**BROMESWELL PARISH COUNCIL**

**PARISH COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES (21/05)**

**Monday 19 July 2021**

**Meeting commenced at 7.00pm**

1. **Attendance & Apologies**

**Parish councillors attending:** Ian Abbott (IA) (Chair), Verity Brown (VB), Sue Todd (ST), Tim Johnson (TJ), Tracy Rogers (TR)

**Clerk:** Rob Cutts (RC)

**Guests:**  James Mallinder (JM) – District Councillor

Andrew Reid (AR) – County Cllr

**Apologies:** Rory Burrow (RB)

**Public: T**here were three members of the public in attendance

The Council accepted the apologies of RB who had other commitments.

This meeting was the first held in person since the Covid Pandemic emergency rules were lifted. Prior to the meeting the PC had arranged for the 150+ recipients of the E-Warbler parish magazine to receive notice of the meeting as well as displaying notices on the notice boards. The Clerk will issue a full report of the meeting as soon as practical through the same mechanism.

1. **Declarations of Interest**

The Chair reminded councillors to ensure that their own registers of interest were kept up to date.

TJ & VB declared an interest in the current planning application by Woodbridge RFC relating to the Faith Baptist Chapel property. The council agreed that they could remain for any discussions but take no part in those discussions.

1. **Report from Suffolk County Council, Andrew Reid**

Written report to follow as the PC continues to experience difficulties with attachments to emails coming from AR’s office.

AR advised that due to complaints from a number of families the council Special Educational Needs department was under independent review with a report due by end of August.

The pilot project for using greater technology to deliver adult social care for some clients has been expanded to include warning monitors in homes. This is to supplement, not replace personal care.

Emphasised the need for caution regarding Covid now that rules fully relaxed.

After discussions with Highways dept and speed survey carried out in May, AR reported that the SCC Highways department would not support reduction of speed limit on Sutton Road to 30mph from current 40mph as “85% of traffic speeds were within acceptable levels” and the road did not have the “look of a built up area”. The PC expressed its disappointment with this approach given the high levels of traffic which will only increase as Sutton Hoo re-opens fully. Many of the slower speeds were as a result of traffic negotiating the ever growing numbers of recreational cyclists using this route. Highways have agreed however to look at proposals for improved signage of the current limit. With no support from SCC Highways the PC felt that the next step of preparing a report for Council (cost c £750) was not justified. PC to work with Highways regarding better signage but also keep pressing for reduction in limit.

1. **Report from East Suffolk Council, James Mallinder**

A written report had been previously circulated and is attached.

A new set of “Nature First” grants are available to support schemes and projects aimed at supporting wildlife and eco-systems in villages.

The PC and JM discussed the changes to the Green Bin collection regime from September. JM said that the new system was aimed at being consistent and as carbon neutral as possible. Better to incinerate certain waste (& create energy for power network) than to heat it to create compost. There will be other changes to recycling coming soon generated by central government rules.

ESC will be donating an oak sapling to every village to commemorate Queen’s Platinum Jubilee in 2022.JM happy to consider requests for financial support for Jubilee celebrations.

1. **Approval & signing of minutes from the meeting of 10 May 2021.**

These were approved as a true record of the meeting and signed by the Chair.

1. **Matters arising from minutes of 10 May 2021**

All “Anti-Vax” stickers removed as best as we could.

1. **Village Matters**

Village sign – fully refurbished and looking very good. New post due to arrive next week. Once septic tank work completed, then re-erection of sign at village hall can be arranged.

Dog waste bin – Not yet erected. JM agreed to follow up with Norse for PC.

Kayak launching on Common Lane – Clerk reported an incident to the PC which had resulted in a complaint from a member of the public. It is understood to have been a one-off situation. No further action required.

East Suffolk Air Quality Strategy – The PC asked JM what it could do to help. JM advised that at this stage the PC could promote reading of the policy on ESC website and publicise the strategy.

Rural gigabyte – Promoted in June & July Warbler but only two positive responses received which will be nowhere near threshold for taking this forward. No further action.

Festival of Suffolk 2022 – Good idea to publicise in Warbler and to seek volunteers to help organise this event. PC needs to consider allowing for money for this in next years budget.

ESC Biodiversity Grants – See item 4 above.

Emergency Plan – Given the end to all Covid restrictions the Bromeswell Community Emergency Plan has now ceased to be active. The PC thanked everyone who helped a neighbour or provided support.

Annual Parish Meeting – The original date for the Annual Parish Meeting of Tuesday 14 September at the village hall proved impossible as the hall was already booked. The PC thanked TJ and Woodbridge RFC for offering their premises and a new date of 7.00pm at Woodbridge RFC, Hatchley Barn on 22 September was agreed. It is hoped to arrange for a selection of speakers and to have a face to face consultation on the recently adopted Parish Plan.

1. **Finance**

Finance Report – The Clerk had previously circulated the Finance Report and the Receipts and Payments record for the period since the last meeting. All PC Finance Reports are available on the PC website. Significant expenditures since the last meeting were:

Clerks expenses (Parish Plan printing) £170.40

Annual SALC membership £189.94

Clerk wages & PAYE (Q1) £500.00

Village sign refurbishment £660.00

Significant receipts were:

Annual precept from ESC £4911.00

VAT refund for 2020/21 £ 141.07

ESC grant for village sign refurbishment £ 487.40

After adsjusting for uncleared items Council reserves stood at £12796.84.

CIL Payment –The PC is awaiting a usable version of the ESC Parish Infrastructure Plan to prepare for the next meeting.

Online Banking – Clerk pleased to confirm that the PC accounts are now enabled for online banking with IA, VB, TJ & RC as mandate holders. The PC agreed with Clerk that, other than exceptional circumstances, the Clerk would prepare items for payment as first signatory and one of the remaining signatories would then counter sign to authorise payments.

Audit – A satisfactory audit report has been received, circulated to councillors and published on the PC website ([www.Bromeswell.onesuffolk.net](http://www.Bromeswell.onesuffolk.net)). Statutory notices to be displayed on notice board and are published on the web. An action plan to deal with minor points raised will be prepared for next meeting.

Model Internal Control Statement, & annual review of risk assessment & risk management – It was agreed to hold this over to the September meeting

1. **Highways**

Wilford Bridge Area – No issues reported but camper van appears to be a permanent fixture. Not sure if it is being stayed in overnight.

Sutton Road – See Item 3 above. TVAS posts due to be erected very soon. TR to engage with Highways on proposals for better signage of current limit.

School Lane Flooding – RC confirmed he had written to both owners. One had replied indicating they were not aware of this as it had happened prior to their ownership of the property but believed that any ditch was on the neighbouring property. TR advised that recent heavy rain had cleared quite quickly. PC continues to monitor ground water flooding in this area.

Common Lane Bend Sign – Discussed again given reports of minor accident involving delivery van which did not stop. Residents urged to report any accidents to the police (and PC). PC not sure that a bend sign will improve the situation but will look at possibility of using VAS sign on Common Lane to emphasis new limit.

Summer Lane Storm Damage – IA confirmed he had reported a sizeable hole at the side of the carriageway. It is understood temporary repairs have taken place to make this safe.

Bentwaters HGV Issue – RC provided update. Outcome of traffic monitoring awaited.

1. **Clerks Report**

The Clerk had previously circulated a report which is attached. Briefly:

Sizewell C – Decisions likely on both Sizewell C & Friston sub-station in autumn.

Police Report – Three crimes reported in village for April/May although levels of crime in Woodbridge SNT area remain high compared to pre-Covid. It is believed that two of the reports relate to domestic incidents and one to a covid related anti-social behaviour report.

Planning Applications – Barn House, Common Lane – rear extension (DC/21/1628) – supported by PC and approved by ESC. Hillbrook, Common Lane – Revised application for garden outbuilding (DC/21/1388) supported by PC & approved by ESC. Meadow View, School Lane – Supported by PC, ESC approved. Aspen Hollow, Summer Lane - supported by PC and approved by ESC. New Dwelling, Salix Sawmill, Summer Lane (DC/21/2386) – discussed by PC who confirmed Planning Committee recommendation to decline to support as the proposal did not comply with national or local policy. ESC decision awaited.

Enforcement – There have been no developments or further complaints to report on enforcement matters at Bromeswell Corner (Jungle run & lodge) or the Korean Kitchen takeaway business being run on School Lane.

The Clerk confirmed that it is his intention to stand down as Clerk at the end of the current financial year unless a replacement can be found sooner.

1. **Public Forum**

A resident raised the issue of crossing the A1152 on foot to reach bus stop and wondered whether a sanctuary island could be considered. Clerk agreed to contact Highways for advice but felt it was unlikely this would be considered on what is a 60mph stretch of road.

Following a notice in the Warbler about speeding farm vehicles there was a discussion about this and whether this showed a lack of empathy for farmers. The PC noted that this had not arisen from complaints or an incident in the village although there had been problems a few years back. The PC agreed it was best to work with the farming community to ensure road safety and that there were many instances of speeding private motorists.

There had been a report of rubbish from a business in the village being found. It was agreed that the Clerk would seek the views of the business concerned.

1. **Consultations**

None at present.

1. **Any Other Business**

It was agreed to promote the councillor vacancy at the annual Parish Meeting and perhaps to initially seek someone on a 3-6 month co-option basis.

1. **Next Meeting**

It is intended that the next meeting will be held as a face-to-face public meeting unless government restrictions dictate otherwise. The meeting will revert to the smaller meeting room. The meeting will again start at 7pm on Monday 27 September 2021.

Meetings for 2021 to be as follows:

29 November