

# BREDON, BREDON'S NORTON AND WESTMANCOTE PARISH COUNCIL

The minutes of Bredon Parish Council Meeting held by Zoom Video Conference on **Monday 12<sup>th</sup> April 2021**.

**Present:** Councillors: Mr Rob Bell, Mr Nick Bradley (Chairman), Mr Richard Coghlan, Mr Matt Darby, Mr Kevin Falvey, Mr Phil Handy, Mr Neil Leyden, Mr Ed Pyke, Mr Andrew Rhodes, Mr Declan Shiels, Mr Rob Sly and Mr Brod Whiting.

**In Attendance:** Mr Tim Drew (Clerk), Cllr Adrian Hardman and Mr Peter Whitehead.

Before the meeting commenced, a one-minute period of silence was observed in memory of the late Duke of Edinburgh.

## 1. Apologies for Absence.

None.

## 2. Declaration of Interests.

Councillors were reminded to update their Register of Interests with Wychavon.

Cllr Darby declared a prejudicial ODI for Item 5e) Overbury Estates, as sharing farming business interests with Overbury Estates.

## 3. Adoption of the minutes of the meetings held on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> March 2021 and Monday 29<sup>th</sup> March 2021.

These minutes were **approved**.

## 4. Finances.

a) Invoices to be paid:

### Village Hall:

Jo Lomasney	Balance of Wages – March 2021	£126.38
CW Hygiene Services	VH Gutter Clearance	£192.00

### Parish Council:

Timothy Drew	Balance of Wages – March 2021	£379.94
Playdale Playgrounds *	Deposit – Play Area Swings etc.	£5849.72
Playdale Playgrounds *	Final Balance – Play Area Swings etc.	£7118.59
BCPR Refund *	Overpayment for Play Area Swings etc.	£38.54
WHC Hire Services *	JCB 5 Tonne Excavator for Glebe Field	£331.38
JCB Insurance *	Insurance for Glebe Field Excavator	£84.20
David Gray	Lengthsman Services – March 2021	£400.00
Greenworks	Grass cutting	£2348.39
BJ Unwin Forestry	Inspection, Inventory & Planting Plan	£1080.00

\* Paid & to be ratified.

The above payments were **agreed**.

b) Financial Report:

The March 2021 bank statements and cash book were **approved**.

## 5. Planning.

- a) For Approval:
- i. 21/00634/AGR P & D Engineering, Fleet Lane, Bredon, GL20 7EF  
*Prior Approval application for a proposed access track.*  
**The parish council has no objections.**
  - ii. 21/00247/HP Wayside, Queensmead, Bredon, GL20 7NE  
*Demolition of existing garage and erection of two storey extension. Demolition of sunroom and erection of single storey extension.*  
**The parish council has no objections, subject to no loss of off-road parking.**
  - iii. 21/00280/FUL Blackberry Barn, Manor Lane, Bredon's Norton, GL20 7HB  
**Amendment:** *Change to redline boundary of site.*  
**The parish council has no further comments to make relating to the change to redline boundary of site.**
  - iv. 21/00474/HP Wenrix, Chapel Lane, Kinsham, GL20 8HS  
*Two dormer windows to the front.*  
**The parish council has no objections.**
  - v. 21/00615/HP Tudor Cottage, Manor Lane, Bredon's Norton, GL20 7HB  
*Erection of garden room.*  
**The parish council has no objections, subject to approval by the conservation officer.**
  - vi. 21/00616/LB Tudor Cottage, Manor Lane, Bredon's Norton, GL20 7HB  
*Erection of garden room.*  
**The parish council has no objections, subject to approval by the conservation officer.**

The parish council's comments above were **agreed**.

- b) Approved:
- i. 20/02786/HP 12 Waterloo Way, Bredon, GL20 7UA
  - ii. 20/02704/HP The Gables, Tewkesbury Road, Bredon's Hardwick, GL20 7EE
  - iii. 20/02774/HP Lower End Cottage, Lower Lane, Bredon's Norton, GL20 7FB
  - iv. 20/02775/LB Lower End Cottage, Lower Lane, Bredon's Norton, GL20 7FB
  - v. 21/00164/FUL Kinsham House, Cheltenham Road, Kinsham, GL20 8HP
  - vi. 21/00180/HP 70 Blenheim Drive, Bredon, GL20 7QQ
  - vii. 21/00634/AGR P & D Engineering, Fleet Lane, Bredon, GL20 7EF
- c) Refused:
- i. 21/00279/PIP Yew Tree Cottage, Lower Lane, Kinsham, GL20 8HT

d) Stanway Screens Site.

Barry Connally forwarded an email update, following his address to the Parish in April 2019, to confirm an outline application for residential use will be submitted in due course. He stated road safety is an issue at the Stanway Screens site, with lorries having to reverse onto the main road. In addition, the company received two complaints from neighbours last summer due to noise from the factory. There were no factors which the parish council wished to raise at this time.

e) Letter to Overbury Estates.

Cllr Darby left the meeting for this item. At the March meeting it was agreed to write to Overbury Estates (OE) requesting that they reconsider any support for the Garden Town and ABoR applications. The chairman and Chairman of the Planning Working Group decided not to send the letter due to the reaction on Social Media. It was agreed the Clerk would circulate the draft letter to Councillors for information and contact OE to request a meeting to discuss their position. A letter would then be sent if the meeting does not take place.

f) Consideration for future Planning Structure.

The Clerk provided background to the Internal Audit received from DKE Audit Services and the recommendation that the parish council should review its operating structure for Planning matters to ensure it follows the requirements of the Good Councillor Guide 2018. This recommendation was endorsed by Worcestershire CALC.

All aspects of the current workings of the Planning Working Group were discussed and the need for enhanced transparency.

It was **agreed** that the Planning Working Group (PWG) would continue in its present format, but with the introduction of a notes & email trail of PWG discussions and recommendations. Extraordinary parish council meetings would be held to decide applications which the PWP consider to be potentially contentious, requiring a consultation response within 21 days.

g) Other Planning Matters.

Simon Kelly of Richard Buxton Solicitors will issue the response on behalf of the parish council to the South Worcestershire Development Plan Review (SWDPR) Sustainability Appraisal Consultation, by the 16<sup>th</sup> April deadline. Joanne Raywood, Chairman of Tewkesbury Town Council's Planning Committee has asked for the parish council's views on the SWDP SA. The Chairman's response will be circulated.

Letters have been sent to local Worcestershire Parish Councils inviting them to join the Gloucestershire & Worcestershire Parish Council Association (GWPCA).

Rupert Croft is a Kinsham resident, solicitor and owner of a specialist litigation and dispute resolution firm. He has offered his services *pro bono* to opposing the Ashchurch Bridge planning application and to instruct a specialist planning counsel on behalf of the parish council. It was **agreed** to pass Rupert Croft's comments to Simon Kelly. Cllr Hardman advised that a Judicial Review would require reasonable grounds.

## 6. Covid-19 Update.

Cllr Shiels provided a roadmap for reopening the Village Hall with the first phase of opening commencing from 13<sup>th</sup> April with existing restrictions. It was **agreed** to review arrangements for Jo Lomasney reverting to part-time furlough.

## 7. Working Group Representation.

In advance of the elections to the five Working Groups at the May meeting, it was agreed the Clerk will circulate current representation. It was suggested that the five Working Groups would benefit from having consistent numerical membership (possibly six persons). If this was agreed, additional Councillor representation would be required. Consideration also to be given to individual councillors with specific responsibilities and regular meeting schedules.

## 8. Parish Council Meetings post 6<sup>th</sup> May.

Government legislation permitting virtual meetings (e.g., Zoom Video conferencing) expires on 6<sup>th</sup> May 2021, but is currently subject to a legal challenge. Future meetings will probably need to be held in person with social distancing in place. The Old Hall can be made available and video links are to be investigated.

## 9. Tree Management Plan.

Matt Hale is quoting for the two Ash trees needing attention. At the May meeting, Cllr Bell will present a plan and budget to manage the 220 trees identified by BJ Unwin. This to include a planting review for the 44 identified locations (quantities and locations) with a commitment to carbon neutrality. Funding also to be investigated together with aesthetic benefit to the parish and public consultation, including community groups. To be a May agenda item.

## 10. Lengthsman's Renumeration.

It was **agreed** that the Lengthsman can work a maximum of 16 hours per week during summer months.

## 11. Correspondence for Information.

The Clerk provided the following update:

- Bredon Community Care request for grant support for Liability Insurance Cover for Volunteers – the BHIB one-off premium payment of £419.58 was **agreed**.
- A request to install a picture rail(s) at Bredon's Norton Bus Shelter, to assist with paintings display and décor, was **agreed**.
- The Great British Spring Clean Campaign.
- Cotswold Male Voice Choir holding a concert at Bredon Village Hall.
- A Right of Way Issue at Kinsham, being investigated by the Public Rights of Way Officer.
- A parishioner's letter to the National Trust regarding the condition The Great Barn of Bredon.
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## 12. Progress Reports and Updates

a) Clerk:

- Severn Trent Closure of the Kemerton Road, Bredon from 2<sup>nd</sup> June 2019, to connect a water supply.
- Letter from Secretary of State – reopening of outdoor hospitality.

b) County & District Councillor:

- Highways are to undertake 'surface dressing' works on Main Road, Bredon during April.
- County Councillor and Police & Crime Commissioner Elections are being held on 6<sup>th</sup> May 2021.
- An assistance grant for Bredon Hancocks School has been arranged.
- Grant paid to parish council for Queensmead ditch levelling works is to be expedited.

c) Defibrillators and SmartWater.

- No Report.

d) Transport & Organisations Working Group.

- No Report (or Police Report).

e) Assets Working Group.

- Glebe Field progressing but plans have been revised.

f) Executive and Finance Working Group.

- Next meeting for late April to include Insurance Renewal, Furlough and Standing Orders.

g) Technology and Media Working Group.

- The May Parish Magazine content will cover Village Hall opening for classes, Lengthsman's additional hours, Election on 6<sup>th</sup> May, Donation to Community Care, Kemerton Nature Reserve and the Rewilding weekend.

### **13. Councillor's Reports and Items for Future Agenda.**

Cllr Darby highlighted the vandalism issues at Kemerton Lake Nature Reserve and confirmed increased monitoring.

Cllr Handy requested Agenda content be discussed at the next meeting.

Cllr Bell raised Highways issues at the narrow pavement near Bredon Pottery.

Cllr Pyke requested the Kinsham Bus Shelter be an agenda item at the May meeting.

Cllr Shiels confirmed an application is being submitted for an energy review of Bredon Village Hall under Worcestershire County Council's PEEP (Public-Sector Energy Efficiency Programme) project.

### **14. Date of Next Meetings.**

Monday 26<sup>th</sup> April (Annual Parish Meeting).

Monday 10<sup>th</sup> May 2021.

Meeting closed at 10.00pm.

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### **Notes of Public Question Time:**

As the Head of Governors of Bredon Hancocks School, Mr Peter Whitehead updated the parish council on concerns about projected school numbers for the 2023 and 2024 pupil intake. Although these numbers are indicative, they currently highlight a downward trend with potential funding implications. Several actions are being considered to mitigate this situation.