

BRADFIELD ST. GEORGE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD
AT THE VILLAGE HALL ON WEDNESDAY 8th MARCH 2023

Present: Cllrs P Squirrell (Chairman), C Croot, C Stainer, A Therin & J Peck.
C Hibbert (clerk). WSC Cllr S Mildmay-White.
Three members of the public

The meeting opened at 7.30pm

1. APOLOGIES

Cllrs T Wright & G Mulley.

2. PUBLIC FORUM

Representatives from Wood Monkey attended to request the Council consider establishing a water supply for the allotments to support their horticultural activities; it was noted that the status of this group had recently changed to registered charity; Wood Monkey would be willing to make a financial contribution towards the costs of the water supply. Further discussion at item 7.3 below.

3. INTERESTS

3.1 CC & CS declared an interest in items 5.3 and 8.3 as Trustees of the VHMC.

3.2 No dispensation applications were received.

4. MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING DATED 11th JANUARY 2023. The minutes of the Council meeting held on 11th January 2023 were **UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED** and signed as a true and accurate record.

5. REPORTS

5.1 Suffolk County Council report. In the absence of S C Cllr Soons, a copy of her report was received which will be uploaded onto the website.

5.2 West Suffolk Council report. WS Cllr S Mildmay-White presented her report, a copy of which will be uploaded onto the website. The availability of alternative fuel grants of up to £200 was highlighted, together with the new requirements for voter photo ID in relation to the forthcoming local elections.

5.3 Village Hall report. The Chairman of the VHMC presented her report (attached).

6. PLANNING AND APPEALS

6.1 To receive planning notifications. No notifications received.

6.2 DC/22/2206/HYB A. Full application - proposed 69 kilometre pipeline and above ground infrastructure at Raydon, Rushbrooke, Raydon Tee and Wherstead; and B. Outline planning application - proposed ancillary above ground infrastructure at Little Saxham, Little Whelnetham, Nedging Tye, Hadleigh and Great Horkesley (Land at Rushbrooke Lane).

The Council considered this application and **AGREED** not to comment.

7 TO CONSIDER

7.1 Review and approve risk assessments; reviewed and **APPROVED.** Discussion followed about undertaking a safety check on the trees on the Green following the work done two years ago. It was **AGREED** that AT would undertake a visual check for deadwood, for which thanks. Members of the VHMC confirmed that they undertook regular checks on the defibrillator and reported these online. Clerk to investigate defibrillator awareness training dates.

7.2 Review asset register; the register of assets, attached, was reviewed and **APPROVED.** The clerk reported that she had undertaken a visual check of the assets on the register in February 2023 – all checked apart from the apple press which is stored in the Village Hall shed. The meeting heard that the noticeboard on the green remains in poor repair.

Signature.....

7.3 Elections; the meeting discussed the forthcoming elections; it was noted that councillors who wish to continue in that role will need to complete and submit their nomination papers in accordance with the timetable to be confirmed shortly by WSC.

7.4 Allotment update; the meeting; (i) received a letter (containing £20 'backdated rent') from a previous tenant who also gave notice of his intention to clear his belongings from his former plot before the year end; and (ii) considered the request for a water supply raised in public forum further. Discussion followed about the cost and process for establishing a water supply. It was noted that there may be some funding available from SCC/WSC, in addition to the offer of a donation by Wood Monkey; it was generally agreed that the cost of water usage should be wholly recovered from tenants in the future via an increase in rent; some draft costings have been prepared; measures for preventing wastage were discussed (ie use of tank and ballcock/ auto shut off) were discussed; the annual allotment tenancy review (autumn) was noted; the need for consultation with existing tenants was discussed. It was **AGREED** that; (a) the clerk would investigate whether a charity can be an allotment tenant; (b) the clerk/AT would investigate a more accurate costing for establishing a water supply; (c) the Council would consult with tenants as to any proposed rent increase; (d) the Council would investigate the availability of grant funding.

7.5 Coronation update. It was **AGREED** to keep local plans to mark this occasion under review.

8. FINANCES

8.1 To receive and approve the bi-monthly financial summary for January-February 2023; received and **APPROVED**.

8.2 To approve payments to be issued; the following online payments were **APPROVED**.

Detail	Cheque no/online authorisation				
1.	Plusnet	DD	22.96	4.59	27.55
2.	Plusnet	DD	22.96	4.59	27.55
3.	VHMC –room hire	online	20.00		20.00
4.	wage	online	579.00		579.00
5.	tax	online	131.80		131.80
6.	SALC	online	19.00	3.80	22.80

8.3 To appoint SALC as internal auditor; The meeting **RESOLVED** to appoint SALC as annual auditor.

8.4 Review adequacy of internal controls. The draft statement of internal controls was reviewed and **APPROVED**. The meeting **AGREED** that the internal controls were adequate. It was noted that AT would complete the internal checklist for the six month period to 31 March 2023, for which thanks.

9. CORRESPONDENCE AND CIRCULARS The following correspondence was received;-

9.1 SALC e bulletins;

9.2 WSC information on elections;

9.3 correspondence re allotments.

10. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The date of the next meeting is Wednesday 10th May 2023 at 7.30pm (to follow the Annual meeting on the same date).

The meeting closed at 8.30pm.

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Attachment to item 5.3
Bradfield St George Village Hall Management Committee
Chair's report to the Parish Council March 2023

There have been 2 Bradfield Nights since the last report and both were well attended and excellent food and ale were enjoyed by many. There have been live streamings of Rugby matches and the VH AGM at which the committee were all re-elected and joined by a new member from Little Whelnetham.

There have been a few private bookings and one regular booking. The other regular booking has unfortunately ceased as the teacher now has premises at home from which to teach. We now have capacity to take another regular booking for classes should there be any inquiries.

The search for a plumber to replace the wash hand basin the ladies' loo is still ongoing.

Attachment to item 7.2

BRADFIELD ST. GEORGE ASSETS REGISTER

As at 08th March 2023 the following assets were held:-

Item	Location	Purchased	Value
Village Green	Church Road	Pre 2003	current agricultural rate £5,500 approx
Allotments	Church Road/Rougham Road	Pre 2003	current agricultural rate £4,500 approx.
Village sign	Cnr. Freewood Street	Pre 2003	£2,811
Notice Board	Freewood Street	2006	£810
Notice Board	Village Hall	2010	£340
Replacement Coronation Seat	T junction /Rougham Road	2011	£400
Bench	Oakey Lea	2020	£345
BT phone Kiosk	Hollybush Cnr. Inc shelving		£1 + £795.70 =£796.70
4 Grit bins	1 Top of Freewood Street 1 in storage 1 Hollybush Corner 1 Maypole Green	2012	£530x 2/3 = £353
Defibrillator and housing	Village Hall	2020	£2,140
Apple press	Village Hall	2022	£948
Wild fowl signage	Nr Smallwood Green	2022	£228
Total value			£19,171.70

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