

BROAD TOWN PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting

Held in the Village Hall on Monday 9 October 2017

PRESENT: Councillor J E Jordan - Chairman
Councillor S J Billis
Councillor S G Hartley
Councillor M A Holland
Councillor B Joyce
Councillor R Pearce
Councillor C J Rendell

OFFICERS: Mrs L A Roberts – Interim Parish Clerk

IN ATTENDANCE: Councillor Mrs Groom – Wiltshire Council

9 Members of the public were present.

Public Participation

Mr Brannigan expressed his disappointment at the Parish Council's approach to a recent planning application and wanted to share some of his observations to help the Parish Council for dealing with applications in the future. He stated that Broad Town was an idyllic village and planning applications obviously have an impact both good and bad on how we live.

Mr Brannigan did not feel that the Parish Council was as active or vocal on planning applications as it used to be and qualified this by referring to the comments made by the Parish Council in relation to the recent application relating to Garden Cottage he was surprised at the stance taken by the Parish Council who had objected to the building of Garden Cottage when that application had been submitted.

Mr Brannigan felt he had not been given an opportunity to address his objections to the planning applications and felt that as members of the public they should get notification about matters being debated by the Parish Council and suggested that advertising meetings on notice boards and the website was passive. As neighbours are advised by Wiltshire Council he felt that the Parish Council could follow suit and advise neighbours and applicants when the planning application would be discussed by the Parish Council thus giving the community an opportunity to share their views on planning applications directly affecting them.

Mr Brannigan reported that there was no clarity on the impact the development would have on his property had been supplied with the application.

The Chair, Councillor Mrs Jordan thanked Mr Brannigan for bringing the matter to the attention of the Parish Council.

It was accepted that there was sometimes a short time-line for the Parish Council to respond to applications within the meeting timetable. Councillor Mrs Groom, Wiltshire Council advised that Wiltshire Council were currently reviewing their planning policy and maybe some of the concern and comments made about Wiltshire Council's process could be submitted to Development Control for consideration.

122/17 APOLOGIES

There were no apologies.

123/17 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Billis declared an interest in the White Horse Preservation Society's Community Fund, grant application.

124/17 MINUTES

The minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 11th September having previously been circulated were signed by the Chairman, Councillor Mrs Jordan as a correct record.

125/17 CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED FROM RESIDENT CONCERNING THE CATTLE GRID CROSSING AT THE REGISTERED FOOTPATH AT LITTLE TOWN FARM.

Members noted the correspondence and delegated the matter to the Footpaths Working Group to investigate and report back to the Parish Council.

It was reported that the terms of reference for the working group would be presented to the Parish Council for approval.

126/17 FINANCIAL STATEMENT – BANK RECONCILIATION

The bank reconciliation was noted.

127/17 EXTERNAL AUDIT REPORT

It was proposed by the Chairman, Councillor Mrs Jordan, seconded by Councillor Joyce and

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED to note the Conclusion of the External Audit.

It was also confirmed that the notice had been placed on the Parish Council's notice boards and the village website in accordance with audit regulations. The action notes arising from the audit were also received and noted.

128/17 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

128/17.1 17/08992/FUL

Members discussed the proposal for a Conversion and Extensions to Artists Studio (Retrospective Amendments to implemented scheme) at: Artist Studio, Broad Town Road, Broad Town, Swindon, Wiltshire. SN4 7RB.

Members felt that the detail of the amendments was inadequate and unclear in what respect the retrospective consent related to. Members agreed that more clear detail was required in order to make a sensible observation and input into the application and whether permission should be granted or not.

128/17.2 17/08417/FUL

Members discussed the proposal which was the construction of a new house in a former rear garden plot at land to the rear of 36 Broad Town Road, Broad Town, Swindon, Wiltshire. SN4 7RG

It was established that access was via Redhill's, through the side of the property. The site has recently been cleared of all rubbish. It was difficult to work out the exact size of the proposed property. It was noted with concern that the proposed dwelling was a three-storey house, being 7.5 metres in height, it was felt this was not in keeping with existing dwellings and would dominate them, i.e., a large three storey within a large footprint totally out of keeping with the area.

It was also noted that the application suggests the proposed dwelling is similar in size and appearance to number 10, members felt that this was misleading and not the case.

It was reported in a previous application on this site was refused because, "The development failed to make adequate provision for open space or affordable housing and as such fails to accord with policies C2, CF3, and H6 of the adopted North Wilts Local Plan 2011".

Members felt that if the proposal was smaller and lower therefore not so dominant it would be more acceptable.

Members objected to the application.

129/17.1 COUNCILLOR WAYMAN'S (WILTSHIRE COUNCIL)

Members noted the latter and its contents.

It was felt that the precedent 'hedge' letter for residents could prove useful in assisting the Parish Council to persuade residents to cut back hedges impacting upon the Highway.

Councillor Billis advised that the Grit Bins would need to be replenished before the icy weather.

130/17 CORRESPONDENCE FROM LLOYDS BANK

The letter upholding the Interim Parish Clerk's complaint to the bank was noted.

131/17 PARISH CLERK VACANCY

Two applications for the post had been received and an interview date would be agreed with the Appointments Panel.

132/17 COUNCIL TAX SETTING PROGRAMME

The information received from Wiltshire Council was noted.

133/17 WHITE HORSE PRESERVATION SOCIETY

It was proposed by Councillor Mrs Hartley, seconded by Councillor Pearce and

RESOLVED to award a grant of £1263.00, being 50% of the amount applied for from the Community Fund (in accordance with the Grant Funding criteria).

It was suggested that the Group should apply to the Wroughton Science Museum Fund for the remaining 50%.

134/17 PURCHASE OF PLAYGROUND EQUIPMENT – REDHILLS PLAY AREA

Councillor Mrs Hartley reported on behalf of the working group and advised that equipment to the value of £1350.00 had been sourced. The Interim Parish clerk reminded members that a further £252.00 was available from the S106 agreement which was being held by Wiltshire Council. Details of equipment and supplier would be forwarded to the Interim Parish Clerk so that a purchase order could be raised.

135/17 UPDATE ON PURCHASE/LEASE OF THE DEFIBRILLATOR

It was reported that the WI will be entering into a managed solution agreement with the Community HeartBeat Trust. The annual electricity cost was estimated to be approximately £10.00 per year. The Village Hall Committee will be asked to cover this cost, but if this is not forthcoming then maybe the Community Coffee Morning could be asked to cover it. A local electrician had been sourced to provide an estimate for installation, the WI confirmed they would be meeting the installation cost.

There was also annual maintenance costs of £126.00 per year to be met. This was discussed by members and it was proposed by Councillor Billis, seconded by the Chairman, Councillor Mrs Jordan and

RESOLVED that subject to the terms and conditions being acceptable by the Parish Council that the Parish Council would meet the annual maintenance costs of £126.00.

136/17 REIMBURSEMENT TO COUNCILLOR JOYCE FOR TONER

Councillor Joyce has kindly agreed to use his printer to print documents for the Parish Council and was seeking reimbursement of £36.79, the cost of two toners. It was proposed by the Chairman, Councillor Mrs Jordan, seconded by Councillor Holland and

RESOLVED to approve the payment of £36.79 to Councillor Joyce.

137/17 COMPENSATION PAYMENT TO FORMER PARISH CLERK – ROY DAVEY

Mr Davey had suffered inconvenience and a small monetary loss due to the Parish Council's bank's inefficiency dealing with the change in bank mandates. It was agreed that a small payment should be made to Mr Davey to cover postage, stationery and telephone calls. It was proposed by Councillor Billis, seconded by the Chairman, Councillor Mrs Jordan and

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED to award a payment of £10.00 to Mr Davey.

The Meeting closed 8.10pm

Next Meeting: Monday 13TH November at 6.30pm in the Village Hall