

Brinkworth Parish Council

Minutes of the Brinkworth Parish Council meeting held on Tuesday 16th May 2023 in the Brinkworth Village Hall

Present:- Cllr Clothier (Chair), Cllr O Gibbs, Cllr M Evans, Cllr O Burois, Cllr L Burois, Cllr G Greener, Cllr M Moreton, Cllr J Millard, Cllr W Hazlewood, Cllr J Clarke, Wilts Cllr Threlfall, Mary Evans (Clerk)

Apologies: - Cllr A Parsons

002/23 Declaration of Interest There were no declarations of Interest

003/23 Election of Chair / Vice Chair Cllr Gibbs proposed Cllr Clothier as Chair of the Brinkworth Parish Council; Cllr Evans seconded. The vote was unanimous and Cllr Clothier was voted in as Chair.

Cllr Moreton was proposed as vice chair and seconded by Cllr Evans.

004/23 To approve and sign as a correct record the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on April 11th 2023. The minutes were duly signed as a correct and accurate record of the meeting.

005/23 Presentation and Approval of Accounts Cllr Clothier presented the accounts and proposed that they were adopted; the vote was unanimous. The accounts are currently with the auditors and will be posted when they have been passed.

006/23 Report from Wiltshire Councillor Threlfall Wilts Cllr Threlfall apologised for the poor state of the roads and encouraged the councillors to continue reporting any potholes on the MyWiltshire.app. One contributing factor could be that the contractors have to be changed every three years resulting in little continuity.

Cllr Evans expressed his concern about the increasing number of large lorries going down School Hill taking earth to Whites Farm. The earth is piling up and Cllr Evans is concerned about the safety aspect and the lack of planning. WCCllr Threlfall said she would take this forward.

Cllr Gibbs raised the issue, potentially, of the lack of toilet facilities and wash basins at the Whites Farm Motocross Track. Wilts Cllr Threlfall will look into the public health aspect.

007/29 Burials and Memorials The Clerk reported that there has been one Parishioner burial this month.

008/23 Planning Applications

PL/2023/02847 Ty Coed, Barnes Green, Brinkworth SN155AG Single Story Extension

The Councillors voted unanimously to Support this application.

PL/2023/02419 3 Wood Lane, Brinkworth SN155EF Proposed Front, Side, Rear extension and Detached Garage The councillors discussed this application and found confusion in relation to the existing planning application for the house next door. Due to this complexity they would recommend that, in the event of both applications receiving permission, a single Planning Officer should cover both projects.

In absence of any contradictory evidence the application was passed by the BPC.

PL/2023/03523 Land south of White House Cottage, Callow Hill SN155DZ Erection of two detached dwellings with associated car parking, vehicular access, tree works and landscaping.

The proposed application is for two five bedrooms (in part three story) houses to be built on

agricultural land. This would not be infill. The councillors were unanimously opposed to the application.

PL/2023/03517 Commercial Garage Premises and Adjacent building (Glenview), The Causeway SN155DJ. Demolition of existing garage premises and adjacent dwelling (Glenview) to

accommodate 4No. new detached dwellings. Cllr Burois expressed his concern about the poor access to the proposed houses. Cllr Greener made the following points: - there is no mention of how these houses will meet the carbon zero policy of Wiltshire Council by 2030, not all the houses have a designated 'work from home' space. There is no mention of maximum use of loft space; there is no provision for electric vehicle charging or any other ecological consideration. The only requirement for houses in the next ten years is for smaller homes designed for the need of young families and older people. From the Housing Survey undertaken by WCC, these consist of 3 one-bedroom homes, 2 two-bedroom homes and 1 four-bedroom home. Only one house in this application meets this need but this is unlikely to be affordable. Cllr Evans questioned whether, for the first step there could be another business opportunity which could go there. Councillor Burois identified that, although parking requirement for each was met, there was no facility for any other vehicles to park without obstructing the planned parking.

Cllr Gibbs reported that, prior to being a motorbike shop it was a garage and it is possible that there are still tanks in the ground which could have caused ground contamination.

Because of overdevelopment, being not ecologically sound, misleading application and insufficient parking, the Council voted unanimously not to support this application.

009/23 Planning Enforcement Wiltshire Enforcement have raised issue regarding the noise management at Callow Hill, the building of a large structure at The Brinkworth Kennels and the large concrete bollards on Stoppers Hill. Wilts Cllr Threlfall reported that there is a severe lack of staff in this department so there may be a delay in resolving the issues. However, the BPC will continue to monitor the situation.

010/23 Planning Query. The Mount, School Hill, Brinkworth It was suggested by the applicant that item 166/22 in the February BPC minutes is inaccurate. The original planning application (no 1738 Approval of Detailed Plans) clearly shows permission to build a three-bedroom bungalow. The original comment was therefore factually correct and not anecdotal as claimed by the applicant. The minutes will stand as written.

011/23 The Three Crowns Cllr O Burois confirmed that The Three Crowns is now closed. The rent on the pub is very high and the pub was not attracting enough customers to make it viable. The Three Crowns belongs to Stonegate Properties and it was suggested that the BPC writes to them to see if there is any way they could make the pub more attractive to potential landlords. Cllr Clothier and the Clerk will work on this.

012/23 Use of the recreation ground The councillors confirmed that they are in agreement with a local family using the rec for a family party. This will not be exclusive use.

013/23 Emergency Centre It was confirmed that The Village Hall will be used as an Emergency Centre as and when necessary.

014/23 Planning Enforcement Cllr Evans challenged the effectiveness of the Enforcement team at WCC, recording that issues across the village had been being pursued by the BPC for up to three years. WCCllr Threllefall said that Enforcement is not a legal requirement of the Council, but that WCC does work towards this, and again expressed the challenges they are working under.

Cllr Evans questioned whether the Planning Officers ever revisit the result of applications to see how well their decisions match the environment. In particular he cited the Lindum House development, on which the general consensus is that the site is overdeveloped with houses that are detrimental to the ambience of the village.

There followed a break for the Annual Meeting (please see supplement)

015/23 Documents to History Centre Cllr Evans made the councillors aware of the Swindon & Wiltshire History Centre in Chippenham and suggested that the BPC archive material could be stored there; the councillors agreed to this suggestion. Cllr Evans and the Clerk will go through all the old records; many of which are currently held in the village in outbuildings.

016/23 Appeal Hearing Cllr Evans, Cllr Greener and Cllr Gibbs attended the Grittenham Appeal hearing in Chippenham. Cllr Evans expressed his disappointment in the meeting saying that the number of Grittenham residents attending, compared with the numbers that turned out for the BPC meetings to discuss the situation was not as high as expected. Given their vociferous challenge to the BPC at two meetings, he felt it was a wasted opportunity for them to speak up and reiterate their concerns to the Planning Inspector. It was felt that the Councillors on the appeal panel were woefully under prepared for the meeting and seemed that evident that there was insufficient preparation for the challenges that were presented.

WCCllr Threlfall said that the recommendation that 'brain storming' planning sessions on likely issues would be exercised in future.

017/23 Callow Hill Bus Stop Cllr Evans reported on the state of the bus stop at Callow Hill and requested that he could seek quotes to get it painted. The councillors were in agreement with this.

018/23 Neighbourhood Plan Cllr Greener is hoping to get the final draft and requested that everyone reads it prior to it being posted on the Brinkworth Parish Council website. Cllr Greener will send it out as soon as possible.

019/23 Internal Audit Cllr Gibbs asked when an internal audit would be carried out. Cllr Clothier reported that an internal audit is only carried out once a year and that the accounts are currently with the auditors.

020/23 CIL Payments Cllr Gibbs posed the question of CIL payments on The Rectory as it has increased in size by 30%, also for the house on The Common and Somerwood House. The Clerk will look into this.

021/23 MyWiltshire App. Cllr Gibbs alerted the councillors that he has reported various issues on the MyWiltshire app including photographic evidence but hasn't heard anything back. Conversely, Cllr Evans said that he heard about an item he reported straight away. WCC Threlfall will follow up on the efficiency of keeping people updated.

022/23 Highways Parish Steward Visits Cllr Gibbs reported that he still hasn't heard from the Brinkworth Parish Steward and the jobs are starting to pile up. Wilts Cllr Threlfall suggested that Cllr Gibbs chases this up with Martin Cook.

023//23 Outstanding Enforcement Issues Cllr Gibbs asked the Clerk to write to Enforcement regarding the garage conversion at Green Gables, The Common and also the mobile home which is now being used for an office and other purposes at Fritterswell Farm.

The question of the bollards on Stoppers Hill was raised. The Clerk reported that she had written to Enforcement again for any updates but has not heard so far. Cllr Moreton questioned whether it was

right to single out one house but the Clerk assured him that all the houses on Stoppers Hill had been written to initially, but enforcement deemed that the bollards on Stoppers Hill did pose a safety issue. *Subsequent to this meeting the Clerk has been informed from Enforcement that, unless the bollards are removed by June 1st the matter will be passed to the legal department.*

024/23 Car Park The initial meeting has been held but it was felt that, until grants had been sourced it would be unwise engage a contractor.

The following expenses were passed

£237.50	Ansty Family	Rent for recreation ground
£7.00	Village Hall	Use of Main Hall
£1543.20	Greenscape	Grass Cutting
£110:33	PAYE	
£441:30	Mary Evans	Clerks Salary
£21:80	Water2business	Water supply to rec

AOB

Cllr Gibbs reported that the Callow Hill residents would like the SID moved to Callow Hill. Cllr Evans alerted the councillors that he is no longer able to physically move the SID's and asked for volunteers to help Cllr O Burois with the task; there were no volunteers although Cllr Clarke will help as soon as he is able.

Cllr O Burois reported that the footpath group are putting a new gate leading onto the footpath by the motorcycle shop.

Cllr O Burois reported that the Litter Pick had gone ahead with sadly, only a few villagers helping and half the councillors. The BPC were grateful for their support, when some 30 bags of assorted rubbish was collected.

Cllr Moreton reported that the goal posts on the rec were too large for younger children and requested that some child size goals be installed. Cllr Evans pointed out that a lot of people use the football pitch on an ad hoc basis so the goals cannot be removed. The possibility of removable child size goals will be explored. It was also pointed out that the current goals are potentially dangerous with concrete blocks supporting them.

There being no other business the meeting closed at 21:30. Date of next meeting Monday 12th June 2023