk

16 **Recreation Area:**

Clerk reported that he had received 3 quotations for outdoor gym equipment. It was agreed to hold over the discussion of this to the next meeting when there would be hopefully more Councillors available.

17 **Finance:**

Accounts for payment. The Council approved 14 payments totalling £1,709.15

Clerk

18 **Project List:**

This was held over to the next meeting

Clerk

Signed:

Chair

Date:

19 **Village events notified:**

24<sup>th</sup> March Book Club, Coffee Morning and Sale at the Village Hall from 10am

5<sup>th</sup> May Blackheart Orchestra entertainment evening at the Village Hall

25<sup>th</sup> May Next pop-up pub evening with Pasties.

20 **Matters for consideration at the next meeting or to note:**

Councillor Sugg asked about the new Village Hall chairs. Councillor Bennett said that Bob Bennett and Paul McCloskey were going to have a look at the options with a trip in April.

There was also a suggestion that several new smaller tables (similar to the lightweight one already in the hall) could be provided. This was thought a good idea.

21 **Dates for next meetings:**

The next meeting dates are: 25<sup>th</sup> April (Annual Village Meeting - not a Parish Council meeting), 9<sup>th</sup> May (Annual Parish Council Meeting), 27<sup>th</sup> June (approve accounts 2017/18), 19<sup>th</sup> September, 14<sup>th</sup> November (pre-budget planning meeting)

There being no further business the Chairman thanked everyone for their attendance and declared the meeting closed at 9pm

Signed:

Chair

Date: