

BRICKENDON LIBERTY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the **ANNUAL PARISH MEETING** Meeting held on Thursday 24th May 2018 at 7.30pm in the Parish Hall, Fanshaws Room, Brickendon.

Present; Cllr Lynn Whitnall (chair), Cllr Leslie Kotting,(vice chair), Cllr Julia Camp, Cllr John Lambie, Cllr Roberts

In attendance: 8 members of the public.

1. Opening of the meeting by the Chairman

Cllr Whitnall opened the meeting and explained that there were two meetings to be held this evening, she welcomed the residents attending.

2. Apologies for Absence

District Cllr Johnathan Kaye sent his apologies to the Clerk.

3. To approve Minutes of Annual Parish Meeting 2017

Cllrs unanimously approved.

4. To discuss Matters arising from the Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting 2017

Cllr Lambie reported that since last year, the issues with Bushcraft, item 7i, had continued. He reported that a committee in its own right had been formed by the many concerned residents and now had approximately 20 members. Cllr Lambie handed over to William Ashley who was present from Monks Green Farm to explain further. Mr Ashley explained that for the last 3 years, East Herts District Council (EHDC) had assured him that planning permission was not an issue and not required for the activities that Bushcraft were undertaking in Brambles Wood. They were issued a licence for the use of tents. After much research and investigation Mr Ashley discovered that the company do in fact need planning permission and EHDC have now admitted this and are awaiting their application. The newly formed 'Mangrove Lane committee' continue to work towards a satisfactory outcome for residents but in the meantime Mr Ashley asked if the PC could also write to the planning department at EHDC to ask how they intend to deal with the 'grey' water and inadequate shower facilities.

ACTION – Clerk to email EHDC in reference to the grey water and copy in Cllr Kaye.

5. Parish Council Review of the Year – Cllr Whitnall – Chair

Cllr Whitnall reported on a busy and exciting past year and thanked fellow councillors for their help and support and the the clerk for her support and

organisation. Huge thanks were given to the volunteers who give up their time for the Fanshaws Room Committee (FRC) who oversee the Village Hall and organise events. Cllr Whitnall asked for anyone that is interested in helping to come forward to increase the numbers of volunteers. The fete was a great success once again, as were the childrens Christmas parties. The firework display brought in many visitors from surrounding villages, Cllr Whitnall thanked the landlords of the Farmers Boy Public House for the organisation.

Thanks went to the PC internal Auditor, Mrs Janet Pearce for her help and support to the clerk and to Dist. Cllrs Charlotte Snowdon and Johnathan Kaye. Cllr Whitnall thanked the Mangrove Lane Committee and Mr and Mrs Ashley for hosting the committee's meetings.

Cllr Whitnall reported that the PC are well on the way to having a Speed Indicator Device erected in the village which will hopefully slow the traffic. The PC have also had new waste bins and seating benches erected this year.

Cllr Whitnall asked the residents present from the Mangrove Lane Committee if any of the members would be interested in joining the parish council and asked them to pass the message on.

Cllr Whitnall ended by thanking everyone for a successful 2017, looking forward to an exciting 2018.

6. Update on the local Plan by the District Councillor

Cllr Snowdon was not present. Cllr Roberts reported that he attended a recent meeting reviewing changes on the local plan which had now gone to consultation and was expected to be approved soon.

Cllr Kaye had reported to the clerk that from a county perspective, following the bouts of snow over the winter period, that Herts County Council have filled in 10,000 pot holes over 3000 miles of roads.

7. Questions from the public

A resident reported that she had made an observation that the PC had lost touch with the local community and that there was a misconception that the Farmers Boy Public House (PH) was to organise the next fete. The resident also asked why the PC do not consult residents on issues on the agendas, for example the possible increased car parking spaces.

Cllr Whitnall clarified that the PH was not organising the next fete and, as always FRC were. She also explained that the meetings are open to the public and that there is always an agenda item in which residents can have their opinions.

Cllr Lambie reported that the PC had just purchased a new sign to advertise meetings which had been visible for a few days prior to the meeting but unfortunately had not brought an increase in residents to the meeting. He also

reported that it has been an ongoing struggle in the last year to acquire a co-ordinator for the neighbourhood watch which the PC were still advertising for.

FRC members present reported that they try very hard to integrate residents, including new residents, by way of free newsletters drops and advertising events but attendance to organised events can still be slim.

Cllr Roberts explained that the PC try to integrate residents to events too, but it has always been historically difficult to integrate residents that do not wish to be integrated.

Cllr Whitnall invited residents to share ideas with the PC for events, especially those for children.

A resident reported that the Tennis Court area needed some weed killer attention and that the recently acquired telephone box needed cleaning.

ACTION – Tennis Court Weeds and Telephone Box cleaning will be added to the next agenda.

8. Close of meeting by the Chairman

Cllr Whitnall closed the meeting at 8.05pm

Laura Brooks-Payne
Clerk
30th May 2018