

# **MINUTES OF the GREAT BUDWORTH PARISH ANNUAL PARISH MEETING held at the PARISH HALL at 7.00 PM on MONDAY 8<sup>th</sup> May 2017**

**Opened at 7.00pm**

## **1. Welcome and record attendance**

### **1 Present**

Chairman H Brudenell  
Council Members H Forwood, M Torrance, A Lee, P McAndrew  
District Councillors N Wright, L Gibbon

Also present

Clerk C Marshall  
Public 10

**2. Apologies** L Hopkinson, R Collier, M Kershaw, D Hammond,

## **3. Declarations of Interest**

None declared

**4. Minutes of the previous Annual Parish Meeting held on 4th April 2016 were agreed at the Ordinary Parish Council Meeting held on the 16th May 2016.**

## **5. (i) Chairman's Report for 2016/2017**

The Chairman's report was as follows:

“The Parish Council has had a busy year which has included making progress on a number of Parish projects and dealing with some unexpected events

We have been able to make some progress on issues around parking in the village. The parish field is now partially available for parking with the laying of mesh. This is still work in progress but the field has been available for parking for big events taking place in the village and has already proved to be a valuable asset. It is anticipated that this will be completed during this summer period. The Parish Council are very grateful to those members of the community who assisted with the laying of the mesh.

I am pleased to be able to report that the plan to designate the Parish Field as a “Field in Trust” to commemorate those who died in World War 1 is drawing to a conclusion. The proposal has been accepted and shortly visitors to the Parish Field will see a commemorative plaque.

Following damage by a vehicle, the Upper Pumphouse has been repaired. We hope to complete further minor restoration works to the building during the course of this year.

Work to manage the Lime Avenue, to preserve it for future generations, is ongoing. The trees on either side between Farthing Lane and the School have now had the attention of tree surgeons. The remainder will be done over the next two years. The total cost will be £11k, spread over three years. The Parish Council is very aware of the need to manage our glorious lime avenue and the other trees within its remit. Consequently we are examining a proposal to reduce the size of the holm oaks adjacent to the top pumphouse. They have gone from strength to strength since last having the attention of tree surgeons and have grown to a huge size; they would probably benefit from a “haircut” This may also reduce the “bombing” of cars parked in the three spaces under the trees by roosting pigeons; the mess they make each night essentially makes those car parking spaces unusable. We are also exploring other ways in which the damage to cars parked there may be reduced.

Initial by Chairman:

Parking, and the movement of large vehicles through the centre of the village, continues to exercise all our minds. At the twice yearly meeting between Parish Councillors and the Highways and Police Authorities in June 2016 it was agreed that putting a mandatory width restriction through the village, which would work with the weight restriction already in place, could well be part of the solution to the problem of frequent damage to property episodes, that occur at the bend in the road by the Upper Pumphouse. We still await this being put in place; perhaps after the election! Parking remains a regular topic at Parish Council meetings. We are still seeking a permanent solution to the problems faced by the residents of Bakery Cottage and the other residents using that entrance. A pinch point has been identified at High Street; two planters are being placed at that location so as to ensure that all vehicles, particularly emergency vehicles, can access their destination.

No report on 2016/17 would be complete without reference to the tale of the Cyclists. All will be aware of the national noise driven by a move by the Parish Council to prevent the poor behaviour exhibited by a minority of cyclists as they come through the village (bad language, speed, group formation, littering and other anti- social behaviour) It is hoped that a route through Great Budworth now carries an automatic health warning for all club cyclists! Nothing at all would make any progress without the staunch support and hard work of my fellow Councillors, the professionalism of the Parish Clerk, the help of many residents and the advice of our District Councillors. Thank you all

We look forward to continuing to serve our community. I urge you all to complete the survey sent out with the May edition of the "Budworth Bulletin" so that we can prioritise and organise the work we do, on your behalf, to meet your wishes, wherever possible."

#### **(ii) Clerk's Report for 2016/2017**

The Clerks report was as follows:

#### **Financial:**

"2016/17 was a challenging year for the PC due to a reduction in planned income for the council. The withdrawal of the New Homes Bonus Scheme funding effected the PC greatly.

However unplanned revenue was received for:

- filming that took place within the village totalling £1250.00
- grant funding from the Members Budget Scheme £3000.00
- the Parish Hall Committee for the parish hall roof repairs and the Big Boys Brunch for repair to the Kissing Gates totalling £9580.00

Significant projects undertaken within 2016/17 were the purchase and laying of the mesh on the parish field and tree maintenance work on The Avenue. Additionally repairs to the Top Pumphouse were completed and a final payment was also made for the purchase of the finials that were ordered and installed in 2015/16.

The Parish Council awarded grants totalling £925.00 to the Budworth Bulletin, The Churchyard, the local Mums and Tots group and the Friends of Great Budworth School.

The Parish Council finished the year with a working balance of: £7610.1

#### **Policies and Procedures:**

The Parish Council have reviewed and updated a number of their policies this year:

- Standing Orders
- Financial Regulations
- Terms of reference for all sub committees.
- Training Policy

**Social Media:**

The Parish Council are also now widely using social media such as Twitter and Facebook as an alternative way of communicating with members of the community.”

**6. Public Forum**

**Opened: 7.10pm**

i. A query was raised regarding the cost of the tree work on the Avenue – the Parish Council explained that this is a phased project that is being undertaken over 3 years.

ii. The ongoing issue of parking in the village was raised, in particular access to and from the Parkers driveway on High Street. It was agreed that the Parish Council would assist the Parkers by placing cones on outside their property.

Cllr McAndrew advised that car parking warning notices are available from the Parish Council to be placed on cars that have been parked illegally/inconsiderately within the village.

It was agreed by all present that the parking signs advertising the available parking on the Parish Field should be used more (particularly when the village is busy) and placed at the end of School Lane and Smithy Lane.

Cllr Brudenell advised that the issue of parking will be discussed again at the July Parish Council Meeting.

iii. A concern was raised about the size of the wagons travelling through the village – a question was asked as to whether it is possible to implement a length restriction on vehicles coming through the village.

Cllr McAndrew advised that at present there is no legal restrictions in regards to the length of vehicles that is enforceable. He confirmed that the Parish Council has regular meetings with the CWAC Highways department and are looking to enforce a width and weight restriction.

**7.15 pm Cllr Wright entered the meeting.**

iv. A question was raised as to where and when the new planters on High Street will be installed.

Parish Council advised that they had received the formal notice and they should be installed shortly.

v. A concern was raised about the Home Oak at the top of the High Street opposite White Hart Barn – Cllr Brudenell advised that this is not owned by the Parish Council but by CWAC.

Clerk to contact CWAC about the concerns.

vi. Concerns were raised again about the removal of notices from the notice board before events have taken place.

Clerk to put up a notice asking that if members of the public have a concern about a notice and wish to remove it they should contact the Clerk or Chairman of the Parish Council.

**7.25pm Cllr Gibbon entered the meeting.**

**Public Forum closed at 7.25pm**

**Meeting closed 7.25pm**

Signed as a true record .....

**Chairman  
3<sup>rd</sup> July 2017**