

GREAT BRADLEY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held on 26th June 2019 at the Village Hall

Present:

Councillors: H Bennett, N Pizey, A Smith, P Spires and A F Sugg. Also Borough Councillor P Stevens (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 P Spires continues as Chairman.
- 2 **Apologies for absence:**
None
- 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 15th May 2019 were approved and signed together with the payments approved at that meeting. Also all the receipts and payments and the bank reconciliation to date were approved and signed.
- 6 **Matters arising from the minutes:**
None
- 7 **West Suffolk Council:**
Councillor Stevens said that rural churches were entitled to free black and blue bins but there is to be a charge for brown bins as per domestic properties.
There is a trial of cashless parking in part of St Andrews Street South car park which local businesses have asked for.
The forms have been submitted for the Great Bradley Locality Budget request for the new War Memorial.
Grasscutting is behind at present. A discussion then ensued with regard to the cutting back of vegetation on the footpath beside the Recreation Area. Clerk showed pictures which illustrated the extent of growth. There was some doubt as to whether this footpath should be maintained by West Suffolk or Suffolk County Council. Councillor Stevens said he would look into it.

Signed:

Chair

Date:

8 **Suffolk County Council:**

Councillor Evans said that she had had a meeting onsite with the householder, a Highways representative and Clerk at The Three Tuns, East Green on 20th June. This was to look at ways of improving the safety of the junction with East Green Lane which was directly opposite their property. The sightline exiting East green Lane was extremely poor looking towards Cowlinge and Highways has confirmed that the hedge is their responsibility and it will be taken back considerably which will improve matters immeasurably. Also they were looking at putting in warning signs ‘single-track with passing places’ to warn of the dangers on the hill.

The 40mph buffer zone on Bradley hill is going to Committee for final decision.

The Parish Council request for Locality Budget funds for the new War Memorial is going through.

Road verges cutting is done twice per year on A + B roads with all other roads once per year. There is a new policy to leave more verges for wildflowers and concentrate on junctions where it is safe to do so.

Trading Standards are warning people of an email scam promising a rebate of Council Tax. Suffolk County Council has been given £1m by the government for those children on free school meals to be used in the Summer holidays.

9 **Highways matters:**

1. Clerk reported that progress has been slow on the new Vehicular Activated Sign pole position on the existing 30mph pole between Crown House and Water Lane. He has sent pictures of the current pole and the exact position which had been confused by Highways. Clerk
2. The meeting onsite with the householder at Three Tuns, East Green was covered in Councillor Evan’s report.

10 **Planning applications:**

DC/19/1263/HH 9 Clarendale. Two storey side extension with covered walkway. The Council decided they had no objection to this application. Clerk

11 **Correspondence:**

1. The Church has taken back control of churchyard maintenance. The Council discussed this and decided that as they no longer had any control over the maintenance then it could not be supported by Council funds. The Church had received nearly £11,500 from the Parish Council towards churchyard maintenance over the last 15 years. It was thought that other groups in the village could now receive the benefit of these funds.
2. Request from Little Thurlow to borrow the A3 and A4 scanners that had been purchased with Heritage Lottery funds in order to digitise the village archives. They have a similar project. The Council approved the loan but would like to see some form of donation towards it. Clerk

12 **New War Memorial and opening to coincide with 75th VE day anniversary 8th May 2020:**

Clerk said that attempts to discover all those who served/died in WW2 from Great Bradley involved various lines of enquiry which were ongoing.

Discussion then took place regarding having the annual Community event at the same time which could take place at either the Village Hall or the Recreation Area. This is to go on the next agenda for further discussion. Clerk

Signed:

Chair

Date:

- 13 **Community Speedwatch volunteers annual meeting in Bury St Edmunds:**
Councillor Bennett said that 3 volunteers from Great Bradley had gone to this meeting which was mostly to do with the running of the system. The Police have now sent over 4000 letters to those caught speeding by Community Speedwatch volunteers. Some 65 new applicants have recently applied to come in. Councillor Bennett suggested a voice recorder in order that vehicle registration numbers can be spoken into it which would assist numbers being written down. This was approved and Clerk to organise. Clerk
- 14 **Recreation Area:**
The warning sign for the outdoor gym equipment was discussed and the artwork supplied by the Clerk approved. Clerk to order along with 3 Community Speedwatch signs. Clerk
- 15 **Village Hall:**
Councillor Bennett said that the new shed is built and in position and thanks go to the volunteers who completed this task so quickly and all items from the cupboard in the bar area have been cleared out and put in the shed. Following that the cupboard itself was dismantled and removed to make way room for the archive cabinets. These cabinets have now been moved from Great Bradley Hall offices on time before the end of June as requested and are in position in the bar area. The suggestion now is that the electric lighting has to be completed in the shed and that at the same time the new low background temperature control system could be installed in the bar area to secure the long-term life of the archive materials.
- 16 **Bonfire Night:**
Clerk said it was recommended that at least one member of those assisting on Bonfire Night had fireworks safety training. Due to his business commitments it was unlikely that Dave Flood would be able to do this so the Clerk has said he would go to this on Sunday 15th September at Dynamic Fireworks in West Mersey. Clerk
- 17 **Finance:**
1. The internal auditor SALC has signed off the 2017/18 accounts. The Parish Council discussed and then approved the annual Governance Statement and the Chairman and Clerk signed it off.
 2. One of the recommendations from the Internal Auditor was the adopting of the most recent Model Standing Orders and Financial Standing Orders as they had provided. This was approved by the Council.
A further statement from the internal auditor said that there was no minute to show that the Council had carried out a review of the effectiveness of the internal audit. The Council felt that statement 2 approved and just signed by the Parish Council in the Annual Governance Statement (identical to the Statement signed in 2018) which said 'we maintained an adequate system of internal control including measures designed to prevent and detect fraud and corruption and reviewed its effectiveness' was more than sufficient to show that the Council had reviewed the internal audit system.
In addition the Council decided they were not going to adopt the recommendation of the internal auditor of asking a non-signatory Councillor to produce a totally inappropriate quarterly 3 page 'Internal Control Report' document which was more suited to large or very large Councils with budgets of several hundred thousands of pounds rather than around £15-20,000 which is the normal for Great Bradley Parish Council.
 3. Accounts for payment. This was approved at 11 items totalling £2696.24 Clerk

Signed:

Chair

Date:

- 18 **Project List:**
The latest Project list was approved. Clerk
- 19 **Village Events:**
Pub Nights - 19/7, 23/8, 20/9
Fete - 30th June
Great Bradley Players – 26/7
Wine tasting – 11/10
Bonfire Night – 2/11
Quiz Night – 16/11
- 20 **Matters for consideration at the next meeting:**
1. New War Memorial update on names and community event as part of the 75th anniversary of VE day 8th May 1945 commemorations Clerk
 2. There have been problems with dog mess on the allotments. Councillors to consider options for best wording of a sign to deter people, other than allotmenters, from bringing their dogs to the area. Councillors
- 21 **Dates for next meetings:**
The next meetings are scheduled for: 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 9.21pm

Signed:

Chair

Date: