

GREAT BRADLEY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held on 16th January 2019 at the Village Hall

Present:

Councillors: H Bennett, S Kiddy, N Pizey, A Smith, P Spires and A F Sugg. Also Borough Councillor J Midwood (part), County Councillor M Evans (part) and Clerk J 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:**
Councillor K Joyce
- 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 previous meetings:**
The minutes of the last meeting of the Parish Council on 14th November 2018 were approved and signed together with the payments approved at that meeting.
- 6 **Matters arising from the minutes:**
None
- 7 **Highways matters:**
 1. Any update on the 40mph buffer zone and chicane. Waiting to hear if County Councillor M Evans has an update on this.
 2. Vehicular Activated Sign. A new pole for the Northern entrance (from Burrough Green) to the village is to be requested. Councillors are asked to consider, ready for the next meeting, where they think is the best place for this bearing in mind the limitations of at least 100m visibility from approaching vehicles, preferably on the nearside (but not obligatory) and a wide enough verge for the pole to be set well back to avoid the V.A.S. being struck by a vehicle's mirror. Councillors
 3. Councillor Bennett said that they proposed to put the anti-speeding banner up again and it was agreed the best place would be at the village garden area again. Clerk to try to obtain the latest speeding stats to be put on the banner. Clerk
- 8 **St Edmundsbury Borough Council:**
Borough Councillor J Midwood said that they had a new 'Shadow' meeting last night of the new West Suffolk Council. The decision on whether the new Council will have a Mayor or not is, sensibly, to be left to the new Council when it is formed. The Boundary Commission has come up with some bizarre decisions e.g. a Cavendish/Clare Ward with 2 Councillors and

Signed:

Chair

Date:

Wickhambrook being put in with Whepstead. Fortunately our own Withersfield Ward is unaffected.

- 9 **Planning applications:**
None received.
- 10 **Correspondence:**
None.
- 11 **Recreation Area:**
Outdoor gym equipment. Sunshine Gym has sent a revised quotation including the selected equipment that the Parish Council had asked for i.e. Rower, SkyStepper, Arm and Pedal Bicycle, Double Slalom Skier and Combi Pull Down and Power Push. This is to a total of £7373 + VAT to include saver grass matting, installation and delivery. The total of the 4 grants now approved for the project is £5,506. The Council gave the go-ahead and the Clerk is to send the order. Clerk
It was thought that some form of opening ceremony could be appropriate perhaps with some refreshments. Clerk
- 12 **Grasscutting contracts:**
1. Recreation Area, Churchyard and Permissive Paths. Gardenpower is the current contractor and it was agreed to ask him to continue. It was agreed to have an uprate of costs of between 7-8% dependent upon the individual area. Clerk
 2. Rights of Way footpaths. Great Bradley Farms Co currently does this for the village and is asked to continue. Clerk
 3. Matthews Lane verges. Ken Hutchinson is the current contractor and will be asked to continue. There is a need to keep a closer eye on verge growth here and Councillors can assist here by also reporting to the Clerk if they feel that a cut is required. Councillors
Councillor Bennett said that the allotments water meter cover was broken. Clerk to report this. Clerk
- 13 **Finance:**
1. To consider new grants for local groups/organisations together with usual annual grants to other organisations within and without the village. It was agreed this will go on the next agenda to be decided individually. Clerk
 2. To set the Budget and Precept to St Edmundsbury Borough Council. Councillors had already been provided with Budget/Precept alternative suggestions ahead of the meeting.
Councillor Sugg suggested that the new item of play equipment for younger children (as in Budget suggestion D) should be omitted from this budget. This was agreed. Therefore, after discussion it was agreed to increase the Precept from £10,600 to £11,300 in line with Budget suggestion C. This included new items of: Clerk
Possible Parish Council elections costs, a new larger shed for the Village Hall, a Community Event, a further picnic table for the Recreation Area, an electronic screen for the Village Hall and a new outdoor War Memorial at the Village Hall.
Clerk immediately filled out the Precept form online supplied by St Edmundsbury Borough Council with the approved Precept of £11,300 and printed it out and it was signed by both the Chairman and Clerk. This will be forwarded to St Edmundsbury Borough Council on 17th January in time for the Borough's deadline of 24th January. Clerk
Councillor Bennett suggested that as the new play equipment for youngsters had been

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omitted then perhaps the existing play train could be refurbished as it appeared to be in need.

3. Accounts for payment. This was approved at 7 items totalling £1,602.81.

14 **Suffolk County Council:**

Councillor Evans said that the request for a new chicane and 40mph buffer for the village was going out to consultation today. The Parish Council will be consulted and should send a strong answer to the consultation. Clerk

There is to be a new Police Forum with Jon Gerrish likely on February 4th. Clerk will attend. Clerk
Councillor Evans is Chair of the Suffolk Road safety Board and said there is a heavy Police presence on the roads in January concentrating on speeding.

The County has been allocated extra monies from government for potholes and the County has hired 3 thermal repair machines to speed up the process at this time of year.

15 **Project List:**

The latest Project list was approved

16 **Village Events:**

The following events at the Village Hall were notified:

20th January Bootiful Breakfast again

1st February Pub Night returns – with following dates 24/5, 21/6, 19/7, 23/8, 20/9

23rd March Litter Pick

19th May Community Event

1st June Farm Walk

Possibly first week of June Open Gardens

30th June Fete

17 **Matters for consideration at the next meeting:**

Nothing raised.

18 **Dates for next meetings:**

The next meetings are scheduled for: 13th March, 24th April (Annual Village Meeting) – not a Parish Council meeting as such but it was a meeting for everyone in the village and it was hoped all Councillors could attend, 15th May - first meeting of the new Council after elections, 26th June - approve accounts from 2018/19, 18th September, 27th November - pre-Budget and Precept meeting

There being no further business the Chairman thanked everyone for their attendance and declared the meeting closed at 9.10pm

Signed:

Chair

Date: