

MINUTES OF THE BROMPTON REGIS PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD AT BROMPTON REGIS VILLAGE HALL ON WEDNESDAY 2nd NOVEMBER 2016

1058 PRESENT

Miss S. Newton (Chairman), Mr. I. Abel, Mr. S Coates, Mr, K Turner and Mrs. S. Buchanan (Clerk).

Attendance, part meeting: Alex Forster, Wimbleball Lakes.

1059 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Mr. P. Page, Mr. J. Andrews, Mrs. T. Jones, Cllr F. Nicholson and Mrs. J. Scott.

1060 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None.

1061 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING HELD ON 5th OCTOBER 2016

Having been previously circulated, these were agreed and signed as a correct record.

1062 MATTERS ARISING

1062.1 Highways matters: Councillors welcomed actions that have addressed some issues and raised concern that many other matters had been ongoing for some months and highlighted:

The Clerk summarised the Highways Authority responses to the Councils concerns as follows:

- water run off at Bury has been raised with the landowner
- the ditch at Ruggs Hill will be raised with Wimbleball Lakes
- clearing of gully tops between Woolcotts and Bessom Bridge
- completion of works at Cuckolds Coombe.

Councillors noted concern that clearance of gully tops would be insufficient to address blockages in the gullies and that the work at Cuckolds Coombe had not been sufficient or addressed tarmac problems.

The Chairman **AGREED** to visit the sites before further correspondence with the Authority.

1062.2 Capping consultation: A response objecting to the proposals for local referenda had been submitted.

1062.3 GIS Mapping systems: information is on the village noticeboard.

1062.4 Objection to planning appeal reference APP/F9498/W/16/3156805 (planning application number 6/33/16/110: an objection had been submitted.

1062.5 BT Payphone kiosk consultation: an objection to removal of the service at the Pound had been submitted along with an expression of interest in purchasing the kiosk if it is made redundant. Support had not been found for retention of the service or the kiosk at Bury. Councillors reiterated concern expressed at the previous meeting that the BT payphone service be retained in the area because of the very poor mobile and wifi reception and the potential for resident and visitors to need urgent or emergency communications.

1062.6 Projector: The future use of this item was discussed and it was **AGREED** that it be donated to the village hall for the use of people using the hall.

1062.7 Parish lengthsman: Following discussion of this scheme at the previous meeting the Parish has been advised that future charges for the scheme will include an administration fee. The service and the needs of the parish were discussed and it was **AGREED** that the Parish would not use the service in 2017-18 and would make alternative arrangements for work to be done if necessary.

Mr. Alex Forster joined the meeting as an observer at 7.45pm.

1063 UPDATES FROM DISTRICT AND COUNTY COUNCILLORS

Cllr. Turner advised the meeting that West Somerset District Council and Taunton Deane Borough Council had voted to merge, with the assumption that both are dissolved and a new council formed in 2019. He reported that a judicial review of the process leading to the votes is underway.

Cllr. Turner advised the meeting that while proposals to cap precepts at present affect large councils it would seem likely that smaller councils could be affected in future.

Cllr. Turner reported that the financial difficulties facing West Somerset District Council have further reduced rebates on Council Tax to a maximum of 80%.

Parish Councillors asked Cllr Turner for information regarding the potential closure of beds at Williton Hospital. He advised that the value of care at home services was clear where services have been set up and that there is local concern where services have not been developed and in particular in areas of scattered population.

1064 PARISH DEFIBRILLATOR

The Chairman thanked Cllr. Turner for bringing this matter to the meeting and to the attention of Parish Councils in the Brendon Hills area, highlighting the value of local defibrillators. She summarised previous discussion in the Council's meetings, highlighted the Young Farmers Club's interest in supporting local provision, information collected from Parish Councils outside the immediate area and that an appropriate location had been identified for a defibrillator under the village hall porch.

Cllr. Turner summarised the presentation by South West Ambulance Trust to the Brendon Hills group of Parish Councils and updated the meeting on discussions in other Parish Councils about joining together to create a shared scheme of training with individual defibrillators in each parish. The costs of this scheme were presented

as: £1000 for a four year repair and upgrade lease on a defibrillator and cabinet plus £800 for training for any number of people to use the defibrillator and support people who needed its use.

The Chairman noted that information collected from parishes outside the local area showed purchase costs for a defibrillator, with full warranty, were in the region of £2,000.

Councillors asked for further information about the nature and purpose of the training offered for £800 and heard that it is largely basic first aid and intended to enable immediate action while the defibrillator is collected and confident use of that equipment. It was noted that the equipment functions with an inbuilt computer programme which instructs the user on actions to take. It was felt that such training would be of value with or without a defibrillator.

The Chairman asked and Mr Forster replied that Wimbleball Lakes does not have a defibrillator at the sailing or other buildings.

Councillors all recognised the value of a local defibrillator and **AGREED** to look further into acquisition, with a view to outright purchase, in the current financial year.

1065 Visitor's contribution: Wimbleball Lake

The Chairman welcomed Mr Alex Forster to the meeting and invited him to contribute.

Mr Forster thanked the Council for their support for the planning application to improve the Wimbleball campsite and was attending the meeting to discuss the Council's expressed concern about the dangers of creeping development around Wimbleball. He shared with the meeting outline and early plans for enhancement of facilities at the Lake, including improvement of the play area, provision of camping pods at the camp site, a cycle path around the lake and a star gazing facility.

Councillors voiced concern about the viability of a cycle path around the Lake. Difficulties of access in certain parts were noted. The importance of retaining the qualities of the area as a place for quiet enjoyment were emphasised.

The Chairman thanked Mr Forster for attending the meeting, sharing early plans and welcomed the opportunity for the Parish Council to work with Wimbleball Lake in the interests of the local area.

Mr Forster left the meeting at 815pm

1066 CORRESPONDENCE

The Chairman of the Village Hall Committee had advised all groups using the hall that Mr and Mrs Budd were leaving the village in the near future and that local groups were invited to share in a gift of thanks for Mr and Mrs Budd's significant contributions to the life of the parish. A presentation would be made on 25th November. It was **AGREED** that the Parish Council contribute to the gift.

1067 PLANNING

The Chairman noted that the Vice Chairman had attended the site meeting for the applications at Higher Woolcotts (6/3/16/112 and 113) and that she had attend the National Park Authority meeting which had considered the applications.

The Chairman advised the meeting that a decision on Coombeshead is expected soon.

1068 FINANCE

1068.1 The Clerk reported the completion of audit and that requisite notices had been posted on the village website and notice board.

1068.2 Budget 2016-17 and projection 2017-18

The Clerk handed out copies of two documents. Councillors noted the current year's planned expenditure. In considering the reserve it was noted that purchase in year of a defibrillator would be feasible and a very good use of the reserves.

The projection for 2017-18 was discussed and will be finalised at the next meeting, when the precept is decided.

ACTION: clerk to next agenda

1068.3 Village hall meeting room charges: it was **AGREED** that the invoice for £25 be paid.

1069 ANY OTHER MATTERS

1069.1 Anti social behaviour in social housing: The Chairman reported concerns that had been raised with her and the meeting discussed the challenges of joining the Homefinder list for people who want to live in the local area.

1069.2 Clerk's contract for services: The Chairman reported that a contract with the new Clerk for services will be issued rather than an employment contract. It was **AGREED** that this approach was appropriate for the Parish and the Clerk.

1070 DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

Wednesday 2nd December 2016 at 7.30.pm at Brompton Regis Village Hall.

The meeting closed at 8.40. pm.

Signed:.....Chairman, Brompton Regis Parish Council

Date:.....