

# GREAT BRADLEY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held on 28<sup>th</sup> June 2017 at the Village Hall

**Present:**

Councillors: H Bennett, K Joyce, S Kiddy, N Pizey, A Smith, P Spires, A Sugg. Also Borough Councillor J Midwood (part) and Clerk John Barnett.

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

Councillor Midwood said that the chevrons on the bends at Hall road have been damaged by a vehicle

**Action**

**Item**

- 1 **Election of Chairman**  
Councillor Spires was elected Chairman for the meeting.
- 2 **Apologies for absence:**  
Councillor K Joyce and County Councillor M Evans
- 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 last meeting:**  
The minutes of the last meeting of the Parish Council on 17<sup>th</sup> May 2017 were approved and signed together with the payments approved at that meeting.
- 6 **Matters arising from the minutes:**
  1. Heritage Lottery grant. Clerk said that an article had been put in the Bugle by the Archive group advertising for assistance with the digitising of the records to be paid for by part of the grant received. Three offers of help have been received and the three respondents will have a formal interview. The next stage will be to decide on the necessary hardware for the scanning/digitising. Councillor Midwood said that Boxit might be of help there. The local assistance offered is likely to be available sooner rather than later so there is a need to obtain the hardware. Clerk said that he had contacted Mike Brophy to see if he had any expertise in this regard and especially as the digitised items would go onto a Network Attached Storage Device that he had offered to operate for the village. Clerk
- 7 **St Edmundsbury Borough Council:**  
Borough Councillor J Midwood said that St Edmundsbury Borough Council and Forest Heath Council will finally merge completely and that this would be likely to result in some boundary changes.  
The new waste hub has had some issues but is now going to Planning in July.  
If Great Bradley has any older street nameplates with lettering stuck on they will be replaced. There is some Locality Budget grant money available if needed for any projects this year. It may still be possible to use it for the table tennis table if nothing else is planned. Clerk  
Councillor Midwood asked the Council what they felt about the application at Handy Bar

Signed:

Chair

Date:

Grove. The Council felt they had insufficient knowledge about the proposal and its affect. Councillor Midwood suggested contacting the Estate Manager and asking if he would come to let the Parish Council know what it was all about from their perspective. Clerk to try to arrange.

Clerk

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**Suffolk County Council:**

County Councillor Mary Evans sent a report:

1. The clerk and I met for a site visit Thursday and looked at these highways issues: the start of the 30mph zone coming into the village from Brinkley and whether there should be some sort of traffic calming as vehicles crest the hill unaware they are entering a built up area. I think this is a good idea and have taken it to highways. The urgent need for road repairs between the bends on the Cowlinge Great Bradley road – agreed. I’ve put this on my list for my next update meeting with them. Incidentally I am pleased that we have at last got the road repairs done at East Lane. Speed reduction on Matthews Lane. I just don’t think this will fall into the criteria for speed limit reductions and suggest looking at maybe trying to get the verge cut so people can get out of the way of traffic.
2. I am holding a funding advice session for village halls at Stansfield Village Hall on Monday 31 July at 7.30pm with SCC external funding specialist Andy Cuthbertson. I am aware of a number of halls looking for funding and it seemed a good opportunity to share information. An invitation will be emailed out this week.
3. Suffolk’s Fire and Rescue Service is undertaking a thorough review and check of all high rise buildings in the country following the terrible Grenfell Tower Fire. So far, I gather, nothing untoward has been found. Officer have sought to talk to residents and give them advice and reassurance.

Calls to fires in high rise premises are recorded against three categories, according to the number of floors in the building. They are:

1-3 floors (low rise)

4-9 floors (medium rise)

10 floors and above (high rise)

we have in Suffolk 98 high rise premises, of which 19 have 8, or more, floors: 14 of these are residential. The number of medium rise properties is 35, of which 13 are residential. Fire crews routinely train at the locations of these high rise buildings to gain experience and knowledge of access routes etc

Pre-determined attendances are assigned to specific types of emergencies and risk premises. The Suffolk attendance to a fire, smell of burning or smell of smoke within any high rise building of 5 or more floors is:

- 5 x pumping appliances
- 1 x aerial appliance and support appliance
- 1 x command support vehicle and support appliance
- 2 x flexible duty (Level 2) officers
- 1 x Group Commander (Level 3) officer

Finally, My Life My Future is a programme of work to improve the lives of people with learning disabilities and bring them closer to the vision of the [Joint Learning Disability Strategy 2015-2020](#).

Over the past 18 months, extensive co-production and engagement has taken place with self-advocates, families, providers and other stakeholders to develop proposals to change the way learning disability services in Suffolk could be delivered in the future. A formal consultation to gain views about the proposals has launched and will be open until 5pm, Monday 10 July.

Information about the proposals is available at: [www.suffolk.gov.uk/consultations](http://www.suffolk.gov.uk/consultations). Please take the time to visit the webpage and find out more about the proposals. Information

Signed:

Chair

Date:

about the consultation will be distributed widely and available in different formats.

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### **Highways matters:**

1. Councillor Sugg said she had been researching 'gates' for the entrances to villages and showed some examples. They start around £300 each and could need up to 6 (one on each side of the road) for the 3 entrances to the village. Clerk to research options. Clerk said another option might be to try to resurrect the 40mph buffer zone from St John's Cottages at the bottom of the hill - similar to the new 40mph zone at Dullingham. Clerk to initiate request. County Councillor Evans has already said she will ask Highways to look at the 30mph sign area at the top of the hill as needing improvement. Clerk
2. The letter to Mr Read requesting him to not use Matthews Lane, but use his fields instead, was not to be sent. Clerk said that in his site visit with Councillor Evans to Matthews Lane it was obvious that the verges were severely overgrown and needed to be cut. Councillor Evans said that Suffolk County Council did not cut such small roads and suggested asking the farmers for assistance. Clerk said he was meeting with Charles Ryder next week to discuss this. If this is not possible then the Clerk suggested that the Parish Council could pay for a contractor to do it (as Cowlinge Parish Council does for the whole of its Parish verges). Clerk to organise this with a contractor as a matter of urgency if Charles Ryder cannot do it. Clerk

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### **Planning applications:**

Handy Bar Grove - clear fell and re-stock. This was covered above.

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### **Correspondence:**

1. Request received from Seafarers UK to fly the Red Ensign on Merchant Navy Day on 3<sup>rd</sup> September. This was discussed and agreed. Councillor Kiddy agreed to include this in his flag schedule. Clerk to order flag. Clerk SK
  2. Poor mobile phone signals in the village. It had been suggested that the church could be a booster point. Clerk said he had emailed a Norfolk company advertising this service and saying it was moving into Suffolk but there had been no response. This was discussed and it was felt that because the church was, unusually, down the hill from the village perhaps the Village Hall might be more suitable. Clerk to investigate possibilities. Clerk
  3. Parish Forum in Bury St Edmunds on Neighbourhood Plans. This had been attended by Councillors Bennett and Smith and the Clerk. Councillor Bennett said that it had been made clear that Neighbourhood Plans were designed for villages that been designated as areas for growth and which would allow that village to shape where that growth took place and in what form. This would not be suitable for a small village such as Great Bradley where there is no planned growth on the latest St Edmundsbury Borough Council Vision plan going out to 2031 and where only 'infill' is permitted. There were other options for 'infill' villages that could be more appropriate such as Parish Plans, Community Strategies and Design Statements. These do not carry the same legal weight as a Neighbourhood Plan. It had been planned that the working group at the Parish Forum would explain more about these alternatives but that had not happened. Clerk to look to see what benefits these alternatives may give. Clerk
- Under 'Parish Updates' at the Forum where villages were asked to give information on any events they had held or any different projects, Councillor Bennett said that she had informed all those present at the Forum of the success of the Pop-up pub and how it might be of use to those villages that no longer had a pub. Councillor Robert Everitt who was chairing the meeting asked to be informed of the forward dates as he would come to visit when the Pop-up pub was there. Other Parishes had been very interested Clerk

Signed:

Chair

Date:

12 **Recreation Area:**

1. The Big Lunch/Horkey on June 11<sup>th</sup> was a great success with over 120 free tickets handed out and there were some people who had paid as well. Councillor Smith said that it had been really good to see the Mayor there to open the event and that he had stayed to chat to people for a long while after.
2. The new outdoor table tennis table had also been well received. A bat had been subsequently broken but a Parishioner had put a spare one that she had there as a replacement.
3. Football goals. These are in need of refurbishment with considerable rusty patches. Clerk said there was paint and brushes available and new nets and back net support irons which would be put up at the same time. Councillor Kiddy had suggested that perhaps a group of youngsters who use the goals might offer to do the refurbishment. Clerk to make enquiries. Councillor Smith said she could organise refreshments if a painting/refurbishment party were to go ahead.
4. Glade area edging. Clerk said that now the better weather was here and the main event over on the Recreation Area he will now organise the edging to be delivered after discussion with Stephen Steward who has experience of installing this in Great Bradley Hall garden areas.

Clerk

13 **Annual Review of Parish Council Risk Assessment and Management:**

The revised Risk Assessment and Management was approved with only changes to the date and an increase in cash held at bank from £25,000 to £30,000 as the lower threshold had just been breached with the receipt of the grant of £4,700 from the Heritage Lottery Fund just after the receipt of this year's total Precept and on top of the reserves.

14 **Finance:**

1. The Annual Return 2016/17 was approved and Clerk will send it to BDO.
2. Accounts for payment. The Council approved 16 payments totalling £2,208.18

Clerk

Clerk

15 **Project List:**

Councillor Spires ran through the latest updated Project List. Clerk has contacted other nearby Councils and there was insufficient interest in organising a further SALC Local Training session. Clerk gave Councillor Sugg the latest SALC training dates at Claydon.

AS

16 **Village events notified:**

Pop-up pub at the Village Hall evenings are being organised monthly in July, August and September.  
Fete 2<sup>nd</sup> July

17 **Matters for consideration at the next meeting or to note:**

Councillor Smith raised the question of a sign indicating the presence of a defibrillator. After discussion it was agreed that the Great Bradley community are aware of its presence but because it was an unlocked version (and thereby available for immediate use) it would be prudent perhaps not to advertise its situation to passers-by. It should be registered with the Police.

Clerk

18 **Dates for next meetings:**

The next meeting dates are: 13<sup>th</sup> September and 15<sup>th</sup> November

There being no further business the Chairman thanked everyone for their attendance and declared the meeting closed at 9.23pm

Signed:

Chair

Date: