

BRIGHTWELL-CUM-SOTWELL PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes of the Parish Council meeting duly convened on 17th September 2024 at 7.30pm In the
Church Room

Present: Cllrs J. Harding (Chair), S. Robson, D. Fisher, J. Debney, J. Davys, G. Gilgrass, H. Baines, S. Jackson and P. Sudbury (OCC) [Part]

In attendance: G. McEvoy (Clerk), S. Hill (Part)

1.	Apologies for Absence No apologies received			
2.	Minutes of the meeting held on 16th July 2024 The minutes of the meeting held 16 th July 2024 were approved and signed by Cllr Harding.			
3.	Matters Arising from Previous Minutes Item 5c – The Clerk had had contact with a roofer but had not received the requested quote – Clerk to chase. Item 8 – Councillors were unanimous in agreeing to the proposed Chairmanship of the PC in 2025 Item 14 – We have been unable to arrange a meeting with Cllr Simpson as she feels any discussions should take place at the end of the process.			
4.	Declarations of Disclosable Pecuniary/Personal Interest None declared			
5.	Public Participation <ul style="list-style-type: none">S. Hill advised the meeting that Planning Permission for the Gospel Hall at the Rodings had been withdrawn			
6a	County Councillor’s Report <ul style="list-style-type: none">Cllr Sudbury reported that the cycle path on the A4130 will be widened to improve accessibility.The County Councillor stated that, following discussions with Paul Firmer, the long-awaited pedestrian crossing will be expedited but he could not give a date at this time. Councillors requested that they are sent details of the design type of crossing to be installed and Cllr Sudbury said he could arrange this.Cllr Sudbury advised that, following discussions with Matt Archer, he could confirm that the switching off of the by-pass lights between 8 p.m. and 6 a.m. will commence in January 2025.			
6b	District Councillor’s Report <ul style="list-style-type: none">No SODC Councillor present			
6c	Clerks Report <ul style="list-style-type: none">The Clerk gave formal notice of her intention to resign from her post and would leave on 31st December 2024.The recent request for funds for a ‘pop-up tent’ for the residents of the Shillingford Mobile Home Park had been met by the Community Association.The recent letter sent to Sherwood Farm had not received a response although some Councillors reported that some of the overgrowth had been cut back.There were no further areas highlighted for the SODC ‘deep clean’ other than the Shillingford Road.The Council agreed to support OALC’s proposed subscription increase.It was agreed that it was the Council’s preference for Celia Collett to continue to organise the Remembrance Day Wreath laying at the War Memorial.			
6d	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Planning Report <table border="1"><tr><td>P24/S0851/HH</td><td>Moat Cottage, The Street - resubmission</td></tr></table> <p>Cllr Davys reported that there were no issues with the resubmission on this application. As previously stated by S. Hill, it was confirmed that the application for a Gospel Hall at the site known as The Rodings had been withdrawn. Cllr Davys stated that the Planning Officer had recognised the concerns put forward by the Parish Council and the Slade End Community.</p>		P24/S0851/HH	Moat Cottage, The Street - resubmission
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	Cllr Debney reported that there had been progress with the various developments at Slade End and all parties were now regularly communicating.														
6e	<p>.Agree September Payments for approval</p> <table> <tr> <th>Payee and reason</th><th>£ total</th></tr> <tr> <td>Gabrielle McEvoy – Clerk’s Salary</td><td>798.00</td></tr> <tr> <td>Scofell (grounds maintenance)</td><td>1089.42</td></tr> <tr> <td>Gallagher (insurance)</td><td>4264.98</td></tr> <tr> <td>Arrow Fencing (New Posts at Recreation Ground)</td><td>564.00</td></tr> <tr> <td>Scofell (Village Hall Car Park)</td><td>216.00</td></tr> <tr> <td>Scofell (Village Hall Car Park)</td><td>72.00</td></tr> </table>	Payee and reason	£ total	Gabrielle McEvoy – Clerk’s Salary	798.00	Scofell (grounds maintenance)	1089.42	Gallagher (insurance)	4264.98	Arrow Fencing (New Posts at Recreation Ground)	564.00	Scofell (Village Hall Car Park)	216.00	Scofell (Village Hall Car Park)	72.00
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7	<p>Village Hall Car Park – Planting/General Maintenance</p> <p>It was discussed that the Parish Council owned car park had required weed maintenance and it was agreed that this area should be added to the Grounds Maintenance Contract.</p> <p>Cllrs Debney and Gilgrass will arrange a meeting to discuss a suitable planting plan around the periphery of the carpark.</p>														
8.	<p>Logs at Recreation Ground</p> <p>Concerns had been raised regarding safety issues of these logs. Cllr Debney reported that the logs are to be used by the Scouts and stated that they do not represent a safety issue.</p>														
9.	<p>FixMyStreet Superuser</p> <p>It was agreed that Cllr Robson would look for a volunteer through her Villager Article and her ‘Helping Hands’ WhatsApp group.</p>														
10.	<p>Play Area Cleaning Routine Maintenance</p> <p>Recent inspections highlighted the need for regular cleaning which members of the ‘Helping Hands’ group have undertaken. The Table Tennis table requires pressure washing – a volunteer for this job is still being sought. Councillors were asked to note cleaning issues during the weekly Play Area inspections.</p>														
11.	<p>Pavillion Changes to Personnel</p> <p>Cllr Robson has agreed to take on the role of Pavillion Chair (Cllr Nielsen will continue as lead for the refurbishment project). Cllr Robson reported that she had and is in the process of having, meetings with the Booking Clerk and Treasurer as well as arranging a meeting with all parties for October 22nd. Initial meetings are giving cause for concern and it was acknowledged the Cllr Robson had taken on a difficult task.</p>														
12.	<p>Pavillion Refurbishment</p> <p>Cllr Nielsen did not attend the meeting.</p>														
13.	<p>Millennium Wood</p> <p>Cllr Davys reported that his former employer, Vertex, would be offering their free of charge labour once again to clear/tidy the Millennium Wood. He reported that the wood was very overgrown and not very user-friendly. Cllr Davys is meeting with Steve Capel-Davies (Head of the Environment Group) to ascertain the current management programme. Cllr Debney stated that if the area could not be regularly managed then a revisit as the purpose of the wood should take place with a view to allowing it to be a “wilderness area”.</p>														

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14.	Culvert Works Cllr Debney reported that following his meeting with James Feast, Steve Colan will be Project Manager for these works. They will cross private Gardens. He invited Cllr Fisher to accompany him to the next meeting in October and undertook to set-up a sub-group to manage this project.
15.	Matters for reporting and items for inclusion on October's Agenda Pavillion Refurbishment Budget Review Clerk Recruitment Village Hall Highways Engagement Meeting

It was agreed that the next meeting of the Council would take place on Tuesday 15th October 2024 at 7.30pm. There being no further business the meeting was declared closed at approximately 9.25 pm.