

BRIGHTWELL-CUM-SOTWELL PARISH COUNCIL

**Minutes of the Parish Council meeting duly convened and held on 15th September 2020 at 7.30pm
Via Zoom,**

Present: Cllrs S.Robosn (Chair), G,Gilgrass, J. Davys, J. Debney, J.Harding C. Collett, B. Nielsen,
H. Baines, Anne-Marie Simpson, P.Sudbury

In attendance: K. Fanstone (Clerk)

1	Apologies for Absence . S.Jackson
2	Minutes of the meeting held on 21st July 2020 . The minutes of the meeting held on 21 st July2020 were approved and will be signed by Sue in the Parish Office when Social Distancing is over.
3	Declarations of Disclosable Pecuniary Interest . There were no declarations of pecuniary interest.
4	Public Participation . There were no members of the public present
5	Reports & District Councillor Report . Anne Marie Simpson It was reported that despite all our cycling suggestions most of the funding seemed to be going into the city and not locally, there was such a huge repose to this that Anne Marie will try to get it included in the future. Anne-Marie will keep us up to date on the future white report, there is lots of talk about making unity authorities with their own Mayors. These will be huge authorities that will make it hard for the smaller councils and villages to have their say, it was agreed a smaller authority was essential. James and the Council also thanked Anne-Marie for her help with the recent planning committees we have been to. Pete Sudbury Pete updated the group on the latest devilments with the bypass lights, he apologised for not acting sooner and is also still confused how this has all happened without any thoughts being sought from the Council. Graham confirmed that SODC were not aware of changes and it seems only Wallingford Town Council were consulted. Cllr Sudbury is still in conversation with the planners and OCC regarding the lights and says there is some discussion regarding the types of lights, colours, sensors, need for pedestrian and cyclist provision. There is also the possibility of pushing for a pedestrian crossing at Slade end as part of an agreement on the lights. Jason updated the Council on where he is with the response, he is submitting this week. He is going to request the following conditions be considered with the fitting of the lights – - Additional planting of taller trees and also to gap up the spaces between the lights. - Additional planting towards the roundabout.

- Lights to be dimmed at 9pm, and then further dimmed at 10pm and midnight.
- The use of sensory technology
- Light shields to help remove light reflection onto Mackney
- Tree Officer to be involved to ensure enforcement.

Jason also brought up the latest tree report while the District and County Councillor were present in the meeting. We have received a report detailing all the trees in the village that are to be removed over the next 20 years, it was agreed this plan will have a devastating effect on the village if it is all undertaken in one go. Jason has appealed to the tree officer to change the instructions to the contractor, the work needs to be staggered over the next 20 years not done immediately. Jason has worked through the report and will try to mark all the trees in danger with spray paint to alert the people in the village, action needs to be quick to stop this process and Councillor Sudbury requested him and Jason speak separately about this issue. Jason to keep the Council up to date with any developments he has through regarding this.

Planning Report

Ref	Description	PC Rec	Decision
P20/S2973/LB x 3	Old Priory Lane, Little Lane	29/08/20	Approve
P20/S3058/DIS	By Pass Lights	25/08/20	Object
P20/S2896/A	Flags	25/08/20	Object
P20/S0149/FUL	The Byre	14/09/20	Object with condition
P20/S2945/FUL	Little Martins Green Phase	04/09/20	Approve

d) Payments for approval

Payee and reason	£ detail	£ VAT	£ total
K. Fanstone – Clerk’s Salary	£595.40		£595.40
Zoom Charge	£14.39		£14.39
Signage			£24.38
Audit Fee	£175.00	£35.00	£210.00
Rospa	£203.50	£40.70	£244.20
Arrow – swings and matting repair	£175.00	£35.00	£210.00
John Oconner	£540.00	£108.00	£648.00
Sports Courts final bill	£2500.00	£500.00	£3000.00

6 Matters for Discussion/Decision

- The work on the tennis courts and basketball surface has now been completed and all agreed they looked great, Graham has received a maintenance plan from Sports courts and a contract for cleaning and maintaining the surface needs to be drawn up. The cost for this will need to be included in the budget planning for next year and the years after that. Graham to pass details onto Katie. It was noted that the fence around the tennis courts will need to be replaced in the next few years and this is also something that needs to be budgeted for in the future. Unfortunately, there is already some black marks on the new surfaces, no skateboard and cycling signs have gone up and a post on the village Facebook to remind everyone these areas are not for this purpose. Bob and Graham have had an initial

conversation about the Parish Council and tennis club drawing up an agreement, they will continue to work on this and report back. It was decided that the Parish Council did not need to be involved in a tennis court booking system. Katie is to also report back with some prices for a single bollard to be fitted at the open entrance of King Meadow.

- b) There has been some confusion regarding the communication and information coming through from the village hall trustees about the development plans. Robert Field has sent through a comprehensive next steps document setting out how things will work and Graham has also provided some monthly updates. Some Councillors thought these were being discussed at the meeting and hadn't responded individually. Discussion regarding the updates and apologies were made for the lack of response. It was agreed moving forward that the liaison group would now regularly meet and report back with any updates.
- c) The Council acknowledged the receipt of the internal audit report, and discussed the findings. It was agreed to write back the un-presented cheques from previous years that had caused problems completing the annual accounting statement. Katie and Janet talked through the banking spreadsheet and the changes that have been made in line with the audit report. Katie has already started on updating the financial regulations, and Graham and Katie will finalise the asset register.
- d) Prior to the meeting Katie had circulated the Council insurance policy renewal information, all decided to stay with the same company who had quoted the best cover and price. All agreed to accept and proceed with Ecclesiastical. Katie to arrange the annual payment.
- e) The lights were discussed at length earlier in the meeting so was not discussed again.
- f) The ongoing issue with parked cars in the village was discussed. The garage has had some set up and staffing issues but is working towards moving the long-term cars to the new site as soon as possible. There are some additional work vans now being parked on a Greenmere green. Katie to contact SOHA to see if there is anything they can do.
- g) There has been no spending from the CIL budget, another payment receipt should be being made to us in October. Celia has been with Frank to see the solicitor and the CIL payment had been discussed. Frank was concerned that the Parish Council may spark the CIL process if they start work on the land, before he is ready to start his build. Car park subcommittee to look into this.

8 Matters for report and inclusion on April Agenda

James offered to coordinate The Villager article from the Council, he will remind everyone when entries are due and coordinate individual response into a final entry.

James also has a working party of colleagues to come and do some work on the Millennium wood, The Council thanked him for this.

Jason reported that there have been some delays at Little Martins but all work should be completed by the end of November, with the view to transfer the land in December. It was noted that the stone and land will need to be added to the asset register.

It was agreed that the next meeting of the Council would take place on Tuesday 20th October 2020 at 7.30pm. There being no further business the meeting was declared closed at 9.30 pm.