



BRICKENDON LIBERTY PARISH COUNCIL

Parish Clerk: Laura Brooks-Payne
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Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Thursday 27th March 2025 at 7.30pm at Fanshaws Room, Brickendon Lane, Brickendon Liberty.

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

NOT PRESENT:

IN ATTENDANCE: District Cllr Tim Hoskin, Cllr Jonathan Kaye, 12 members of the Public, Prospective Conservative Candidate Lesley Greensmyth, Clerk – Laura Brooks-Payne

- 1. To receive apologies for absence and approve:** None
- 2. To receive declaration of interest and dispensation:** None
- 3. To approve minutes of Parish Council meeting on Thursday 23rd January 2025:**
Minutes unanimously approved.
- 4. To receive a report from District Cllr Tim Hoskin:**
Cllr Hoskin reported;

Rationalization of litter bins – new contract starts in May and there may be waste bins removed in some areas. It has been discovered at County Council level, that removing bins in particular locations can reduce fly tipping substantially in that area. It was noted that the litter bins the parish are owned and paid for by the PC.

Waste household recycling bins are being introduced, contracts driven by central government. This will effectively mean that each household will own 4 waste bins and a small waste food caddy.

Devolution - the interim response by the District Council has been passed to central government. It was discussed that each district in Hertfordshire may have a different opinion.

The Local Nature Recovery Strategy – this is building in momentum, and research is being undertaken on a district, local and household level.

Standing orders suspended for public participation

- 5. Comments from members of the public**

John Lambie reported that he attended a meeting regarding the Devolution but did not glean any information that was particularly useful.

John Lambie advised Cllr Hoskin that the new waste bin volumes were not stated on the information leaflet recently received.

Cllr Hoskin explained;
Brown bin 240 ltr
Black bin – 240 ltr
Current blue bin – same volume
NEW purple bin for residual waste 240 ltrs

John Lambie reported that part of the fence around the village green (on the corner) has been pulled down by a horse & cart. Cllr Roberts explained that the fencing surrounding the entire green will be replaced very soon.

A resident who lives in Wormley West End asked if anything has been put in place re. signage for Wormley West End to help to reduce speeding around the tight bends (which was discussed in a previous meeting). This was discussed, Cllr Roberts proposed that he will draft an email including exact locations to send to Cllr Kaye who will endeavour to help through his contacts with Highways.

It was noted that Paramount Plants have many large heavy vehicles that regularly drive up the bank. It was discussed but noted that the Parish is a very rural area with many large trucks and agricultural vehicles using narrow lanes.

A resident reported that in Wormley West End there is a Broxbourne Borough Council boundary sign that has been damaged several times. It was suggested that the resident contact Broxbourne Council to ask if it can be removed.

Cllr Kaye advised to use the Hertfordshire County Council Fault Reporting System rather than the Fix my Steet website for reporting faults to Highways.

A resident asked why the PC have increased the Precept by 53%. Cllr Roberts explained that this is a one-off increase for this year to replace all the fencing surrounding the village green.

Cllr Kaye advised that he will be standing down as Councillor for the forthcoming election. His attendance and help over the years was much appreciated and Cllr Kaye was thanked for his work on the PC's behalf.

Standing orders reinstated from here

6. OPEN SPACES

6.1 To update on two new Defibrillator locations:

Cllr Roberts explained that the PC have 6 defibrillators in the Parish, the most recent being installed at Highfield Farm. The only part of the Parish that is missing a defibrillator is Wormley West End, and a suitable location has yet to be established and agreed. Further training for Parishioners on using the defibrillators was suggested. The Clerk will liaise with her contact to book a Saturday training day.

6.2 To update on the purchase of the Village Green:

Cllr Roberts reported that he had heard back from the PC's solicitor today. It was explained that it has become necessary to re-apply to re-register the land. The case is ongoing.

6.3 To update on the organisation of a working party to undertake some ditch clearing:

Cllr Roberts updated that he and Cllr Whitaker will organise a date to look at what is required.

6.4 To discuss how the PC can help to alleviate stop fly tipping:

It was discussed that fly tipping is regularly occurring in a location in Back Lane. It was discussed and agreed to erect signage advising that cameras are in operation to see if this helps to alleviate the issue. Cllr Kaye suggested that parishioners email East Herts Council fly-tipping sightings to ensure a paper trail, rather than calling them in.

6.5 To discuss the purchase of replacement litter bins for the village green:

Cllr Roberts reported that two replacement waste bins have been purchased. They will be arriving imminently and will be put in situ. Jean, the village litter picker is over the moon with the purchases. (you did tell me to minute that!)

7. FANSHAWS ROOM COMMITTEE:

7.1 To receive the latest minutes:

Linda Ashley read out the last minutes.

It was noted that the gutter repair between the village hall and the adjoining house has been completed.

See Addendum.

8. LOCAL CRIME

8.1 To receive a report on incidents of local crime:

The Clerk had circulated reports from January and February to Cllrs.

No crimes reported in either month.

8. PLANNING

9.1 To receive the latest planning report & discuss applications:

The Clerk circulated the latest report prior to the meeting. There are three new applications which Cllrs will visit in due course.

Cllr Roberts advised that although a planning application has yet to be submitted, the land that the golf course is intending to build 3 new dwellings on, is a likely protected area for Great Crested Newts. A condition on the decision notice for building the previous two houses on an adjacent site on the land, was to conserve the habitat (two ponds) for the Great Crested newts. It has come to light that at least one pond has been filled in, changing the landscape. It was noted that this is against the law.

9.2 To discuss recent applications, any new planning enforcements & progress on any

outstanding: Any updates had been updated on the report. It was noted that the injunction is to be served imminently for the large mobile home erected on land adjacent to Long Leys Barn.

9. TRANSPORT & HIGHWAYS

10.1 To discuss and report on any issues arising:

Cllr Amanda Whitaker reported that there are various road closures happening in May in Cock Lane, Pembridge Lane and White Stubbs Lane with diversions.

10. ENVIRONMENT

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

Cllr Roberts advised no progress. The previous project did not go ahead.

11.2 To update on the Environmental Improvement Grant Scheme:

11.3 To update on the potential "naturalisation" of areas on the village green

11.4 To update on possible erection of bird & bat boxes on trees on the village green:

(11.2-11.4) Cllr Roberts reported that it has been suggested that bulbs could be planted around the fencing perimeter and in the 'triangle of land to the edge of the green. The committee planning the improvements are working on a plan, including bird/bat box instal.

11. FINANCE

12.1 To approve the financial statement and payment of accounts:

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

13. To discuss making Parishioner Beryl Matthews an Honorary Freeman of the Parish:

Cllr Roberts explained that Graham Irwin (former parishioner and current website host) suggested this. It was discussed and agreed that Cllr Roberts will draw up a resume of work that Beryl has accomplished and present it to Cllrs to make a more informed decision.

14. Matters for future consideration: none

15. Confirmation of the dates of the next meeting:

Thursday 22nd May 2025 at 7.30pm to include the Annual Parish Meeting (APM):

16. To close the meeting: Cllr Roberts closed the meeting at 9.20pm

Laura Brooks-Payne - Parish Clerk
www.brickendon-liberty.org.uk

ADDENDUM

Fanshaw's Room Committee Meeting
held in the Snug at the Farmer's Boy
Thursday 6th March 2025

Meeting opened at 7.05pm

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

Apologies for absence: Robert Williams

Minutes of previous meeting

Minutes approved.

Matters arising

None

Treasurers Report

Robert's report by text. The cash in the bank at end February: £6,900.69 & £9,932.50

Hall report

Brenda says there is nothing major to report on the hall. The leak in the ladies' cloakroom appears to have subsided, eventually the ceilings will require repainting but this is not urgent. Tony has asked Bruce to tell his roofer that we would like to proceed with the work proposed for the replacement of the guttering as discussed at the January meeting.

Bookings are steady and there are local elections in May. The charge for renting the hall for the election is £500 as the hall is required from 6am until 10pm with full use of facilities. Additionally, Brenda will spend time arranging for delivery and collection of the polling booths.

The North Road Cycle Club will be renewing their annual bookings for 2025, although payment is a bit late for reasons that Brenda accepts. Other bookings include children's parties, meetings and training sessions. Brenda does not accept bookings for teenage parties or some adult events to minimise disruption to neighbours and the possible misuse of facilities. She also tends not to accept bookings when she is away, although it is still available to key holders like NRCC.

Recent outgoings have mainly been for cleaning which is still just £40 per month, and items like loo rolls and bin liners. We will have some idea of revenue vs costs when the accounts are completed but Brenda thinks that a profit is still made while maintaining the facility in good order for our own parish requirements.

Tony reminded Brenda to block out the village hall for the two weeks before and after the Village fete, which she has done.

Tony is arranging another Defibrillator course and will let Brenda know the date.

Village Fete

Tony reports that plans for the fete are going well and all the big ticket items are sorted. The band and food are booked. One of the setts for the band will be at the Farmers Boy as the fete will extend into the evening this year – as discussed at the January meeting. This still needs fine tuning with Rachel. Alison contacted Steven Oates and they will sponsor the fete again this year. St John's Ambulance is booked although the form needs to be submitted. The Dog Show and Punch & Judy will participate as usual but there will be no Birds of Prey this year. Linda has spoken to the Fire Brigade and Herts Police, she asked when they would be needed and an estimate of numbers. Tony suggested 11.30 – 3.30 and for approx. 1500 persons. The committee agreed. Brenda asked if there would be anything new this year, Tony replied nothing so far.

Summer Event

At the previous meeting the annual summer social was to be held as normal on the village green on Saturday 21st June.

Tony proposed that instead of having two events in the village the Summer Social could be combined with the Farmers Boy's celebration of the 80th Anniversary of VE Day on Saturday 10th May. Rachel explained her ideas/plans for the event. It would be Street Party style with long tables in the pub garden and would be by invitation only. Every resident of the Parish would be invited plus some of the non-parish regulars of the pub. The day would start by Honouring the Fallen in the chapel grounds, there will be a display of WW2 memorabilia and musicians playing/singing wartime tunes. Rachel is hoping to have Jive classes in the back room, various period vehicles on display and childrens events. It would be advertised as a joint Fanshaw's Room / Farmer's Boy event. Volunteers would be needed for the distribution of village invitations plus set up and knock down. It was suggested that the invitations could be delivered by those who deliver the newsletter if they are willing. If not, other committee members volunteered. Tony proposed that Fanshaw's Room make a contribution and Linda seconded the proposal.

Tennis Courts

Tony has changed the Tennis Courts maintenance schedule from four to three times a year. Tony has got a quote for the hedge work to be done and is waiting for another. He also had quotes for creating four new parking spaces but this has proved to be more expensive than anticipated.

There has been no update on the proposed Brickendon Tennis and Bayford Rugby membership club.

AOB

Lawrence reported that the volunteers from the Countryside Management group and the village volunteers were amazing and thanked them for their hard work. They cleared a large area of land around the pond and this now needs to be maintained. The next phase will be planting bulbs and seeding.

Brenda reminded everyone that the deadline for the Newsletter is beginning of April.

Meeting closed at 8.05pm