

BRETFORTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting held on
Monday 13th February 2017.
At the Memorial Hall, Bretforton.

PRESENT:

| | |
|------------------|---------------------|
| Cllr R Davis | Chairman |
| Cllr A Grant | |
| Cllr K Carter | |
| Cllr J Cleveland | Vice-Chairman |
| Cllr N Smith | |
| Cllr K Wright | District Councillor |

APOLOGIES;

| | |
|---------------|-------------------|
| Cllr P Lisney | |
| Cllr A Adams | County Councillor |

OPEN FORUM:

3 residents attended to raise the following:

- To thank PC and County Cllr Adams for assisting in the repair of footpaths on Coldicotts Close.
- To revisit the proposals made in September 2016 in relation to NHB applications for Bretforton in Bloom, multi-media centre, website, safe footpaths and roads around the village.

PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

County Council:

- To follow.

District Council:

- Wychavon will be using local discount powers to provide 100% rural rate relief where appropriate.
- New waste contractor will be SERCO replacing FOSCA. The changeover has cost £50k but will have a long term saving There will be links with Roundabout for the collection of furniture.
- Car parks- There are some changes to Evesham car parks- Brewery Street will remain open until Spring 2017, Chapel Street will become long stay from April 2017.
- Jack Hegarty- Operation was successful, he will be returning to work on a part-time basis.
- BEEP- Launch of Business Energy Efficiency Programme, free energy assessments, grants upto 40% upto £20k, help in reduction of carbon emissions.

MINUTES:

Minutes of the Meeting held on 9th January 2017 were circulated. Proposed by Cllr Cleveland. Seconded by Cllr Smith. All in favour to accept the minutes.

OPEN FORUM ITEMS:

DECLARATION OF INTEREST:

- **Cllr K Wright-Item 7-Footpath between Holly Close and Gras Close.**

PROGRESS REPORTS FOR INFORMATION.

Clerk;

- Annual audit of burial entries for 2016 was carried out by Cllrs Wright and Cleveland. All entries were initialled and approved.
- The fees were considered in relation to the BG. It was unanimously agreed that amendments should be made by clerk taking into account Evesham Town Council fees for consideration at next meeting. It was also agreed that maintenance contract would continue with no changes.
- The criteria for burials at Bretforton Cemetery was considered. It was unanimously agreed that this would be considered at next meeting.
- Clerk advised that the amendment to the standing orders to provide a delegation of spending of £250 for Parish Clerk has been amended in Standing Orders and would show in May minutes.

Chairman;

- **Marker Post-** Planning permission has been granted and licence held. It was agreed that Cllr Grant would make contact with designer and workman and report at next meeting.

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION.

1. **Tree Planting-** Quotations have not been forthcoming. It was agreed to contact other contractors for quotations. Cllr Wright will provide further possible contractor details.
2. **Allotment Land-a. Sub-Committee-** A report from sub- committee has been circulated to all councillors.
 - b. Update on Progress-** Head of terms has been returned. Contract has not yet been received, clerk to contact solicitor for an update. Clerk is to check on water supply and obtain prices for sheds and car park surfacing. A further sub-committee meeting will be arranged by chair.
 - c. Role of Clerk** – It was unanimously agreed to support sub-committee proposals that clerk would be paid for any work relating to allotments as it arises until allotments commence and then an amount of 5 hours per month to cover allotment work being reviewed annually. Proposed by Cllr Grant, seconded by Cllr Smith.
3. **Defib at Bretforton Sports Club-** The defib has been collected and checked and is ready for installation which is to be arranged. A further device is available for sale. Clerk to action in conjunction with Cllr Cleveland.
4. **Key Box- Bretforton Memorial Hall-** Quotations were provided to purchase a key box by clerk. It was unanimously agreed to purchase a key box at a cost of £15.69 and install outside hall with a set of keys. Clerk to arrange purchase, installation and advise letting secretary.

5. **Additional Bin-Back lane**—An additional bin has been requested along Back Lane by a resident. It was unanimously agreed not to provide a bin at this time.
6. **Village Planters**- This will be considered as part of the greening of the village at the next meeting. Clerk is to request resident, Mark Prince to provide ideas.
7. **Footpath between Gras Close and Holly Close**-Wychavon Enforcement and Legal dept are dealing with this matter.
8. **Mowing Contract-Drinkwater Lane**- Request lengthsmen to clear grips to improve situation.

Wychavon District Council.

Worcestershire County Council.

- **2nd Lengthsman**- The provision of an additional lengthsman was considered. It was agreed to advertise in parish magazine and noticeboards for 2nd lengthsman for consideration at next meeting.

CALC –

PLANNING - APPLICATIONS:

Parish Council comments recorded on Planning Register

REFUSED:

APPROVAL:

W/16/02365/PN

Central Green at The Cross, Bretforton.

Erection of village marker post.

APPEAL:

WITHDRAWN;

- **OTHER ITEMS**

- **ENFORCEMENT-**

CORRESPONDENCE For Information.

Publications

Clerks and Councils Direct.

CLERKS REPORT on Urgent Decisions Since Last Meeting.

COUNCILLORS REPORTS & ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDA.

Finance:

- The increase of invoice for Bretforton Sports Club car park was noted and approved.

| FINANCIAL STATEMENT AND CHEQUES TO BE DRAWN | | | | | | |
|--|-------------------|------------------------|---------------|------------|-----------------|----------------|
| Bretforton Parish Council | | 2nd February 2017. | | B/F | 01.04.16 | |
| | | | | | | 27,231.78 |
| | | | | INTEREST | | 176.18 |
| | Current Account | | 7,762.48 | | | |
| | Business deposit | | 2,012.14 | CREDIT | | 18,958.81 |
| | Fixed Deposit | | 22,751.38 | PRECEPT | | 29225.00 |
| | | | 32,526.00 | TOTAL | | 75,591.77 |
| LESS | | | | | | |
| AS LIST | | | 32,516.00 | | | |
| Cheque No. | | | | PAYMENT | | 43,075.77 |
| | | | | | | 32,516.00 |
| | outstanding | | | | | |
| | 2017 | | 10.00 | | | |
| Credits | | | | | | 0.00 |
| Payments to be made | | | Feb-17 | NET | VAT | GROSS |
| 13.02.17 | HMRC | Tax & NI | 2035 | 66.8 | 0 | 66.8 |
| 13.02.17 | Cardiac Science | Defib pads | 2036 | 63.95 | 12.79 | 76.74 |
| 13.02.17 | P Moxon | play area insp & defib | 2037 | 70 | 0 | 70 |
| 13.02.17 | Cox & Hodgetts | deed storage | 2038 | 25 | 5 | 30 |
| 13.02.17 | Henson Plant Hire | sports club car park | 2039 | 3002 | 600.4 | 3602.4 |
| 13.02.17 | A Evans | Salary | BACS | 267.06 | 0 | 267.06 |
| 13.02.17 | PWLB | Loan payment | d/d | 797.26 | 0 | 797.26 |
| 13.02.17 | M Parkinson | Lengthsman | 2040 | 90 | 0 | 90 |
| Already made | | | | | | |
| Npower | Electricity | | 773.02 | | | |
| PE Brown | Multi-lang signs | | 55.75 | | | |
| | | | | | | 5000.26 |

Invoices and payments approved for settlement. Proposed by Cllr Grant. Seconded by Cllr Cleveland. All in favour. Meeting closed at 9.20pm.

Date of the next meeting; 13th March 2017.

Signed:

Date:

County Councillor Report- Bretforton
Month: February 2017
Prepared by Alastair Adams
Littletons Division, Worcestershire County Council

Worcestershire County Council – New Corporate Plan

See the new corporate plan -

http://www.worcestershire.gov.uk/info/20088/about_your_council/109/worcestershires_corporate_plan

There is much to be celebrated in what has been achieved so far, and the Council has ambitious plans to continue to improve and develop the County.

Did you know that Worcestershire;-

- is one of the fastest growing economies in the Country
- has 9 out of 10 schools rated good or outstanding
- delivered 16,000 apprenticeships between 2012-2015
- has over 90% homes able to connect to Superfast Broadband
- will be building a new regional interchange railway station called Worcestershire Parkway that will connect the Worcester to London network with Birmingham to Bristol network just off junction 7 of the M5

There is lots more in the plan, and it is worth a read.

Worcestershire LTP4 (4th Local Transport Plan) –see <http://www.worcestershire.gov.uk/LTP> is out to consultation, closes 17th March 2017

County Council Budget 2017/18, and Council Tax 2017/18

It is that time of year when Council Budgets are approved and this has direct impact on the Council Tax you pay.

Central Government have allowed County Councils to increase local tax by a maximum of 4.9% (of which 3% can only be used solely for Adult Social Care, and 1.9% for other uses)

As you have heard on national news, Adult Social Care is consuming ever more of the budget of all councils. This is partly due to the aging population, but one fact the media often forget to mention is that Council Adult Social Services are means tested, and so the majority of elderly people do not get any help from Adult Social Services, or if they do and have assets of more than £23,000, they are charged for the service used.

So what sounds like a simple media headline that all Adult Social Services need more money, is in fact much more complicated than at first glance. Currently Adult Social Services consumes £131million of the WCC budget (over 40%). How any extra money raised by higher taxes is used and what outcomes the extra money can produce is difficult. Also there are many elderly people that are above the threshold of assets so cannot claim free Adult Social Care, but have a limited income, and struggle to pay their existing bills, so any increase in their council tax has a direct impact on their livelihoods.

So you can see, there are many more issues that have to be faced when the County Council are determining the budget, and setting the council tax.

So there has been much debate at County Council over the last few months and they have decided not to increase council tax by the maximum of 4.9%. Instead at the Worcestershire County Council meeting on Thursday 9th February, the Council proposed a budget of £318million, and a 2.94% increase in council tax (2% ring-fenced for Adult Social Care, and 0.94% for other).

This 2.94% increase equates to £33 increase on the Worcestershire County Council tax band D for 2017/18.

This cautious approach will mean there will be extra help for Adult Social Care in Worcestershire, but also keeps the council tax increases low. Worcestershire still has as one of the lowest Council Tax in the country.

Your local tax demand is made up of 5 different state bodies; the County Council, the District Council, the Parish Council, the Police, and the Fire & Rescue Services. Each of these can decide their own increase so when you get your council tax demand, you will see the breakdown between these 5 organisations.

Highways issues :-

1. **New Offenham Rd/Elm Road roundabout in Evesham** – Works completed and many residents have confirmed it is a big improvement and reduces congestion at this junction.
2. **Coldicotts Close.** Pavements repaired. In future Rooftop will maintain them and be responsible for them.
3. **Parking in New Street** –The Parish have decided to wait to see the outcome from the CCTV being installed in January before making any decision on extending the double yellow lines
4. **Grass growing through new pavement in Coldicotts lane** – Highways have acknowledged that some remedial works need to be done, and are investigating.
5. **Pot holes along New Street** – reported to Highways – patching occurring in the next month

As always, if you have any issues on any Highways matters, please report it on the WCC website http://www.worcestershire.gov.uk/homepage/98/report_it Also remember a photo of the Highways problem is as good as “a thousand words” so always take a photo where possible.

Superfast Broadband – Cabinet 5 – copper ties upgrade needed

The upgrade to the cabinet will occur in March 2017 so people who want Superfast Broadband will be able to order it very soon.

Divisional Funds.

1. Bretforton Cricket Club has applied for a grant for a new scoreboard. A £500 grant has been paid
2. Freedom Disco, Badsey for people with learning disabilities – grant paid for the mini bus
3. Honeybees WI have put in a request for some new tables - awaiting more info
4. Cleeve Prior Wharf – grant requested for life buoy, table and sign – grant processed.

One last call to action for any Bretforton community organisation that need funds, there is still some Divisional Grant money available but all grant applications need to be emailed to me before the end of February.

Your District & County Councillor, Alastair Adams can be contacted on adams.pebworth@gmail.com or mobile 07725 979 277