**GREAT BRADLEY PARISH COUNCIL**

Minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held on 20th March 2020 at the Village Hall

**Present**:

Councillors: P Spires (Chairman), H Bennett and A Smith. Also Clerk J Barnett and prospective new Clerk.

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

 Nothing raised

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Item** |  | **Action** |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |
| 1 | **Co-option of new Councillor:**Helen Brown was co-opted onto the Council as Parish Councillor. Helen can sign the Declaration of Acceptance of Office at the next meeting.  | Clerk/HB |
| 2 | **Apologies for absence:**Councillors N Pizey and A F Sugg |  |
| 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 | **New Parish Clerk:**Penny Lewis was confirmed as the new Parish Clerk and, with all the current uncertainty regarding meetings due to the Coronavirus, it was agreed that John Barnett would remain in post until September. This would give a longer transition period and hopefully at least one Parish Council meeting.  |  |
| 6 | **Minutes of the previous meetings:**The minutes of the previous meeting of the Parish Council on 11th March 2020 were approved and signed together with the payments approved at that meeting. |  |
| 7 | **Planning applications:**Application DC/20/0425/HH – 6 Evergreen Lane. Single storey extension. Revised scheme to that already approved under DC/19/0372/HH. The Council had no objection to the application.  | Clerk |
| 8 | **Good Neighbour Scheme:** Alison McCloskey is coordinating this effort on behalf of the village and is given grateful thanks by all. The Parish Council agreed to give an immediate grant of £250 in order that urgent supplies can be purchased. Clerk to liaise with A M to offer any assistance required.  | Clerk  |
| 9 | **Forthcoming community events:**The Coronavirus pandemic is causing all events in the near future to be cancelled. The annual litter pick due tomorrow is off. The VE Day celebrations are cancelled on bank holiday Friday May 8th. It is hoped that the VJ Day celebrations on August 15th may yet be able to go ahead but that depends on whether the spread of the virus has peaked and whether the public are given clearance to gather again at that time. The Annual Village Meeting is cancelled for this year. Clerk will gather all the information from the various village groups as usual and put an article in the Bugle so that everyone will know what has happened last year and what it is hoped will happen later this year. It was agreed to put a notice on the Recreation Area with regard to the dangers of using the play equipment and outdoor gym equipment as the virus can remain on and be spread from touching those hard surfaces. Councillor Bennett said she would put notices up. A local fitness instructor was hoping to run a children’s fitness group on the Recreation Area to give youngsters something to do as all schools are effectively closed. The Village Hall has had to be closed but Councillor Bennett said that the new heating system had now been installed and that they were planning on installing the new lighting system as soon as the grant from Tescos was confirmed.  | ClerkHB |
| 10 | **Scheduled Parish Council meetings:**All Parish Council meetings are cancelled for the foreseeable future or until the government permits ‘virtual’ meetings which are not legal at present.  | Clerk |
| 11 | **Finance:** 1. Accounts for payment. 3 payments to a total of £711.40 were approved.
 | Clerk |
| 12 | **Dates for next meetings:**All future meetings are cancelled until further notice. Planned dates were as follows:13th May Annual Parish Council Meeting, 24th June (approve 2019/20 accounts), 16th September, 25th November (pre-budget planning)  |  |
|  |  |  |

There being no further business the Chairman thanked everyone for their attendance and declared the meeting closed at 8.23pm.