



BRICKENDON LIBERTY PARISH COUNCIL

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Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Thursday 29TH September 2022 at 7.30pm at Fanshaws Room, Brickendon Lane, Brickendon Liberty.

PRESENT: Cllr Tony Roberts (Chair), Cllr Alastair Whittaker, Cllr Philip Cosford

IN ATTENDANCE: Laura Brooks-Payne (Clerk), 6 members of the Public

- 1. TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND APPROVE:** Cllr Hannah O'Donnell, Cllr Camp
- 2. TO APPROVE MINUTES OF PARISH COUNCIL MEETING ON THURSDAY 21ST JULY 2022:**
Cllr Roberts noted that the foliage obstructing the village signs has now been trimmed back. The minutes were unanimously approved.

Standing orders suspended for public participation

3. COMMENTS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC:

A resident thanked the PC for the installation of the new village signs. The same resident asked if the PC knew whether the three drainage covers missing in Wormley West End were to be replaced. He also asked if the intermediate 30mph signs on West End Road were to be replaced. The PC will contact Highways regarding both matters.

A resident noted that there is a tree trunk on the edge of Pembridge Lane which could be dangerous to motorists. The PC will contact Highways.

The same resident mentioned that there is a large amount of litter on Pembridge Lane too. Cllr Roberts explained that the PC are arranging a litter pick and proposed the date of Sunday 23rd October 2022 which was unanimously agreed.

A resident enquired as to whether planning permission is required to create a hard standing for landing microlight aircraft on private land. It was discussed that there is likely to be aviation regulations governing use of light aircraft. The PC will liaise with East Herts planning to gain further information.

A resident noted that there is a very bright light at night on the gates at a residence on Brickendon Lane near to the Farmers Boy pub. Cllr Roberts will investigate a possible solution with the property owner.

Cllr Roberts advised that the PC will be purchasing signs for the waste bins asking residents not to put dog waste bags in the normal waste bins. It was discussed that the dog waste bin sited at the back of the green could be moved to a more convenient location or an additional bin could be purchased. It was agreed and approved to purchase a new dog waste bin.

A resident asked is there is any update regarding the recent parish boundary review consultation which the PC reported back on at the beginning of the year. There is no further update on this, Cllr Roberts will seek further information.

The same resident noted that the new fire doors have been installed at the village hall. The old doors removed will go on the bonfire at the fireworks display.

Standing orders reinstated from here

4. FANSHAWS ROOM COMMITTEE:

4.1 To receive the latest minutes:

There has been no meeting since the last PC meeting. The next meeting will be held soon.

4.2 To discuss possible repairs required to exterior ground area to the hall:

Cllr Roberts explained that there is a small area exposed, possibly rotten timber/brickwork on the ground, at the back of the village hall. He will liaise with the owners of the property behind the hall to investigate the matter further.

4.3 To update on new play area equipment installation:

Cllr Roberts advised that the installation is now complete. The PC are happy with the work and feedback so far has been well received. Cllr Roberts asked representatives of FRC present to consider a contribution from FRC towards the cost of the equipment at their next meeting.

4.4 To consider refurbishment of benches on the green:

Cllr Roberts advised that there are two benches on the village green that need attention. It was agreed and approved to purchase a new bench to replace one of them, and the other to be refurbished. Cllr Roberts will ask the PC's 'handy-man' to carry out the refurbishment.

4.5 To update on the bench & plaque for "Jubilee Garden" area:

Cllr Roberts advised that the corner of the unused area of the village green has been identified for use as a 'Jubilee garden'. It was discussed that, since the passing of her Majesty The Queen, that the area could be designated as a memorial garden too. It was agreed and unanimously approved that the area should be named 'Queen Elizabeth II Garden' incorporating a Jubilee bench and a separate Memorial bench, with appropriately worded plaques. These will be purchased in due course.

5. LOCAL CRIME:

5.1 To receive a report on incidents of local crime:

The Clerk reported figures for the month of July (the latest reporting period) within a mile radius of the following postcodes;

SG13 8PB – 6 Crimes reported: 1 theft, 1 robbery, 3 vehicle crimes, 1 violence & sexual offences (no road names given).

SG13 8QT – 2 crimes reported: 1 vehicle crime, 1 violence & sexual offences (no road names given).

EN10 7QA – 7 crimes reported: Spring Walk – anti-social behaviour and vehicle crime, Birch Farm Place – criminal damage & arson, and 3 robberies (no road name given).

6. PLANNING:

6.1 To receive the latest planning report & discuss applications:

The Clerk had circulated that latest planning summary prior to the meeting. Cllr Roberts briefly went through the applications.

6.2 To discuss recent applications, any new planning enforcements & progress on any which are outstanding:

The Clerk has been chasing East Herts Planning for an update on the following cases for a number of months;

Eden House, Fanshaws Lane – the site has now an enforcement notice applied to it. The existing barn has been demolished contrary to the conditions of the granted permission.

Site behind 'Hacketts', possible additional stables have been erected without prior permission, a site visit is going ahead next week arranged by the East Herts Planning.

Cllr Roberts also noted that in January, Much Hadham PC asked neighbouring parishes for feedback on other PC experiences with East Herts planning Enforcement Department. Cllr Roberts will reply with our PC experience.

The Clerk also advised Cllrs that there is a Town and Parish Council Planning Forum meeting organised by East Herts Council to be held via zoom on 18th October at 7pm, with a focus on Enforcement. This may be of use attending. The Clerk will send details to the Chairman.

7. TRANSPORT & HIGHWAYS:

7.1 To discuss and report on any issues arising:

Cllr Camp was not present at the meeting, but it was noted that the footpath in Fanshaws Lane has now been repaired.

Cllr Roberts also reminded residents that anyone can report issues such as potholes etc on the fault reporting system on the Herts County Council website. The Clerk will send the link to Brenda Lambie who will add it to the next newsletter.

8. ENVIRONMENT:

8.1 To update on the PC registering for ownership of Brickendon Lane village verges:

Cllr Roberts reported that he has started that process of applying for the PC to use verge areas in for car parking. This is still in progress.

8.2 To update on progress relating to extending the path to the station & maintaining the existing path:

Cllr Roberts advised that quotes will be re-sought from the previous contractors who had provided a quote because many months had now passed and pricing may have changed.

8.3 To update on installing Electric car charger points in the parish:

Cllr Roberts advised that this is being processed through the budgetary authorities. It was noted that as a result conventional car parking numbers will be reduced.

8.4 To discuss options for cutting grass on the green:

Cllr Roberts explained that the golf club green keeper, who currently cuts the grass on the village green, has previously advised the PC that, because of the rough nature of the green, their machinery could be damaged and have previously suggested sharing the cost of machinery with the PC. It was decided that this was not the PC's preferred option. A regular contractor was discussed as an alternative option and the clerk will ask a local contractor to contact Cllr Roberts to provide a quote. Cllr Roberts will also go back to the Golf Club to suggest the further alternative of the PC contributing to the Golf Club for the grass cutting.

8.5 To update on refurbishment/replacement of Village Signs:

Cllr Roberts reported that the new village signs have been installed and feedback has been positive.

8.6 To update on the Neighbourhood plan:

Cllr Roberts has not progressed this further.

8.7 To update on new defibrillators:

Cllr Roberts recapped that there are now 3 defibrillators in the parish and the PC are proposing for three, possibly four more, due to the parish being rural in nature and covering a wide area. Locations are currently being discussed and considered, including Wormley West End, Clementsbury and Mangrove Lane.

9. FINANCE:

9.1 To approve the financial statement and payment of accounts:

The Clerk had circulated the accounts prior to the meeting. These were unanimously approved and signed.

9.2 To discuss and approve donations to charities:

The Clerk explained that she has been contacted by Citizens Advice Bureau for a donation. Donations to charities was discussed but Cllrs agreed to defer the item to the next meeting when all Cllrs are present to decide.

10. MATTERS FOR FUTURE CONSIDERATION: none received.

11. CONFIRMATION OF THE NEXT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING ON 24TH NOVEMBER 2022:

Approved

12. TO AGREE 2023 MEETING DATES:

Agreed as 26th January, 23rd March, 25th May, 27th July, 28th September, 23rd November.

13. TO CLOSE THE MEETING: The Chair closed the meeting at 21.10hrs.