



BRICKENDON LIBERTY PARISH COUNCIL

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Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Thursday 26th January 2023 at 7.30pm at Fanshaws Room, Brickendon Lane, Brickendon Liberty.

IN ATTENDANCE: Laura Brooks-Payne (Clerk), 4 members of the Public

- 1. To receive apologies for absence and approve:** Cllr Camp, Cllr Jonathan Kaye
- 2. To approve minutes of Parish Council meeting on Thursday 8th December 2022:**
It was noted that the Parish Council funded a meal at The Farmers Boy instead of hampers for residents this year – this wasn't thought to be entirely successful and will be reviewed later in the year. Minutes unanimously approved.

Standing orders suspended for public participation

- 3. Comments from members of the public:**

A resident advised that following the December meeting he spoke to Jonathan Kaye in relation to the flooding at the bottom of Brickendon Lane which is just outside the Parish. The issue is the responsibility of the Environment Agency and he will keep the PC informed on further progress.

The same resident asked if the noticeboard in Mangrove Lane (which does not seem to be used) can be used to replace the noticeboard that was broken and now missing in the centre of the village adjacent to the Farmers Boy pub. Cllr Roberts advised that we would not be minded to move the notice board but will consider purchasing another board for the centre of the village and will research prices.

It was noted that the verge on the corner of the green had been driven on by a lorry and damaged the ground area.

Cllr Cosford advised that a parishioner had spoken with him regarding local defibrillator locations. It was suggested that a sign could be placed in the car park of Broxbourne Woods, which is reportedly owned by Herts & Middlesex Wildlife Trust. Cllr Cosford will advise Cllr O'Donnell of the person to contact to follow this up.

Standing orders reinstated from here

4. FANSHAWS ROOM COMMITTEE

4.1 To receive the latest minutes:

Linda Ashley read out the latest minutes of the meeting held last week. See appendices.

Cllr Roberts advised that the Fete will be held on the 3rd September this year and a steering committee meeting will be held soon.

The Kings Coronation event will be held on Sunday 7th May from mid-afternoon onwards. The event will include a live band and a BBQ and is currently being organised.

4.2 To update on refurbishment of benches on the green:

Cllr Roberts reported that he has a meeting with the 'handyman' this coming Saturday to discuss what refurbishment is needed and will report back to Cllrs.

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

Cllr Roberts reported that the bench has been delivered, and another bench is on order for the Queens Jubilee. Concrete bases will be laid in the 'triangle' of land at the end of the green to site the benches. The plaque will be ordered in due course.

5. LOCAL CRIME

5.1 To receive a report on incidents of local crime:

In Cllr Camps absence the Clerk had downloaded the latest crime statistics for the month of November 2022 within a mile radius for the local postcodes, as follows;

Postcode SG13 8PB – 4 crimes reported, Vehicle crime, one in Back Lane & in one in Brickendon Lane, and a burglary in Back Lane.

Postcode SG13 8QJ – no crimes reported

Postcode EN10 7QA – 1 crime in Holy Cross Hill of violence & sexual offence.

6. PLANNING

6.1 To receive the latest planning report & discuss applications:

The Clerk circulated the latest planning report prior to the meeting. Cllr Roberts briefly went through the decided applications.

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

Cllr Roberts noted that the travellers mobile home appeal application on Mangrove Lane is 4 months away from the decision being enforced. Cllrs agreed and approved expenditure to send a letter to East Herts Council in relation to the matter, via the solicitor the PC had previously used for the case.

7. TRANSPORT & HIGHWAYS

7.1 To discuss and report on any issues arising:

Cllr Roberts reported that following the summer meeting with Ringway and Jonathan Kaye, the gullies have been cleared under the road opposite number 12 Brickendon Green and opposite Sweetings, both of which regularly flood. It was noted that the flooding at the pond at Bourne End that has been problematic for some time, has had a gully cut into the verge to allow the flow to improve.

It was noted that the Speed Indicator Device (SID) on Brickendon Lane is working intermittently. This is likely due to the solar panel needing to be cleaned. Cllr Roberts agreed to clean it.

Cllr Roberts reported a large pothole on Bullocks Lane which has been repaired.

Cllr O'Donnell asked if the PC are looking at replacing the verge posts in some of the areas of the parish where they need to be replaced. Cllr Roberts advised that there are approx. 40 posts that need replacing having carried out a recent survey at approx. £1000 material cost.

Though Highways may be responsible for this, it is likely to be sometime before this work will be carried out should they agree to it. Cllrs agreed that, in principal, the PC will go ahead with the post installations dependant on further quotations.

8. ENVIRONMENT

Cllr Roberts reported that he has obtained two quotes for removing the deadwood from the trees on the village green. Cllrs agreed to go ahead with the contractor with the lowest quote. Cllr Roberts will arrange for the work to be completed.

Cllrs discussed the village green grass cutting contract. Cllr Cosford has a possible contact who may be interested in carrying out the work and will get in touch with him for a further quotation.

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

Cllr Roberts advised at the last meeting that he has looked at the application forms to register some of the parish verges (some of which are common land) but has discovered that this could incur possible high charges. Investigations are continuing.

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

Cllr Roberts reported that the PC now have three quotes for the work, these had been circulated to Cllrs prior to the meeting (except Cllr Whittaker). Cllrs discussed and unanimously agreed to use Whittaker Brothers to complete the work and will advise all contractors of the decision. (Cllr Whittaker abstained from comment and was not party to the decision).

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

Cllr Roberts reported that there is no further information.

8.4 To update on the Neighbourhood plan:

Cllr Roberts reported that he had a meeting with the senior Planning Officer at East Herts since the last meeting. Cllr Roberts was advised that the PC would need to revisit the public consultation, as well as form a steering group of at least 3 or 4 volunteers to go forward. It was explained that there is a large workload involved. Cllr Roberts will approach possibly interested residents.

8.5 To update on new defibrillators:

Cllr Roberts reported that two more defibrillators are due to be installed in the Parish. Brenda Lambie will put a list of locations in the newsletter. Cllr O'Donnell asked if the Defibrillators can also have child pads at each location. Cllr Roberts will look at the stock of pads and possibly buy child pads to go with each Defibrillator. The Clerk will order two further defibrillators and cabinets.

9. FINANCE

9.1 To approve the financial statement and payment of accounts:

The Clerk circulated the latest accounts prior to the meeting. Accounts were unanimously agreed.

10. Matters for future consideration:

To investigate pricing for a new noticeboard for the centre of the village.

11. Confirmation of the date of the next Parish Council meeting on Thursday 23rd March 2023 at 7.30pm:

Approved and confirmed.

12. To close the meeting:

Chair closed the meeting at 9.10pm

Parish Clerk: Laura Brooks-Payne

APPENDICES

Fanshaws Room Committee Meeting held in Fanshaws Room Thursday 19th January 2023

Meeting opened at 7.05pm

Present: Linda Ashley, Brenda Lambie, Tony Roberts, Lawrence Price, Jean Retallick, Alison Blakey

Apologies for absence: Robert Williams

Minutes of previous meeting and matters arising

Matters arising. Linda has written to Oscars school confirming that he volunteered at the 2019, 2021 and 2022 village fetes helping to raise funds for various charities. This was requested for his Duke of Edinburgh award.

Minutes were signed as a fair report.

Treasurer's Report

There was no treasurers report as Robert Williams was away.

Hall Report

Maintenance on the hall is ongoing, there are no further plans for re-decoration but the new emergency exit doors were purchased and installed and have since been painted. Draft excluder still needs to be fitted which Tony has volunteer to do. Recently the cooker door needed re-fixing and John Lambie did this free of charge. There has also been a 'leak' reported around the door in the ladies' cloakroom area, the cause has proved difficult to identify but Brenda thinks we need to get a builder in to look at possible causes and to fix it as soon as possible. The hall is still cleaned every fortnight at a cost of £40 per month and this is set to continue.

Bookings are resuming, the only regular clubs are Pilates on Tuesday mornings and the NRCC who will be renewing their booking for 2023 shortly, having already agreed dates. There are some other cycle clubs who have booked occasional dates this year. There are now two music groups who occasionally use it and the usual children's party bookings are slowly returning. Brenda has recently shown a physiotherapist, who works with children on the autism spectrum, around and she has now emailed to say she would like to book the hall for Thursday and Friday mornings, starting in March; this will bring in a significant weekly income. We do need to clear a small place for her to store equipment and Brenda has spoken to the Chair of the PC and agreed to make space in the cupboard under the clock. On 4th May the hall will be used for Parish and District Councillor elections which we will also be paid for at an increased rate.

Currently payment for bookings is by cash or cheque but Brenda has spoken to our Treasurer with a view to getting a card machine since people increasingly do not use cheque books and although Brenda is happy to receive some cash, which facilitates paying the cleaner and buying things like loo rolls etc, it does sometimes mount up which she would like to avoid. Tony has a spare card machines and will supply and set one up for Brenda.

Tony asked where the hall is advertised for rental and whether we need to increase advertising. Brenda said the hall is advertised in the Parish magazine and the eastherths.gov website which lists all the village hall rentals in the area and brings in the majority of queries and rentals.

2022 Brickendon Fete

Tony reported that the village fete steering group thought the fete went well and was well organised.

The fete had additional entertainment some of which was successful and others less so. There were fewer cars using the car park in 2022 so the parking problems of 2021 did not occur. This meant less money was taken for parking but also less money taken on the raffle table. The car park raffle had not been held which in turn meant they did not have to go to the information and raffle tent and then be tempted into buying raffle tickets. The car park raffle will be reintroduced this year.

Tony briefly ran through where profits were made and lost. This will be looked into for the 2023 fete.

The three charities for donations of £500 each will be The Children's Meningitis Research Charity, Hertford Food Bank and the local refugee charity. Tony suggested that the donation to Meningitis Research be made through Sal's son who runs a Fundraising Page, the other donations will be made directly to the charities.

2023 Brickendon Fete

Tony, Lawrence, Sal and Pam will take on this year's fete. It will be on Sunday 3rd September.

Linda asked how the food and drink venues worked last year and whether they would be the same this year. Tony reported that, although late, the bar worked well and had a good selection of drinks. They will be asked to return. Some of the food outlets worked better than others. The burgers may be run by the village this year. Linda can advise on how it has been run in previous years. They are also thinking of having a pizza stand.

Brenda has asked that a few A3 posters be printed and put up in future years as a reminder to locals and for those who do not use social media.

Brenda will book the hall out for the week before and the week after the fete.

Coronation Celebration

Sunday 7th May has been proposed.

Brenda suggested renting a large marquee for the event as the weather in early May could be bad.

Lawrence will ask if Alesha and her band are available on the day. If not he will source another.

Tony will look into providing BBQ

Alison will look into marquees.

Brenda will put a notice in the newsletter.

AOB

The Parish Council has asked if the Fanshaws Room Committee can contribute towards the playground refurbishment. Brenda suggested 50% of the cost and the committee thought this appropriate. This will be discussed with Robert.

Next meeting Thursday 23rd March at 7pm.

Meeting closed at 8.15pm

DRAFT