

BRADENHAM PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes of Bradenham Parish Meeting on
Monday 19th August 2019 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall.

Mr C Allhusen, Mr J Reading, Mr S Welton, Mrs Les Baxter and Teresa Frost together with the Clerk Mrs D Ruppert, Helen Crane and Tim Birt (District Councillors) with 8 residents.

APOLOGIES – Ms M Brigstock – Away working. Edward 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.

Helen Crane – District Councillor

A new planning panel has been introduced to decide on whether an application goes to full planning committee or to delegation by planning officers. In the past decisions on delegation have been oversseen by the chairman of the planning committee alongside senior planning officers. The panel will consist of the chairman and two members of the planning committee. In my mind this is a good thing. The panel will consist of planning committee members from all groups on a rota basis with no political bias. I must emphasise that this is NOT a decision making panel of whether an application is passed or refused, it is a panel that votes on whether an application goes to delegation or planning committee. The votes are taken from the three members of the panel and not the planning officers. You may have knowledge that the local plan has still not been authorised...it should have been by now. The planning inspector who is autonomous has not completed and therefore it has been put back yet again. This is frustrating for everyone because as you know we do not have a 5 year housing supply. The last figure for the 5 year housing supply was in July 2018 when it stood at 4.77 years. With the new plan in place it will be much harder for applications to be passed based on the lack of the 5 year housing land supply.

Tim Birt – District Councillor

I think it would be fair to say that the opposition groups (Independent, Labour and Greens), while still finding their feet, are offering a more robust challenge to the status quo than the previous Council.

I have challenged the "exclusion of press and public" at a couple of meetings. It should be noted that any challenge has to come from a Councillor. I have followed this up with the Breckland solicitor, who agreed my challenge was valid, although he felt there may have been 'public interest' reasons for exclusion.

The long delayed 5-year land supply "annual" report is delayed for the reasons everyone suspected. It is unlikely we will be able to hold a 5-year land supply and if we do there will be negligible buffer. This is not entirely Breckland's fault as we are in the hands of developers who, for entirely rational reasons, will not over saturate the market as this will drive prices down which is against their commercial interest.

There appears to be a dawning realisation that we will need to take an alternative approach, although the planning department (Capita) are convinced that once the local plan is in place it will solve the issues, although this is now delayed again until the end of the year, I feel it will not be adopted until 2020, if at all!

The chairman asked further about the housing requirement figure. It is my understanding, having attended many of the enquire hearing sessions, that the OAN (objectively assessed need), requires consultation with neighbouring councils, but this has been taken to be a Norwich centric assessment, what is somewhat disturbing is that there is little westward consultation whereas we will be providing housing for Norwich, which has environmental transport ramifications.

Public Session

Helen Crane spoke to Chris Tilley and he is committed to putting in the trod footpath, no date for carrying out the work has been confirmed yet. At the Planning Committee meeting on the 8th April, Jon Berry advised Chris Allhusen that a tarmac surface with concrete kerb footpath would not be possible and if a refusal of the planning variation went to appeal, we would get no footpath at all. Highways are concerned but we feel this is the best option. The residents present at the meeting expressed their views that a trod surface footpath would be far safer than what they have at present.

Chris Allhusen will write to John Hanner and also speak to Ed Connolly the County Councillor.

The Parish Councillors have received a few complaints regarding parked vehicles on Church Street, making it difficult to see around the parked vehicles. Large vehicles are having to climb the pavement on

the opposite side of the road to get past. Steve Welton will contact Breckland regarding parking,
1) Breckland has delegated responsibility to the Norfolk Parking Partnership who can be contacted on 01553 616222,
2) Dangerous parking can be reported to Norfolk Police on 101.
Steve ended up being told by the Police, Breckland and Norfolk Parking Partnership that this matter was not their responsibility. Tim Birt said that he would look into this matter for the PC.
Chicane and 20mph signs have been mentioned but the PC cannot see Breckland or Highways paying for either.

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Speed watch and the signs are working and residents have noticed that vehicles are slowing down. An early morning session 6-7am recorded 55 vehicles passing Church Street with 8 vehicles recorded as excess speeding. Chris Allhusen thanked Trevor, Steve and the team for all their work.

Causal Vacancy for Parish Councillor – We had two applicants but only one came to the meeting. Kim Findlay was asked to give a short speech about herself and why she wanted to become a Parish Councillor. The PC agreed that the position would be offered to Kim and was accepted. The clerk will send Kim the paperwork that needs completing.

MATTERS ARISING

Clayland Footpath – See Public Session

Village Green Bylaws - These have been sent to all the PC for their comments. A few adjustments will be made and then it will be printed in the Mardle, on the notice board, website and community hub.

Highways – The Rangers always contact the Clerk a month before coming to the village. Would the clerk always ask them to clear the ditch at the top end of Mill Street?

Village advertising sign on Green – Helen Parnell-Cook ask if they could just put temporary post up until the permanent ones are installed. The PC agree that would be okay.

Traffic on Church Street/Hale Road – See Public Session

CORRESPONDENCE

Cricket Pavilion Roof – The inside work has been completed. The roof needs replacing and asbestos has been found. Fund raising for the replacement has gone well. They have approached Chris Allhusen asking if the Parish Council would fund the remaining £560 required. The PC agreed to donate the amount.

Driving on the Green – Someone had driven on to the Green and the tyre marks have damaged the grass in several places. This is not the first time this has happened. The drivers have also left food packaging etc at the football ground. The Clerk was asked to put something in the Mardle to find out if anyone knows the drivers.

Dog Mess on Green – This has also been reported on the green. If caught not picking up your dog mess is against the law and you can be fined. Chris Allhusen will look into this.

Playground Inspection Report – The yearly inspection was received. Four defects were reported. No defect reported will affect continued safe usage.

Vattenfall – This is still ongoing.

Items for Discussion

Bank Account – We only now have two members that can sign cheques (Chris Allhusen and Martine Brigstock).

Paul Jarvis will be removed from the account. It was agreed by the PC that Julian Reading and Teresa Frost would be put onto the account. The clerk will arrange all the paperwork.

PLANNING

APPLICATION:- **None**

APPROVAL:- Proposed extension to form Carport-36 Mill Street By Mr & Mrs Hornsey- **NO OBJECTION**

REFUSED;- Land opposite Westbrook Barn, West End- One self build dwelling by Mr Hindrey and Ms Raven

OBJECTION

FINANCE:-

Opening Balance £ 8749.00

Income

Interest 2.26

£ 2.26

Expenditure

Clerk Wages 182.80

TTSR- Grass 1072.62

TAX 4.40

Uncontested Election 75.00

£1334.82

Balance £ 7416.44

OTHER BUSINESS: None

Next Meetings: Changed from previous minutes Tuesday 26th November & 4th February 2020

MEETING ENDED: 9.07pm