

## BROADHEMBURY PARISH COUNCIL

### **Minutes of a meeting of Broadhembury Parish Council on Monday 20<sup>th</sup> July 2015 7.30p.m. at Colliton Barton.**

**Present:** Councillors, B. Nelson (Chairman), Mrs. E. Bradshaw, P. Chowles, (item 8 onwards) V. Game, Mrs. S. Howgill, Mrs. V. Jones, A. McArdle, L. Roberts, P. Diviani (D.C.), P. Skinner (E.D.D.C.) K. Granger (Clerk), the public correspondent and two members of the public,

### **Agenda**

**1. Apologies:** Cllr. K. Rowan, and the Police.

**2. Minutes of the last meeting:** The minutes of the last meeting signed correct.

**3. Matters Arising:** (not dealt with elsewhere)

**a. Hall funding;** Cllrs. asked the Clerk to send a cheque for £1,500 to the Trustees of the Hall as agreed in July 2014 item 12b. In the first instance the money was to be used for a wi-fi broadband facility which visitors to the Parish could use to access the Parish web site showing walks.

**b. P.T.F. 2015/16:** Clerk had spoken with Payhembury whose grass cutting was already done voluntarily but would have further discussions with them.

**c. Millennium Garden:** Cllr. Bradshaw had obtained permission from District to use the remaining funds from the Japanese Knotweed fund for weed control in the parish and this was being used for the Millennium Garden. Members thanked the Deputy Chair for her successful resolution of this issue. The Clerk reported he had sprayed the weeds twice and the new membrane was ready for collection at Mole Valley, once placed he would arrange for the bark covering to be delivered and the project will be finished in August.

**d. Audit Return;** The Chairman reported our return had been sent back on time and thanked Mrs. Mary Keegan for her help over the large variation from previous years due to the numerous grants we had obtained due to our Neighbourhood Plan and the Luton drainage project. For the benefit of Members the Chairman re-iterated the new accounting procedures (covered by formal Email to Members) which had been put in place as a result of the informal scrutiny of accounts by Mary Keegan.

### **4, Public Discussion, Reports D.C., E.D.D.C., & Police:**

**Public Discussion:** The Chairman invited Mrs McQueenie (public) to speak. Mrs. McQueenie said she would appreciate this Council looking into a flood alleviation scheme for Kerswell as numerous properties were now being flooded on several occasions of which hers (Brooke Cottage) was one. Cllr. Nelson replied saying Cllr. Game and Mr Keith Bone would be asked to look into this and report back with their findings. It was hoped that a scheme could be developed which would secure funding with local volunteer help.

**Reports: Cllr. Diviani (D.C.).** said he was aware of the problem in Kerswell and would help local volunteers if a solution could be found. Cllr. Diviani said his Health and Wellbeing Group were busy alongside the N.H.S. and “New Devon” a term to describe Devon & Somerset as the system was not actually working well with regard to Cottage Hospitals and this was a major issue, on a local level he thought Honiton Cottage Hospital was in a strong position.

**Cllr. Skinner (E.D.D.C.)** reported the Local Plan with some amendments should be finalised by the end of the year and their offices would be split between Heath Park at Honiton and Devon's largest town Exmouth. Cllr. Skinner said he considered superfast rural broadband a vital issue and how it should be dealt with over the second phase.

**Police:** In the absence of the Police the Clerk read an email saying there were 4 crimes since the last meeting one theft and one drink drive on the A.373 and one assault and one burglary in the Parish

**5. Correspondence:** dealt with elsewhere

**6. Planning Report:** Cllr. Bradshaw reported 2 applications since the last meeting, Kerswell Priory and Brooke Cottage both of which we supported, a further application for Pitmans Farm had just been received.

**7 Report C.I.O.:** Cllr. Jones said the electricians and plumbers were working inside this week and the official opening would be on the 26<sup>th</sup> September 2015 at 5p.m., Kirsty Allsopp would be our guest and open the hall. Cllr. Bradshaw reported there would be a meeting of Group Leaders on the 22nd August at 10.30a.m. and a full alcohol licence was being applied for. Cllrs. expressed concern that the alcohol licence hours expired at 0100a.m and anticipated complaints if it was used too often. Parishioners have told us in the Neighbourhood Planning consultations that they value peace and quiet.

**8. Ratification of N.P. document:** The Chairman explained that the document was the same as our 2<sup>nd</sup> public consultation in January with some minor amendments following that process and that we now needed it ratified. After discussion Members unanimously endorsed the aims and objectives and the emerging draft policies contained in the document and acknowledged that they reflected well the views of local people. This endorsement was proposed by Cllr. Howgill seconded by Cllr. Roberts, (both non-members of the NPSG) all in favour. Cllr. Nelson proposed we look again shortly at our Community Action Plan and this was seconded by Cllr. Bradshaw. Cllr. Skinner (E.D.D.C.) said he was organising a Tale Vale N.P. meeting shortly.

**9. Report Cllr. Roberts Parish paths:** Cllr. Roberts is meeting Ros Davies, Parish Paths (E.D.D.C.) shortly and reported 2 styles in need of some repair. He will action the repairs.

**10. Report Cllr. Chowles Broadhembury Playground:** Cllr. Chowles said he was hoping to set up a small sub-committee and he and Cllr. Jones (Kerswell play area) have noted the R.O.S.P.A requirements and would implement them. The Chairman said that it was important to action any advised repairs irrespective of whether the committee was in existence. Cllr. Chowles agreed to do so for Broadhembury and Cllr. Jones agreed to action for Kerswell.

**11. Report S.H.L.A.A. development:** The Chairman, Clerk and Vice Chairman had met alongside Mr. Steve Eastland (of the NPSG) the Land owner and his proposed developer at their request to discuss the proposed new build in the parish. The agreement at the moment in the SHLAA proposal was for 10-15 houses of which 60% should be affordable as our public meetings had requested, the land owner had re-iterated his intention of giving extra land for car parking also for recreational use and it was hoped the car parking area could be agreed in time for the opening of the hall on the 26<sup>th</sup> September. The Chairman and the Deputy Chair agreed that the meeting had been positive and the minutes would be published on the web site.

**12. Code of Conduct:** All Cllrs. were given a hard copy of our Code of Conduct for signature and return to the Clerk.

**13. Cllrs. Reports:** Cllr. McArdle said he was disappointed with B.T. over super-fast rural broadband and was looking into various options.

**14. B.M.X. Track:** Generally thought to be a difficult decision as the track was known nationally for young people, however, we as a Council had never given permission for its use or approved of it, the Clerk to invite a group leader to our September meeting.

**15. Marsh Green Common:** The Chairman reported the gate at Marsh Green house had been moved back to its correct position and the Clerk was asked to write to Mr. & Mrs. Baker with our thanks. There was still a problem with vehicles left/parked on the other side of the common and the Clerk to write to the Whitrow family saying they were in breach of the court injunction taken against them and that if these vehicles were not removed or our permission obtained for parking them on the common we would instruct the County Solicitor to return to Court to seek enforcement of the injunction.

**16. Clerk's employment:** The Clerk left the Chamber. The Chairman said that in his experience the complexity of PC business was greater than he could recall. Rather than producing a simplification of local process Email had become a way for Central and District government to bombard local Parishes with requests, information and occasionally help. Furthermore the Neighbourhood Planning process with the resultant administration of grants had increased the Clerk's workload. The Chairman went on to say that the Clerk had specifically not requested any change in his salary but the Chairman felt an increase as appropriate to bring the Clerk's remuneration in line with the minimum wage. He had asked the Clerk to record the hours worked for a sample month and as a result recommended an increase of £500 per annum. This was unanimously agreed and Members thanked the Clerk for his continued work. Members agreed that the Chairman could employ an agent to handle the Clerks PAYE/NI returns.

**17. A.O.B. (for information only):** The Chairman and Deputy Chair proposed we should put a vehicle in place now to set up a Community Land Trust for the Parish before the new build takes place and explore the possibilities. It was agreed that membership of the CLT Network could be instigated and initial interest sought from others to assist. The Chairman would report at the next meeting

The meeting closed at 9.50p.m.