**GREAT BRADLEY PARISH COUNCIL**

Minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held on 29th June 2016 at the Village Hall

**Present**:

Councillors: Simon Kiddy (Chairman), Karina Joyce (vice-Chairman), Helen Bennett, Anne Smith,

Pat Spires. Also County Councillor Mary Evans (part) and Clerk John Barnett.

**Open Forum:**

Nothing raised.

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| **Item** |  | **Action** | |
| 1 | **Apologies for absence:**  Councillor Pizey and Borough Councillor Jane Midwood. |  | |
| 2 | **Councillors Declarations of Interest in any item on the agenda:**  None declared. |  | |
| 3 | **Minutes of the last meeting:**  The minutes of the last meeting of the Parish Council on 18th May 2016 were approved and signed together with the payments approved at that meeting. |  | |
| 4 | **Matters arising from the minutes:**   1. Village Hall Bell Housing repair has now been completed. The gable barge boards have also been painted at both ends of the Hall. 2. Defibrillator is now in place. Liz Whittaker has offered to do more training sessions as required and this will be organised in the Autumn. 3. Transparency Fund expenditure. Clerk showed the new dedicated Parish Council laptop to which all Great Bradley files and pictures have been back up. This will be regularly updated. 4. Clarendale street nameplate. Councillor Spires showed the alternative designs that she had created and one was chosen. This to be communicated to Suffolk County Council as the desired replacement for the nameplate damaged by a lorry driven following an erroneous Satnav. | Clerk  Clerk | |
| 5 | **St Edmundsbury Borough Council:**  Clerk summarised the information Councillor Midwood had provided at the meeting in Cowlinge on Monday evening:  There is to be a full Council meeting tomorrow evening which is likely to go on into the night. The first item is devolution which is a very difficult decision and which, in the end, may prove pointless as the whole process is dependent upon money from the EU and the country's Referendum decision to leave the EU means it won't be available. The second decision is regarding the waste hub near the Sugar Beet factory in Bury which is designed to reduce lorry carting miles and also a revamped re-cycling centre. That is followed by the possible boundary change which will affect Withersfield. | |  |
| 6 | **Suffolk County Council:**  County Councillor Mary Evans said that she will organise the 'no through road' sign at the junction of the B1061 and Evergreen Lane and chase up the lack of progress on the flooding at Spring Barns.  Clerk said that our Vehicular Activated Sign also has the same problem with the Data Collector reverting to 2010 with the result that it's not possible to extract the data from it. Mary said that Paul Rodgers in Hargrave has the solution.  There is now just one number to ring for all forms of community transport services which should simplify the situation considerably.  Devolution. Mary said she was not sure how the vote would go at Suffolk County Council. The public consultation period is very poor as it is mainly in the holiday period. | Clerk | |
| 7 | **Highways matters:**   1. Recently an HGV from Harwich to Bedford in the middle of the night had been misled into Clarendale by its Satnav system. It caused considerable damage to a tree and damaged the street nameplate. The Police had to be called to sort the situation out. Councillor Smith said that there had been similar subsequent events albeit not with damage resulting. It was decided to now call for 'No-through Road' signs to be erected at the junction of the B1061 and Evergreen Lane in an attempt to prevent this happening again. 2. Request from Parishioner to consider an extension to the 30mph limit up Matthews Lane to at least the end of the allotments. The number of pedestrians/cyclists now using Matthews Lane as a result of the allotments has increased considerably. It is a very narrow lane with no room for cyclists if they meet a car so it is important not to have cars speeding there. The Clerk was asked to monitor the vehicular movements with the speedwatch radar to see what speeds are actually occurring before going further. 3. Councillor Kiddy said that the repairs to Water Lane subsidence had been completed. 4. Clarendale/Recreation Area footpath obstruction. Clerk reported that he had been contacted by several people regarding a severe obstruction of the footpath beside the Recreation Area by an overhanging rose bush that could potentially have caused injury. Clerk had written to the householders and the obstruction has been cleared. | Clerk  Clerk | |
| 8 | **Planning applications:**   1. The Coach House - 2 storey rear extension (following removal of existing garage), single storey orangery to rear and detached garage to include workshop and storage. This was approved. 2. Fox Farmhouse - replacement of domestic outbuilding. This was approved. 3. The Parish Council were shown pre-submission plans for the area around Yew Tree Cottage comprising 2 x new semidetached cottages in vernacular style, one new detached house, a revised entrance to these new houses and Yew Tree Cottage and a Community Orchard surrounding the development. There was some concern regarding the extra traffic exiting opposite the Village Hall although the plans for a Community Orchard were thought a good idea. | Clerk  Clerk | |
| 9 | **Correspondence:**   1. Clerk said he had had an enquiry from St Edmundsbury Borough Council about the new dog bag dispenser they had recommended to the Parish Council on the Recreation Area. They were asking if it had made a difference. Councillor Smith said that she thought it had in that there was less mess on the Recreation Area. Councillor Bennett said that the Permissive Path also was recently completely clear of mess. Clerk to report this back to St Edmundsbury Borough Council. 2. There had been a complaint that an old oak tree had been cut down at the Coach House but the Clerk had made enquiries at St Edmundsbury Borough Council and there were no Tree Preservation Orders at that location so they were entitled to do as they wished. | Clerk | |
| 10 | **Village Hall:**   1. Results of the latest Village Hall meeting. This was successful and a new Chairman has stepped forward. There are sufficient members now that a new Committee has been formed albeit they still need a minutes secretary and they would like a general secretary to handle all the correspondence. The first meeting of this new Committee is 4th July and all groups have been invited to attend. There are sub-committees already set up for fund-raising, gardening and general maintenance. 2. Car park steps. Clerk said that he had received an estimate from the same contractors that repaired the bell housing of £390. This would still be within the original estimate for the bell housing only so the Council were happy to give the go-ahead. 3. Remaining electrical faults. Clerk said he had 2 estimates for the remaining electrical faults (except the overhead lights/motors which will be expensive due to the need for a tower hire) - namely:  replacing 5 outside lights with new LED PIR floods and replace halogen light on back wall with new LED. Replace faulty outside socket. Disconnect and remove all of the existing fire alarm (subject to VHMC check with their insurance). Check all emergency lights and that they have a test switch - check their back-up batteries are in order.  It was agreed to go with the current electrician again. Clerk to organise (after VHMC insurance check). 4. Damp in the kitchen wall under the radiator. Clerk said that he had checked this with his moisture meter which had recorded the maximum 100% when pushed through the blown plaster to reach the brick behind. His recommendation is to keep checking to see if there is continued deterioration at which point a decision regarding the slate bridging the exterior damp-proof course may need to be taken. 5. The grass path at the top of the steps is overgrown. It was thought to be the responsibility of Havebury for cutting this, However, the Clerk was asked to add this to the Parish Council's grass contractor to check each visit to see if it needs doing and cut it when necessary. | Clerk  Clerk  Clerk  Clerk | |
| 11 | **Recreation Area:**  Clerk reported that Everedge metal edging now had a more substantial professional edging for public areas. This comes in easier to lay 2.5m lengths rather than 1m and is thicker which is safer. This costs around £700 which is £200 more than the thinner edging. Clerk was asked to explore the possibility of obtaining a grant to assist with this. Suffolk County Council Locality Budget is a possibility here. | Clerk | |
| 12 | **Bonfire Night:**  Any actions needed before the next meeting. The fireworks importer's demonstration will be sometime in September again. Clerk to attend with family to obtain the maximum advice on which are the best to purchase. Councillor Bennett said she hoped to also attend again. | HB/Clerk | |
| 13 | **Events:**   1. Queen's 90th birthday Big Lunch report. Councillor Bennett said it had been really well supported again despite the weather with over 70 people attending. Lots of very good main courses were brought and the desserts and wine paid for by the Parish Council. Thanks go to everyone who helped organise this. 2. Queen's 90th birthday Coffee Caravan report. Councillor Smith said that this was really well presented as always by the Caravan personnel with cream teas, special celebratory 'corgi' cake and a quiz. There was lots of memorabilia again and the juke box with songs and film show. Sadly the weather was again poor and the attendance was disappointingly low. |  | |
| 14 | **Finance:**   1. The Clerk said that the accounts had been signed off by the internal auditor SALC but there were a number of recommendations made for the future. This was the first time any of these had been made despite the accounts having been done in the same manner for many years without mention by previous SALC auditors. The regulations have not changed but the SALC auditor has changed.  The Annual Return was worked through and signed by the Chairman and this will now be sent to BDO as the external auditor. 2. Proposed donation to the Coffee Caravan for all their continued work particularly in Great Bradley. A donation of £25 was approved. 3. Accounts for approval/payment. A total of 17 payments to a value of £2,828.13 was approved. | Clerk  Clerk  Clerk | |
| 15 | **Project List:**  Councillor Kiddy ran through the latest updated Project List. |  | |
| 16 | **Village Events notified:**   1. Fete 3rd July 2. Coffee Caravan visit - 14th September at Clarendale |  | |
| 17 | **Matters for consideration at the next meeting:**  None |  | |
| 18 | **Dates for next meetings:**  The next meeting dates are: 14th September, 16th November (pre-budget). Two further dates were agreed - 18th January and 15th March 2017 |  | |
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There being no further business the Chairman thanked everyone for their attendance and declared the meeting closed at 9.20pm