

**BRIGHTWELL-CUM-SOTWELL PARISH COUNCIL**

**Minutes of the Parish Council meeting duly convened and on March 16<sup>th</sup> 2022 at 7.30pm In the Village Hall**

**Present:** Cllrs H.Baines (Chair), J.Davys, C.Collett, B.Nielson, P.Sudbury, J.Debney, G.Gilgrass, P. Sudbury, on zoom S.Jackson, J.Harding

**In attendance:** K. Fanstone (Clerk)

1	<b>Apologies for Absence</b> . Apologies received from Cllr Robson, A.Simpson
2	<b>Minutes of the meeting held on 15<sup>th</sup> February 2022</b> . The minutes of the meeting held on 15 <sup>th</sup> February 2022 were approved and will be signed by Helen in the Parish Office.
3	<b>Declarations of Disclosable Pecuniary Interest</b> . Cllr Debney declared an interest in the village hall carpark.
4	<b>Public Participation</b> . Mrs Lee attended to update the Parish Council on the open spaces at Little Martins. There are no public bins around Little Martins, it was suggested that one could be placed at the end of Waterman's Lane, Katie to look into a new one. Cllr Dayvs will remove the last bit of the fallen tree along the lane too.
5	<b>County Council Report –</b> . Cllr Sudbury had recently attended a HIFF meeting, whilst this is progressing he is conscious that any increased traffic coming off the A34 could untimely end up coming past Brightwell, they are working on solutions to limit the traffic increase.  Cllr Baines updated on a productive meeting with the heat source consultants and the District Councillors, there will be a community information session in the next 6 weeks to present the findings from the investigation.  Cllr Debney reported the tree works in the village were still outstanding, Cllr Sudbury will try and get the Tree Officer to make contact so an updated plan for the trees can be made.  Whilst the Parish Council still has not received a report from highways and the site B developers to confirm what light reducing works have been done on the bypass Cllr Sudbury is confident, they will be reduced more, and it may be quicker for wait for that decision to be made rather than try to chase another meeting.  Cllr Debney would like to have a meeting with SODC planning and Highways to discuss the proposed modified NP Plan policy and try to get some understanding from Highways regarding maintaining the rural aspect of the village.  Clerks Report –

It was approved to appoint IAC as the internal auditors this year.

There was a discussion regarding the Annual Parish Meeting, it was decided to go back to holding this in person this year with refreshments, and also to possibly try and tie it in with the community heat project information session, Katie to finalise a date that could work for both events.

The phonebox on High Road restoration work is still ongoing, paint and glass has now been ordered, it was decided to use Brightwell builders to repair the door.

The zip wire is still out of action, it is proving tricky to find a local company that is able to undertake the work, Cllr Gilgrass and Katie will continue to try and find a reasonable company. Katie to order a chain and padlock to keep the seat out of action, a friendly poster also to go up to explain what is happening.

#### **Planning Report**

Ref	Description	Decision
P21/S2917/FUK	Acorn House amendments	Objection

Cllr Collett updated the Parish Council that the residents at Slade End have moved their complaint to stage 2 as they are not happy with the outcome so far. The parish Council has not received a planning application for the amendments.

The developers for High Road have met with the planning committee to talk through the amended plans, they continue to have very productive meetings and all involved would like to work closely together through the whole process. Cllr Collett will be contacting the planning officer to discuss the additions to the road and pavements from Highways, both the Parish Council and developers are in agreement that what has been suggested is not in keeping with the feel of the village and needs to be changed. The developers have confirmed their intention to continue with the current plans for 20 houses, but have had to resubmit the original plans as the permission on this application is due to expire.

Cllr Collect and Cllr Davys had met with the Sawyers to discuss potential plans for the barn at middle farm, a further meeting with the planning committee was requested and the Parish Council are happy to continue to work with the owners to discuss options. Cllr. Collett to arrange a meeting date

#### **Agree Payments for approval**

Payee and reason
K. Fanstone – Clerk’s Salary March – (local government services agreed pay rise - new monthly rate and backdated pay increase from April £102.12)
Zoom Subscription
Printinco (NP information)
Church hire for NP drop in session

### **Matters for Discussion/Decision**

- a) The completion statement from Hedges for the carpark was approved and payment agreed. This payment was to be paid with CIL funds.
- b) Cllr Debney confirmed the changes discussed at the last meeting had been amended in the Neighbourhood plan draft, the maps have been updated and the inventory for heritage assets has been finished, the document will be ready to send to the printers this week, with a view to starting the consultation period on Monday 21<sup>st</sup> March for 6 weeks. Cllr Debney has met with SODC and Ricardo. It was confirmed the locations the NP will be available to look at and the open drop-in session will be held in the Stewart room on 29/3 and 2/4.
- c) The Parish Council discussed the possibility of having a pedestrian crossing on the High Road. Cllr Sudbury confirmed that this had been a very popular topic on the doorstep when he was campaigning, and it had been identified in the last Parish Plan. Concerns were raised about the urbanisation effect of the crossing on the village and would it cause more traffic problems with cars backing up. The general feeling was that the safety of pedestrian and especially children walking to school outweighed these potential issues. The parish Council decided they were in favour of a crossing. Cllr Sudbury will try and get some confirmation on the best position for the crossing. The crossing will be added to the agenda for the parish meeting
- d) Cllr Collett had circulated prior to the meeting 2 proposed plans for the village hall carpark, it was decided that this project would be managed in phases, and a decision about each phase would be made at each stage. All agreed to the first phase of the plan to clear the ground scrub from the area and two middle trees to come down. Once this is completed a proper assessment of the area and detailed plans can be drawn up.
- e) The Parish Council agreed to approve the grant applications from Brightfest £500, Shillingford Hill Residents £300, and Riverside counselling services £250
- f) Cllr Baines confirmed that a letter from the Parish Council regarding parked cars around the war memorial had been hand delivered to the garage. They have confirmed they are no longer using frogs island to store cars due to the cost. Council and residents' frustrations with the number of cars left by the memorial continues.

### **8 Matters for report and inclusion on February Agenda**

. Cllr Debney expressed his frustrations with the landscaping company that Kinglerlee had sent to Little Martins, the tree planting is in the wrong place and unfortunately can't be moved. Cllr Jackson and Katie to put pressure on Hedges to complete the land transfer so that the Parish Council can take sole responsibility and manage the area ourselves.

It was agreed that the next meeting of the Council would take place on Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> April 2022 at 7.30pm. There being no further business the meeting was declared closed at 9.30 pm.