**GREAT BRADLEY PARISH COUNCIL**

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 21st March 2012 at the Village Hall

**Present**:

Councillors: Simon Kiddy (Chairman), Rowan Sylvester-Bradley, Karina Joyce, Kate Noakes and

Anne Smith. Also County Councillor Jane Midwood (part) and Clerk John Barnett.

**Open Forum:**

Nothing raised

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| **Item** |  | **Action** | |
| 1 | **Apologies for absence:**  Councillor Sue Willington and PCSO Kayla Packman |  | |
| 2 | **Councillors Declarations of Interest in any item on the agenda:**  Councillor Smith declared a personal interest in item 8.1 on the agenda - application from 17 Clarendale to crown lift a tree subject to a Tree Preservation Order - and signed the register. |  | |
| 3 | **Minutes of the last meeting:**  The minutes of the Parish Council meeting on 18th January 2012 were approved and signed together with the cheques approved at that meeting. |  | |
| 4 | **Suffolk County Council:**  County Councillor Jane Midwood said that Thurlow was pleased with the bus services from the new operator after ABC ceased trading. The villages off the direct route of the bus service can still use the DRT bus to travel to Newmarket. She had a meeting in February with the Traffic Commissioner in Cambridge but it turned out that he had jurisdiction over 7 counties and was only concerned to see that companies were liable financially. He is of no use with complaints.  The campaign for better broadband for Suffolk. Councillor Midwood urged everyone to log on to the website and register their desire for better broadband.  The Queen’s Diamond Jubilee celebrations. Councillor Midwood said that she understood that Great Bradley was to provide a new seat and she would be able to fund this from her Locality Budget and any other items to around £4-500.  The recent Safer Neighbourhood Team meeting in Chedburgh had produced priorities of speeding in the Thurlows and burglary of out-buildings. Two recent incidents in Cowlinge has meant they are considering setting up a telephone tree for immediate alerting. Councillor Midwood said she wanted to set up a meeting/get-together of victims and any other interested Parishioners to reassure them. | |  |
| 5 | **Matters arising from the minutes:**   1. Interpretation Panel. The Clerk said that the panel had been ordered and gave copies to all of the final design. The date of delivery was unknown at present but he was confident that the final grant of £800 would be paid even if we missed their deadline of 31st for completion. Councillor Joyce said that the next stage was to finalise the leaflets and holder. An article is to go in the Bugle. 2. Bottle Bank. Councillor Smith said everyone she has spoken to, including the Village Hall Committee, has said they would like to have a Bottle Bank in the village. Councillor Sylvester-Bradley wondered whether noise might be a problem but Councillors felt it unlikely. The placement in the car park was discussed but the Clerk suggested that the collection vehicle may have restricted movement which might be the determining factor. The Clerk was asked to give the go-ahead to St Edmundsbury Borough Council for the bank. 3. Bar-B-Q policy. The abbreviated policy produced by the Clerk was agreed. A Parish Council representative should be there to issue and receive back the equipment. To avoid duplication of effort by Village Hall personnel it would be sensible for that representative (most likely the Clerk) to have a Village Hall shed key. It was felt that village associations could use it without charge but that individuals should be asked for a reasonable donation. The lighting instructions provided by the manufacturer are to be copied and then laminated and left with the Bar-B-Q for hirers and their attention is to be drawn to them for safety purposes and also insurance.  In the event that the Bar-B-Q requires cleaning the Clerk was asked to obtain a quotation. 4. Litter pick. This is scheduled for Saturday 31st March meet at the Village Hall at 10am. Councillor Smith offered to handle the refreshments for the pickers as before. The Clerk said that St Edmundsbury Borough Council had now given the Council all the necessary items (except gloves) for future litter picks rather than having to borrow them. They are to be shared with Cowlinge Parish Council. 5. Digital speed display. The Clerk said that he had contacted the Clerks to Lidgate and Thurlow regarding the success of their displays. The general feeling was that initially they had reduced speeding but that after a while the speeds increased again. The Council felt it might be more successful with displays that showed actual speed and that were mobile so they could be put in different locations from time to time. Councillor Joyce said that in this way it could be perhaps shared with another Council(s) to reduce the costs. | | Clerk  Clerk  Clerk  AS |
| 6 | **Highways:**  There are potholes for reporting along Hall Road and then further towards Cowlinge. |  | |
| 7 | **Police:**  The Police report had been circulated previously. |  | |
| 8 | **Planning applications:**  Tree Preservation Order application at 17 Clarendale - crown lift Silver Birch to 2.6m. There were no objections to this but the Council instructed the Clerk to contact St Edmundsbury Borough Council to ask that the lift is done to professional standards. | Clerk | |
| 9 | **Correspondence:**   1. The Coffee Caravan is returning this year on April 19th 2 - 4pm, June 21st 10 -12 noon, August 23rd 2 - 4pm. 2. Request to consider a wildflower (insect-friendly) area on the green at Clarendale. Councillors felt the idea of a wildflower area was good. Councillor Kiddy suggested that it would be better situated in the Glade on the Recreation Area. This was agreed as ideal. Councillor Kiddy said he could provide information on wildflower seed. Councillor Sylvester-Bradley offered to contact Charles Ryder regarding this. 3. Consultation on St Edmundsbury Borough Council Vision 2031 - their latest LDF proposals. The Clerk said that Great Bradley remained an infill only village. 4. Suffolk Association of Local Councils has sent legal topic guidance on the new Members conduct and registration and disclosure of their interests. The Clerk said that although the main legislation has been passed there is considerable clarification still required from government. | SK  RSB | |
| 10 | **Planning for the Annual Village Meeting:**  The Clerk will contact all the village associations as usual to remind them to put the AVM in their diaries for presentations.  The Clerk will organise the refreshments and Councillor Joyce offered to organise the wine.  Both Councillors Joyce and Noakes offered to help set up the hall at 6.30pm for doors opening at 7pm for a 7.30pm meeting start.  Extra items this year needing presentations are the Jubilee, archive material and interpretation panel.  The Clerk is to organise a flyer to go out with the Bugle. | Clerk  KJ/Clerk  KJ/KN  Clerk | |
| 11 | **Event to mark the Queen’s Diamond Jubilee:**   1. Hog Roast and activities. The Clerk said he had received some quotations for Hog Roasts. An East Anglian supplier from the internet was quoting £1,000 whilst another in a nearby village was £675. The best quote was from one who regularly appeared at market stalls and was £500 giving approx 150 portions in a soft white roll with apple sauce and stuffing. The proposal was put forward to have this hog roast supplier on Tuesday 5th June with the other activities and this was approved by 4 votes with one abstention. Clerk to order the Hog Roast supplier. 2. Flagpole. The Clerk suggested a flagpole with internal halyard which was more neighbourhood-friendly from a noise point of view. A single-piece fibreglass flagpole should offer long-term benefits and a proposal to purchase a 6m pole with internal halyard system and hinged baseplate at £239 + £68 delivery was approved by 4 votes to one against. Clerk to order. Edward Fletcher has flags available. 3. Bench at the Church. The Clerk said that the bench that he had showed Councillors, which had been ordered by Cowlinge Parish Council, was now on special offer with inscribed lettering for the Jubilee celebrations at £399.99 + £30 delivery (both inc recoverable VAT). This was all approved. Clerk to order. 4. The Jubilee Committee of Councillors Sylvester-Bradley and Smith together with the Clerk need to arrange a meeting as soon as possible to finalise arrangements. | Clerk  Clerk  Clerk  RSB/AS  Clerk | |
| 12 | **Footpaths:**  Councillor Sylvester-Bradley said that due to budgetary constraints at Suffolk County Council way marking of footpaths is now likely to become necessary by Parish Councils. Charles Ryder is happy to help where necessary. There is a need to check all the footpaths to ascertain needs. Everyone was asked to make a note when walking in the Parish. Councillor Sylvester-Bradley said he would check with Suffolk County Council which markings are needed for each path and attempt to obtain whatever is needed from them whilst they still have stock. | Councillors/  Clerk  RSB | |
| 13 | **Recreation Area:**   1. Lower basketball hoop. The Clerk showed a picture of the new hoop and thanked Stuart Wilson and Stephen Steward for their assistance with the installation. The hoop being much lower than the other is more vulnerable to damage from older youngsters swinging on it. 2. Football goal nets. The Clerks said that the existing nets were showing signs of wear and had broken in places and needed replacing. It was agreed that although the goals were not being used to the full extent originally hoped they were sufficiently used and valued by youngsters that they should be replaced. It was agreed to purchase 2 replacement nets x 2.5mm twine at £19.80 each + delivery. | Clerk | |
| 14 | **Broadband connection and I.T. courses at the Village Hall:**  Councillor Smith said that the VHMC was not particularly enthusiastic about the internet connection at the Village Hall and it was proving difficult to get the Computer/I.T. course back on.  Both the VHMC and the PC signed a commitment when applying for the grant stating ‘the village hall must make the funded facilities available for free community and Parish Council use’ and ‘the village (hall) committee also agree to make the facilities available for at least two I.T. training sessions per year’. The Parish Council separately agreed to ‘financially support the phone line rental and broadband service for at least one year after the project year funding has ceased’. This the Parish Council has done by signing up to an initial contract for 2 years and which is due to end on 23rd November 2012.  Councillor Sylvester-Bradley said he would talk to the Village Hall Chairman regarding these obligations.  The Clerk said the I.T. tutor was keen to get another session going and had suggested a number of topics that could be of interest and he was prepared to forgo his travelling expenses if it would help. | RSB | |
| 15 | **Finance:**   1. Accounts for payment. Councillor Smith proposed the payment of 10 cheques and 3 Direct Debit payments to a total of £1672.17. This was seconded by Councillor Joyce and all approved. 2. Projected end-of-year budget report. The Clerk said that the end of March bank balance was likely to be around £9000 against a budget of £8800. | Clerk | |
| 16 | **Project List:**  Councillor Kiddy ran through all the Project list items to obtain all the updates. One item not yet progressed was the megaphone purchase. Clerk was asked to obtain information on alternatives with regard to sound quality. | Clerk | |
| 17 | **Village Events:**  The following events were notified:   1. Coffee Caravan - April 19th 2 - 4pm, June 21st 10 -12 noon, August 23rd 2 - 4pm 2. Bluebell Walk - April 21st 3. 2nd June Farm Walk 4. Jubilee celebrations 5th June 5. Fete 8th July |  | |
| 18 | **Matters for consideration at the next meeting:**   1. Jubilee celebrations 2. Archives. The visit of the Archivists from Bury and Ipswich was discussed. They were very keen on all the papers they had seen and they said they would be very pleased to accept most for storage. They gave useful advice for storage in the village if required. It was suggested that some of the papers/pictures could be used in an exhibition in the village hall at the AVM and the Jubilee and then a longer-term decision as to where these items should be stored could be considered. | Clerk | |
| 19 | **Dates for next meetings:**  Annual Village Meeting 18 April, 23 May (Annual Parish Council meeting) and 27 June (approve 2011/12 accounts - last date before 30 June deadline). |  | |

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