

Minutes of Bradenham Parish Meeting on Tuesday 11th February 2020 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall

Mr C Allhusen, Mr J Reading, Mr S Welton, Ms M Brigstock, Mrs L Baxter, Ms K Findlay and Ms T Frost together with the Clerk Mrs D Ruppert, Helen Crane (District Council) and Edward Connolly – County Councillor with 13 residents.

APOLOGIES -- Tim Birt (District Councillors)

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

DECLARATION OF INTEREST

Members are asked to declare an 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.

PUBLIC SESSION

Jackie Cushing – Community Action Norfolk

The Good Neighbour Scheme – offering help for residents of Breckland. Would Bradenham be interested in this scheme? This will be run by local people and aims to help those people most in need through practical help with things such as lifts to appointments, shopping, simple DIY, dog walking or just having a cuppa and a chat. If you could spare even just 30 minutes a week to help a neighbour and help combat social isolation and loneliness. Details will be going into the Village Magazine The Mardle and I will be leafleting each home soon.

The PC felt this was something that would suit the village and could be further discussed at the meeting in May and by then we will also know if Jackie has any volunteers.

Ed Connolly – County Councillor

Review of the boundaries has been extended. Charges across Norfolk but Bradenham should not be affected by this. I would like to thank Trevor Nelson and his Speed Watch team, I spent a very cold day in January with them. I receive a member's allowance which I can offer to Parishes, Bradenham could receive up to £2400 towards speed awareness products.

The PC thanked Ed for arranging to have the gullies and grips cleared.

Helen Crane – District Councillor

Last Monday at Cabinet the draft budget was debated for the coming year. This budget which avoids service cuts will see a small rise in council tax. The Council will invest in a number of projects in the future which will lead to new housing and employment opportunities. The council is facing considerable financial pressure due to national reviews and how all local councils are funded, meaning that there is uncertainty around how much money the district council will receive from business rates and central government grants going forward. Council tax is kept low because of Breckland Council's diverse property portfolio for which it has won a national award for its commercial approach. Savings can and will be made through digitalising services, cutting processing costs and procuring less expensive providers for services whilst still maintaining the standard of that service.

There are recommendations from Cabinet for the following spend from the inclusive growth fund: £60k to fund Automatic Number plate recognition technology within Breckland (To help stop County lines exploitation). £100k to match fund the High St Heritage project in Swaffham. 1.04million is allocated for a 3-year programme of projects and initiative that will help tackle vulnerability in Breckland.- (Domestic abuse & violence, Social isolation, developing poor mental health). £75k to develop a place brand for greater Thetford. £250k Market Towns initiative (50k ring fenced for each of the 5 market Towns) there will be a specific project for each town.

In January I was trained as a mental health first aider, funded by Breckland Council and delivered by YANA. This is part of the vulnerability programme I mentioned. 16 people took part from business and community and it is Brecklands endeavour to run more courses.

There will no longer be free pre-planning advice. From 1st April pre-planning advice will be charged. The reason is that it takes a lot of paid officer time. Most local authorities charge for this service which brings in revenue for the authority. The charges will be outlined within the list of fees for planning.

MATTERS ARISING

Highways – The PC thanked Trevor Nelson and his Speed Watch team for all their hard work.

The footpath has now been agreed, it will not go over the Lord Nelson front. Questions were raised regarding the vehicles that park in that area at present. The PC advised that those vehicles would have find other places to park.

John Cotton at Highways emailed stating that the possibility to widen the road and provide a footway firstly not possible due to the available highway. To be able to construct a footway within the highway would mean narrowing the current carriageway width and too expensive. Two small sections of ditch have been excavated, on Mill Street & Hale Road and the system was cleaned. However, the maintenance of the ditch remains with the land owner.

Physical traffic calming measure would only be considered where there are high numbers of vulnerable pedestrians or a history of personal injury incidents recorded by the Police. Chicanes are no longer considered as a solution within Norfolk. Village Gateways – we do not install these, if parishes want them they should make a bid for them under the Parish Partnership Scheme. The next deadline for this is Dec 2020. Typically, a pair of gates at one location will cost approx of £2,400 you need to fund 50%. There are several styles and widths to suit most locations, the verge width must be 1.2 metres. The gateways can include signage or could be erected in front of existing signs.

The painted white 30mph Road marking is called a 'roundel', we would only install them where there was clear evidence of regular speeding. Parish would fund as part of a bid, the cost would be approx £250 per marking. Please note they can only be used at the start of the 30mph village speed limit.

I would be in agreement to erect two warning signs but this work will have to wait until the new financial year as my budget for this type of work is already over spent. Once erected we could reinforce them by painting 'SLOW' markings next to each sign.

Mr & Mrs Wells advised that the pavement on School Road was very slippery due to algae, moss and debris covering most of it. The Clerk will speak to Highways.

Village Green Bylaws – Residents have made no further comments so these will now be finalised.

Village Archivist – Mr Alan Green was happy to take on the archivist position, the PC thanked him. It was decided that with permission from the Village Hall committee, space could be made upstairs in the hall, Lockable cupboards could be installed. A quote had been obtained from Kevin Sadd for £2962.75. Teresa will speak to Michael Tufts to see if Tufts Builders would make a donation towards the cost of supplies.

Cricket Club – The PC had asked if something reflective could be installed to help residents to see the roped off area on the green in the dark. This was done but has not worked. The Clerk will email them.

PC Bank Account – No news from Nationwide regarding the closure. Unity Trust is recommended. Clerk still awaiting information.

CORRESPONDENCE

Zurich Insurance Renewal – Total cost £1236.09, this includes VAT and the playarea inspection.

Items for Discussion

Bradenham Footpaths – Teresa reported that non Bradenham residents are parking at the Football club entrance and walking their dogs without leads and then either leaving dog poo on the path or hanging the plastic poo bags in the trees!! There has been a rather abusive sign added by a local who's fed up with the mess and I myself was verbally abused by a car traveling dog walker when I politely suggested he keep his dog on a leash as it had been dancing around me for 5mins whilst the owner attempted to catch it. I believe locals are starting to feel frustrated. The Clerk will organise a sign for the bin to say dog poo can be left there and then we will discuss this again at the next meeting. We could ban parking but that would be unfair on our residents.

PLANNING

APPLICATION:- Demolition of triple garage and erection of double garage and covered way by Mr & Mrs Brown 1 Church Street – **NO OBJECTION**

Extension to rear and side of detached house by Mrs Giblin 46 Hale Rd
Comments were made re the size by the PC

APPROVAL:- Proposed conversion & extension of redundant barn to dwelling by Mr & Mrs Salmon Twizel Barn Top Farm New Lane - **OBJECTION**

Demolition of triple garage and erection of double garage and covered way by Mr & Mrs Brown 1 Church Street- **NO OBJECTION**

Extension to rear and side of detached house by Mrs Giblin 46 Hale Rd
Comments were made re the size by the PC

APPEAL DECISION:- Land Opposite Westbrook Barn, West End, Bradenham IP25 7QZ
The appeal is allowed and planning permission is granted for the erection of 1 no. self build dwelling by Mr Hindry and Ms Raven - **OBJECTION**

FINANCE:-

Opening Balance **£10453.47**

Income

Eastern Power	246.90
Cricket Club -Fee	350.00
Interest	2.83

£ 599.73

Expenditure

Zurich Insurance	1236.09
Clerk Wages	182.60
Paye Tax	4.60

£ 1423.29

Balance £ 9629.91

ANY OTHER BUSINESS None

NEXT MEETING AGM, Open and PC Meeting 19th May 2020 7.30pm

Meeting Ended: 8.45pm