

BRETENHAM PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 8TH APRIL 2021 ONLINE

MINUTES

Present: Chairman Mr C Clarke, Vice Chairman Emily Woods, Clerk/RFO Mrs D Clarke, Councillors Mrs L Collings, Ms B Cronk, Mr P Truin, Ms A Wilson, Mr P Bendall, SCC and BDC Councillor Robert Lindsey, Tree Officer Andrew Gooderham, and 5 members of the public

1. Chairman's welcome and to accept and no apologies for absence, save for Cllr A Wilson whose internet did not work. Cllr Wilson was able to listen only for majority of meeting.
2. To receive and accept members' Declarations of Interest for items on the Agenda - Chairman noted interest in trees at his house (DC/21/01324), and also to an extent the issue of drainage at the Church and 3 The St (due to being treasurer of PCC). Peter Truin noted an interest in a tree to discuss and also a drainage issue (noted at 7.4.2 below). In addition to this there was an interest in application DC/21/00526 below.
3. Resolved that the Minutes of the meeting held on 11th February are a correct record

PUBLIC FORUM

SCC and BDC Councilor Robert Lindsey provided his report (copy available separately) as follows:-

- Village Hall - was pleased to provide funds
- Bildeston Foodbank has had a £1,000 contribution via Babergh budget.
- Suffolk County Council Budget - The Suffolk County Council Budget was voted through Full Council on February 11th. Key points include:
 - A council tax rise of 4% (2% basic council tax and 2% Social Care Precept), representing an increase of £53.55 for a Band D property.
 - Planned spending is £597.9m, 7.4% more than 2020-21.
 - £15.3m of spending to address ongoing COVID-19 costs.
 - No proposed reductions in council services or personnel.
- Green Budget Amendment voted down - this would have authorised the use of the full 3% social care precept to avoid impacting SCC's reserves and generate an extra £3.45m at a cost of only £13.41 per year to a Band D household, but the amendment was not passed.
- There is up to 10 year delay to flood repairs. It has emerged from a report to the Suffolk Flood Risk Management Scrutiny subcommittee on 3rd March, that funding restrictions meant it would take highways ten years to repair all the highways flooding issues currently on its list.
- Suffolk moves school bus contracts from Norse to Vertas
- Babergh budget approved, council tax will rise by 3%, the equivalent of less than 10p a week (£5 a year) for an average Band D property. G
- Green amendment voted down
- Babergh Council leader John Warn kept his job after winning no confidence vote by 20 votes to 10
- Number plate recognition cameras to catch speeders - the county council has just announced this scheme which will involve them buying ten number plate recognition cameras and installing them in villages where there is a speeding issue for up to a week at a time. Spots will be identified by parish councils, with support from county Councillors, where there are known issues with speeding or rat running in a 20mph or 30mph zone. It would mean that third time someone got caught they would get a warning from the Police.
- Babergh offers free trees and hedgerow plants - can apply for online, deadline TBC as conflicting documentation.

Chairman thanked Robert for his assistance throughout this year and also for funding.

Tree Warden - Andrew confirmed that we had previously had the hedgerow and trees offer previously and this had uptake of around 200 trees.

SALC - Cllr Wilson said will circulate update on SALC after meeting as difficulty with internet

BVA - Pete Knight provided update to say next meeting was 19th April to encourage attendance. Discussed opening up VH again (note: we will need to have face to face meetings at the expiry of Zoom being allowed under COVID guidelines). Pete mentioned the upcoming bookings and spoke about getting further bookings. Work on the floor commenced today, floor is now stripped and will be replaced shortly in full. Toilets are installed and thanks passed to Cllr Robert Lindsay for money from Locality Budget. Chairman extended thanks to Pete for communications and continued efforts.

Church - no particular updates, moving forward but short of money due to fundraising issues given COVID. Tiffer was given thanks. Church works likely to take place later this year, circa £10k.

Magazine - no update but thanks extended to Caroline Dye.

Public Forum was closed.

4. To receive Clerks report on matters from previous meeting and to date.

4.1. To provide update on actions from previous meeting

4.1.1. Banking online access – now available subject to receiving all necessary components in the post.

Explained that if two Councillors had similar online access the PC could action online payments also, but Clerk (DC) still able to access accounts and do inter-account transfers whether Councillors decide to do this or not. Councillors would need to call Barclays themselves to obtain this access. Once online, DC to circulate details to signatory Councillors to allow them to call Barclays to obtain access.

4.1.2. Change to standing order to enable payments via Debit Card - explained that this would need waiver of two to sign. Chairman mentioned that there should not only be a daily limit but also a recurring limit so couldn't spend maximum every day, for example. DC mentioned the waiver letter was expected in the post and would circulate when available, to allow Councillors to consider further whether PC would proceed with this option.

4.1.3. New finance report - received positive feedback on new report, happy that DC would draft it for next meeting and we could then consider if this is to be proceeded with full time.

4.2. CIL money - confirmed CIL money available and S106 money was available to the total of around £16,500 (S106 was £3,369.41 to be spent by 15th December 2024). Agreed we would need to consider what to use this for (S106 more difficult to spend). Cllr Collings mentioned that there could be additional play area items added. Pete Knight mentioned that might be good to spend some of the money on the cost of the VH flooring. Could also resurface car park - discussed that this doesn't belong to us, nor do we lease it, so this would need to be considered and carefully documented if agreed. ACTION: Vice Chairman to forward around ideas previously raised for spending S106 money.

4.3. Lease - explained the issues with the AFL and what will need to be done from a legal perspective - DC explained that we need to instruct a solicitor and why, Cllrs agreed DC to instruct Birketts and circulate the quote when DC has it.

5. Planning

5.1 To consider and receive updates on Planning Applications

DC/21/00785	Popples, Bury Road, Brettenham, Ipswich Suffolk IP7 7PN	Application for Listed Building Consent - Repair and replacement of moat wall
	Cock Farm, Church Road, Brettenham, Ipswich Suffolk IP7 7QR	Notification of Works to Trees in a Conservation Area -T1 (Eucalyptus) - Remove

DC/21/00853	Popples, Bury Road, Brettenham, Ipswich Suffolk IP7 7PN	Householder Application. Erection of 2no pairs of entrance gates and associated works
DC/21/00854	Popples, Bury Road, Brettenham, Ipswich Suffolk IP7 7PN	Application for Listed Building Consent. Erection of 2no pairs of entrance gates and associated works
DC/21/01324	Arundell House, The Street, Brettenham, Ipswich Suffolk IP7 7QP	Application for works to trees in a Conservation Area - Fell 1No (T1) Field Maple, Pollard 2x Lombardy Poplars (T2), Reduce back lower branches of 1 No (T3) Oak tree to enable combine harvester easy access
DC/21/01394	Chapel Hill House, Chapel Hill, Brettenham, Ipswich Suffolk IP7 7PG	Erection of pool enclosure (over existing pool)

Further application received since Minutes circulated to erect a garden shed, which is under consideration.

2. Confirmation that Joint Local Plan for Babergh and Mid Suffolk has been submitted
3. Neighbourhood Plan update - confirmed work in progress, questionnaire being reviewed and virtual walkthrough is planned for next couple of weeks

6. Correspondence

6.1 To discuss items of correspondence – none.

6.2 To discuss any further items of correspondence received since Agenda prepared - none

7. Playing Field/Parking/Health and Safety/Footpaths

7.1. Update on repair plan for play area swing - ground drying out and will be done in due course

7.2. To receive reports of any other Health and Safety issues – none

7.3. OBH footpath and dogs - will do further footpath signs where needed regarding dogs. Will put in upcoming magazine that people should stick to footpaths and should keep dogs on leads where needed. Wording needs to be considered carefully.

7.4. Highway drainage issues –

7.4.1. Church – Chairman had constructive discussions with owners of 3 The Street, EMP drainage came and put a camera through the pipe through highways drain to other side of road but only to verge before the pipe was 'lost'. Wanted to minute approval of that invoice subject to it being no more than £90 + VAT – this was approved. Verge needs to be dug down to locate the pipe, examine condition and see whether it can be reconnected - but potential issue with ability for us to do work to pipe that sits under Council/ Highways property. Chairman will write up summary and will consider at next PCM in May.

7.4.2. Fir Cottage - Able to get underneath the tree but was too solid so will need to come back. PC is not picking up the cost for this and Cllr Truin is funding work at this location. PC is paying for works at Church. Cllr Truin mentioned that the tree would likely need to come down.

7.4.3. Village Green - reported too expensive to repair due to services needing to be affected

8. Finance

- 8.1. Clerk to provide current financial report - DC explained the payments for approval, made a note that there had been a lot of incoming magazine advert payments.
- 8.2. To consider and authorise payments detailed on finance report - no objections, ACTION: DC to circulate both reports in next meeting for full consideration and elimination of one.
- 8.3. To discuss allocation of CIL money - discussed earlier in APM and ideas to be considered for next meeting.

9. AOB and items for consideration of inclusion on next Agenda.

- 9.1. Vice Chairman raised we should put on next agenda that hedgerow point raised - ACTION: DC to put on agenda for May meeting
- 9.2. DC asked whether any Councillors or Planning officers come forward, none as yet, located a vacancy notice that needed to be circulated, ACTION: DC to send this to Vice Chairman.

Closed meeting at 21:28.

Della Clarke | Clerk/RFO | Email: brettenhamparishcouncil@btinternet.com

Agenda circulated to:

Chairman

Mr Chris Clarke*

Vice-Chairman

Ms Emily Woods*

Councillor and Suffolk Passenger Transport Representative

Mr Peter Truin*

Councillor and Chairman of Planning Committee

Mr Paul Bendall*

Councillor and SALC Representative

Mrs Alyson Wilson*

Councillors

Ms Beverley Cronk*

Mrs Lindsey Collings*

Suffolk County and Babergh District Councillor – Cosford

Mr Robert Lindsay*

Suffolk Constabulary(Parish Council Liaison Officer):

Laura Mansell*

Internal Auditor

Mr Roger Bere*

Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinator:

Ms Val McGuill*

Gardening Club

Jane Moulding*

Jane McDonald*

* sent via email

Footpath Liaison Officer

Mr Martin Annis*

Tree Officer:

Mr Andrew Gooderham*

Old Buckenham Hall School

Headmaster*

Centre Academy for East Anglia

Dr Duncan Rollo/Mrs Kim Salthouse*

Village Hall Caretaker

Paul Bendall*

Website Co-ordinator

Beth Clarke*

Brettenham Village Association

Pete Knight*

VH Noticeboard/Village Website