

BRANDESTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minute of a Meeting of Brandeston Parish Council held on Tuesday 11th July at 7.30pm in the committee room of the Village Hall.

Present: *Councillors: Elson (in the Chair); Kirton; Norman; Mitson-Woods; Buckingham; Churchill and Norman.* County Councillor Robin Vickery and Mrs Alison Molyneux.

3-1718/1 Welcome from the Chairman

The Chairman opened the meeting for a forum with parishioners and to receive reports and discussion from representatives of SCC and SCDC in which he introduced Mrs Molyneux and asked for her comments on the situation at Manse Hill. She has met with Mr Crispin Kelly and Ms. Ffiona Lewis from West Hill Farm to discuss the increase in width at the Manse Corner by acquiring a sliver of land from a field that they own. After the discussion, it was thought that by not widening the corner but instead increasing signage on the bend a better level of safety would be achieved. There have been chevrons in the past but they were only partially effective. What is needed is lower level chevrons with reflective outlining which would actually be very visual and therefore more effective. Most of the vehicles that have crashed there have been local so knowledge of the bend is not an issue. County Councillor Vickery told the Meeting that getting chevrons would be easier than the widening as the cost would be lower. The Chairman thanked Mrs Molyneux for her input to the debate.

County Councillor Vickery reported that he had been on a number of training events at SCC, he has also been appointed to be an observer on the boards of Eastern Angles and Wolsey Theatre.

County Councillors are being encouraged to reserve some of their Locality Budgets for the commemorations of the end of WW1 in 2018. A special service will be held in St Edmunds cathedral which members of the public will be able to attend. There are pots of money available and it may be that SCDC has some available funds. The Heritage Lottery Fund and the War Memorial Fund present other options for funding. There will be support from County Council Locality budgets for this purpose. *See full report attached.*

3-1718/2 To receive any Declarations of Interest – there were none.

3-1718/3 To receive and accept apologies for absence – District Councillor Paul Rous sent his apologies as he was in London.

3-1718/4 To receive and sign as a true record the minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Council held on 9th May 2017 – these were signed as a true and accurate account of the meeting.

3-1718/5 Finance

- a) RFO Report on the Council's finance. *(Attached)*
- b) Request from Suffolk Accident Rescue Service for a donation. **It was resolved that a cheque for £25 be sent to SARS.**
- c) Clerk's salary from 7th May to 7th July – 9 weeks at £20.00 £180.00. **It was resolved that this**
- d) **be authorised.**

- e) **Insurance cover for the Council** – it has reached year 4 of a 5-year agreement via Community Action Suffolk. The Clerk reported that the policy is due for renewal on 30/09/2017 and she recommended continuing with year 5. **It was resolved that the Council continue with CAS for the last year and review insurance quotes for 2018-19 when the current agreements expires.**

3/1718/6 Faster Broadband update – Councillor Buckingham

This item was brought forward to be discussed while Councillor Vickery was still in attendance. Councillor Buckingham reported that she believed that the upgrade to Brandeston may now be delayed to 2017 – 21 (was previously 2017 – 2019 according to betterbroadbandsuffolk.com). Councillor Buckingham will check with her contacts at Suffolk and continue to push for faster provision here. In the meantime, alternative providers such as fram broadband.com and mobile data (3G, 4G) are likely to overtake superfast broadband in terms of their coverage in this area.

3/1718/7 Highway Matters

- a) Traffic calming update and data from SID– Councillor Kirton. Operationally SID is doing well and Councillor Buckingham is working with Councillor Kirton to download and present the data in a usable format. Councillor Kirton reported that he had needed to buy a new padlock to replace the original that had become rusty. **It was resolved that a cheque for £22.00 be issued to Councillor Kirton.**
- b) To discuss correspondence between Brandeston PC and Crispin Kelly and Ffiona Lewis re: acquisition of land to widen the road on the bend at the bottom of Manse Hill. **It was resolved that the Clerk should write to SCC Highways and demand that the chevrons, with increased visibility marking, should be replaced as a matter of urgency at no cost to the Parish Council.** The original chevrons were put in by SCC to improve safety and the PC is not in agreement with contributing to this. It was also decided that widening the corner may increase speed and danger rather than decrease it.

3/1718/8 Correspondence from Suffolk CC Highways re: notification of road closures from SCC. It was agreed that BPC should register to receive notification of closures in order that alerts can be emailed around the village.

3/1718/9 Village Triangles - Report on progress for acquisition of the village triangles – Councillor Buckingham. Councillor Buckingham reported that Alan Randall, an ex-landlord of The Queen, had sent a statement to the Clerk that he and previous landlords had cut the grass on the triangle nearest the pub since 2006, on behalf of the parish council. The Clerk was asked to talk to Sue Thurlow regarding the second triangle at Low Street, as another historical example of villagers caring for these two pieces of land and to provide much needed evidence to help the legal acquisition. Councillor Buckingham welcomes any other examples of a similar nature and will continue to pursue the matter on behalf of the parish council and the village.

3/1718/10 War Memorial and WW1 Centenary 2018

Councillors Elson and Kirton to report back to Council. Councillor Kirton attended an information sharing session and Councillor Elson is in discussion with representatives of the PCC. The Chairman reported that the Quinquennial inspection of the church and its environs revealed that the War Memorial that stands in the churchyard is in need of restoration. The PCC has found grant funding for the restoration but now hopes that BPC will join with it to help with further grants. The overall quote for the work is 4600.00. **It was resolved that the Council should accept ownership of the Memorial and take responsibility for it on behalf of the community. This was unanimously agreed.**

It was further resolved that the BPC seed the refurbishment fund with a donation of £500; grant funding would also be researched. This was carried unanimously.

3/1718/11 Notice Board outside Village Hall. To discuss action to refurbish. **It was resolved that the Clerk would sand down and oil the notice board.**

2/1718/12 Date of next meeting: Tuesday 12th September July 2017 at 7.30pm in the Committee Room of the Village Hall.

The meeting closed at 9.25pm.