



GREAT BRICETT PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held online via Zoom on **Tuesday, 12th January 2021 at 7pm.**

Present:

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

In Attendance J Blackburn – Clerk
District Cllr D Pratt

GB050/20/21 – PUBLIC FORUM

There were no members of the public present.

GB051/20/21 – ELECTION OF VICE CHAIR

Cllr S Burnett proposed that Cllr Morley be elected as Vice-Chairman, which was seconded by Cllr J Walsh.
Decision – Cllr Morley was duly elected Vice-Chairman

GB052/20/21 - TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES OF ABSENCE

Apologies had been received from County Cllr Oakes.

GB053/20/21 – TO RECEIVE DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr Walsh declared an interest in item 16 on the Agenda.

GB054/20/21 – TO RECEIVE APPLICATIONS FOR DISPENSATION

None had been received.

GB055/20/21 - TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE MEETINGS HELD ON TUESDAY, 10TH NOVEMBER 2020 AND THURSDAY, 17TH DECEMBER 2020

It was AGREED: That the minutes of the meetings held on Tuesday, 10th November 2020 and Thursday, 17th December 2020 be approved as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

GB056/20/21 – TO RECEIVE THE POLICE REPORT

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

GB057/20/21 – TO RECEIVE THE COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT – CLLR KAY OAKES

Cllr Oakes was not present at the meeting and a report had not been received.

GB058/20/21 – TO RECEIVE THE DISTRICT COUNCILLOR'S REPORT – CLLR DANIEL PRATT

Cllr Pratt's report had been circulated prior to the meeting which stated the following points:

2021/2022 Budget - Council Members had received an initial briefing on the draft budget for 2021/22. Once again, the Council was planning for a surplus at the end of next year following a likely underspend during the current year. It was proposed that Council Tax be increased by 1.66%, which was equivalent to 23p per month for a Band D property. The budget would be debated by Council on 23 February.

Refuse Fleet Vehicles Switch to Biofuel - It was proposed that the Council's vehicle fleet would be transferred from fossil fuel diesel to Hydrotreated Vegetable Oil (HVO) diesel. It was estimated that the councils' fleet of vehicles currently emitted nearly 900 tonnes of carbon dioxide, the change could cut the emissions by 90%.

Green Homes Scheme - The Green Homes scheme, which was designed to help make homes more energy efficient, offered vouchers to households for energy savings projects, and also invited councils to bid for funding towards the cost. The council would also benefit, using funds to help insulate and install renewable heating in 48 socially rented properties in Babergh and Mid Suffolk.

Covid-19 Support for Businesses and Individuals - Self-Isolation Support Payment - Mid Suffolk was administering the Self-Isolation Support Payment. It was a £500 compensation payment for those who had been told to self-isolate by NHS Test and Trace and meet the eligibility criteria. The government had provided limited funding for discretionary awards to be made if you had been told to self-isolate by NHS Test and Trace but did not meet the criteria for the Self-Isolation Support Payment.

National Lockdown Support Grants for Businesses - With the announcement of a National Lockdown commencing on the 5th January, MSDC was awaiting detailed government guidance on the operation of business grant schemes for the National Lockdown. The LRSG for the period Suffolk was in Tier 2 (from 2nd December to 25th December) was still open.

Suffolk Support and Advice Service - This helpline provided information and support relating to debt, benefits, housing and employment. The service was open between 9 am and 5 pm Monday to Friday: **0800 068 3131**

Home, But Not Alone Helpline - The helpline was in place to support clinically extremely vulnerable people who may need additional information or support. The service would be staffed from 9am to 5pm Monday to Friday: **0800 876 6926**

Cllr Pratt had nothing to add to his report.

GB059/20/21 – TO RECEIVE THE CLERK'S REPORT AND FINANCIAL MATTERS

a) CLERK'S REPORT

The Clerk reported that once the current lockdown and restrictions lifted the Parish Council would need to assess its bank accounts. Currently, only two members of the Parish Council were signatories so more were needed.

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 7th January 2021 was £16,199.93.

c) TO AUTHORISE PAYMENTS AND NOTE RECEIPTS

The Clerk reported the following payments be authorised:-

Jennie Blackburn	Clerk's Pay (Jan)	£330.18
Jennie Blackburn	Office Allowance/Exp (Jan)	£28.38
Business Services at CAS Ltd Maljon (Timber Preservation) Ltd	Additional Insurance fee for next bracket Village Hall Floor Treatment	£21.84 £4,492.00
David Foster	Village Hall Works	£314.50
Glasdon	Grit Bit	£119.34
Community Heartbeat Trust	Defibrillator Pads	£117.00

Jennie Blackburn	Clerk's Pay (Feb)	£330.18
Jennie Blackburn	Clerk's Office Allowance/Expenses (Feb)	£20.00

It was AGREED: That payments totaling £5,773.42 be authorised and actioned by the Clerk.

d) FINAL BUDGET FOR 2021/22

It was AGREED: That the final Budget for 2021/22 be approved.

e) PRECEPT FOR 2021/22

It was AGREED: That the Precept for 2021/22 be set for £10,481.00. **Clerk to action.**

GB060/20/21 - PLANNING APPLICATIONS

Ref: DC/20/05376 - Planning Application - Change of use of Public House (Sui Generis) to 1no. Dwelling (C3) - Red Lion Inn, Greenstreet Green, Great Bricett, Ipswich Suffolk IP7 7DD

At its Extraordinary Meeting held on 17th December 2020 –

It was AGREED: That the Parish Council objected to the application (see 17.12.20 Minutes). **Clerk to action.**

Ref: DC/20/05587 - Planning Application - Change of use of land for the siting of up to 73 mobile homes (following demolition of existing buildings) - Great Bricett Business Park, The Street, Great Bricett, Suffolk IP7 7DZ

During a general discussion it was felt that not enough time had been given by the Planning Department for the Parish Council to liaise with all concerned residents and therefore it was felt that an Extraordinary Meeting be held to give time to raise more awareness amongst the community.

It was AGREED: That an Extraordinary meeting be held on Monday, 25th January 2021 at 7pm. **Clerk to action.**

GB061/20/21 – PLANNING DECISIONS

None had been received.

GB062/20/21 – RED TELEPHONE KIOSK

Cllr Burnett asked members for their views on what the newly refurbished telephone kiosk could be used for. During a brief discussion it was felt the best option would be for an Information Point, where leaflets on walks, historical information and more could be housed.

Suggestions were made as to contractors and artists that could be approached to see if they could help with the project.

Cllr Burnett stated that she would make contact with possible helpers and would report back to the next meeting.

Having the electricity re-connected to the kiosk was also considered and would be decided at a later stage.

GB063/20/21 – FLOODING ON THE STREET / RELEET CLOSE

It was noted that the flooding on The Street/Releet Close continued to be an issue with the water level rising considerably following rain fall.

Cllr Oakes had recently agreed to speak with Highways about this issue but members had not yet received any update.

It was AGREED: That the Clerk liaise with Cllr Oakes to see if works to alleviate the problem was planned.

GB064/20/21 – BUS ROUTE 111

Cllr Payne reported that bus route 111, Hitcham to Ipswich, was a lifeline for many people enabling them to get into Ipswich. The route was driven by the bus three times per day. Unfortunately, a road on the route had been closed on many occasions due to roadworks, and Cllr Payne felt that the regular upheaval was not acceptable.

Cllr Craddock felt that the road could be opened at least one way to enable route 111 to continue.

Cllr Morley explained that his understanding as to why roads were completely closed was due to the Health and Safety of the workers.

As the County Cllr was not present at the meeting it was felt that this issue needed to be raised at a future meeting of the Parish Council when Cllr Oakes could be present.

It was AGREED: That the Clerk put this item onto the next Agenda.

GB065/20/21 – COMMUNITY WOODLAND

Cllr Burnett suggested that the Parish Council set up a Community Woodland if an appropriate piece of land could be found. She was considering a small piece of land near to the Village Hall, which had two footpaths crossing it.

She added that she had recently spoken to the contractor of the land and planned to speak to him again if members agreed.

The plan would be for native trees to be planted, but other ideas could be explored such as wildflower and other trees.

Cllr Morley felt that any plans should be explained to the properties overlooking the land, out of courtesy to which all Cllrs agreed.

Cllr Pratt suggested a woodland pasture could be another option.

Cllr Burnett confirmed she would report back any information to the Parish Council at a future meeting or via email.

GB066/20/21 - VILLAGE HALL / FLOOR

Cllr Burnett reported that outside works to the village hall had been completed. The floor inside the hall had also been completed with some of the old floorboards remaining in place and two thirds of the floor boards being replaced with pine.

The surface of the floor now needed to be addressed and a recommendation had been received for a contractor who could stain and seal it for £800.

Cllr Walsh informed members that the Village Hall Management Committee would be happy to contribute towards the cost. She agreed that the surface needed to be kept as natural as possible in order to sustain its affect and limit its maintenance.

Cllr Pratt informed members that he had some remaining Locality Budget funding and suggested that the Parish Council apply to cover the cost.

It was AGREED: That the Clerk apply for Locality Budget Funding from Cllr Pratt (MSDC)

GB067/20/21 – TRANSPARENCY AND INFORMATION MANAGEMENT

Cllr Payne questioned whether when members of the public commented on issues during a public consultation whether their identity should be shared with members of the Parish Council.

The Clerk confirmed that if a member of the public wished to remain anonymous then it should be honoured. Advice confirming this had also been received from the Legal department of the Suffolk Association of Local Councils.

GB068/20/21 - MATTERS TO BE BROUGHT TO THE ATTENTION OF THE PARISH COUNCIL

- The verges of part of The Street were in a poor state – needed reporting
- It seemed inappropriate that Suffolk Highways were digging up and concreting in fibre optic cables whilst the flooding issue just along The Street needed addressing as a matter of urgency.
- Cllr Morley raised the condition of the public footpath, and that it should be considered a safety concern as many members of the public were using the path due (possibly) to lockdown, some who are old. The County Councillor needed to be contacted in order to request an update.

GB069/20/21 – DATE OF NEXT MEETING

It was AGREED: That the next meeting be held at the Village Hall on Tuesday, 9th March 2021 at 7pm.

The meeting finished at 8.30pm.

Chairman: Dated: