

**BRADENHAM PARISH COUNCIL**  
**Minutes of Bradenham Parish Annual General Meeting on**  
**Tuesday 10th May 2022 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall**

Apologies received from Ed Connolly- County Councillor

**ELECTION OF OFFICERS**

The PC had a secret ballot for Chairman and Vice-Chairman

**Mr C Allhusen** was re-elected as Chairman and **Mr J Reading** was re-elected as Vice-Chairman.

Declaration of acceptance and undertaking of Office to be signed by the Chairman

**Teresa Frost** re-elected as Village Hall Committee member agreed by the rest of the PC.

**Steve Welton** was re-elected as Trustee to Bradenham Charities, this was agreed by the rest of the PC.

Declaration of acceptance and undertaking of Office to be signed by the Chairman

**FINANCIAL STATEMENT FOR YEAR ENDING 31ST MARCH 2022**

**RECEIPTS**

Precept	8000.00
Village Hall – Donation	3869.77
VAT Refund	1416.68
Interest	4.54
PCC Grass Contribution	887.97
Cricket Club Fee	350.00
Speed Sign Sales	10.00
NCC – Trees for the Green	1649.64
Bradenham Community Group	323.62

**PAYMENTS**

BMS – Bench for New Lane	345.00
Bradenham Hall Farm -Footpath	368.00
Kevin Sadd – Painting	3707.58
T TSR – Grass Cutting + Moles	3646.60
Clerk – Wages	655.40
Wickstead – Paint & Fixings	624.96
Gopak – Chairs	1699.69
Glasdon – 2 xBins Chruch & Ford	652.62
Zurich Insurance + Inspection	1196.49
Barcham – 3xTrees & Accessories	1605.00
Tufts – Wood for Tree Guards etc	403.26
KBS = Picnic Table for Green	727.50
HMRC – PAYE	144.00
TTSR – Bench for Ford	150.00
TTSR – Bench installation for New Lane	150.00
Village Hall – Rent	60.00
VAT	2866.02
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<b>£16512.22</b>	<b>£19002.12</b>

**SUMMARY**

	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
	£	£	£	£	£
Precept	8000.00	8000.00	8000.00	8000.00	8000.00
Interest Credited	13.89	11.06	9.94	12.22	4.54
VAT Refund	1410.87	3928.93	2396.68	953.75	1416.68
Other Income	11717.77	4520.64	1467.54	3979.45	7091.00
Expenditure	27330.90	16883.53	8321.64	11315.61	19002.12
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Balance	6409.72	5986.82	9539.34	11169.15	2489.90

The Clerk presented the above statement of the Parish Councils' finance for the year ending 31st March 2021, showing income for the year of £16512.22, expenditure of £19002.12 and a balance carried forward of £. This was approved by the Parish Council

## **CHAIRMAN'S REPORT 2022**

I would like to thank all our Parish Councillors for their work, done on your behalf, over the past year, and especially our Vice-Chairman Julian Reading, and Clerk, Dee Ruppert.

I would like to thank Edward Connolly our County Councillor and our District Councillors, Helen Crane & Tim Burt. for the work he has put in on our behalf during the year.

In Bradenham, the Hale Road footpath has been completed and some still to be done. The new village gates look good and I would like to thank Edward Connolly for his help with both organising and paying for them from his member allowance. The two speed reactive signs are still doing their work, and I would like to thank Trevor Nelson and his team for continuing with the speed watch scheme in the village.

Both of Vattenfall's Norfolk windfarms, Vanguard & Boreas have now got their DCO's. We do not yet have a date for the construction to start, but probably later this year or early next.

We have some new and very smart trees on the Village Green and I would like to thank Julian Reading for organising their purchase and planting. In addition, I would again like to thank Edward Connolly for his help with financing their purchase. They will be dedicated at the Fete as part of the Jubilee celebrations.

You will be pleased to hear that we are stalling a new seat on the triangle by the Ford and a picnic table between the playground and the old swings. These will be put in later this spring.

As always, I would like to thank Roger & Mary Wells and their army of litter pickers who continue to keep the streets, roads and Village Green of Bradenham so tidy and clear of litter.

Our precept remains the same as last year at £8,000. As you can see from the financial statement, our two largest items of expenditure were the usual Village Green insurance and the grass cutting of the green and churchyards.

## **BRADENHAM CHARITY REPORT 2022**

The Bradenham Charity owns the Meadows and Allotments on Half Mile Drift, and manages a small portfolio of investments.

The Higher Level Environmental Scheme on the meadows runs for another two years. This scheme pays for the meadows to be retained as a haven for wildlife. I am also pleased to see that we still have full occupancy on the allotments.

The Charity repeated the support we give to parents of Bradenham children at schools in Shipdham and Scarning with the cost of their uniform in moving up to High School. The Chairman of the Charity is Kathy Norton and Parish Council Trustee Steve Welton.

Any organisation, or individual, in the village is welcome to put forward suggestions for help with their funding to the Trustees, all of whom I would like to thank for their work on the Charity.

## **Edward Connolly – County Councillor**

Sent apologise for not attending. He emailed to thank the Parish Council for all their work over the year.

## **District Councillor's – Reports**

**Helen Crane ANNUAL REPORT** - Our Future Breckland-ensuring success of our district and Market towns. The 5 market towns are all benefitting from a £300k improvement fund along with a £700k further support for heritage schemes.

50 million £ distributed to our towns and businesses over the last 2 years during covid.

Grants-Ensuring money is available for community groups across the district. Breckland Council has provided hundreds of thousands of pounds for local groups for items such as defibrillators, food banks, village hall improvements and play park upgrades.

**Making Breckland Sustainable**-A commitment to our environment to make Breckland Net zero by 2035 and we are on track. Over £1.2 million to support climate and environmental activities. We are upgrading all Breckland Council owned footway lights to LED's, expanding the network of electric charging points and creating new community funding for groups to get involved and get greener.

Investment in over £1million to support and help those in need. We are having a positive impact on those affected by domestic abuse. Creating a network of mental health support volunteers. We are reducing social isolation and continued with the Silver Social throughout lockdown on line and we continue to fund this scheme. We have created Norfolk's first community shop and rural community food bus. We have built a new housing team to support our most vulnerable residents find safe homes and make adaptations to allow others to remain in their homes. A new building, The Elms in Thetford is complete and will be a safe and secure place for individuals and families who find themselves homeless. Here they will find wrap around care to help them find a permanent home of their own.

We have dedicated staff to deal with anti-social behaviour, animal welfare, illegal dwellings. Reducing fly tipping and litter, we have a dedicated team who investigate and prosecute more fly-tippers than any other area in Norfolk, reducing incidents by more than 25%. We continue to support community groups with litter picking equipment.

Breckland Council remains the lowest district council tax in the Country. That means that most households will pay less than £100 a year for Breckland services.

**LOCAL REPORT** - Local plan update-call for sites process has started and will end on 20<sup>th</sup> May. Details on website of all sites that have been put forward. Not just housing allocation sites but, employment and green spaces. GIRAMS-green infrastructure levy which will now be applied and paid prior to commencement of building. This will be £185.93 per dwelling and will address recreational impacts on wildlife sites throughout Norfolk. It is a legal requirement to do so to protect habitats and will come in the form of wardens, signposting and information for visitors to important wildlife and habitat sites.

Nutrient neutrality-A letter from Natural England to all district authorities has impacted planning. This is protection for areas in Breckland for the catchment area of the river Wensum and the broads. This will mean that Breckland will be giving a precautionary approach to planning and will pause decision making in impacted areas until a habitat regulation assessment has been undertaken. Outside the catchment area we will be determining asap, but this has meant a delay in the planning process and put some applications on hold. Those that are approved will have a condition added regarding nutrient neutrality.

I was pleased to see that the first part of the Trod has been completed and awaits signing off by NCC who hold a bond paid by the developer. We await the S278 document from the developer of the second part of the Trod. I am aware some residents are concerned about the top dressing of the trod and how and when the front amenity land will be handed over to them.

I am pleased that Bradenham has been awarded £500 from the Jubilee funding grant to help with celebrations.

The Breckland mobile food store is Launching in May. This is part of the 'Inspiring Communities' programme. Informed by data, the store will be stopping in Ashill, Saham Toney, Carbrooke and Shipdham (listed the stops nearest to Bradenham). This has been funded by Breckland Council and Norfolk Community Foundation and will be run by Kickstart. The food store will provide a way to shop for healthy food and staples at reduced prices. There will be staff on the bus to help support residents and signpost them to help with isolation, mental health, debt management etc.

Breckland council and consultancy firm Daniel Connal partnership have been awarded The Norfolk Constructing Excellence Award for Sustainability of the new temporary accommodation unit at Elm House, Thetford.

700 trees have been planted throughout the district to celebrate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee.

Refurbishment plans have been announced for the Queen Mother's garden in Dereham.

As part of the Future Breckland project, plans have been drafted for both Watton and Swaffham. Thriving people and places is a project to revitalise Breckland's 5 market towns.

Plans have been agreed and adopted for Swaffham's High Street Heritage Action Zone. Historic England is working in partnership with Breckland Council.

The grant window is now open for match funding up to £5,000. Any project must align with Breckland Councils Inspiring Communities outcomes which are:

- Lead the recovery from Covid19
- Address vulnerability and work with the most disadvantaged members of our community to improve life outcomes.
- To enhance the health and wellbeing of Breckland's residents....providing excellent leisure facilities and activities.

**Tim Birt** - Hurrah, the trod is (nearly) done! I'm just going to pick out a few items from the many I could discuss, but I'm happy to discuss anything (that I'm allowed to talk about!)

**Nutrient Neutrality** is a new planning concern and likely to have a significant effect on that 5-year land supply. Natural England have put limits on development due to Nitrogen/Phosphorus pollution in protected water courses. As far as I can tell Bradenham is not directly affected, but what it does mean is there could be significantly less development in areas directly feeding the River Wensum, but that means other areas will see increased development pressure. We don't know how this will pan out yet.

**Local Plan Review** is underway albeit years late. Opposition members have been highly critical of the delay and the lack of transparency. There used to be a Local Plan Working Group, comprising of only Conservative members. Now it appears as if there are to be all-member briefings, BUT in secret with no published minutes! There has only been one briefing 19-Jan, nothing further.

**Barnham Broom Golf Club** Some may remember that I have long complained about how I am barred from discussing this because absolutely everything has been declared as commerciality confidential. There was supposed to be a completion deadline of 30 April, but that passed without any further information disclosure. I don't feel this is right and we should be able to discuss the basics and what to do with the "asset" in the future, to that end I made a complaint to the ICO. After a YEAR it has reached the top of the pile at the ICO and I have been told by the civil servant investigating that he has written to Breckland Council asking for a review of their position – don't hold your breath, this appears still to have some way to go.

**Climate Emergency** is making very slow progress and there is still a miss-understanding between (admirable) environmental projects and reducing carbon, with much of the initial funding going on environmental projects.

There are things which Breckland are doing well, we have a good fly-tip clear-up rate and there have been some high profile prosecutions which should act as a deterrent. Breckland have just launched their food-bus, to help provide substantially reduced price supplies to those residents least well off. Bradenham is not one of the selected villages for the initial roll-out, but I'm happy to support any requests for it to be included. I was at a meeting a couple of weeks ago discussing some of the details of this project and I was promised some metrics so we can judge the effectiveness and reach of the project.

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Council Tax £103.68, cheapest DISTRICT part of council tax, but not everywhere has a district council, what matters to most people is the total bill and we are not the cheapest in Norfolk, that accolade goes to Gt Yarmouth.

**No Other Business**

**Meeting Ended: 8.15pm**

## **Minutes of Bradenham Parish Council Meeting held on Tuesday 10th May 2022 in the Village Hall.**

Mr C Allhusen, Mr J Reading, Mr S Welton, Mrs L Baxter, Mr P Jarvis, Ms T Frost and Ms K Findlay together with the Clerk Mrs D Ruppert Helen Crane and Tim Birt (District Councillors) with 7 residents.

**APOLOGIES** – Ed Connolly (County Councillor)

The minutes of the last meeting were signed by the Chairman as a true record.

### **DECLARATION OF INTEREST**

Members are asked to declare any interest in any of the following items on the agenda. Dispensation is granted to all Parish Councillors in order to discuss the Precept and other financial matters. - Chris Allhusen declared interest in the permissive paths.

### **PUBLIC SESSION**

A resident asked if anything could be done about the pavement on School Road past the Old School. The land belongs to Mr & Mrs Tufts and the area is open, so debris constantly works its way to the pavement. Also ask the Rangers to look into clearing the area. The Clerk will write to Mrs Tufts.

The chicken sheds near Bridcage are very dilapidated. Mr Allhusen said they will be looked at but there are no plans to remove at present.

Beech Hedge on Mill Street near the Chapel is growing over the highway. The Clerk will write to the owner.

### **MATTERS ARISING**

**Village Green Bylaws** - This is now progressing but very slowly

**Clayland Homes Road Widening/Footpath** - This has now been completed, but the two homes further down have yet to be done. No date on when that will be. The maintenance should be Highways responsibility. Helen Crane will look into this.

**Defibrillator** – One is being installed at the football ground. The PC agreed to part fund this.

**Speed Bin Signs** - £246.75 worth have been sold. Hopefully more residents will purchase them. The advert in the Mardle will continue.

**Bench, Bin and Picnic Table** – Have now been delivered, these will be installed by Karl Hagen before the Fete. If Karl Hagen purchases anything from Tufts, please ask them to invoice us direct so the VAT can be claimed.

**Permissive Paths** – The yearly fee has been paid and no alterations were made to the contract.

**Damaged Bin at Cricket Club** – The bin is not the property of Breckland. The Clerk has taped up the hole. Breckland are still happy to empty. The PC have agreed to replace it and the Clerk will order this.

### **CORRESPONDENCE**

**Audit** – Sign section 1 before section 2

The Clerk prepared the audit and this was signed by the Chairman with the approval of the Parish Council. Section one was agreed and signed before section 2 of the Audit form. The Clerk advised the PC that it is possible to ask for a certificate of exemption because we can confirm that we neither received gross income nor incurred gross expenditure, exceeding £25,000 in the year. This would mean the audit would still need to be completed but we will not need to send it to the auditors and this will save us £200. The PC agreed that the Clerk should ask for the exemption.

The internal audit was very kindly carried out by Serena Barnes (Bradenham Hall Farm Secretary). The PC thanked Serena.

**TTRS** – Wil advised the Clerk that he had helped the Cricket Club by cutting their section foc, but feels he can no longer do this. PC felt that they should pay TTRS and understood Wil's position.

**Standing Orders, Code of Conduct etc** – This will be looked at and changes will be made and these will be re-signed at the next meeting. We should also look at other safe guard we may need.

**Horti Club** – Asked if flower tubs can be placed outside the Village Hall. It was agreed to having three along the front.

**St Mary's** – Tree fallen in Church yard. Wil can do this in the Autumn. Paul and Steve happy to remove.

NALC – Invoice for £166 received-3% rise. The PC decide not to renew.

## PLANNING

**APPLICATION :-** The Extension of A Mansard Roofed Steel Framed Barn To Provide Additional Storage - Manor Farm Bradenham Road by R W Hall Farms – **NO OBJECTION**

Replacement windows and doors to Pavilion - Pavilion Church Street by Bradenham Cricket Club – **NO OBJECTION**

Variation of condition No2 on 3PL/2021/0893/F - Amended plans - Barns at Top Farm, New Lane by S E Salmon Ltd – **NO OBJECTION**

Conversion of existing barn and outbuildings into three dwellings – Green Farm (49 Church Street) Church Street by GCF Hillier and Sons – **NO OBJECTION**

**APPROVAL :-** Replacement windows and doors to Pavilion - Pavilion Church Street by Bradenham Cricket Club – **NO OBJECTION**

## FINANCE:-

**Opening Balance £10152.54                      Nationwide - £0.47                      Lloyd - £10152.54**

**Nationwide Account - £4425.99**

**Expenditure**

**Income**

Interest

0.47

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£ 0.00

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£ 0.47

**Balance    £ 0.47**

**Lloyds Account £10152.54**

**Expenditure**

Zurich Ins + Inspection	1246.49
Glasdon – Bin	410.67
Village Hall – Rent	60.00
Footpath Agreement	441.60
Clerk's Wages	173.90
Tax	38.60
Julian Reading–Plaque for Trees	120.00

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£2491.26

**Income**

Speed Sign	10.00
PCC – Grass Cutting	887.97
Precept	4000.00

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£4897.97

**Balance    £ 12559.72**

## ANY OTHER BUSINESS

**L.Baxter** – Reported dog barking all day in one of the home on Church Street, it was recommended that they should phone Breckland Noise Complaints – details in Mardle

**NEXT MEETING Tuesday 9<sup>h</sup> Aug 2022, Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> Nov 2022 & Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> Feb 2023**

**MEETING ENDED: 8.45pm**