

MINUTES of the GREAT BUDWORTH PARISH COUNCIL

ORDINARY MEETING

held by Zoom Video at 7.00pm on MONDAY 1st MARCH 2021

Meeting opened at 7.00pm

1. ATTENDANCE

ACTION

Chairman: Cllr. R. Collier (RC)

Council Members: Cllrs. A. Lee (AL); M. Torrance (MT); J. Bowman (JB); S. Coppel (SC); J. Robins (JR); D. Hammond (DH); R. Wilkinson (RW).

Also present: Cllrs. L. Gibbon and N. Wright; G. Ayres (GA - Parish Clerk)

2. APOLOGIES

None

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllrs J. Bowman and A. Lee regarding item 11.

Cllr. J. Bowman for any discussion on trees.

4. REPRESENTATIONS FROM THE PUBLIC

None

5. UPDATE FROM CWAC COUNCILLORS

Cllr. L. Gibbon updated the Parish Council on progress clearing the culvert on the A559. This is reported under item 9 below.

She also reported that

- Council Tax will increase by 4.99%.
- There is insufficient manpower to deal with flooding issues in the Borough and poor maintenance of drains and gullies. She will circulate a note of the recent Marbury Chairs meeting on this subject.
- As the Parish is within 10 miles of an eligible landfill site, the FCC Community Action Fund (previously known as WREN) may be a source of funding for projects. Round 2 for applications closes on 2nd June 2021.
- The current consultation on the CWAC Waste Strategy is open until 18th March and residents are urged to comment, especially given the big changes proposed.

ALL

6. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of the Ordinary Parish Council Meeting held on 18th January 2021 were approved. All actions identified are complete with the exception of item 13.

7. BUDGET 2020 / 21

The budget for 2020/21 was reviewed against actual spend to end January and approved by the Parish Council. Clerk expenses and pension payment were approved.

8. BUDGET 2021 / 22

The proposed budget for the next financial year was approved subject to one amendment. The figure for Maintenance Expenditure (the Avenue, trees, survey) will be reduced by £1000 to £6000 and an additional £1000 included under Parish Projects for a potential Post Covid Community Event, utilising money received for filming in the village. The details of this will be discussed further at the next Parish Council meeting.

GA

9. LOWER PUMPHOUSE

a) Water Quality

Cllr. L. Gibbon confirmed that if a Councillor is nominated to assist with the CWAC risk assessment, they will only need to charge for one hour's work (£69.50) plus the cost of the water quality analysis (£220 + VAT). Cllr. A. Lee volunteered to be the nominated person and so now the Parish Clerk can issue an order for the work to go ahead.

AL
GA

b) Culvert

Cllr. L. Gibbon confirmed that CWAC has cleared substantial amounts of debris from this as a gesture of goodwill. However, it should be the responsibility of the landowner to ensure proper maintenance. The Parish Clerk will contact CWAC Highways to ask them to write to the landowner to advise him of this.

GA

c) Repairs to floor

Recent issues with the blocked culvert have highlighted the problems of water retention in the Pumphouse. Various solutions were proposed. Cllr. D. Hammond will arrange a site meeting for himself, Cllr. R. Collier and the contractor who did paving work at the Parish Hall to agree the work needed and request a quotation. It was agreed that there is no potential for redress against the previous contractor.

DH

d) Groundworks

A member of the public has suggested hiring a digger to clear accumulated debris from the left side of the Pumphouse but Cllrs. agreed it would be best to do this manually to avoid any possible damage to the structure. A working party will be convened to do this.

JB

e) Water pipe

Cllr. R. Collier has not yet received a reply from Trinity regarding the location of the pipe so it can be marked for future reference.

RC

10. PLEACHED LIME TREES ON HIGH ST (Noah's Ark)

When the dead tree was removed, large amounts of clay and water were observed. This has most likely caused the problem and it was agreed that a soil analysis is, therefore, not necessary. The clay needs to be dug out and replaced with hardcore to aid drainage and then a new tree can be planted. Cllr. R. Wilkinson will obtain a quote for this and circulate it. He reported that the owner of the property would be prepared to contribute to this, even though on public land.

RW

11. GRANT AWARDS

Grants to the Budworth Bulletin (£450) and to the Friends of Great Budworth School (£500) for playground refurbishment were approved.

GA

12. TREES FOR CLIMATE PROJECT

It was agreed that the Parish Council will take no action on this with respect to its own land due to the minimum area stipulated. However, Cllr. M. Torrance will contact large landowners locally to encourage them to consider it.

MT

13. CYCLISTS ON THE AVENUE

The Clerk will source signs advising “no cyclists” and Cllr. S. Coppell will fix them to the gates. The Clerk will also contact John Eaton for a quote to repair the Kissing Gate at the end of Farthing Lane.

**SC
GA**

14. FILMING IN THE VILLAGE

Confirmation has been received that the sum of £750 will be donated to the Parish Council for filming “The Ipress File”. The Parish Clerk will notify Cllrs. when it arrives in the bank account.

GA

15. HGVs IN THE VILLAGE

No progress to report. CWAC Highways response to Cllr. R. Collier’s email was not helpful.

16. PARISH HALL AND PARISH FIELD AGREEMENT

Cllr. D. Hammond will arrange a meeting of CIO Trustees to discuss the proposed agreement. In the meantime, Councillors are urged to exchange emails to share their views on the agreement, especially the sections in italics. The matter will be discussed at the next Parish Council meeting in May and also at a meeting of the original Charity (Known as the Village Hall and Bowling Green) but this is unlikely to take place before the AGM in June when it is anticipated that all assets will be transferred to the new CIO.

**DH
ALL**

Meeting closed at 8.30pm.

Signed as a true record
Chairman of the Parish Council