

BRICKENDON LIBERTY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of Parish Council Meeting held on Thursday 24th January 2019 at 7.30pm at Fanshaws Room, Brickendon Lane, Brickendon Liberty

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

In attendance: 9 members of the public, Laura Brooks-Payne(clerk)

- 1. To receive apologies for absence and approve;** County Councillor Johnathan Kaye, Cllr Julia Camp
- 2. To receive declaration of interest and dispensation:** none
- 3. To approve minutes of the parish meeting on Thursday 22nd November 2018:** Minutes were approved and signed by Cllr Whitnall. It was noted that any outstanding issues needing discussion were on this agenda.

4. Matters for future consideration and public participation;

A resident advised that most of the gullies had been cleared but that the two outside of the church had not been cleared. **ACTION** – Clerk to ask Cllr Camp to report.

A resident reported that the new speed indicator device (SID) was working intermittently. **ACTION** – Clerk to email Rosemary Chatindo.

A resident suggested having an informal evening get together for residents to try and engage new interest in the parish council in view of the upcoming elections, including asking residents from White Stubbs Lane, Wormley West End and Highfield. Cllrs discussed advertising the elections in the newsletter which has already been done, talking to residents, adding information to the website and on noticeboards and informing the Mangrove Lane Residents Group. **ACTION** – This will be added again to the next newsletter, clerk will add information to website, Cllr Lambie/Whitnall will copy posters provided by the clerk and get posted up on noticeboards.

A resident reported that the website seemed out of date – especially the photographs. Cllrs discussed that the website could be enhanced with new photos and perhaps a new 'look'. The resident agreed that the overall look of the pages had become quite dated. **ACTION** – clerk to add to next agenda.

- 5. To receive the Neighbourhood watch and local crime report:** Clerk reported latest crime statistics available for 2018 within 1 mile radius of the following postcodes; SG13 8QJ – no crimes reported, SG13 8PB – 6 crimes reported (1 criminal damage & arson, 1 vehicle crime & 4 violence & sexual offences), EN10 7QA – 5 crimes reported (2 anti-social behaviour, 1 burglary, 1 criminal damage and arson, 1 violence & sexual offences). It was noted that the violence and sexual offences crimes were unusual and it was agreed to add the information to the next newsletter. It was also noted that a black 4x4 vehicle had been stolen the previous week from a driveway.

ACTION - Clerk to email Brenda Lambie crime figures.

- 6. To receive the minutes from the last Fanshaw's Room Committee meeting;** the committee reported that there had been no recent meeting, the next one being held 20th March 2019 and the next newsletter coming out mid- March.
- 7. To consider issuing a 'parish questionnaire' to households;** A resident had suggested this in the last meeting to try and engage more residents in the local community and find out their current views. It was noted that the last parish plan was in 2006 and it would be sensible to get an 'appraisal' of the current residents. It was agreed that the current councillors would not be able

to get this together in time before elections of new councillors in May and therefore it would be sensible to allow the new parish council to take this on as a future project.

- 8. To update on donation to Citizens Advice Bureau;** Clerk had not been able to donate to Citizens Advice Bureau (CAB) as there was insufficient information on the letter and despite making a telephone call and gaining an email address had not got any further. It was thought the letter may be a scam. Linda Haysey (Leader of EHDC) had offered to speak with CAB, their offices being in the same building as EHDC offices. It was decided to gauge the response received from CAB before donating.

ACTION – Clerk to report at next meeting.

9. PLANNING

9.1 Current planning report; clerk distributed the list of the latest planning applications prior to the meeting. Cllrs had commented on all current applications. It was noted once again that outside The Woodman and Olive Public House there were few 'A' frame advertising boards. It was suggested that a photo be taken and an email to the planning Dept. at EHDC to gain advice as to whether planning permission is needed for such signs.

9.2 To discuss certificates of lawful use: it had been brought to the PC's attention that Spring Meadow in Brickendon parish currently has a current application for a certificate of lawful use. EHDC does not advise the PC of such applications. Spring Meadow has had a long history of planning applications spanning approx. 20 years and it has found that there are inaccuracies within the most recent application. Cllrs discussed that a letter should be written to EHDC to ask why the PC is not advised of such applications and to advise of the inaccuracies. EHDC could utilise local knowledge from Cllrs.

ACTION – Cllrs to compose a letter to send to EHDC on the issue of certificate of lawful use. Clerk to write to EHDC to ask if 'A' Frame boards are allowed.

10. TRANSPORT & HIGHWAYS

10.1 To report on progress on repairs to the un-adopted road on the village green; the position has not changed, it was suggested that work should now occur in the Spring

ACTION – clerk to email Brickendon Grange Golf Club (BGGC) in early spring.

10.2 To receive update on speeding vehicles into village from Bayford Station after reporting to Police; Clerk had reported the issue to the local officer, Duncan Wallace. This week Duncan had advised that a traffic survey will take place on the hill and that data will be passed back to the clerk when available.

ACTION – clerk will update at the next meeting.

10.3 To discuss the Southern Bypass Consultation; A resident had attended a meeting last week in Hertford to discuss the possibility of a Southern Bypass for Hertford. The resident reported; The guest presenter was Cllr Derek Ashley who was well informed. The main points; 1994 Bypass was rejected. It was likely that the route may start south of Hertford to Amwell roundabout but no decision was made on the route or when it would happen. Tunnelling was discussed as an option running under existing roadways. A budget of two million pounds was noted. The consultation ends in February which also includes a strategic study of the A414. For more information see Herts County Council website.

11. NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN – Cllr Roberts reported no further information.

12. To discuss upcoming May Elections advertising of such and contingency plans should a quorum not be reached; clerk reported that all Cllrs will be up for re-election in May after 4 years service. The nomination forms will be available from March from East Herts Council. Clerk will try to obtain a supply of forms. It was suggested for posters to be put on website, noticeboards and around the village. There is already information regarding the election in the

current newsletter. It was noted that should a quorum of at least three Cllrs not come forward the running of the village would be taken over by EHDC. Also see item 4.

ACTION – Cllr Whitnall/Lambie will copy posters and information.

13. ENVIRONMENT

13.1. To receive an update on Bushcraft leaving Brambles wood; Cllr Lambie reported that on 13th January the PC had received an email from the Mangrove lane resident's group, informing us that the Bushcraft site was now completely clear, and the chair would be stepping down from the committee. Cllrs commented that the group had done an excellent job for the local community and should be commended. The PC will still engage with, and support the group to ensure no further unauthorised activities occur in the future.

ACTION – Brenda Lambie to add a comment to the next newsletter, Clerk to email chair of the group.

13.2 To receive an update on quotes for information board for Brambles Wood to commemorate WW11 – Cllr Roberts; Cllr Roberts has spoken to both potential suppliers who have provided slightly different provisional quotations. William Ashley has drafted the information for the board. Both are researching appropriate pictures to go alongside the text. A final quotation will then be sought.

ACTION – Cllr Roberts to update at next meeting.

13.3 To update on new post box installation – Cllr Roberts; The PC's original post box has now been returned for the PC to keep and is currently residing in Cllr Roberts garden. The PC need to decide where to keep it. The new George V pillar box passed planning permission and is now in the schedule of work to be installed and put back in service.

13.4 To update on the PC registering for ownership of Brickendon lane village verge; no further on, clerk and Cllr Roberts still to meet.

ACTION – Clerk and Cllr Roberts to arrange a meeting.

13.5 To discuss updating the Map Sign on Village Green; It was discussed that the existing map is in a poor state of repair and the type of map is not very useful. Cllrs considered that an ordnance survey map would better serve the purpose, with the possibility of including the 22 footpaths on it. It was discussed that it would be sensible to approach the company dealing with the WW2 board for advice and quotation.

ACTION – Cllr Roberts will update at next meeting

13.6 To approve cost of Oak Tree for Village green – Cllr Lambie; Cllr Lambie had obtained a quote; £100 for oak tree sapling, fungus and stake and £60 for the groundwork. 2 metre high metal protection railing £150-250, Cllrs unanimously approved £410 for the project.

13.7 To receive information on extending path from station – Cllr Lambie – Cllr Lambie reported that he had written to Rights of Way Herts and Herts Highways and had been informed that the replacement posts alongside the pathway to the station were being erected shortly. Quotation had also been sought for plastic netting to be laid into the grass to extend the path, the initial quote being £2500-3500, more quotations being sought.

ACTION – Cllr Lambie to report back to next meeting with additional quotations

13.8 To update on overgrown hedges on Brickendon & Pembridge Lane – clerk, Clerk had been in communication with BGGC, part of the hedge has already been trimmed back. Nicholls tool had broken down, now re-working and rest of work will be carried out imminently.

13.9 To update on signage at Paramount Plants after letter sent – clerk; Clerk reported that a letter had been sent in December and no response had been received. Cllrs agreed that we should send another copy of the letter. It was also noted that various road signs had been missing for a couple of years which did not help the issue.

ACTION – Clerk to send another letter to Paramount plants and advise highways of the missing signs.

14.FINANCE

14.1 To approve the financial statement and payment of accounts; Clerk had distributed the accounts prior to the meeting. Cllrs approved the figures and Cllr Whitnall signed them.

14.2 To approve Budget and Precept and sign associated forms; Clerk had put together and circulated a budget and suggested precept prior to the meeting. This had been looked through by Cllrs and slight alterations made. It was agreed to ask for a precept this year of £16,000. Form was signed by Chair and two Cllrs.

15. To receive correspondence; EHDC have started a lottery – details already on website. CD and letter received from EHDC on the Hertfordshire Minerals Local Plan.

16.To receive announcements (for information only) – none.

17.Confirmation of the date of the next meeting of the Council: 28th March 2019; date confirmed and approved.

18.To close the meeting. – Cllr Whitnall closed the meeting at 9.30pm.

Laura Brooks-Payne

Clerk

28th January 2018