**GREAT BRADLEY PARISH COUNCIL**

Minutes of the first meeting of the new Parish Council held on 20th May 2015 at the Village Hall

**Present**:

Councillors: Helen Bennett, Karina Joyce, Nicky Pizey, Anne Smith, Pat Spires. Also Clerk John Barnett.

**Open Forum:**

All Councillors present signed their Acceptances of Office of Councillor forms.

Clerk had queried with St Edmundsbury Borough Council why it was necessary for all Councillors to fill in new Registers of Interest forms when the Act does not require it and the reply from Legal confirmed it unnecessary.

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| **Item** |  | **Action** | |
| 1 | **Election of Chairman:**  Councillor Joyce proposed Councillor Kiddy in his absence, seconded by Councillor Spires. All agreed and Councillor Kiddy is to be Chairman and will sign his Acceptances at the next meeting. | Clerk/SK | |
| 2 | **Election to other Offices:**   1. Vice-Chairman. Councillor Spires proposed Councillor Joyce, seconded by Councillor Bennett and all agreed. In the absence of Councillor Kiddy Councillor Joyce assumed the Chairman's position for this meeting. 2. Footpaths Officer. Councillor Smith agreed to continue in this role. |  | |
| 3 | **Co-option to fill the single vacancy:**  An email from Rowan Sylvester-Bradley was read out which explained his difficulties on Wednesdays in future. The Council deliberated on this and decided that it could not change the weekly meeting day for one person as that might cause problems for others (as would have happened at this meeting). Therefore it was decided not to co-opt anyone at this meeting. |  | |
| 4 | **Apologies for absence:**  Councillor Kiddy, Borough Councillor Midwood, County Councillor Evans, Police. |  | |
| 5 | **Councillors Declarations of Interest in any item on the agenda:**  None declared. |  | |
| 6 | **Minutes of the last meeting:**  The minutes of the last meeting of the Parish Council on 18th March 2015 were approved and signed together with the cheques approved at that meeting. Also the Annual Village Meeting minutes on 15th April 2015 were approved. |  | |
| 7 | **Matters arising from the minutes:**   1. Garden area. Clerk reported that the Garden area maintenance had now started and the first invoice received for payment. 2. Village sign. Clerk reported the new oak post is due in from Bradnams this week. Once the post has arrived then it will be measured for exact dimensions and the stainless steel socket ordered. 3. Village Hall manhole covers. The Village Hall Chairman is organising quotations for new stronger covers/surrounds 4. New Vehicular Activated Sign. The poles are still awaited but the unit has arrived and is currently in use in Hargrave. Clerk said although there are 3 speedwatch volunteers in Great Bradley it would be useful to have extra volunteers to put up and move this new sign. Councillor Bennett offered her services and Councillor Joyce offered her husband's services. 5. New village Facebook page. Councillor Spires said she had been asked to be an additional admin person for the Facebook page. Councillor Joyce said that there was a need to keep an eye on whether people were actually connected to the village. It might be that there would need to be 'groups' formed for different areas of specific interest on the site. | | Clerk  Clerk |
| 8 | **Suffolk Police:**  Police report received which stated no crimes in the area since the last meeting but that residents were reminded to call in any suspicious vehicles/persons. |  | |
| 9 | **Suffolk County Council:**  Information received from County Councillor Mary Evans that there was to be a meeting in Hargrave on 28th May giving information and training on the new Vehicular Activated Sign. Clerk will attend. | Clerk | |
| 10 | **Highways matters:**   1. The advance notice boards are in place for the closure of the B1061 on 25th May to 5th June for undergrounding of the overhead power cables. 2. Matters for reporting to Highways. Councillor Smith said her husband had used the new reporting tool on the Suffolk County Council website for several potholes. Councillor Bennett said she had reported the light outside her property as being on 24 hours. It was subsequently repaired incorrectly which meant it didn't come on at all and they had to come out again. Councillor Joyce said that the light outside Fox Farmhouse has been repaired at last. 3. Parking problems in Clarendale. Councillor Pizey said she knew something of the situation with this and explained that there were a number of cars in a small area which meant that parking can often be difficult and sometimes there is obstruction to driveways. There is also reported a 'banger' on the road . Clerk said he would investigate the 'banger' for legality on a Highway but that people were entitled to have their cars parked on the road but not obstruct driveways which was an offence. It was not something that Parish Council's have any powers for - it would have to be referred by householders to St Edmundsbury Borough Council, Suffolk County Council and eventually the Police for any obstructions. | Clerk | |
| 11 | **Planning applications:**  None |  | |
| 12 | **Correspondence:**   1. Request received from Fete Committee for the Parish Council to fund 50% of the Silver Band cost at £100. This was approved 2. Information received regarding an inter-village sports competition over the Summer and inviting residents to take part 3. Havebury has sent information to say they will be examining all their properties in the village to see whether they are suitable for solar panels |  | |
| 13 | **Village allotments:**  Clerk said that the marking out of the allotments was due to take place at the end of this week. The water troughs should all be in place shortly but there may be a delay in Anglian Water connecting them up to the meter. There is an on-site meeting of all those interested in a plot scheduled for 27th May to sort out who wants to go where and what size is required. A delivery of muck from Francis Read will be available for plot holders. |  | |
| 14 | **Big Lunch event/Coffee Caravan:**  The Coffee Caravan is on June 18th which is the commemoration of 200 years since Waterloo. If there are any artefacts in the Museum of East Anglian Life then that can be an added attraction otherwise it will be just a cream tea.  The Big Lunch event is on June 20th. Councillor Joyce said that the Big Lunch website suggestion should be followed so that everyone brings a plate/bowl of food. There was discussion on this and it was thought best to bring a savoury and then the Parish Council could organise sweets and wine/soft drinks. There were lots of good ideas on the website for games, some of which may need equipment purchased for the afternoon. Some might be organised in the Village Hall which could also be a fall-back in case of poor weather.  An RSVP is to go on the front page of the Bugle using yellow paper. | KJ/NP  Clerk | |
| 15 | **Annual Review of Parish Council assets:**  The latest list of assets for use in the year-end return was approved. The insurance value will need to be updated when it comes up for renewal to include recent purchases including the new basket swing. | Clerk | |
| 16 | **Recreation Area:**   1. A suggestion has been received for the purchase of 'picnic' style benches for use on the Recreation Area. They would be fixed in position for security possibly using metal Metposts and be available for use by villagers all year round. They could be very useful for events such as the Big Lunch. It was suggested that they might require an extra litter bin nearby. Councillor Smith suggested John Lewis man-made wood lookalike. Clerk to investigate and send round recommendations. It was thought 2 could be purchased after Councillors had decided which to get and hopefully available for June 20th. 2. New basket swing. Clerk said that Playdale had advised that installation was scheduled for June 18th although they had experienced slippage on dates recently. Clerk will arrange for the barrier to be dropped for them. Playdale has asked for toilet facilities if possible and Clerk is arranging this with the Village Hall using the back door when the hall is in use. 3. Councillor Spires suggested an outdoor table tennis table which could encourage people to take more exercise. | Clerk  Clerk | |
| 17 | **Finance:**   1. Draft end-of-year 2014/15 accounts. These were approved to go to the Internal Auditor at SALC. 2. Accounts for approval/payment. A total of 19 payments to a value of £4,219.88 including 50% deposit on the basket swing were all approved. 3. Clerk said that a new bank mandate will be required to add further signatories for cheque signing. | Clerk  Clerk | |
| 18 | **Project List:**  The Project List was updated. |  | |
| 19 | **Village Events notified:**   1. June 6th Farm Walk 2. June 18th Coffee Caravan cream tea 3. June 20th Big Lunch 4. July 5th Fete |  | |
| 20 | **Matters for consideration at the next meeting:**  Some of the Willow Dome shoots have not taken and need replacing. Clerk to check with Charles Ryder if it's ok to cut some shoots from the Willows by the River.  There is a need to tie in some of the centre shoots in the Dome. Councillor Bennett said she would do it. | Clerk  HB | |
| 21 | **Dates for next meetings:**  The next meeting dates are: 24th June (to approve 2014/15 accounts), 16th September and 18th November (pre-budget discussions). |  | |

There being no further business the Chairman thanked everyone for their attendance and declared the meeting closed at 9.32pm