

BURTON BRADSTOCK PARISH COUNCIL

Chairman: Cllr D Dixon

Clerk: Mrs M Harding



Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 7th January 2015

Present: Cllr D Dixon, Cllr Gill Mayo, Cllr G Moody, Cllr A Ross, Cllr I Troup, Cllr D Venn

Cllr John Russell (WDC) and 5 members of Public.

2015/01-1 To receive apologies for absence- Cllr D Batten, Cllr K Delves, Mrs Michele Harding (Clerk), Cllr Ron Coatsworth (DDC).

2015/01-2 To receive declarations of interest and grants of dispensation: Cllr G Mayo declared a pecuniary interest in Item 13: Post Office.

2015/01-3 Parishioner's comments- (15 minutes on agenda items for decision only):

Margaret Harding asked that in relation to the proposed Corncrake Management Plan, consideration be given to sowing yellow rattle and other wild flower seed in 2015 rather than 2016. Cllr Dixon said this would be considered under Item 8.

B James referred to her letter (noted under Item 10) and elaborated on the need for funds for new equipment for Bridport Community Hospital. In relation to the future new tenancy of the Post Office and Village shop she advised the PC to be careful and not set the rent too high.

Cllr J Russell noted that contrary to the draft minutes he was present at the PC's December meeting.

2015/01-4 To approve the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 3rd December 2014 and sign the same

The draft minutes were altered to note Cllr J Russell's presence and to delete the text under minute 2014/12-11 beginning "A planning meeting..." to "...Resolved" and then proposed for approval.

Proposed Cllr D Venn

Seconded Cllr A Ross

Resolved

2015/01-5 Matters' arising from above minutes for information only and the Action List -

The Action List was altered in relation to parking at the toilets and yellow lines at Barrowfield to note that as agreed at the December meeting the timescale was "a future meeting".

Cllr Ross would accompany John Lewis at the meeting with HAGS re problems with the playground equipment. In preparation he would contact the Clerk re any information on better performing equipment and its supplier(s). Cllr Russell noted that Wicksteed supplied play equipment.

Cllr Dixon noted that the supervised hedge laying to be held on 10th January was fully subscribed.

2015/01-6 Finance & General Purposes-

i. To consider the Finance Report, F & G P recommendations including payments

a) To receive the Finance Report, approve payments and consider the amount to be invested in the Santander 1 year Bond Account

Cllr Troup noted that the bank reconciliation was in order and proposed that future reports should include transactions made in the previous month but not recorded in the previous Finance Report to make the report fully transparent.

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It was proposed to accept the Report, approval of the payments noted, and to make the changes to the Finance Report.

Proposed Cllr I Troup

Seconded Cllr G Moody

Resolved

There was discussion of Cllr Moody's email concerning the Council's reserves, contingencies and spending plans, and it was proposed that £35,000 should be invested in the Santander Bond.

Proposed Cllr G Moody

Seconded Cllr I Troup

Resolved

b) To approve works to the Library

Cllr Moody reported that Dorset County Council's approval to the works subject to compliance with any requirements of the Listed Building Officer had been received, and the Parish Council was recommended to approve the works subject to the same conditions.

Proposed Cllr G Moody

Seconded Cllr D Dixon

Resolved

c) To consider the Clerk's Contract of Employment

Following completion of the Clerk's appraisal Cllr Moody had circulated a report recommending proposals for aims, objectives and changes to how the PC operates out for the Clerk and Councillors, together with recommended changes to the Clerk's Job Description.

The issue of weekly surgeries was discussed, in particular that few if any Parishioners used the facility and that the filing backlog had been overcome.

Together with the recommendations from the Clerk's appraisal it was recommended that the surgery sessions be stopped, with the Clerk attending the Reading Room as and when necessary and contact details for the Clerk being placed on the Council's Notice Boards.

Propose Cllr I Troup

Seconded Cllr D Venn

Resolved

d) To consider the repairs & maintenance report

The report set out costings for the refurbishment of five "historic" finger posts totalling £1,268 and including £600 for new cast iron rings. The work would involve input from the Volunteers of some 130 hours. The Repair & Maintenance Executive (RME) was thanked for his work in preparing the costings, with thanks to the Volunteers for being prepared to put in so much effort. It was noted that the West Dorset AONB was being pursued as to the extent of grant aid that might be forthcoming for the posts. It was proposed that the Clerk be actioned to pursue this and in particular whether the amount depended on new cast iron rings being included in the refurbishment. It was also proposed that the works proceed with the exception of the new cast iron rings, this item being reconsidered once the Council had received answers from the AONB.

Proposed Cllr G Moody

Seconded Cllr Irene Troup

Resolved

The report also set out options for purchasing an "A" frame display for advertising events. The RME noted that the cheaper option had better reviews, and it was proposed to purchase the cheaper option.

Proposed Cllr D Dixon

Seconded Cllr G Mayo

Resolved

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2015/01-7 To consider the feedback on the Corncrake Management Plan and approve a version for adoption

Cllr Dixon noted that there had been a good attendance at the consultation event, with 65 recorded attendees. His report contained a range of comments and proposed changes to the draft Management Plan. He had taken these into consideration and put forward a revised draft Management Plan for the Council's consideration.

An obscured part of the draft was clarified as relating to dead wood being left on decay to provide a micro habitat.

There was discussion of the sowing of yellow rattle, and Cllr Dixon noted that advice received from the Dorset Wildlife Trust was to establish the means of taking a hay crop before sowing any wild flower seed. Cllr Moody noted that yellow rattle could be sown in the autumn after the hay crop had been taken. It was agreed that this would be incorporated into the Management Plan and with this change and the clarification noted above the Plan was recommended for adoption.

Proposed Cllr I Troup Secoded Cllr D Venn Resolved

2015/01-8 To consider the Chairman for the next Parish Council meeting- 4th February 2015

Cllr Moody was nominated.

Proposed Cllr D Venn Secoded Cllr D Dixon Resolved

2015/01-9 To consider the Parish Clerk's report of Correspondence

The Clerk would write to the EA thanking them for the prompt repair of the flood ditch wall alongside Greenwich Cottage. The letter would also ask them to confirm their moving the fence alongside the Bride in the playing field and Corncrake to allow the Bride-side walk.

In relation to repair of the damage to the flood ditch wall next to the toilet car park, the Clerk would pursue DCC Highways.

To assist with identifying repairing responsibilities to the flood ditch along Common Lane the Clerk would pursue title enquiries of land to the south of the playing field and Corncrake with the Land Registry. This might also help in identifying the derelict pond mentioned in the Corncrake Management Plan.

Cllr Dixon referred to the WDDC Planning Officer's report on Burton Mere recommending that the development proceed. After detailed consideration at the November Planning Committee meeting, the Parish Council had objected to the proposals. The Councillors would consider the Officer's report and whether it should seek representation at the Planning Committee meeting on 15th January 2015 when the report would be considered. Notice of such representation would need to be given to WDDC by 5pm on 14th January.

2015/01-10 Items for the BVN

The deadline for BVN items had passed but items had been sought via email. It was noted that the new tenancy of the Post Office and Village Shop had been included.

2015/01-11 Parishioner's open comments (15 minutes maximum allowed)

Margaret Harding congratulated the people who had erected and decorated the Village Green Christmas tree - and commended the Parish Council for buying it.

B James urged the Council to take action on her proposed yellow lines at Barrowfield so that they would be in place for the summer.

J Lewis noted that the surface of Gages Lane had been reshaped, which should assist to reduce flooding in Shadrach. He also noted that to further to guard against flooding a number of ditches

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needed repair and maintenance. DCC had undertaken to pursue relevant owners but there were difficulties in identifying who they were. He proposed that the Parish Council keep a register as owners were identified. It was also proposed that title searches of the fields to the north and west of the Cott site, Shipton Lane, be pursued with the Land Registry.

Proposed Cllr D Dixon

Seconded Cllr G Moody

Resolved

P Tompkins emphasized the need to repair the flood ditch wall adjacent to the toilets on Common Lane as the area was currently unsafe. He noted that he believed that the Environment Agency owned the ditch to the west of the car park outside the toilets.

T Jones commented that he was pleased that the Notice Board had been moved to the bus shelter and that a seat had been provided therein.

The public part of the meeting closed at 8.30 pm

Chairman Cllr G Moody

4th February 2015