



BRIGHTWELL-CUM-SOTWELL PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the APM Parish Council meeting duly convened on 20th May 2025 @ 7.30pm In the Stewart Village Hall

Present: Cllrs. R Nielsen (Chair), S. Robson, J. Debney, G. Gilgrass, D Fisher, S Jackson,

In attendance: J Gray (Clerk)

1)	Election of New Chair: Cllr J Davys was unanimously elected Chair – deferred signing of Declaration of Acceptance due to absence; this will be signed in June Parish Council Meeting (as advised by OALC)
2)	Apologies for Absence Cllr. J Davys, Cllr J Harding, Anne-Marie Simpson (District Council), James Barlow (OCC)
3)	To Confirm & Sign Minutes: Approved and signed
4)	Declaration of Interest: NIL
5.	Public Participation: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Further mention by Parishioner regarding Swan Wood; Cllr J Davys has visited the site and there appears to be conflicting messages regarding the trees. The Parishioner is going to take a further look into this and will advise the Council
6a.	County Council Report: Nil to report
6b.	District Council Report: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Crispin Topping in attendance due to apologies from Anne-Marie Simpson. He provided the Council with a report (emailed). Conversation explaining the role of the District Council in the planning process. He will provide a list of material consideration The Parish Council commented that they are very angry that they were not told about the deadline date to register to speak at the local plan hearing, even though we were told that we would be Crispin Topping is going to contact A Duffield and raise the above concerns; Cllr J Debney will follow this up
6c.	Clerks Report: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Confirmed the posts at Bell Lane had now been removed To Minute the Resignation of Cllr H Baines on 30.4.25 and casual vacancy advertisement Confirmed 2 Direct Debits had been put in place for PAYE & Pension payments – approved by Cllr S Robson & Cllr J Debney 3 New Trees had been purchased by Cllr J Debney for Little Martins – have arrived and will be planted in due course; Little Martins have accepted responsibility to keep these trees watered Financial Regulations Document had been reviewed by Cllr J Hardin (Financial Councillor) and circulated to all of the Councillors for review and approval. This was done at the meeting and was agreed and adopted as of 20.5.25 SLCC Membership was discussed; Proposed by Cllr S Robson and Seconded by Cllr G Gilgrass – this membership will be purchased by the Clerk



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6d.	Planning Report: P25/S0922/FUL Land @ Slade End Comments have been noted on the SODC Website
	Agree April Payments: Approved
7.	S137- Grant Application: Village Hall Grant request for £500.00 towards new Dishwasher – Unanimously agreed to this application
8.	Tennis Court/Pickleball Payment: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cllr G Gilgrass explained the breakdown of the costs involved for the Tennis Courts and Pickleball set up – Grant Received of £1000.00 towards this cost and the Tennis Courts to contribute 50% of the costs. Cllr J Harding agreed to the outstanding costs which the Parish Council are due to pay; Unanimously agreed to pay the bill
9.	Quotes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Quote for repair and maintenance to the Zipwire from AVA Recreation for £450.00 plus VAT – proposed by Cllr G Gilgrass and seconded by Cllr. S Robson to accept this quote; Clerk to contact them for a date for this work to be done – Cllr G Gilgrass to be aware of the date • Quote from Arrow Fencing to repair a post at the bottom of the net in recreation ground; it was agreed that Cllr G Gilgrass would contact Arrow Fencing to discuss adding a 'sleeve' to the post to give longer protection; awaiting reviewed estimate
10.	Wellsprings Tree: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cllr S Robson updated the SSEN visit to cut back this tree near to cables. They could only take down a small amount to make cables safe. It was further discussed and decided that the tree should be taken either completely down or right back for safety. Local Parishioners agreed to contribute to cost. • Three quotes will be requested and will be further discussed at June meeting.
11.	Matters for Reporting and Items for Inclusion in June Meeting: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Declaration of Acceptance Cllr J Davys to be signed • Co-opt of new Councillor • Scribe Accounting System further conversation • Review 3 Quotes for Well Springs Tree

It was agreed that the next meeting of the Council would take place on **17th June 2025 at 7.30pm**

There being no further business the meeting was declared closed at approximately 8.42pm