



## **GREAT BRICETT PARISH COUNCIL**

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held online via Zoom on **Tuesday, 9<sup>th</sup> March 2021** at 7pm.

### **Present:**

Councillors: S Burnett (Chairman)  
R Morley  
R Craddock  
D Payne  
J Walsh

In Attendance J Blackburn – Clerk  
County Cllr K Oakes  
District Cllr D Pratt

### **GB078/20/21 – PUBLIC FORUM**

There was one member of the public present, Mr C Payne, who stated that he was interested in the Red Lion item on the agenda as well as the Community Woodland.

### **GB079/20/21 – TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES OF ABSENCE**

None had been received.

### **GB080/20/21 – TO RECEIVE DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

None had been received.

### **GB081/20/21 – TO RECEIVE APPLICATIONS FOR DISPENSATION**

None had been received.

### **GB082/20/21 - TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE MEETINGS HELD ON TUESDAY, 12<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY 2021, MONDAY, 25<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY 2021 AND THURSDAY, 12<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY 2021**

**It was AGREED:** That the minutes of the meetings held on Tuesday, 12<sup>th</sup> January 2021, Monday, 25<sup>th</sup> January 2021 and Thursday, 12<sup>th</sup> February 2021 be approved as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

### **GB083/20/21 – TO RECEIVE THE POLICE REPORT**

The Police were not present at the meeting and a report had not been received.

### **GB084/20/21 – TO RECEIVE THE COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT – CLLR KAY OAKES**

Cllr Oakes' report had been circulated prior to the meeting and would be published on the village website.

Cllr Oakes reported that a new Rapid Testing Centre had been opened in the Community Centre at Needham Market. Members of the public could walk in, be seen and receive results within an hour.

Cllr Morley asked Cllr Oakes about the booking system at the Recycling Centres stating that if it was a car booking there seemed to be appointments available whereas if it was a van booking then it seemed to always be fully booked up. Also, whilst the newly introduced number plate recognition system was working well, there still seemed to be someone sat on the gate, which seemed unnecessary.

Cllr Oakes stated that she would look into the booking system and report back to the Parish Council.

#### **GB085/20/21 – TO RECEIVE THE DISTRICT COUNCILLOR’S REPORT – CLLR DANIEL PRATT**

Cllr Pratt’s report had been circulated prior to the meeting and would be published on the village website.

Cllr Pratt informed members that the garden waste collection had been resumed.

Cllr Craddock asked Cllr Pratt about what older residents should do with glass bottles if they did not drive to which Cllr Pratt replied that he would look into ways to overcome that, such as bottle banks. He informed members that the Government was looking into ways for members of the public to deposit such items as glass at supermarkets.

#### **GB086/20/21 – TO RECEIVE THE CLERK’S REPORT AND FINANCIAL MATTERS**

##### **a) CLERK’S REPORT**

The Clerk reported that ‘apologies’ at meetings had been raised to which the Clerk explained that if a Cllr was not able to attend a meeting then apologies needed to be given and a reason as to why the Cllr in question could not attend. If a Cllr did not send apologies prior to the meeting then it could not be recorded in the Minutes as the Minutes were a ‘record at the time’ and should only include what had been received prior to the meeting.

She acknowledged that the 6 month non-attendance rule applied and absences from meetings would be monitored.

##### **b) FINANCE REPORT**

The Clerk reported on the Council’s current financial position and movements since the last meeting. It was reported that the balance in the accounts on 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2021 was £16,147.31.

##### **c) TO AUTHORISE PAYMENTS AND NOTE RECEIPTS**

The Clerk reported the following payments be authorised:-

Jennie Blackburn	Clerk’s Pay (Mar)	£330.18
Jennie Blackburn	Office Allowance/Exp (Mar)	£42.42
Timbers Flooring Services	Restore Village Hall Floor	£850.00
R Morley	Padlocks reimbursement	£6.99
Jennie Blackburn	Clerk’s Pay (Apr)	£330.18
Jennie Blackburn	Office Allowance/Exp (Apr)	£20.00

**It was AGREED:** That payments totaling £1,579.77 be authorised and actioned by the Clerk.

It was also noted that the following income had been received:

MSDC	Locality Funding (Hall Floor)	£800.00
SCC	Locality Funding (Grit bin)	£99.45

##### **d) BANK RECONCILIATION**

**It was AGREED:** That the Bank Reconciliation be approved.

##### **e) INTERNAL AUDITOR 2020/21**

**It was AGREED:** That Trevor Brown CPFA (Local Council Financial Services & Internal Audit) be appointed as auditor for the purposes of the 2020/21 audit.

f) **EXTERNAL AUDIT ARRANGEMENTS 2020/21**

**It was AGREED:** That the same arrangements applied for external audit arrangements as last year, that the Parish Council did not need an external audit and therefore be classed as exempt.

**GB087/20/21 – POLICIES AND PROCEDURES**

a) **REVIEW OF INTERNAL CONTROL AND RISK MANAGEMENT ARRANGEMENTS**

**It was AGREED:** That the Internal Audit Control and Risk Management Arrangements were reviewed and approved.

b) **FINANCIAL REGULATIONS AND STANDING ORDERS**

**It was AGREED:** That the Financial Regulations and Standing Orders be approved and adopted.

**GB088/20/21 – PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

None had been received.

**GB089/20/21 – PLANNING DECISIONS**

**It was AGREED:** That the following decisions be noted:

**Ref: DC/20/05341** - Householder Planning Application - Erection of single storey side and rear extension (following removal of existing conservatory) and erection of front porch following demolition of existing porch - 17 Little Hill, Great Bricett - **Granted**

**Ref: DC/20/05575** - Householder Planning Application - Construction of 18No Solar Panels to garage roof - Oakview, The Street, Great Bricett - **Granted**

**GB090/20/21 – RED LION PUB**

The Clerk reported that the Red Lion Pub had been granted an 'Asset of Community Value' (ACV).

Cllr Pratt reported that there was a weakness in the application for the ACV which were the lack of comments of support of the pub. He urged members of the village and further afield who visited the pub to submit their support to the ACV Inbox in order to define its social function.

Cllr Walsh stated that she was aware that many people had submitted their support via email. She added that due to the current Covid situation the pub had not been visited as regularly due to its limited opening.

Mr Chris Payne, member of the public, urged the Parish Council to follow up the ACV and back the future of the pub as he felt that there were many hurdles to cross, including the owners challenging the ACV, before the safety of the pub's future was solid. He encouraged everyone to read informative documents relating to the process which would help the project move forward.

Residents forming a group outside of the Parish Council would be a positive way forward to discuss ways in which the pub could be secured for years to come, including publicity around the local villages.

Mr Payne stated that there were many ways in which the pub could be ran including a share system.

Cllr Pratt informed members that advice should be sought on how the community could obtain the pub and how to run it, perhaps invite relevant people to a future meeting of the Parish Council, or a public meeting.

Cllr Payne asked Cllr Pratt about the application for the closure of the pub and whether it had been called into committee.

Cllr Pratt replied stating that the application had been called in but a date for a committee hearing was yet to be set. In relation to the listing of the ACV the Communities Team would make that decision as to whether it met the criteria, then the Cabinet would need to accept it.

Cllr Walsh suggested that once larger groups were allowed to meet, at the end of June, a public meeting should be held at the hall where the pub's future and a way forward could be discussed.

**It was AGREED:** That a public meeting be held towards the end of June.

#### **GB091/20/21 – BASE GARAGE APPLICATION**

Cllr Payne reported that during a conversation with the applicant of the application it was stated that one of the consultees of the application, the Highways Department, had challenged the two splays for the parking spaces of the two proposed houses, not the visibility of the entrance and blind bend!

#### **GM092/20/21 – VILLAGE HALL**

Cllr Walsh reported that a unfortunately a problem had occurred in relation to flooding in the hall onto the new floor from a neighbour who had been carrying out some power washing, due to there not being a fence between the hall and the neighbouring property.

She added that the paint work carried out at the hall two years ago had been incorrectly applied which had resulted in the paintwork peeling below the dado rail. It would need to be repainted and quotes were being sought.

Cllr Walsh explained that the Village Hall Management Committee (VHMC) had changed their minds about replacing the cooker which meant that fire doors would need to be installed and the floor replaced to keep in line with current regulations.

Quotes had also been sought for the leveling out of the garden works at the rear of the village hall to make it safe for use, which included railings and steps.

#### **GM093/20/21 - TELEPHONE KIOSK**

Cllr Burnett reported that certain residents in the village were happy to be involved in the production and installation of an Information Board in the kiosk. Due to the current circumstances with Covid the project would be put on hold until face to face meetings could resume to discuss what was needed.

#### **GB094/20/21 – COMMUNITY WOODLAND**

Cllr Burnett had had a conversation with the land owner of a patch of land at the south of the hall, church and Green, which had two footpaths across it. The landowner was in agreement for the Parish Council to make use of the land as a Community Woodland for a 'peppercorn rent'.

She suggested that a flyer be sent to all residents to see what the interest was in the village to form a working party to establish the land and maintain it. Possibly trees and a wildflower area.

As Tree Warden Cllr Payne felt that trees would be more suitable than wild flowers as trees would look after themselves, to which members felt that a mixture of the two would be a good idea. There were many options to look into.

Mr Payne stated that he felt it was an excellent idea and would be happy to help.

**It was AGREED:** That a flyer be produced and circulated.

**GB095/20/21 – RELEET CLOSE FLOODING**

Cllr Payne wished to congratulate Suffolk County Council (SCC) for their work to clear the drainage, the culprit of the flooding, at Releet Close.

**GB096/20/21 - MATTERS TO BE BROUGHT TO THE ATTENTION OF THE PARISH COUNCIL**

- Church / Village Hall sign on The Street – could it be moved? People were pulling in / parking on the driveway of the property that the sign points towards who thought it was the parking area for the church/village hall.
- Speed sign – collected data – Cllr Morley to send the Clerk the instructions for her to download the data.
- Footpath opposite ‘Laburnhams’ – response from Highways was rather blunt and problem still existed. Cllr Oakes stated that it needed to be resolved and would liaise again with the relevant people.
- Cllr Craddock commented that the police should be present during the mornings to witness the speeding traffic through the village.
- Cllr Payne commented on the regular road closures at Great Bricett which affected the 111 bus route – would be put onto the next Agenda to be discussed at more length.

**GB097/20/21 – DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

**It was AGREED:** That the next meeting be held at the Village Hall on Tuesday, 11<sup>th</sup> May 2021 at 7pm.

The meeting finished at 8.42pm.

Chairman: ..... Dated: .....