

# **BRICKENDON LIBERTY PARISH COUNCIL**

MINUTES of the Brickendon Liberty Parish Council meeting held on Thursday, 26 November 2015, at 7.30 pm in the Fanshaws Room, Brickendon.

\*Cllr Mrs J Camp  
\*Cllr L J Kotting (Vice Chairman)

Cllr J C Lambie (Chairman)  
\*Cllr A C Roberts  
\*Cllr Mrs L Whitnall

\* denotes present.

In attendance: 2 members of the public.

In the absence of Cllr Lambie, Cllr Kotting took the chair.

## 1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Lambie.

## 2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None.

## 3. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING HELD ON 24 SEPTEMBER 2015

RESOLVED that the minutes of the last meeting held on 24 September 2015 be accepted as a correct record of the proceedings and be signed by the Chairman.

## 4. MATTERS ARISING

None.

## 5. PARISHIONERS' COMMENTS

### (i) Resignation of District Councillor

The meeting was informed that former District Councillor, Adrian McNeece, had resigned his position on East Herts Council. An election to fill the vacancy would take place in the near future.

### (ii) Drain opposite Holy Cross Chapel

Cllr Mrs Camp stated that no action had been taken in this matter and she confirmed that she had again taken up this matter with the Hertfordshire County Council. The Chairman suggested that Cllr Mrs Camp also make contact with County Cllr Janet Taylor with a view to expediting this matter.

(iii) Blocked drain outside Bourne Orchard

A resident drew attention to this matter.

Cllr Mrs Camp stated that she would take up this matter with the Hertfordshire County Council.

(iv) Flooding

A resident referred to the flooding outside the mock-Tudor house adjacent to the Farmer's Boy Public House, which, during inclement weather, suffered from flooding. The camber of the road at this location was such that the water running down the road accessed the premises. The occupier had installed a form of bunding, but this had proved to be inadequate.

Cllr Mrs Camp was requested to take up this matter with the Hertfordshire County Council.

6. PLANNING

RESOLVED that the contents of the attached schedule (see Appendix A) be received and the actions contained therein be ratified.

7. FANSHAWS ROOM COMMITTEE

(i) Minutes of the Fanshaws Room Committee held 21 October 2015

RESOLVED that the minutes be received. (see Appendix B)

(ii) Extraordinary meeting of Fanshaws Room Committee held on 18 November 2015

RESOLVED that the minutes be received. (see Appendix C)

8. HIGHWAYS MATTERS

(i) Road – Eastern side of village

Cllr Roberts referred to the undulating stretch of highway on the Brickendon Lane to Hertford in the vicinity of Bourne Orchard.

The Chairman suggested that a letter be forwarded to the Hertfordshire County Council with a copy to Cllr Mrs J Taylor expressing the Parish Council's concern.

(ii) Potholes

The Chairman referred to the numerous potholes in the highway network throughout the parish and the lack of remedial work being undertaken to remedy the problems. In order to identify the precise locations prior to formal notification to the Herts County Council, the meeting Chairman suggested that each of the potholes be spray painted.

Both the meeting Chairman and Cllr Roberts agreed to action this matter.

9. PARISH PATHS PARTNERSHIP

In the absence of Cllr Lambie no matters were raised other than Cllr Lambie had mentioned a formal opening ceremony to be held.

It was agreed that this matter be included as an agenda item for the next meeting.

10. NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

There was no Police presence at the meeting and concerns were raised that it had been some months since a Police officer had been present at a Parish Council meeting.

The Chairman stated that he was aware of the fact that crime statistics were available on-line. However, Cllr Roberts asked whether a formal report could be obtained.

Cllr Mrs Camp informed members that there was a meeting to be held on 9 December at which the Chief Constable would be present and members might care to attend this meeting to be held at Half Way House, Stanstead Abbots. Cllr Mrs Camp further stated that with regard to the lack of a Police presence at Parish Council meetings, she would raise this matter at the meeting.

11. VILLAGE GREEN

(i) Lease

The Chairman was pleased to inform members that the lease on the disputed land with the Golf Club had now been concluded. A formal lease was now in place between the Golf Club and the Parish Council.

(ii) Electrical supply to Village Green

The Chairman expressed his frustration that E-on had still not fitted the meter. However, the authority was being chased as a matter of urgency.

12. GOVERNANCE REVIEW

The Clerk reminded members that Governance Review had first been raised in July 2012. In order to progress this matter the District Council would require a valid community governance petition, which must be signed by 10% of the electors of the parish.

Members felt that in order to establish whether such a review should take place details as set out above should be included in the newsletter, the website and on the parish notice boards to ascertain whether parishioners felt that this was a course of action that the Parish Council should pursue.

13. NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

Cllr Roberts stated that it was intended to submit the draft document to East Herts Council before the end of the year. Once in the hands of East Herts, the planners would undertake a scrutiny process in order to establish that the document aligned with the policies being proffered by the District Council. The planners would in effect make quite clear the requirements to ensure that the document would pass smoothly through the planning process.

14. NAMEPLATE – WORMLEY WEST END

Members referred to the request which had been made by former Councillor, Mrs Downes for two village nameplates to be provided for Wormley West End. The design to be the same as the wooden sign situated at the entrance to the village of Brickendon.

The Chairman agreed to contact Mrs Downes with a view to ascertaining the precise location required for the signs.

15. TRANSPARENCY FUNDING - WEBSITE

Members had been informed that grants were available to Parish Councils in order to help defray the cost involved in the Parish Council meeting its obligations under the Code.

Cllr Lambie had taken the opportunity to prepare a submission on behalf of the Council in the form of a claim to defray the costs appertaining to the maintenance of the website and he was seeking members formal approval of his action. Members expressed their full support and thanked Cllr Lambie in his absence for the action being taken.

16. DEFIBRILLATOR TRAINING

Cllr Mrs Whitnall stated that she had a contact who would provide formal training to those members of the public who showed an interest in volunteering to be trained in the use of the equipment. She would progress this matter should the Parish Council wish her to do so.

Members expressed their gratitude to Cllr Mrs Whitnall and agreed that an initial training session be convened sometime towards the end of February or the beginning of March 2016. The meeting Chairman stated that he would speak to Brenda Lambie to ascertain the availability of the village hall for the training session.

17. PUBLIC SEAT ON THE VILLAGE GREEN

Members were informed that the Fanshaws Room Committee was progressing the purchase and installation of a public seat to be sited on the village green. The meeting Chairman stated that a hard standing would need to be provided and he agreed to discuss this matter with Cllr Lambie.

18. PUBLIC SPACES PROTECTION ORDER

Members had been circulated with a copy of a letter from East Herts Council inviting comments on the East Herts Council's plans to introduce a Public Spaces Protection Order in East Herts. The aim of PSPO was intended to deal with any particular nuisances or problems in a defined area that would be detrimental to the local community's quality of life. Comments on the document were required by Friday, 24 January 2016.

RESOLVED that the contents of the document be noted.

19. PAYMENT OF ACCOUNTS AND FINANCIAL STATEMENT

(i) Payment of Accounts

RESOLVED that the accounts as set out on the attached schedule (see Appendix D) be duly authorised for payment.

(ii) Financial Statement

RESOLVED that the contents of the attached statement (see Appendix E) be received.

20. BUDGET/ACTUAL STATEMENTS

The Clerk submitted the attached document (see Appendix F) for members' information which, whilst comparing the actual spent to date with the budget, would provide the basis for the compilation of the precept for 2016/2017.

RESOLVED that the contents be noted.

21. ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDA:

- Annual Litter Pick.
- Precept 2016/2017.
- Parish Paths Partnership – Opening Ceremony.

22. CALENDAR OF MEETINGS FOR 2016

RESOLVED that the following dates be confirmed:

Thursday, 28 January

Thursday, 31 March

Thursday, 26 May (Annual meetings)

Thursday, 28 July

Thursday, 22 September

Thursday, 24 November

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There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.56 pm.