

Brinkworth Parish Council

Minutes of the Brinkworth Parish Council Meeting

Held at 7pm on Monday 8th August 2022 in the Brinkworth Village Hall Reading Room

Present:- Cllr Clothier (Chair), Cllr Gibbs, Cllr L Burois, Cllr Hazlewood, Cllr Greener, Cllr O Burois, Cllr Parson, Cllr Evans, Wilts Cllr E Threlfall, Mary Evans (Clerk)

Apology for absence was received from Cllr G Threlfall

Cllr Millard was also absent

Declaration of interest on agenda items There were no declarations of interest.

063/22 To approve and sign as a correct record the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on July 11th 2022

The minutes of the meeting held on July 11th were altered at item 050/22 to read that there are six salt bins. The minutes were then signed as a true and accurate record of the meeting.

064/22 Report from Wiltshire Councillor E Threlfall

Rollout of Energy Grant Scheme continues at pace 140,0000 eligible households in Wiltshire have now received their £150 Government energy rebate. Those households that are due a payment and haven't applied will shortly have £150 credited to their council tax accounts. This process will affect around 13,500 households. Once the payment is applied a new council tax bill will be issued. The Government has given the council a discretionary fund to help households on low incomes who live in properties in bands E-H. We have identified around 1,400 households eligible for this discretionary payment and will be writing to them week commencing 8 August explaining how to submit their details. This includes households in receipt of council tax reduction, properties that have been adapted for a disabled person and households where people are disregarded for council tax because of disability. Households that meet the qualifying criteria and who pay by direct debit will automatically have the funds paid direct to their bank accounts. We are also opening up the scheme to applications from other households in bands E-H. Details of the scheme, the qualifying criteria and the application form can be found at <https://www.wiltshire.gov.uk/council-tax-energy-rebate>. Residents should note that the council will not be phoning them to ask for bank details.

Due to the dry conditions at Lyneham Bank it has now been possible to start to assess the damage and updates will follow . See www.wiltshire.gov.uk/highways-b4069-lyneham-banks A consultation of additional traffic management will follow soon. Meanwhile work has been done to improve damaged verges resulting from the extra traffic on other routes including Trow Lane, Bowds Lane and Manor Farm Lane.

Two weeks ago, a large number of joy riders (50+) were causing a nuisance on Callow Hill at night and using the car park at Callow Park. The PCSO has since visited and it is understood that the owner of Callow Park has now agreed to put gates on the car park.

Wilts Cllr E Threlfall reported that the Motocross practice track at Whites Farm is now an enforcement issue.

It should be noted that it was not the John Hunt who farms Manor Farm who recently sold land to travellers and others, but his father – who has now left the village and lives elsewhere.

The planning at Poppy House has been approved but with conditions. Cllr Burois questioned who would monitor these conditions. Cllr Parsons and Cllr Evans spoke at the appeal. Cllr Gibbs asked if any of the neighbours spoke for or against the planning. Cllr Gibbs thanked Cllr's Parsons and Evans for attending. One of the conditions is that the house and paddock cannot be sold separately.

065/22 Planning Applications

PL/2022/05543 Cheesley Hill Farm, Cheesley Hill, Grittenham SN154JX. Change of use from agriculture to ancillary building (Class 3). The councillors Supported this application with the condition that it be tied to the house.

PL/2022/05159 Lonsdale House, East End, Brinkworth SN155ED Dormer window to rear elevation to create new ensuite shower room. The councillors Supported this application.

066/22 Callow Hill Bus Shelter Cllr Gibbs

The Parish Steward has removed the shards of glass in the shelter. The shelter is now ready for panels to be replaced. However, the councillors questioned the need for the panels to be replaced. It was agreed to leave them.

067/22 Churchyard South Wall Cllr Gibbs

Cllr Gibbs reported that the Stone Mason will commence work on the Church Wall next Monday. The Clerk will write to direct neighbouring properties to inform them of the forthcoming work.

068/22 Vegetation at Barnes Green Hill Railings Cllr Gibbs

The verges at by the railings at Box Green/Barnes Green are very overgrown and it would require traffic control for the Parish Steward to cut it back. Although it will be cut back by highways in the near future Cllr Evans will report it on MYWiltshire.

069/22 Damaged Road surface, Penns Lodge Cllr Gibbs

Cllr Gibbs reported that the road surface in the Penns Lodge area has become very badly damaged by large lorries and tractors. Wilts Cllr E Threlfall suggested reporting it to highways with photos. Cllr Evans will report it on MYWiltshire. Cllr Greener said that the temporary repairs made by highways were very substandard and needed re-doing straight away.

070/22 Increased number of concrete blocks, Penns Lodge Area Cllr Gibbs

The use of concrete blocks on verges outside houses has escalated with a number of very large blocks appearing outside houses on Stoppers Hill. These blocks have been placed on Highway land and are causing a danger. The Clerk will write to the properties to ask them to remove them.

071/22 Boy Racers/ Travellers Cllr Gibbs

Cllr Gibbs reported that joy riders were racing round the orchard in Callow Hill like Stock Cars. They were causing a great nuisance to local residents and police were unable to attend immediately. See Wilts Cllr report above.

Cllr Gibbs reported that about 25 travellers were attempting to move onto accessible fields or recreation grounds and asked the councillors to be extra vigilant, particularly with the recreation ground in Brinkworth.

072/22 Use of Recreation Field Cllr Greener

Purton Football Club have approached the BPC with a view to the club using the Brinkworth rec on a temporary basis whilst their pitch is being re-sown. Cllr Gibbs pointed out that we are tenants of the field and have no insurance for outside groups. We need to know if Purton's insurance will cover them whilst at another pitch. If they want to use the pitch, they must use it as it is. Cllr Clothier proposed that they apply in writing with details of what they want and any insurance they have. It was agreed that if they do use the pitch a nominal charge should be made.

073/22 Neighbourhood Plan – Housing Survey Cllr Greener

Cllr Greener reported that there had been a small attendance at the NP open meeting with a distinct lack of the younger residents of the village. Given that the planning is for their future this is concerning.

The housing survey starts on September 7th when all residents will receive a card asking them to log on to the website to complete the survey. The cards will be distributed in the same way as the Jubilee flyers. Cllr Greener and Cllr Parsons will be available to help anyone who has trouble accessing the website.

074/22 Use of rec by outside groups Cllr Clothier

Covered in 072/22

075/22 Renewal of Parish Online Cllr Evans

The Parish Online subscription is due for renewal at a cost of £90 +vat. This was agreed unanimously

076/22 Maintenance of War Graves Clerk

Mick Moreton is a local resident who has offered to maintain the war graves in the cemetery. There are three war graves which used to be maintained annually by the War Graves Commission but it isn't know if they still do it. Mick's offer was gratefully received.

077/22 Review Clerk's pay Cllr Clothier

As the NALC National Salary Awards are always very late (Salaries effective 01/04/2021 were published 02/03/2022) Cllr Clothier proposed that we increase our Clerk's salary by 1.5% on her review date of 1st September and adjust in line with the Awards for 2022/23 when they are to hand. The meeting supported this proposal but at 2.0%.

Expenses

Clerk's salary	£827.93	To include back pay
HMRC	£207.14	
Greenwood Williams	£240.00	Accountants

Greenscape	£692.40	
EDF	£15.82	Electricity to rec
Mary Evans	£26.65	Stationery

All these expenses were agreed.

AOB

Cllr Evans reported that the Oak Tree on the mound has gone into a winter state due to the hot weather. The tree is being watered regularly. Cllr Clothier is waiting for costing for a plaque stand.

Cllr Evans advised the PC that the police preferred reporting equipment for speeding offences within Wiltshire is the auto speed watch type of equipment. This records traffic data and photographs of offending vehicles. Wilts Cllr Threlfall informed that she had reviewed the data collated in Dauntsey and the problem would appear to be the administration of the sheer volume of data collated. Cllr Evans will investigate costs and report back at the next meeting.

Tim Cowley has given the BPC a quote for repairing the notice boards in the village. He will repair and refurbish the four notice boards for £340. The Clerk will ask him to go ahead with this.

Cllr Parsons reported that there had been fly tipping in Braydonside; she will report this on MyWilshire.

Cllr O Burois reported that there is a new bus service through the village with passengers being able to go straight through to Chippenham. Cllr O Burois felt that the BPC should have been alerted about this so that local residents are aware. Cllr L Burois will put the new timetable into the Outlook.

Cllr L Burois said that the Best Kept Village is still being judged but hopefully we should know the results very soon.

Cllr Gibbs reported that the BPC had been alerted that Motocross meeting had been cancelled due to the very dry weather and dust.

Cllr Clothier reported that a benefactor had put up a sum of money to Dauntsey Vale Link Scheme for a food bank which is available to those in need. This is a confidential service. Cllr L Burois will post an advert into Outlook.

The BPC has received an application from Michael Moreton to join the Parish Council. The councillors agreed that Michael is eminently suitable and will be an asset to the council. The Clerk will write to him. There is also interest from another local resident who will be asked to submit his application.

The date of the next meeting is September 12th 2022

There being no further business the meeting closed at 20:20

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