**BROMESWELL PARISH COUNCIL**

**PARISH COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES (21/02)**

**Monday 29 March 2021**

**Meeting commenced at 7.00pm**

1. **Attendance & Apologies**

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

**Clerk:** Rob Cutts (RC)

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

Andrew Reid (AR) – County Councillor

**Apologies:** None

**Public:** There was 1 member of the public in attendance

This meeting was held online using Zoom technology. 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**

There were no declarations relating to the agenda. The Chair reminded councillors to ensure that their own registers of interest were kept up to date.

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

A written report is to follow as there were problems in opening the report sent by AR. AR provided an update on the Covid situation in the county which remains good. Both SCC & ESC aim for Net Zero in their operations by 2030. The council is looking for public comments on operation of waste sites. Details of technological initiatives in adult social care were outlined. There is a project to improve road safety near schools. 100,000 trees to be planted as part of “Healing Woods” initiative in county.

AR has kindly offered to pay for speed test on Sutton Road if he is re-elected. AR has asked the PC to make contact with Sutton Heath PC who have concerns about junction of Sutton Road & Hollesley Road where there has been another accident sufficiently bad to cause the road to be closed. Clerk to contact Sutton Heath PC.

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

A written report had been previously circulated and is attached. ESC aiming to use considerably less glyphosphate based weedkillers in its maintenance programmes. Bawdsey Quay to have new parking arrangements. Application for camp site at Ramsholt refused by ESC but cannot block use this summer as a “pop-up” site permitted by Covid regulations. Condition of surfaces in rural car parks managed by ESC was raised. JM to investigate proposed actions.

1. **Approval & signing of minutes from the meeting of 25 January 2021.**

These were approved as a true record of the meeting. The Chair confirmed he had signed these and would post them to the Clerk.

1. **Matters arising from minutes of 25 January 2021**

There were no matters not already covered by agenda items.

1. **Community Emergency Plan**

VB gave a report to the PC. No additional needs identified at this time. Village residents continue to support each other. As lockdown rules change these are posted on village notice boards and circulated by the Warbler to e-Warbler readers.

The PC discussed the possibility of the village organising some sort of village event to mark the end of lockdown rules, expected during the summer. There were mixed views on timing of such an event but general support. To be discussed at next meeting when progress on government road map should be clearer.

1. **Parish Plan**

Hard copy of Plan now delivered to every house in the village. To date only positive feedback received, particularly about the thoroughness of the approach to gathering views. It remains the hope of the PC to arrange a face to face meeting at the village hall to further consult once Covid restrictions permit everyone to feel comfortable about attending.

1. **Village Matters**

Village sign – The PC approved spending of £487.40 to clean and repair the sign itself (although JM has indicated he will cover this cost for the village – a grant application to ESC has been made). IA to source new post and seek advice from Potters about best way of erecting to ensure it lasts. Agreed to delay re-erecting pole until VHC have completed septic tank replacement. TR has bricks for a base if required.

Village Hall – It is understood septic tank replacement is to take place during July/August. Clerk also to confirm to VHC that the PC is willing and able to contribute towards VAT element of costs of septic tank project.

IA advised that he had taken a call from Mr Schlee who had recently acquired the large field on Common Lane in the village centre. He has generously offered the land closest to the village centre to the village for free to enable a new village hall to be built, funded by the sale of the existing hall site. Having passed on this news, IA excused himself from discussions as his house backs on to the land in question. The PC were very grateful for this offer and agreed the clerk should inform the VHC. Given issues with the number of councillors and VHC members that would be directly affected by such a proposal it was suggested and agreed that a separate working group (not just the PC or VHC or members thereof) should be formed to consider the proposal.

Dog waste bin – Clerk to check receipt of funds from JM local ESC budget and to arrange for erection of bin on Summer Lane as agreed..

Rural gigabyte – Clerk apologised for not having actioned this from last meeting and will contact Ufford PC for advice.

Electric Car Charger Point – TJ advised that the rugby club would be interested and would contact JM direct.

Annual Parish Meeting – It was agreed that the Annual Parish Meeting would be delayed until September this year (possibly combined with further Parish Plan consultation) due to Covid restrictions on attendance.

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.The Clerk advised that this is likely to substantially reflect the year end position. With all uncleared payments cleared the end of year reserves are likely to be £8351.79 (1.75 x precept). The PC approved the report. The Clerk confirmed that he had verified the report to bank statements and had signed those to confirm its accuracy. Payment of the PC share of 20mph zone was £3000 rather than previously estimated £2700. Councillors agreed to this expenditure.

Payments – Payments of £500.00 have been made for Clerks Q4 wages and PAYE, £73.99 for Clerks expenses, £225.00 for Drain Doctor survey of drains on School Lane, £3000.00 to SCC in respect of 20mph zone and £156.00 to Cllr Johnson to reimburse him for Zoom subscription fees incurred solely for PC. All these payments were authorised by the PC.

Village Hall – See Village matters section at Item 9.

Online Banking – Clerk to progress move to online banking when opportunity arises..

1. **Highways**

Wilford Bridge Area – No issues reported with coffee van, but camper van appears to being used. JM agreed to take this up with ESC planning department as site is not authorised for any type of residential use.

Sutton Road – See written report from TR attached. PC authorised TR to arrange for SCC speed test asap and will cover cost from Highways budget should monies not be available from AR for any reason. TR progressing application for TVAS. PC approved spending on two poles to cover both directions of traffic flow.

Common Lane signs - PC decided against a blind bend sign at this time whilst it monitored effectiveness of new 20mph zone on speeds.

School Lane Flooding – Village hall drainage works seem to be working but still problems further up School Lane near Motwill House. Drain Doctor report circulated. Given cost and disruption to land owners it was agreed that the situation would be monitored and that if necessary further requests to flush the drains would be made to SCC. It was agreed that Clerk would write to owners of the two properties to explain that whilst investigations tend to point to the need for them to rectify the situation on their land, the PC was hoping that works done already at village hall and regular flushing would mean this would not be necessary.

Bentwaters HGV Issue – Clerk had previously circulated email correspondence from local councils on this point. It was agreed not to join as signatories to the joint letters to ESC & SCC. Clerk to draft a response to both councils for approval online. Clerk to be point of contact on this issue.

Slow Ways – No further news at present.

1. **Clerks Report**

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

Sizewell C – Clerk advised Sizewell C now in what should be final stage of consultation with decision in autumn. No news regarding Friston sub-station proposals.

Police Report – Seven crimes reported in Dec-Feb period. The reports were of 3 burglaries, 3 anti-social behaviour reports and 1 criminal damage. Overall crime reports in Woodbridge SNT had fallen by almost 20% in January/February.

Planning Applications – see attached report. The PC agreed to support the application DC/21/1388 from Hillbrook on Common Lane.

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.

1. **Public Forum**

PC discussed issue of pedestrians/horse riders needing to use short stretch of Orford Road when accessing forest from the village. TJ agreed to talk to Woodbridge RFC about possibility of a permissive path on rugby club land that might help.

1. **Consultations**

None at present.

1. **Any Other Business**

Clerk to check process for co-opting councillor.

PC declined to support the Climate & Ecological Emergency Bill currently before Parliament as it was felt that this had a party political agenda.

ST apologised that she had not been able to attend ESC Planning Forum meeting due to family circumstances. Clerk to obtain & circulate slides.

JM advised that later this year residents will be asked to put food waste into grey bins rather than green.

1. **Next Meeting**

Next meeting will be held as a Zoom online meeting again unless rules relating to public meetings are relaxed in time to arrange a safe physical meeting. It was agreed to start the next meeting at 7pm on Monday 10 May 2021.

Meetings for 2021 to be as follows:

19 July

27 September

29 November