

# BRICKENDON LIBERTY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the BLPC Meeting held on Thursday 22 September 2016 at 7.30pm in the Fanshaws Room, Brickendon.

\*Cllr Mrs J Camp  
Cllr L J Kotting

\*Cllr J Lambie  
\*Cllr A C Roberts  
Cllr Mrs L Whitnall

\*denotes present.

In attendance: 7 members of the public

*A Moment of Silence was held to remember John Ingham, who died earlier this year. John had served Brickendon Liberty Parish for 40 years and was a very valued member of the community.*

## 1. Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr LJ Kotting and Cllr Mrs L Whitnall

## 2. Declarations of Interest:

Cllr Mrs J Camp Personal and Prejudicial Planning application 3/16/1613/ARPN

## 3. Minutes of the Annual Meeting of 26 May 2016

RESOLVED that the minutes of the last meeting held on 26 May 2016 be accepted as a correct record of the proceedings and be signed by the Chairman.

## 4. Matters Arising

- (i) Public seat has been installed.
- (ii) Defibrillator training completed
- (iii) There is still a vacancy for Wormley West End Neighbourhood Watch representative
- (iv) Vacancies still exist for Seniors Champion and Parish Ranger
- (v) Spring Meadow: agenda item for next Spring

## 5. Minutes of Extraordinary Parish Council Meeting of 2 September 2016

RESOLVED that the minutes of the extraordinary meeting held on 2 September 2016 be confirmed as a correct record of the proceedings and signed by the Chairman.

## **6. Matters Arising**

### **The meeting was convened to discuss the recruitment of a Parish Clerk:**

The sub-committee have placed ads on the: HAPTC website  
BLPC website  
Hertford Mercury  
Information Tent at Brickendon Fete

Due to printing timings, no ads were placed in Hertford 100 or BLPC newsletter.

2 applications have been received (1 from Cuffley, 1 from Stevenage)  
Hertford Heath also have a vacancy and may have recruited someone, it may be possible to see if this candidate would also be interested in the role at BLPC.

RESOLVED to place adverts on parish noticeboards.

## **7. Parishioners Comments:**

### **(i) Brickendon Range Golf Club residential development**

Concerns were raised about heavy vehicle access to the development whilst work is going on. Access to the houses, once built, will be along the lane used by numbers 33 and 34.

The Golf Club are keen to work with the village and had discussed using a different access point through the golf club for heavy vehicles used during construction.

The proposed start date was October, although this has not been confirmed. The Parish Council is kept informed until planning consent is given, after this time, information is not automatically sent to Councillors.

RESOLVED to write to the Golf Club to clarify their intentions regarding works traffic.

### **(ii) Sweetings Wood**

A request was made for an update on Sweetings Wood.

The new owner of Sweetings Wood has applied to the Camping and Caravanning Club for permission to create a caravan site at this location. The Parish Council and some individual local residents have objected to this proposal on a number of grounds, including; access issues, protection of woodland, development within a residential area.

The application is still being processed and nothing further has been heard.

The owner has not proposed any structural changes as yet, so at this stage, does not need planning permission. If and when he does apply for planning permission, the Parish Council will be informed.

East Herts have been to inspect the woods with regard to a TPO but no notification has been received.

### **(iii) Farmers Boy Public House**

After 2 years at the Farmers Boy, Andy and Jo very much intend to keep the pub at the heart of the village community. It is an extremely difficult task.

At the Christmas drinks last year, despite offering free food, only 12 residents attended. Andy and Jo propose to canvas local residents on what direction they would like to see the pub take. They would not be able to be all things to all people, but to have some idea of expectations would help.

Currently, 50% of the trade is local and 50% from the wider locality, and they are investigating outside investment to turn it into a destination pub.

RESOLVED that Andy and Brenda Lambie would discuss the best way to carry out a survey.

### **(iv) Drainage problems outside Holy Cross Chapel**

Concerns were again raised with regard to the blocked gully. Cllr Camp has phoned, emailed and provided photographs of the problem and is in constant contact to try to move this issue forward.

RESOLVED that Cllr Lambie will contact James Vine (Highways Engineer, HCC) to try to find a solution to the problem.

## **8. Planning - General**

Members had been circulated with a copy of the attached document (See Appendix A)

## **9. Fanshaws Room Committee**

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting held on 26 August 2016 be received. (See Appendix B)

The total amount made from the Fete is not yet known, but the charities benefiting from the Fete will be:

1. Christmas Alone in Hertford
2. Celtic Harmony Camp
3. Brickendon Liberty Christmas Lunch and Children's Party

Pleased to say that the cash prizes from the Fete were won by locals.

The next meeting will take place on 28<sup>th</sup> September 2016. All welcome.

## **10. Highways**

**(i) Gulley has been discussed in Parishioners Comments (7).**

**(ii) Undulating highway surface on Brickendon Lane**

This matter was picked up on after the discovery of an email sent by J Ingham in December.

RESOLVED that Cllr Lambie will contact James Vine regarding both these issues.

### **11. Parish Paths**

Honour and Sons have now completed the path to the station.

BLPC received a grant for the work. This grant has been received and the money passed on to Honour and Sons.

Concern was expressed regarding the road closure near the station earlier this month. It was explained that this was routine maintenance regarding the bridge over the railway.

### **12. Neighbourhood Watch/Police Report**

**Neighbourhood Watch:** There is a vacancy for the role of coordinator.

RESOLVED to place an advert on all parish noticeboards.

**Police Report:** Despite many requests, the Parish Council is not receiving the police statistics.

RESOLVED that Cllr Snowden will ensure BLPC is put on the right email list.

### **13. Neighbourhood Plan Update**

The District Plan has been published and accepted by Council. It will now go to Public Consultation.

Brickendon Village was originally classed as a Category 3 and then regraded to a Category 2 Village. It has not been allocated any housing but will continue to be open to 'in fill'.

BLPC can now move forward with the Neighbourhood Plan. A Steering Group will be formed (some members of the existing group have moved away so a new group is necessary).

RESOLVED to place adverts for the Steering Group on the parish noticeboards. Meeting to take place before the next BLPC meeting.

### **14. Transparency Funding**

The Transparency fund is available for smaller authorities to cover costs associated with broadband. BLPC is eligible to apply and has been a recipient of the fund in the past.

RESOLVED that Cllr Roberts will fill out the application form. If assistance is required, Sue Campbell may be able to help.

### **15. Village Pond Survey**

The pond was cleared 5 years ago. A survey was recently carried out by East Herts Environment Dept (see Appendix C).

For clarification, the village green and pond are leased to the village by the golf club. BLPC have a legal responsibility to maintain/enhance the green and pond. The village green has been registered as such, so is protected by law.

The Chairman explored the recommendations made by East Herts. With local support, much of the work could be done without contractors.

RESOLVED to place an advert in the next newsletter for volunteers to assist the wood wardens in clearing the area.

#### **16. Fence repairs, village green.**

3 companies were invited to quote for this work in July. Only 1 has responded (Tyler & Sons Fencing).

RESOLVED that as the repairs are urgent, the Parish Council would not wait for further quotes but would ask Tylers if this was the best price they could do and go forward with them. The quote was deemed to be reasonable.

#### **17. Sweetings Wood**

This item was covered in Parishioners Comments (7).

#### **18. EHDC play equipment report**

The report has highlighted some issues, most of these are low risk but some repairs are needed.

BLPC has a maintenance contract with Timber Play, which was extended to cover all play equipment on the green.

RESOLVED that Cllrs Lambie and Roberts will locate contract with Timber Play and negotiate repairs with them.

#### **19. Payment of accounts and Financial Statement**

Thanks to Cllr Roberts for compiling the accounts and Financial Statement (see Appendix D).

##### **(i) Payment of Accounts**

2 cheques have not been presented. Cllr Roberts will investigate further.

##### **(ii) Financial Statement**

RESOLVED that the contents of the statement be received.

#### **20. BDO Audit Report**

RESOLVED that the BDO Audit Report be approved. Notices will appear on parish noticeboards to meet legal requirements.

**21. AOB**

A local company have kindly offered BLPC 4 bins and 2 benches to be used within the parish.

RESOLVED to graciously accept this generous gift with thanks. For the time being, the items could be stored by Cllr Lambie.

**22. Items for future agenda**

Senior's Champion

Parish Ranger

Neighbourhood Watch Coordinator

**Date of next meeting: 24 November 2016**

Meeting closed at 21:15pm

Signed and dated

Vicky Court, Clerk 23.09.16