

MINUTES of the GREAT BUDWORTH PARISH COUNCIL

ORDINARY MEETING

held at the Parish Hall at 7.30pm on MONDAY 2nd MARCH 2020

Meeting opened at 7.30pm

1. ATTENDANCE

ACTION

Chairman: R. Collier (RC)

Council Members: A. Lee (AL); M. Torrance (MT); J. Bowman (JB); S. Coppell (SC).

Also present: G. Ayres (Parish Clerk); and 1 member of the public.

2. APOLOGIES Cllrs. J. Robins; D. Hammond; R. Wilkinson.

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllrs. Bowman and Lee declared interests in tree works and Farthing Lane respectively.

4. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

- a) It was agreed that the minutes of the Ordinary Parish Council Meeting held on 6th January 2020 were a correct record and they were approved.
- b) The minutes of the Finance Committee Meeting held on 6th January 2020 were received.

5. REPRESENTATIONS FROM THE PUBLIC

There were no representations from the public. Cllr Collier commented that Esther McVey MP was present at a recent meeting in Comberbach that he had attended. She said she would be happy to follow up issues brought to her by the Parish Council.

6. MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

a) Highways matters Cllrs met with Jamie Barron and Andy Hamman from CWAC Highways and walked around the village with them to look at problems of potholes; broken and distorted paving stones; patching over cobbles; Smithy Lane; Farthing Lane; H bars; and safety at bus stops on the A559. As a result, a number of repairs have taken place on High St and Westage Lane. However, there is little else positive to report from the meeting except that the CWAC officers seemed more amenable to the use of double yellow lines to discourage parking, especially on the pinch point near to the Old Post Office. H bars can only be used on the same side of the road as a driveway and not on the opposite side, so will not solve the problem of ensuring access to properties on High St. but double yellow lines might. Before going down this route, and given the strength of feeling in the village (for and against) it was decided that the public will be consulted via the Budworth Bulletin. Cllr Lee will prepare a map and circulate a draft questionnaire to Cllrs for comment before it goes out in the Bulletin.

AL

It was reported that Cllr Gibbon (Marbury Ward) had recently met with the Chief Executive of CWAC. The Parish Council had urged her to raise matters of parking and highway maintenance / safety with him. The Parish Clerk will contact her to ask for feedback from this meeting.

GA

b) Parish Hall The most recent gas and electricity bills have been circulated. Concerns were raised about the price being paid per unit of gas and the difference between costs for electricity in 2018 and 2019. However, it is known that new contracts are being negotiated and it would be more appropriate to raise these issues at the Parish Hall AGM.

A meeting was held on 25th February between the Parish Council / Parish Hall Committee at which the model structure for the Charity was discussed. At that meeting it was agreed that the best way forward was via a Foundation Charitable Incorporated Organisation.

c) Parish Field As previous. The Parish Hall Committee will discuss Cllr Wilkinson's inventory to decide which essential items need to be retained. The gate still needs repairing. **RW**

d) Tree Survey The quotation from Lally Tree Management will be accepted. See Finance Committee minutes. There is a problem with epicormic growth on the lime trees along The Avenue and it is hoped that the survey will advise on the most appropriate action.

e) Tennis Club Lease As previous. Meeting has not yet been arranged. **RW**

f) Lower Pumphouse The majority of the repair work is complete apart from uncovering the stop tap; replacing the spout; and installing the water trough cover. Cllr Collier will contact Trinity Renovations to discuss these outstanding issues. CWAC have indicated that the kerb in front cannot be raised. Nor will they repair the broken paving and raising the threshold of the Pumphouse would not be appropriate. **RC**

g) Soil Analysis for Lime Trees at Noah's Ark It was agreed to wait until the outcome of the tree survey before considering any further action.

h) Farthing Lane As previous. Cllr Robins will convene a meeting between the school, the Diocese and the Parish Council to discuss the potential for parking and a turning circle at the end of Farthing Lane. Councillors are keen to progress this project. **JR**

i) BT poles and telegraph wires Concerns have been raised by a local resident about wires passing through trees. Cllr Collier has responded saying that the Parish Council has no locus in this matter.

j) Commemorating the Queen's reign 2022 As previous. An item will be placed in the March Budworth Bulletin asking for suggestions as to a suitable way of commemorating this. **JR
AL**

k) Parish Field The proposal to trial the tipping of stone / gravel on the top end of the field to improve the hardstanding was generally welcomed but questions were raised about the fact it is in a Conservation Area and the impact of stone on the netting and grass cutting. **DH
RW**

7. VILLAGE CLEAN-UP

As previous. An item will be placed in the March Budworth Bulletin to advertise the event. Clarity is needed on how the epicormic growth on the lime trees will be tackled so as to avoid worsening the problem. **JR
AL**

8. VE DAY 8th MAY 2020

No reps from the organisations planning this event were present to provide an update.

9. SMITHY LANE SURFACE

This is a matter for the residents of Smithy Lane, along with traffic accessing the car park area, the Parish Field and Parish Hall. CWAC provided a grant for previous resurfacing work. Cllr Collier will investigate getting an independent report done of the condition of the surface as "a stitch in time" might be the best policy. **RC**

Meeting closed at 8.15pm.

Signed as a true record
Chairman of the Parish Council