

MINUTES OF THE BROMPTON REGIS PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD AT BROMPTON REGIS VILLAGE HALL ON WEDNESDAY 7th SEPTEMBER 2016

1045 PRESENT

Miss S. Newton (Chair), Mrs. J. Scott, Mrs. T. Jones, Mr. I. Abel, Mrs. S. Buchanan (Clerk) and Mrs. M. Abel (Highways).

1046 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Mr. P. Page, Cllr F. Nicholson, Mr. J. Andrews, Mr. S. Coates.

1047 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Mrs. Jones declared an interest in planning applications related to Goosemoor Farm.

1048 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING HELD ON 3RD AUGUST 2016

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

1049 MATTERS ARISING

1049.1 Highways matters

The issues affecting Sanctuary Lane, Blagdon Lane, Cuckolds Coombe have been raised with the Highways Authority. The issue re Mr Steers' house has been resolved, i.e. the white lines have been repainted. In discussion it was **AGREED** that follow up emails asking for updates and timetables for action regarding Sanctuary Lane and Cuckolds Coombe be sent to the Highways Authority and a request made as to whether the tarmac cover at Cuckolds Coombe will be completed

Concern was expressed that hedges encroaching on roads within the Parish affecting traffic flow and could result in damage to vehicles. After discussion it was **AGREED** that owners of hedges opposite the Village Hall and above Pulham's Mills take action to reduce the incursion.

The importance of ensuring that parish Salt Bins were not damaged in hedge cutting was recognised and it was **AGREED** that Mr. Page be asked to ask the Parish Lengthsman to clear around the Salt Bins to ensure they were visible, and in particular those at Cophole and Redgate.

The Chairman reported on a meeting with South West Water regarding blocked runnels under the road at Bessom Bridge and their egress to Wimbleball Lake, and the similar problem opposite the Hide Car Park on the Causeway, which had concluded that this is a matter for the Highways Authority. It was **AGREED** that the Parish Council raise the matter with the Highways Authority as a matter of risk, particularly in icy weather.

1049.2 TPO Combeshead Hill

The Parish Council had supported this application and it is hoped that it will be approved.

1049.3 Discussions about working relations / merger between West Somerset and Taunton Deane Councils

The Chairman reported on a meeting convened by Cllr Turner to advise Parish Councils in his constituency of the discussions regarding this matter. The Chairman, Mr Page and Mrs Buchanan had attended. The Parish Council welcomed the opportunity provided by Cllr. Turner to update and inform parishes. Cllr. Turner had advised that West Somerset District Council cannot set a balanced budget for the financial year starting 2017 and that a merger with another Local Authority seems inevitable and that a merger with Taunton Dean Borough Council would seem to be the appropriate way forward. He shared concerns that a merger might result in poorer representation of parishes in the more rural areas of a merged local authority area.

1049.4 Digital Projector

The Chairman reported that, following discussion at the last meeting regarding this matter, scrutiny of the minutes of past Parish Council meetings showed that, in 2007, the Parish Council had bought a projector and on another occasion had bought a printer. It was **AGREED** that the Chairman look into where this equipment now is.

1050 UPDATES FROM DISTRICT AND COUNTY COUNCILLORS

In the absence of Cllrs.' Turner and Nicholson there were no updates.

1051 CORRESPONDENCE

1051.1 Exmoor Consultative and Parish Forum

At the meeting on 15th September 2016 the Parish Council will not be represented.

1051.2 Exmoor Area Panel

Discussion noted and questioned the value of multiple consultation meetings.

1051.3 Exmoor Local Access Forum

This statutory forum is seeking representatives and a notice to this effect has been placed on the Parish Notice Board.

1051.4 Planning Permissions

Copy certificates which had been circulated were noted.

It is understood that an Appeal will be made against the refusal of change of use at the studio building at Bessoms Bridge car park.

1051.5 NALC Housing Survey

Discussion noted the importance of locally available housing and the challenges that face communities wishing to own, build and manage housing. It was **AGREED** that on behalf of the Parish Council the Chairman would complete and return the survey form to NALC.

1052 PLANNING

1052.1 Planning application number 6/15/16/108: (Exton) Goosemoor Farm, telecommunications pole and ancillary equipment.

It was agreed that, in keeping with the Parish Council's commitment to good communications in the area, this application be supported

1052.2 Planning application number 6/15/16/109: (Exton) Goosemoor Farm, residential extension and change of use.

It was agreed that the Parish Council would not comment on this application.

1053 FINANCE

1053.1 The meeting noted the letter of thanks from the **Brompton Regis Village Hall Committee** and also that the Parish Council donation of £750 will contribute to costs of re-pointing.

1053.2 Scrutiny of past correspondence had identified that, in 2013, **the snooker table** which had been housed at the Village Hall for use by the Men’s Club, had been identified as a village asset with decisions on its future to be made by the Parish Council. It was therefore **AGREED** that this situation means that the Parish Council should assess the condition and safety of the table and find out if appropriate insurance cover is in place. The Chairman and Clerk will look into these matters.

1053.3 Discussion of the next stages of the **ENPA Historic Signposts Project** identified the importance of the historic signposts in the area and endorsed the Parish Council’s involvement in this initiative. The effects of the cleaning programme undertaken by the Young Farmers’ Club (YFC) and funded by the Parish Council were welcomed. Concern was expressed at the estimated costs of further work on the project but it was **AGREED** that the Parish Council would consider further contributions to the project as well as funding for the YFC to undertake further work within the Parish.

1054 ANY OTHER MATTERS

1054.1 Road repairs: actions at Bury have been welcomed and a complaint about an inefficient machine had been made and an apology received. Concern was raised that elsewhere in the Parish repairs had been of mixed quality with insufficient preparation and that signage which was not removed in a timely fashion could be misleading.

1055 DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

Wednesday 5th October 2016 at 7.30.pm at Brompton Regis Village Hall.

The meeting closed at 8.25. pm.

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

Date:.....