

MINUTES of the GREAT BUDWORTH PARISH COUNCIL

ORDINARY MEETING

held at the Parish Hall at 7.30pm on MONDAY 7th JANUARY 2019

Meeting opened at 7.35pm

1. ATTENDANCE

ACTION

Chairman: R. Collier

Council Members: H. Forwood (HF); A. Lee (AL); M. Torrance (MT); P. McAndrew (PMc)

Also present:

Clerks: G. Ayres (new Clerk); R. Ollier (previous Clerk).

District Councillors: Cllr. D. Hammond

Members of the Public: 5

2. APOLOGIES

L. Hopkinson; H. Brudenell; Cllr N. Wright; Cllr. L Gibbon.

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None declared

4. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

a) It was resolved and agreed that the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Parish Council held on 5th November 2018 were an accurate record. Minutes signed by the Chairman.

b) The minutes of the Finance Committee Meeting held on 5th November 2018 were accepted as an accurate record. Minutes signed by Chairman.

5. REPRESENTATIONS FROM THE PUBLIC

A member of the public reported that a fence on the Avenue had recently blown down. John Eaton will be asked to investigate.

GA

6. MATTERS ARISING

i) Westage Lane and Heath Lane

Although it is understood that works have been finished it has not been confirmed officially that the road is open again. The Clerk will contact CWAC Highways to ascertain the position. The Clerk will also urge them to replace shrubbery removed during the works.

GA

The Council extended its thanks to Cllr Gibbon for pursuing this matter in difficult circumstances to get the works done. Her persistence is much appreciated.

ii) Traffic Mirror on Westage Lane

An email response has been received from the Council's Insurer regarding indemnity. The Clerk will check that the landowner and his solicitors are happy with this.

GA

Initial by Chairman

iii) Parish Hall Lease

The proposed meeting of 3 Parish Councillors and 3 members of the Parish Hall Committee to discuss lease renewal and financial matters will take place in February. R Collier will arrange this.

RC

Quotes are being obtained by the Committee for works to improve the hardstanding at the Parish Hall. These will be presented to the Parish Council to be signed off at its meeting in March.

iv) Website

The refresh of the Parish website is almost complete apart from a few teething problems concerning space to upload new Parish Council documents. It is much improved and Councillors are invited to take a look at it and send any comments / feedback to the Clerk.

**All
GA**

v) Lower Pumphouse

There are two elements to the work needed – stonework and woodwork (oak). The Council is happy to proceed with the quote from Mallets Stonemasonry for the former but have not yet agreed how to tackle the latter. Ideally the contract should go ahead as a one single package and R. Collier will approach Trinity Restorations for a quote with a view to achieving this.

RC

vi) Tennis Club

The Tennis Club have by email given assurances to the Parish Council regarding safeguarding, insurance and noise.

It was suggested that such matters should be included in any future lease agreements, not just with the Tennis Club. The Council owns the assets and needs to be assured that lessees have proper policies in place.

7. FINANCIAL REPORT

The recommendations from the Finance Committee Meeting on 7th January 2018 were noted and agreed by the Council.

8. PENSIONS AUTO-ENROLMENT

R Collier to approve monthly Nest pension payments. In addition, he will complete the auto-enrolment for the new Parish Clerk.

RC

9. PARKING ON SMITHY LANE

It was reported that event attendees had moved stones specifically placed on the grass verge to prevent parking. Another resident has reported repeated damage to grass verges by vehicles accessing the Parish Field.

Parking continues to be a problem in the village, especially given the issues relating to the surface of the Parish Field and poor lighting there.

Cllr Hammond reported that the problems caused to the Parish Field by the recovery vehicle churning the surface will be rectified before the next Parish Council meeting. However, the

Initial by Chairman

Council is keen to ensure that it doesn't happen again. Various options and issues concerning parking were discussed including:

- investigate fencing, permanent or temporary, to stop people parking at the bottom end of the Field;
- ensure that people booking the Church and Parish Hall for events are advised to use the Parish Field to park when the event is first discussed. Perhaps a standard notice could be issued to event organisers to this effect;
- employ a parking consultant to make recommendations but this has already been dismissed by the Council due to the costs and limited value given that a survey has already been undertaken;
- small signs to be erected on a permanent or temporary basis to advise no parking. The Clerk will explore this although it was commented that yellow lines are the only enforceable means of tackling the issue.

GA

10. PARISH COUNCILLOR VACANCY

The Council considered and approved the application of Mr John Travis. The Clerk will make the necessary arrangements to co-opt him onto the Council pending elections in May.

GA

Members of the public left the meeting.

11. PART 2 PERSONNEL MATTERS

The Council approved the appointment of the new Parish Clerk. R. Collier will issue a contract of employment. P. McAndrew will look back at his records to find a template for this. The Clerk will update all relevant parties with her contact information for Council business in due course.

GA

Meeting closed at 8.45pm.

Signed as a true record

Chairman

Initial by Chairman