



## BRICKENDON LIBERTY PARISH COUNCIL

Parish Clerk: Laura Brooks-Payne  
[clerk@brickendon-liberty.org.uk](mailto:clerk@brickendon-liberty.org.uk)  
[www.brickendon-liberty.org.uk](http://www.brickendon-liberty.org.uk)

### **Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> September 2023 at 7.30pm at Fanshaws Room, Brickendon Lane, Brickendon Liberty.**

**PRESENT:** Cllr Tony Roberts (Chair), Cllr Alistair Whitaker, Cllr Amanda Whitaker, Cllr Hannah O'Donnell

**IN ATTENDANCE:** Laura Brooks-Payne (Clerk), 6 members of the Public, County Councillor Jonathan Kaye, District Cllr Tim Hoskin, Lewis Cocking – prospective Conservative candidate for Broxbourne

- 1. To receive apologies for absence and approve:** Cllr Cosford - Approved
- 2. To receive declaration of interest and dispensation:** None
- 3. To approve minutes of Parish Council meeting on Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> July 2023:**  
Cllr Roberts noted that the PC has made comments to the National Cycle Network Consultation. Minutes unanimously approved.
- 4. To receive a report from District Cllr Tim Hoskin:**  
Cllr Hoskin reported:  
Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan – Cllr Hoskin reported that he was pleased that there had been an overwhelming response from residents in East Herts.  
Climate Change – all PC and Town Councils will be invited to a forthcoming forum with a view to reduce the carbon footprint in East Herts.  
District plan – a review is due to start soon and will last approximately 30 months.  
Flooding – Cllr Hoskin is starting to work more closely with Local Councils and Herts County Council to alleviate the issues that cause regular flooding in affected areas.  
Waste collection from Public Bins – Cllr Hoskin reported that there seems to be an irregularity in collections, he is looking to resolve the problem.  
Planning Applications – PC to let Cllr Hoskin know if assistance is required regarding chasing current enforcements.

### **Standing orders suspended for public participation**

#### **5. Comments from members of the public:**

A resident reported fly tipping along Pembridge Lane. Residents were encouraged to report fly tipping as usual on the Herts County Council reporting portal.

A resident reported constant overflow contributing to flooding, especially in the winter, from the gully's along Brickendon Lane.

A resident reported that some of the fencing surrounding the village green needs repair. Cllr Roberts advised that the PC is currently looking at this as a future project.

A resident asked if fencing could be installed around the seating areas opposite the Farmers Pub Boy. During the Summer months young children are vulnerable due to the close proximity of the road to the seating. Rachel, landlady of the pub, advised that she had spoken to the brewery management who will not allow fencing. It was discussed and agreed that management will be asked if the PC can erect fencing on the pub's behalf.

### **Standing orders reinstated from here**

## **6. OPEN SPACES**

### **6.1 To update on the two new defibrillator purchases:**

Cllr Roberts advised that the defib's have been purchased. A location is still being sought.

### **6.2 To discuss and approve a date for the next litter pick:**

Cllr Roberts proposed the date of Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> November at 10am to meet at the village green car park for the litter pick. This was agreed and the date will be advertised to villagers.

## **7. FANSHAWS ROOM COMMITTEE**

### **7.1 To receive the latest minutes:**

See Addendum.

## **8. LOCAL CRIME**

### **8.1 To receive a report on incidents of local crime:**

The clerk reported that the latest figures are from August 2023 and show no reported crimes in the Parish. The Clerk reported that there has recently been a Rural Police Priorities meeting to set priorities for the forthcoming year.

## **9. PLANNING**

### **9.1 To receive the latest planning report & discuss applications:**

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

### **9.2 To discuss recent applications, any new planning enforcements & progress on any outstanding:**

The Clerk has been attempting to liaise with the officers at East Herts to gather updates on the enforcement cases, but information is slow to come back to the PC. It was noted that the appeal enforcement extended time limit applied to the mobile home sited on the land adjacent to Long Leys Barn on Fanshaws Lane had now come to an end. The Clerk is attempting to liaise with Planning Enforcement at EH to ascertain the next steps.

### **9.3 To update on the Neighbourhood plan:**

No further progress. A meeting was arranged for Cllrs to meet on 6<sup>th</sup> November at 6.30pm at the village hall.

## **9. TRANSPORT & HIGHWAYS**

### **10.1 To discuss and report on any issues arising:**

Cllr Amanda Whitaker advised that Pembridge Lane will be closed from 23-31 October.

From 1 – 9th November at Bayford Green there will be 3 way signals for tree works.

Cllr Roberts noted and thanked Richard Greaves & Sam Hart for tidying the areas around the village signs.

Cllrs Alistair & Amanda Whitaker will arrange to view the areas of regular flooding in the Parish and report back to the PC.

## **10. ENVIRONMENT**

### **11.1 To update on the PC registering for ownership of Brickendon lane village verges:**

Cllr Roberts will send Cllr Kaye the information as discussed in the previous meeting in relation to areas of land that could be utilised.

### **11.2 To update on progress on fencing surrounding the Village green & green on Fanshaws Lane:**

When Cllrs meet to identify areas of flooding in the Parish they will also look at the fencing surrounding the village green to ascertain which areas need replacing.

### **11.3 To update on installing Electric car charger points in the Parish:**

It was discussed and agreed that Cllr Roberts will liaise with Cllr Hoskin (who has now left the meeting) to see if there is an update on any potential new schemes.

### **11.4 To update on the Environmental Improvement Grant Scheme:**

It was discussed that Cllr Amanda Whitaker will look into the grant and report back to the PC.

### **11.5 To update on the potential "wilding" of areas on the village green:**

Cllr Roberts reported that a meeting was held recently with himself, Cllr Cosford & Andrew Taylor - Projects Lead for Countryside and Rights of Way. Andrew Taylor has put a management plan together for possible amendments to the village green to enhance and improve biodiversity. A public meeting to consult with residents will be arranged to be held on a date in October to explain the plans to residents and gather their thoughts and views on the project.

### **11.6 To update on tree maintenance on the village green including the processionary moth issue:**

Cllr Roberts explained that prior to the fete nests made by the processionary moth were found on two trees on the village green. These particular moth nests can cause skin irritations amongst other symptoms. The PC sought advice from local tree experts on the matter. It was agreed and a contractor chosen. The nests were subsequently removed prior to the fete. This expenditure was approved.

Additionally since the previous meeting, the canopies have been lifted on two trees on the village green.

### **11.7 To discuss provision of bird & bat boxes on trees on the village green:**

Cllr Roberts explained that a resident would like to erect bird & bat boxes on the village green. It was agreed that this will also be part of the meeting due to be arranged discussed in agenda item 11.5.

### **11.8 To discuss organising a celebration for D-Day 80 in June 2024 and possible beacon purchase:**

It was discussed, in principal, to purchase a beacon and quotes will be sought in due course. FRC have organised a date of 6th June 2024 for a social event and will be organising the event.

## **12. FINANCE**

### **12.1 To approve the financial statement and payment of accounts:**

The Clerk had circulated the latest account figures to Cllrs prior to the meeting which were agreed and unanimously approved.

### **12.2 To update on the External Audit:**

The clerk reported that there have been a few basic questions asked of the Clerk re the Audit figures which have been sent back. The Auditors are satisfied that processes have been met and the External Audit now signed off and completed.

### **12.3 To discuss and approve expenditure for Christmas meals/hampers for residents:**

Cllrs discussed and agreed that eligible residents will either receive a Christmas hamper or a Christmas meal this year. FRC will also be contributing towards the hampers. Cllr O'Donnell will be organising both.

12 **Matters for future consideration:** none.

13 **Confirmation of the date of the next Parish Council meeting on Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> November 2023 at 7.30pm:** Date agreed and approved.

15. **To close the meeting:** Cllr Roberts closed the meeting at 9.10pm.

Parish Clerk: Laura Brooks-Payne  
[clerk@brickendon-liberty.org.uk](mailto:clerk@brickendon-liberty.org.uk)

## **ADDENDUM**

**Fanshaws Room Committee meeting  
held in Fanshaws Room  
Thursday 7th September 2023**

**Meeting opened at 7.05pm**

**Present:** Linda Ashley, Tony Roberts, Robert Williams, Brenda Lambie, Lawrence Price, Jean Retallick, Alison Blakey, Rose Dye, Adam Dawson and Sarah Collins.

**Apologies for absence:** None

**Minutes of previous meeting and matters arising**

Minutes approved.

**Matters arising**

The area around the tennis courts that Jean could not access has been cut with final works to be finished tomorrow (Friday).

The new benches have been ordered with delivery expected in 3 to 4 weeks.

### **Treasurers Report**

Robert reported that as of the end of August 2023 there was a combined total of £23,844.89 in the Fanshaw's Room bank accounts.

### **Hall report**

Bookings are still satisfactory although the booking by the physiotherapists has now ended as they have found their own premises; they have cleared their equipment and returned their key. Brenda did not ask to have the bolts they installed, on the cleaning cupboard and kitchen, removed as they are a benefit to us.

Robert has now set up Brenda with access to the bank account and it has been confirmed. Rental payments can be checked on line and renters can pay by bank transfer. Brenda will keep track of this. Some cash is needed in order to meet day to day running expenses. Robert to finalise arrangements for Lawrence and Alison to have sight on access to the account.

NRCC have finished their Tuesday night summer bookings for 2023 but still have their winter Sunday bookings in the diary.

### **Fete**

Tony reported that the weather was good and the fete a great occasion and an around success.

The stage, bar and BBQ all went well. Linda said that the band commented that they were restricted on the times they could play and that the Punch and Judy were interrupted by the band. These problems were remedied quickly. The band was also playing during the falconry displays making it more difficult to hear the commentary. This will be resolved in the future. There was some discussion about potentially extending the music and the bar next year – Tony however said that until the steering group had held their feedback meeting nothing had been decided.

The fete committee is trying to diversify from a traditional fete and will experiment with other options. This year there was a bit more advertising and a couple more advertising banners erected on the Lower Hatfield Rd. Adam, a parishioner, asked if parking ever became a problem. Tony said the 2021 fete was the first fete after covid, was extremely well attended and parking was chaotic. Now overflow parking is offered at various sites in the village depending on availability. The golf course provided overflow parking this year.

The car park raised £810 this year at £3 per car including a free raffle ticket. Next year the parking ticket may revert to a car park only raffle prize rather than an entry into the main raffle.

Tea takings were a little down after expenses and there were fewer cakes for sale.

Tony confirmed he would send Robert the summary of the final costs against which Robert could allocate the income received.

### **Christmas events.**

Children under 7 will have a party at PWP. David and Steph will put together a list of eligible children and buy the presents.

Solomon will be Father Christmas and John Lambie his Little Helper.

Seniors.

Linda will ask Hannah for her master list of seniors in the village, this will always change year by year.

Tony will get in touch with Rachel at the Farmers Boy to arrange a suitable date for the Seniors Lunch and discuss how costs are shared. It was thought that the seniors should be given a choice of lunch or a hamper.

### **AOB**

Last year Hannah and her father acquired and erected a Christmas tree on the Green. It was agreed that this was a great addition to the village at Christmas time and should be repeated. Lawrence suggested that we make this part of a Christmas social with Carols round the tree, mulled wine and mince pies. Friday 15<sup>th</sup> December was decided.

The Parish Council are making progress on rewilding of The Green. The areas selected for potential development are:

1. The south side of The Green in front of the wall and round to and including the pond.
2. The Triangle at north east end of the green around the village sign.
3. The "Queen Elizabeth Memorial Garden" at the west end of the green.
4. The small green on Fanshaw's Lane.

The Rewilding Consultant has outlined a plan for each of these areas.

The PC will arrange a meeting at which villagers will be given the opportunity to comment on the proposals for each area.

Robert's wife Clare would also like to put up bird and bat boxes on the green and this could also be discussed at the meeting.

The 80<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the D-day landings.

Laura Brooks-Paine, the Parish Clerk, has emailed that Hertfordshire County would like enough towns and villages to construct a Beacon to help celebrate the 80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the D-day landings. This will be on 6<sup>th</sup> June 2024. The Parish Council will discuss the details of this at its next meeting on the 28<sup>th</sup> September. Lawrence suggested that this could be a focal point for next year's summer social.

Brenda will remove the poster at the tennis courts giving the now redundant contact details for booking a court.

Robert will pay the Membership fees for CDC.

### **The next meeting to be arranged**

Meeting closed at 8.15pm