

+MINUTES OF THE BROMPTON REGIS PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD AT BROMPTON REGIS VILLAGE HALL ON WEDNESDAY 5th October 2016

1056 PRESENT

Mr P. Page (vice chair), Mrs F. Nicholson, Mr. K. Turner, Mrs. J. Scott, Mrs. T. Jones, Mr. I. Abel, Mr. J. Andrews and Mrs. S. Buchanan (Clerk).

1057 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Miss S. Newton, Mr. S. Coates.

In the absence of the chairman, PP as vice chair, chaired the meeting.

1048 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Mr. Page is a trustee of the village green and declared an interest in agenda item 1055.1.

1059 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING, HELD ON 3RD AUGUST 2016

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

1060 MATTERS ARISING

1060.1 Highways matters

The Clerk reported correspondence with the Highways Authority regarding ongoing concerns at Cuckolds Coombe, Ruggs Hill and Woolcotts to Bessom Bridge. It was **AGREED** that further follow up is required. FN requested, and the Clerk **AGREED**, that highways correspondence be copied to her.

The Clerk reported that the Chairman has written to Mr Mawby re the hedge encroaching on the road at his property. SA reported no action on hedges near the village hall.

1060.2 PP reported that clearing around the salt bins would be part of the Parish Lengthsman work next month.

1060.3 Digital Projector

The Clerk reported that the projector is with Mr P. Stringer and that the Chairman is discussing with the Village Hall if the projector may be stored in the Hall.

PP suggested that mounting the projector on the ceiling could provide a secure facility available to all users of the hall.

1060.4 Snooker table

The Clerk reported that the Parish Council's ownership of the table has been confirmed and that its public liability insurance covers the table. The Chairman has been assured by the Men's Club that the table is in good repair.

1060.5 Historic signposts project

It was **AGREED** to further support the YFC to work on signposts in the parish and to consider a contribution to the wider project. FN reported that the project had applied for Lottery funding and noted the support given by BRPC to work to date. KT advised the meeting that the project will be discussed at the Brendon Hills Parishes' meeting to be held on 10th October 2016.

1061 HIGHWAYS MATTERS

TJ reported the ongoing problem of water runoff from a log pile at Bury Cross onto the road, bringing mud and debris onto the new tarmac and creating potential danger for road users. FN suggested that action to address the issue might be funded from flood management resources for work agreed between landowners and the Highways Authority.

It was **AGREED** that the Highways Authority be asked to look into this matter and that use of flood management funds be suggested. FN asked, and the Clerk **AGREED**, that she be copied into correspondence with the Authority on this and other Highways matters.

1052 UPDATES FROM DISTRICT AND COUNTY COUNCILLORS

Cllr. Nicholson advised the meeting that public funding is likely to be very limited.

She reported that a national assessment of social mobility which identified poor prospects for children in West Somerset has attracted attention in national media and the Department for Education and suggested that such interest could be helpful to the area.

Cllr. Nicholson advised the meeting that a site visit (14th October at 10 am) to planning application numbers 63/16/112 and 6/3/16/113 would assess the potential impact of landscaping. She reported that the Planning Inspector has visited Combeshead and a decision is awaited.

Cllr. Turner invited members to the next meeting of the Brendon Hills Parishes to be held on 10th October at 730 pm at Raleigh's Cross Inn. The agenda will include updates on the Capping consultation, the historic signposts project and the merger between WSDC and TDBC.

He outlined his concern that in the new LA which will cover the present day WSDC and TDBC areas there will be a smaller total number of councillors and this will mean larger numbers of people in constituencies. The timetable for action is that the new council will be formed in 2019.

Other matters in his constituency of interest to BRPC were raised including: the Local Plan for the area outside the National Park, the development at Hinckley Point and the funds to be made available for projects in areas affected by that.

1053 CORRESPONDENCE

1053.1 SCC Chairman's award

The Clerk reported that Keith Routledge had written to thank the council for their support in this matter.

1053.2 Capping consultation

Cllr. Turner advised the meeting that the proposals were unlikely to affect small councils but that the intent of capping might be expected to be introduced across all councils in future together with delegation of more responsibilities to parish and town councils.

The Clerk reported that the Chairman has suggested that the Council respond to the consultation and build on recent correspondence received from NALC and previously circulated to members. It was **AGREED** that the Clerk draft a response and confirm its contents with the Chairman before sending it.

1053.3 GIS Mapping systems

It was **AGREED** that information on this new facility be promoted on the Notice Board and, as space allows, in the Brendon Beacon with the Clerk to **ACTION** both points.

1053.3 Planning permissions copy certificates

Noted that these have been distributed to members.

1053.4 Williton Hospital: stroke beds

The Clerk reported that the League of Friends of Williton Hospital has contacted the Council to seek support for its opposition to the closure of stroke beds at the hospital and that the Chairman had responded saying that the rural nature the parish meant that such local facilities were of particular importance to patients who live alone or at some distance from family, friends and public services as well as to people supporting family or friends who are in hospital. The meeting confirmed this view, and noted concern at closures before or during the winter.

1053.5 Top Five Priorities correspondence

PP noted this item and asked if it might form the basis of discussion in a future meeting. FN advised members that the basis of the correspondence (Section 106 agreements) means that it is not relevant to parishes in the national park. It was **AGREED** no further action be taken.

1054 PLANNING

1054.1 Application number 6/3/16/101

The Clerk reported that a letter of support for a communications aerial at Frogwell Lane had been sent, in keeping with the Council's support for improved ITC in the area. In discussion FN advised members that Airband appears to have been careful to gain planning permissions before beginning work on aerials.

1054.2 Application number 6/3/16/114

It was **AGREED** that no comment be made.

1054.3 Application number 6/3/16/115

In discussion members noted the value of improved facilities for people using the camp site and expressed concern that redevelopment might constitute creeping

development of the reservoir area and reduce its value as a place for quiet relaxation. Members also noted concern at the effects of traffic flow on Hill Lane.

It was **AGREED** that while supporting this application Councillors' concern that the application should not lead to further development of the site and that the intention that the area be a place of quiet relaxation be recognised be reported to the Planning Authority.

1054.4 Planning application number 6/3/16/110 Appeal notification

Members noted that the Council had opposed the change of use of the building and consistently raised concerns at contraventions requiring enforcement. FN advised members that a material planning consideration is if it can be shown that a contravention was deliberate. She also drew attention to the difference between opposing the appeal and not supporting it. Members noted the availability for sale and to rent of various housing properties in the area for some time and that by living at the site the appellant had breached planning conditions and had not complied with an enforcement order.

It was **AGREED** that the Council oppose the Appeal.

It was further **AGREED** that, in the absence of the Chairman, the Clerk and PP draft a response to the appeal which sets out the Councils' opposition and concerns that if granted, the appeal may set a precedent.

1054.5 Planning application number 6/3/16/107

PP noted that members had received information about the approval of this application. FN noted that the approval had followed prior planning permission.

1055 FINANCE

1055.1 Village green insurance

The Clerk reminded members of the Council's prior support and a decision earlier this year to support this cost. FN noted that recreation areas and similar areas in other parishes might contact the Council or Village green for advice on insurance for such spaces.

It was **AGREED** that the Council contribute £182.89 to the Village Green to cover the cost of insurance.

1055.2 Bank account address change

The Clerk reported that the address for bank correspondence was to be changed to her address.

1055.3 Website costs

The Clerk reported receipt of an invoice for £45.22 costs. It was **AGREED** that in line with the agreement on supporting the parish website this be paid.

1056 ANY OTHER MATTERS

1056.1 BT consultation on removal of public payphones

The Clerk had circulated information on this consultation, which includes two kiosks in the parish (one at the Pound in Brompton Regis and the other at Bury). Members

AGREED that the Parish oppose removal of the service at the Pound on the grounds of very poor mobile reception in the area, the popularity of both areas among cyclists and walkers who may not know the area and that mobile phone reception is very poor, and the importance of communications for urgent matters and in emergencies.
POST MEETING NOTE: canvassing opinions re the Bury 'phone box identified no support for its continuation or for alternative uses.

TJ expressed concern at the poor upkeep of working kiosks. PP suggested, and it was **AGREED**, that if BT withdraw the payphone at the Pound the Council would consider taking on (purchasing) the kiosk for use as a community facility, such as those in other local parishes which house Book Swap stores.

1056.2 Outside lighting

PP reported that he has contacted relevant services regarding failed lights and sensors not working.

1056.3. Pub

The plan to re-open this in October was noted.

1056.4 Parish Lengthsman

PP asked members to identify tasks and priorities for this service and to bring these to future meetings. In discussion members considered how best to secure value for money in works to address local issues.

ACTION: future meeting agenda item.

1057 DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

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

The meeting closed at 8.40. pm.

Signed:.....Chair of Brompton Regis Parish Council

Date:.....