

Brilley Parish Council

Minutes of The Parish Council Ordinary Meeting of Parish Council on
Tuesday 14th March 2023 at 19.30 in Brilley Village Hall

Present: Alasdair Stevenson (AS), Vice Chairman acting as Chairman), Liz Tucker (LS), Gareth Bufton (GB) and Steve Anning (SA).

Also present 3 members of the public, Ward Councillor Graham Jones and Emma, Noble, Parish Clerk, RFO.

1. **To receive apologies of absence** – Adrian Chapman
2. **To receive declarations of interest and written applications for dispensation** – no declarations received neither were any requests for dispensation received.
3. **To adopt minutes of previous meeting** – Extra Ordinary Meeting 20th February 2023 – The minutes were proposed by LT and seconded by GB to be a true account of the meeting, It was recommended that the minutes be adopted and present agreed – the minutes were therefore ADOPTED.
4. **Public Forum –**
 - 4.1. Ward Councillor – To receive report – Ward Cllr Jones reported that a full council meeting took place on the 3rd March where the Council Tax increase of 4.99% was ratified. There was a 6.2 % average precept increase of for parish councils. Also passed was a legal bylaw for the River Wye which Herefordshire Council and the Police having worked on in regard to restoring the River Wye and its tributaries to good health. Ward Cllr Jones reported that the Home Office had requested to use the Three Counties Hotel for those seeking asylum.
In regard to local matters Dark Lane has been re-opened and Graham is due to meet with Paul Hunter, Locality Steward, before his term ends as Ward Cllr. Graham advised that any issues the parish council have regarding the roads/ditches etc please contact Graham who will do his best to include them in his final parish drive. The road by The Buildings is still of concern and ongoing.

On behalf of the parish council AS thanked Graham for his support and contribution to the parish in the last 4 years and wish him well for the future.
 - 4.2 Local Residents – At Chairman's discretion, up to 10 mins will be allocated for the public to make representations, ask questions & give evidence in respect of any item on the agenda. Maximum of 2 mins per person is allowed. Item is not for comment on parish council discussions or decisions. Issues raised will be in public minutes and may be videoed or recorded –

One local resident raised concerned regarding the local flooding to The Rest during heavy rain storms. This has been investigated by BB several times and is on the list of jobs that were going to be completed in the 22/23 financial year but yet Balfour Beatty have not rectified the issue which is believed to be the pipe network is going up hill along with possible issues with pipework. The residents have raised the floor level and put electrical goods on pallets. Graham will look at the issue with Paul Hunter and report back to the parish council. The clerk will email Graham with the photos of previous flooding to the property.
ACTION: CLERK
5. **Planning**
 - 5.1 To consider planning applications determined by Herefordshire Council
 - 5.2 To note planning decisions made by Herefordshire Council – P230455 – non material amendment – refused – this was NOTED.
- 6 **To receive update on Dark Lane** – the lane has now re opened and further issues have been raised.
- 7 **To receive update on footpaths** – LT is gathering further information and will report back at the next meeting in May. There is a PROW meeting with Herefordshire Council on the 24th March and either LT or AS will attend. LS will confirm with AS.
- 8 **To consider Litter Pick** - The possible dates of a litter pick were discussed at length. There is a parish celebration of a shared lunch at the village hall to celebrate the Kings Coronation over the bank holiday weekend. The 'Keep Britain Tidy' Community litter pick is promoted nationally as 17th March – 2nd April

however it was deemed that there would not be enough preparation time for this. It was therefore decided that Monday 8th May would be the date for the community litter pick and this will start at 10am. The clerk will request some litter pick packs from Balfour Beatty. Those wishing to take part in the pick will be advised to go to the hall to collect the packs and be given maps which confirm the area of parish they have been allocated to litter pick as this will hopefully eliminate duplication. The clerk will contact Fiona Ritchie regarding advertising the event. **ACTION: CLERK**

- 9 **To consider community gift** – A gesture on behalf of the community to thank Roger Bayliss for his service to the parish council was discussed. The parish council considered a bench or tree for the community. It was felt the location of the tree/bench would be most beneficial sited where the residents would benefit and this would be the village hall. The village hall committee are due to meet soon and this will be presented to the committee and reported back to the parish council.
- 10 **Police Charter** – This was discussed by all present and was agreed by all that the items on the current charter are still valid. GB proposed and SA seconded that the charter stay as it presently is 1) Thefts 2) Wildlife Crime and 3) other traffic offences. The clerk will invite SNP Felix Rowlestone to the Annual Parish Meeting. **ACTION: CLERK**

11 To consider the following policies

- 11.1 Financial Regulations
- 11.2 Standing Orders

It was agreed that AS will look at the policies and feed back to the parish council as appropriate. The policies will be presented to the parish council at the Annual Parish Council Meeting in May.

12. Financial Procedures – To note financial position, bank reconciliation and consider the following payments and income against budget.

The bank reconciliation was NOTED and expenditure was in line with the budget.

- 12.1 To consider PG Watts, Lengthsman for February 2023 - ACTIONED
- 12.2. To consider clerks salary in accordance with the agreed budget, 12th Feb – 18th March - ACTIONED
- 12.3. To consider clerks expenses – 2 return journeys 20th and 6th March 23 and stamps £38.20 - ACTIONED

12.4 To consider invoice for Upperbridge Enterprises – website - £166.32- ACTIONED

- 12.5 To consider HALC invoice for annual subscription - £397.43 - ACTIONED
- 12.6 To consider community grant, Brilley and Michaelchurch Village Hall - £1607 - the parish council

noted the request was now £1180 as that was the amount the committee paid for grounds maintenance last year. However after referencing previous payments to the village hall for maintenance of the grounds it was agreed by all that the parish council would grant the hall committee £1500 which is in keeping with previous years and is of benefit to the whole of the community. This also allows for any anticipated increase in charges from the contractors. The payment for £1500 was therefore ACTIONED.

13 Parish Reports and Issues –

- 13.1 Lengthsman Scheme – To note report and consider work for Lengthsman Cwmmanu Flooding – this has been investigated by residents and is felt not to be a problem caused by the land owner. It was felt recent works carried out by the lengthsman that it was believed at the time would help the flow of water have had the opposite effect. The land owner will email further details on where they feel the problem may be and the parish council can then consider how to move forward. In the short term a local resident will revert the works previously carried out and monitor.

Other concerns raised were C1703 – the edges of the road and drops around Brynafal are noted to be deteriorating and possible hazards to cyclists. The clerk will report to BB.

14 To consider items for the next agenda – policies, footpaths, police invitation, update on tree/bench.

15. To consider date of Annual Meeting of Parish Council and Annual Parish Meeting May 15th 2023 at 7pm – AGREED

Meeting closed at 8.28pm

These minutes are a draft copy and will be presented to the parish council for adoption at the next meeting.

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