

MINUTES of the GREAT BUDWORTH PARISH COUNCIL

ORDINARY MEETING

held by Zoom Video at 7.00pm on MONDAY 7th SEPTEMBER 2020

Meeting opened at 7.00pm

1. ATTENDANCE

ACTION

Chairman: Cllr. R. Collier (RC)

Council Members: Cllrs. M. Torrance (MT); J. Bowman (JB); S. Coppell (SC); J. Robins (JR); D. Hammond (DH). Also present: G. Ayres (Parish Clerk)

2. APOLOGIES Cllrs. R. Wilkinson and A. Lee.

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr J. Bowman with regard to item 8 tree survey.

4. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

It was agreed that the minutes of the Ordinary Parish Council Meeting held on 13th July were a correct record and they were approved.

5. REPRESENTATIONS FROM THE PUBLIC

As advertised, the log-in details for the public to join the Zoom meeting are always available from the Parish Clerk. Only one member of the public attended. He expressed concerns that

a) Parish Council meetings are being held by Zoom. He was advised that this is in line with national guidance and most Parish Councils are operating in this way;

b) progress on the Lower Pumphouse is slow. He was advised this is because the contractor has furloughed staff. Progress is now being made and this is discussed under item 9;

c) there has been no progress on parking issues. He was disappointed that the Council has "no preferred position" as stated in the Budworth Bulletin. He was advised that the recent parking consultation had elicited few replies with a very even split between those wanting restrictions and those opposed to them. In response to one of the replies received, the Parish Council is contacting Dent Parish Council to see how they have tackled similar issues. CWAC is not supportive of restrictions but there may be a special case for the pinch point opposite Bakery Cottage.

GA

Cllr. Hammond reported another abandoned vehicle. This time by the Bowling Green. He will notify CWAC via the on-line system.

DH

6. BUDGET 2020/21

The budget for 2020/21 was reviewed against actual spend and approved by the Council.

The Clerk's salary was approved following the National Pay Award.

The following payments were reviewed and approved:

- Insurance £632.18
- Clerk's salary (incl. back pay) £398.68
- NEST pension £36.71

7. ACTIONS OUTSTANDING FROM 2nd MARCH MEETING

- a) **Parish Field** The gate has been repaired but the potential and cost for improving the surface by tipping stone is still being investigated. There is no longer any requirement to create storage space on the field. **RW**
- b) **Tennis Club Lease** No progress made to date on investigating the scope for a joint lease with the Bowling Club due to restrictions on meetings in light of Covid. **RW**
- c) **Farthing Lane** Cllr. Robins will ask the School Head to propose to Governors the idea in principle of creating a turning circle and parking at the end of Farthing Lane, in partnership with the Parish Council. If they support the idea it will then be up to them to consult the Diocese before more detailed discussions are held to flesh out the plans. **JR**
- d) **Smithy Lane** Cllr. Collier will investigate getting an independent report done on the condition of the road surface. **RC**

8. TREE SURVEY

It was agreed that the Parish Clerk will seek 3 quotations for the work to trees identified as Priority 2 in the independent arboriculturalist's survey. To keep costs down contractors will be asked to specify any work they think local volunteers might undertake safely eg removing epicormic growth. **GA**

In response to concerns about the condition of the Holm Oaks by the George and Dragon, it was pointed out that the survey specifically indicates the need for Priority 2 work on tree 3590 because of its proximity to a third-party building.

9. LOWER PUMPHOUSE

Cllr Collier reported that he had been in contact with the contractor. The galvanised steel work will be installed and the slipped roof stone repaired by the end of the week. There is a water leak beneath the floor which needs repair before the spout is replaced. He will meet the contractor to discuss this together with a local resident who has knowledge of the previous work done to the water pipe. **RC**

When the work specified in the schedule of works for the current contract is finished and signed off by the Parish Council as complete, Cllr Collier will investigate instructing a structural engineer to advise on further work to the floor and roof. **RC**

10. PARISH HALL

A draft of the CIO was circulated earlier this year and few comments received. Further progress has been hampered by the inability to hold a formal physical meeting to agree it. An addendum has been added to the Parish Hall booking conditions to address issues relating to Covid-19. A previous report on the Parish Hall heating system advised that there was no benefit in doing anything to change it. This will be looked at again by the Parish Council in 12 months. **DH**
All

11. INTERNAL AUDIT

The updated internal audit engagement letter was approved. The Clerk will sign it and send. **GA**

Meeting closed at 7.40pm.

Signed as a true record
Chairman of the Parish Council