**GREAT BRADLEY PARISH COUNCIL**

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 29th June 2011 at Great Bradley Hall Office

**Present**:

Councillors: Rowan Sylvester-Bradley (Chairman), Karina Joyce, Kate Noakes, Anne Smith and Sue Willington. Three members of the public and Clerk John Barnett.

**Open Forum:**

The Chairman welcomed the 3 members of the public from Thurlow who explained that they were proposing moving the Thurlow shop to their garage premises opposite when the existing shop tenants retire. They were informing all local Councils and seeking support for their proposals.

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| **Item** |  | **Action** | |
| 1 | **Apologies for absence:**  Councillor S Kiddy, County Councillor J Midwood and the Police |  | |
| 2 | **Co-option of Parish Councillor:**  Councillor Sylvester-Bradley said that he had spoken to someone about becoming a Councillor but they were now too busy at work. However, another person was thinking about it and may come to the next meeting. |  | |
| 3 | **Councillors Declarations of Interest in any item on the agenda:**  None declared |  | |
| 4 | **Minutes of the last meeting:**  The minutes of the Parish Council meeting of 11th May and 18th May 2011 were approved and signed together with the cheques approved at the meeting on 11th May. Also the minutes from the Annual Village Meeting on 18th May 2011 were approved. |  | |
| 5 | **Matters arising from the minutes:**   1. Dog fouling. Councillor Willington said that the signs against fouling on the Recreation Area were not very obvious. She suggested the provision of foul collection bags and doing everything within reason to provide as much help as possible for dog walkers to stop the fouling. The Clerk was asked to contact the Dog Warden again for any possible assistance. To go on the next agenda. 2. New, higher post for the Village Sign. Councillor Sylvester-Bradley gave an update on the status of this project. He said that he had a quote of £440 from H signs which was only for a 4/5” post is significantly less than the current post of 7”. He is now obtaining a revised quote from them for a 6 or 7” post. Their quote includes a steel ground socket. There are other suppliers in Ipswich and Saffron Walden that have quoted considerably less but do not include the notching required in the post for the sign nor the steel ground socket. Councillor Sylvester-Bradley will continue work on this project. 3. Millennium Oak and Garden Area. Councillor Sylvester-Bradley said that there had been no further progress to report on this. 4. Training for Councillors. The Clerk said that numerous dates had been offered by Suffolk Association of Local Councils in September and October. Having heard the preferences from Cowlinge PC it was decided to go for 2 evenings training and suggest the dates of Wed 12 and Tues 18 October. Clerk to circulate around the interested Councils. 5. Bonfire Night. The date of 5th November was agreed. A revised budget of £500 for fireworks was agreed and the Clerk is instructed to search for a suitable display pack. Councillor Sylvester-Bradley said that something to indicate the end of the display would be useful. A committee was set up to organise the evening of Councillors Noakes, Joyce, Sylvester-Bradley. Dave Flood and Mike Parsons are to be asked to join the committee if they are able. 6. 30mph wheelie-bin stickers. The feeling from the AVM was that they were not required. | | Clerk  Clerk  RSB  RSB  Clerk  Clerk  KN/KJ/RSB |
| 6 | **Highways:**  Nothing to report to Highways. |  | |
| 7 | **Suffolk County Council:**  Councillor Midwood sent her report. She said that her information is that the possible changes to the Police structure should not affect the rural areas. Buses is the hot topic at the moment. The new Demand Responsive Transport bus service has been withdrawn from the Bradleys and Thurlows and, although there is a timetabled 3 x per day service supposedly now available there, both the smaller hamlets, of Little Thurlow and Little Bradley are no longer being served at all. She is going to meet the Traffic Commissioner in Cambridge that approved this situation and put him in the picture as to the results. Councillor Willington asked whether there was an earlier bus that went through the village and Councillor Smith said that there still remained one early bus through to Cambridge which returned early evening.  The New Strategic Direction is now no longer the driving force at Suffolk County Council.  Library financial information has been very difficult to get hold of from County Officers for all those expressing a wish to take over their local libraries. This is not acceptable. |  | |
| 8 | **Suffolk Police:**  PCSO Kayla Packman sent her report. Since the last meeting there have been no reported crimes in Great Bradley. Metal thefts continue. |  | |
| 9 | **Planning applications:**  None |  | |
| 10 | **Correspondence:**   1. Suffolk Association of Local Councils circulated letter from Leiston-cum-Sizewell requesting support from Parish Councils for changes in submissions of large planning applications. The Council discussed this and agreed to support this request in the principle but not the application which precipitated it. Clerk to write to support this. | Clerk | |
| 11 | **Open Weekend Event:**  Clerk said that information had been received from Wendy Mansfield regarding this event. It is going ahead on 23rd July as a ‘Family Fun’ event on the Recreation Area. There is to be a family rounders match and the request for the marking of a suitable pitch on the Recreation Area was discussed. It was felt that it could be put on the football pitch if felt necessary. Other events to be beat the goalie and wellie ‘wanging’. The Clerk is printing A5 leaflets to be distributed with the next Bugle which is imminent. | Clerk | |
| 12 | **Interpretation panel:**  There was a discussion on the type of construction and on a vote of 4 against 1 it was agreed to use Oak. Councillor Sylvester-Bradley asked about the leaflets and holder for this project. The Clerk said that the quotations received did not include this and because the only current approved grant did not cover the full cost of the panel he suggested not including this at this stage. It was something that could be added later if more grant monies became available. The design of the panel was discussed. The Clerk said that he had had a discussion with Shelley signs who appear to have expertise in these panels and they have an in-house artwork facility which they have now quoted for. They have said they can produce final artwork from the ‘component parts’ supplied. These would be such as a footpaths map which could be overlaid on an O.S. map (which they said we would have to get permission to use) and photos and the required text. Councillor Joyce said she thought that producing these could be something that could be handled in-house with the talents available on the Council. It was decided to form a committee to oversee the design comprising Councillors Sylvester-Bradley, Joyce, Noakes, Smith and to ask Les Bunyan also. Councillor Sylvester-Bradley will also ask Anne Pigden whether there was anyone in the art group that might be suitable. Councillor Sylvester-Bradley will do the initial mapwork. | RSB/AS/  KJ/KN  RSB  RSB | |
| 13 | **Queen’s Diamond Jubilee celebrations 2012:**  Due to lack of remaining time this evening the proposal to consider an event to mark the 2012 celebrations was postponed to the next meeting | Clerk | |
| 14 | **Proposed letter to residents adjoining the Recreation Area regarding the new hedges:**  It was agreed this letter should go out to the residents. Councillor Sylvester-Bradley is to organise this. | RSB | |
| 15 | **Proposal to purchase and place a new seat near Langacre:**  This proposal for a rustic bench at a cost of £25 was put by Councillor Sylvester-Bradley and seconded by Councillor Noakes and all approved. Councillor Smith said she would liaise with Les Bunyan on this and advise him where it should be placed. | AS | |
| 16 | **Possible moving of Footpath 4 to the edge of the field alongside Water Lane:**  The Clerk said he had contacted the farmer and suggested a joint approach on this matter. The farmer thought this a sensible way forward and the Clerk agreed to obtain all the required paperwork and estimates of costs and the farmer said he would then put the case to the landowner to see if they would agree to cover them. | Clerk | |
| 17 | **Proposal for a donation to the church for hosting the AVM:**  Councillor Sylvester-Bradley proposed this at the standard rate normally paid to the village hall which was £24. This was seconded by Councillor Smith and all agreed. |  | |
| 18 | **Proposal to purchase 2 new grit bins:**  Due to lack of remaining time this evening the proposal to consider this was postponed to the next meeting | Clerk | |
| 19 | **Possible changes to provision of local services in Thurlow:**  This had been covered in the Open Forum. |  | |
| 20 | **Village Hall repairs:**  The Clerk reported a recent conversation with Wendy Mansfield who was now back to help again. There is still a possibility that the repairs to the floor will begin in July and a completion date sometime in September. The celebratory event will take place once the hall is available again. |  | |
| 21 | **Evergreen or Matthews Lane:**  Councillor Sylvester-Bradley said that the 1884 O.S. map showed ‘Evergreen’ right at the top of Matthews Lane. He has spoken to St Edmundsbury Borough Council who say they often are guided by local requests for street nameplates. Councillor Willington said that the request had only come about because of a complaint from one or two delivery drivers and not householders and she suggested that it was not a situation the Council should concern itself with. |  | |
| 22 | **Recreation Area - new lower basket hoop/fun chute:**  Due to lack of remaining time this evening the proposal to consider this was postponed to the next meeting | Clerk | |
| 23 | **Finance:**   1. Section 1, the accounting statement, of the annual return of 2010/11. Proposal for approval made by Councillor Noakes and seconded by Councillor Joyce and all approved. 2. Section 2, the annual governance statement, of the annual return of 2010/11. Proposal for approval made by Councillor Noakes and seconded by Councillor Joyce and all approved. The audit paperwork is to be forward to BDO to be received by the audit date of 8th July 2011. 3. New bank mandate. Councillor Noakes agreed to become the third signatory on the Council’s bank account. 4. Accounts for payment. Councillor Smith proposed the payment of 8 cheques and 2 Direct Debit payments to a total of £1284.02 + £24 approved in item 17 above = £1308.02. This was seconded by Councillor Willington and all approved. | Clerk  KN/Clerk  Clerk | |
| 24 | **Project List:**  Due to lack of remaining time this evening the proposal to consider this was postponed to the next meeting | Clerk | |
| 25 | **Village Events:**  The following events were notified:   1. Fete - July 10 and the Village Fun Day - July 23 |  | |
| 26 | **Matters for consideration at the meeting:**  Co-option of new Councillor | Clerk | |
| 27 | **Dates for next meetings:**  The next meeting date is 21 September and the further dates of 16 November and 18January were also agreed. |  | |

There being no further business the Chairman thanked everyone for their attendance and declared the meeting closed at 10.15pm