

# **BRICKENDON LIBERTY PARISH COUNCIL**

MINUTES of the Brickendon Liberty Parish Council meeting held on Thursday, 28 January 2016, 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: 4 members of the public.  
Plus Cllr Mrs C Snowdon (EHC)

## 1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

None.

## 2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr Kotting Personal and prejudicial Planning application 3/15/2481/FUL

## 3. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING HELD ON 26 NOVEMBER 2015

The following amendments were made on page 2, Parishioners' Comments (iii):

Delete "Blocked drain outside Bourne Orchard"

Insert: "Blocked drain outside Holy Cross Chapel"

Having given effect to the above amendments the minutes were approved as a correct record of the proceedings and were signed by the Chairman.

## 4. MATTERS ARISING

Prior to discussion on this matter, the Chairman introduced the newly elected District Councillor, Mrs Charlotte Snowdon.

Cllr Mrs Snowdon stated that she hoped to build bridges with the Parish Council and she could work with the Parish Council as part of a team. She had already met with County Cllr Mrs Janette Taylor with regard to speeding matters in Hertford Heath village and she was shortly to have a meeting with the Police Commissioner, Mr David Lloyd. She was being very pro-active in her new role. A reference was made to the recent SLAA consultation and the need to submit any comments before 31 January 2016.

(i) Electrical supply to the Village Green

Cllr Kotting was pleased to inform members that the electrical supply and incidental work had now been completed satisfactorily.

(ii) Nameplate – Wormley West End

Cllr Kotting informed members that he had still to contact Mrs Downs to ascertain the precise location required for the signs.

(iii) Defibrillator training

Cllr Mrs Whitnall stated that she was awaiting confirmation as to the availability of the village hall in order to arrange for the training session.

(iv) Neighbourhood Plan

Cllr Roberts informed members that the Neighbourhood Plan document would be submitted to the East Herts Council within the next week. The next phase would be for the Planners to undertake a specific revision of the Neighbourhood Plan document and to provide feedback before going out to public consultation. A meeting of the full Steering Group would be called prior to the Neighbourhood Plan draft submission to the Parish Council and for public consultation.

(v) Public seat on the Village Green

No action had been taken to install the public seat.

5. PARISHIONERS' COMMENTS

- It was reported that water was running across the road outside the entrance to Kindersfield. The whole road was undulating and dangerous and potholes had developed in the surface near the entrance to the Celtic Harmony Camp.
- Litter and household rubbish had been dumped in the car park entrance in Wormley West End opposite the bridleway. Cllr Mrs Snowdon stated that she had attended a meeting with the Police when the question of indiscriminate fly tipping had been raised. The Police took this matter very seriously and she asked that such offences be reported to the Police via the 101 reporting system.

6. PLANNING

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

Members referred to planning application 3/15/2160 and 3/15/2189 which had been included on the planning schedule submitted to the last Parish Council meeting under “awaiting comments”. Members confirmed that the sites had been inspected and comments passed to the Clerk. However, neither of these applications had been recorded on the current planning schedule submitted. The Clerk was asked to clarify.

Concerns were expressed that it would appear that the District Council’s decisions often seemed to run contrary to the comments made by the Parish Council and it would be helpful if members could have sight of the decision notices issued in order to be made aware of the reasons behind the decisions. The Clerk to action.

It was further agreed that members arrange an informal planning session to view the various decisions taken by the District Council comparing such decisions with the comments made by the Parish Council.

#### 7. FANSHAWS ROOM COMMITTEE

##### (i) Minutes of the meeting held on 11 January 2016

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

#### 8. HIGHWAYS

Cllr Mrs Camp stated that there were no further matters to report other than those which had been reported earlier in the meeting, viz:

- Blocked drain outside Holy Cross Chapel.
- Undulating road surface – Brickendon Lane.
- Potholes in road surface near entrance to Celtic Camp.

The Chairman suggested that a date be convened in mid-February for members to undertake a “road trip” with a view to identifying the potentially dangerous potholes in the parish.

Cllr Mrs Whitnall referred to the excessive speeding in White Stubbs Lane. Members agreed that speeding both in White Stubbs Lane and in the village of Brickendon be the subject of an agenda item for the next meeting.

#### 9. PARISH PATHS PARTNERSHIP

The Chairman referred to the following:

### Year of Walking Scheme

2016 was the Hertfordshire Year of Walking which aimed at celebrating the walking opportunities the County had to offer. Countryside Management Services was working with parishes to develop a walking leaflet promoting the local rights of way network. Expressions of interest must be received by 29 January. Members were extremely keen to be associated with the scheme and were keen for all the 28 rights of way in the area to be walked. It was agreed to register the Council's interest and to seek to find a volunteer to progress the matter. Cllr Roberts agreed to action.

### P3 Grant

The Chairman stated that the Council had the opportunity to apply for a PPP grant of £1,000. However, to qualify grants would only be for non-maintenance work. Therefore, it was necessary for projects to be identified and in this respect the help of parishioners would be required.

### Hertfordshire Health Walks

Hertfordshire Health Walks was a countryside initiative, initiated by the Countryside Management Services, which aimed to help promote walking and to encourage people to become more active.

### Footpath from the car park to the Woodman Public House

Cllr Mrs Whitnall reported that the footpath from the car park to the Woodman Public House was completely blocked.

### Path to the Station

The Chairman stated that he had not received a response from Rights of Way (HCC) concerning an official opening and, therefore, he proposed that the event should take place on 11 March 2016 (subsequently amended to 18 March 2016) at a time to be decided. The event would involve the walking of the path, an official opening and would be followed by a light buffet in the village hall. Cllr Mrs Camp suggested that a ceremonial plaque be provided which the Chairman agreed to arrange. The Chairman stated that he was pleased to inform members that the path was proving to be very successful and was being very well used.

## 10. NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH/POLICE REPORT

The Chairman stated that there was now no Neighbourhood Watch co-ordinator for Brickendon Liberty following the vacation of the post by Mr Dennis Downes. However, the Chairman had obtained the crime statistics for the Hertford Heath area, which included Brickendon. The Chairman gave details to members, which covered the period from 1 April 2015 to 31 December 2015. 80 crimes had been recorded over the period, which had been a reduction over the previous twelve months.

11. STRATEGIC LAND AVAILABILITY ASSESSMENT (SLAA)

East Herts Council was now commencing an informal stakeholders consultation on the draft conclusions of the Round 3 Strategic Land Availability Assessment (SLAA). The purpose of the consultation was to assess the potential suitability of sites for future development. It was important to note that the exercise was to establish whether the sites identified could be suitable for development not whether they should be developed.

The only land identified in the consultation was a piece of land in the field opposite Brickendonbury, which the District Council had concluded was a site unsuitable for future housing development.

Members noted the consultation.

12. ANNUAL LITTER PICK

Clean for the Queen

The Chairman informed members that to celebrate the Queen's 90<sup>th</sup> birthday, groups from around the UK were coming together to clean up their local area. The nationwide event was to take place between 4<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> March 2016.

Members considered holding the Parish litter pick over the same period (4<sup>th</sup> to 6<sup>th</sup> March). However, the consensus of opinion was that a separate date should be arranged which was agreed as Sunday, 28 February.

The Chairman agreed to email Cllr Mrs Snowdon and to arrange for the event to be advertised in the newsletter and on twitter.

13. PAYMENT OF ACCOUNTS AND FINANCIAL STATEMENT

(i) Payment of Accounts

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

(ii) Financial Statement

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

14. PRECEPT 2016/2017

Members had been circulated with a draft precept for consideration (see Appendix E).

RESOLVED that the precept for the financial year commencing 1 April 2016 be confirmed at £10,000.

15. ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDA

- Speeding – White Stubbs Lane and Brickendon.

16. CONFIRMATION OF DATE OF NEXT MEETING

It was confirmed that the next meeting would take place on Thursday, 31 March 2016, at 7.30 pm in the Fanshaws Room.

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There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.55 pm.