

## BRIGHTWELL-CUM-SOTWELL PARISH COUNCIL

**Minutes of the Parish Council meeting duly convened and held on 16<sup>th</sup> March 2021 at 7.30pm Via Zoom,**

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

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

1	<b>Apologies for Absence</b> · A.M Simpson
2	<b>Minutes of the meeting held on 16<sup>th</sup> February 2021</b> · The minutes of the meeting held on 16 <sup>th</sup> February 2021 were approved and will be signed by Sue in the Parish Office when Social Distancing is over.
3	<b>Declarations of Disclosable Pecuniary Interest</b> · There were no declarations of pecuniary interest.
4	<b>Public Participation</b> · There were no members of the public present
5	<b>Reports &amp; District Councillor Report</b> · <b>Cllr. Sudbury</b> The roadworks have started on the bypass roundabout and there are 20 or so cars that are using the village as a cut through, the PC have had no joy getting any help in stopping this and were not able to get any extra no through road signs for the village entrances.  Pete had held a pre meeting before the village walkabout with highways and Site B, and the low levels of traffic using the bypass were apparent, this all adds to help the speed limit and night light level argument. There was more encouraging dialogue regarding lowering the lights and even possibly turning them off at night. Pete felt quite encouraged after this meeting.  The conversations regarding the potential for a pedestrian crossing from 106 funding are ongoing with Jason Sherwood.  <b>Clerks Report</b> Katie reported that following a discussion with Graham, Scofell have now been awarded the summer grass cutting contract and will start week beginning 4 <sup>th</sup> April.  There were further discussions regarding the building issues at the Pavilion, the PC is committed to making sure the building safe for reopening after Covid and this is the priority. An alternative assessment was suggested that may enable this to happen, costing less than the current quote. Katie to contact the company and report back.

## Planning Report

Ref	Description	PC Rec	Decision
P21/S064/HH	20 Little Martins	05/03/21	Approved – The PC welcomed the amendment regarding the dormer windows being changed to velux windows.

## March Payments for approved

Payee and reason	total
K. Fanstone – Clerk's Salary	£595.40
Zoom Charge	£14.39
Arrow Fencing – Mound and KM Bollard repair	£300.00
Neil Horner	£960.00
SODC Dog Bin	£215.28
DVLA – Car Owner Check x 2	£5.00
Wicksteed – Gym equipment paint	£85.80

## 6 Matters for Discussion/Decision

- a) Celia had circulated a video outlining how a Design Plan may work for the village, everyone agreed that this could have potential to help the village in the future, and all agreed to work further on it. Jason would be happy to spend some time on this but suggested we wait for the NPPF and environmental white paper to be issued from the government as it is due anytime now. Included in this could be the provision of electric charging points for the village, all agreed this will need looking at.
- b) The Annual Parish meeting will take place this spring/summer, depending on restrictions, ideally this would be held in person, but depending on legislation regarding dates this may need to be a virtual meeting in May. Katie to check with OALC and confirm this week, agenda and date to be organised via email as not enough time to wait until the next meeting in April.
- c) There was a discussion regarding the Bioabundance scheme that has been sent round to local Parish Councils, whilst everyone felt it was a good initiative, the Council didn't feel that it was something they could contribute financially too without the support from all of the Parish.
- d) Legal land transfers – All agreed that it was reasonable to agree to erecting a dividing fence within 18 months of the land transfer, Sarah will confirm that all ok to go ahead with this transfer.  
Little Martins – There are still some concerns about what is being proposed by Kingerlee, the document seems to be very complicated with lots of clauses. Confirmation is needed on responsibility for the soakaway, and that the middle green will be cut by volunteer residents. Bob and Sarah will work together with the solicitor to try and iron out some of our concerns, and Bob will report back at the next meeting. Jason confirmed that the planting on the land had now been corrected, Katie to speak to Scofell about cutting the Meadow twice a year in addition to the current contract, once the land transfer has been completed.
- e) There has been some improvement with the parked cars around the memorial, and one of the long-term cars from the garage has moved, there are still 3 more to be moved. It was noted that the cones were helping and the weekends are better. Sue to pop along again to discuss the long-term cars being moved over next couple of weeks. The DVLA had not returned the legal ownership details for the 2 applications that have been made for 2 long-term cars parked at the memorial.
- f) The Bypass lights walkabout meeting had gone well with Site B and Highways and they noted that modifications do need to be made to make them less visible, some more shields are to be fitted and the angles and positions are not correct on some of the lights. There are going to make these changes

and come back for another look. There was a feeling that they do want to work with BCSPC to make this work for everyone.

- g) The eroded verges and blocked ditches in the village were discussed, the eroded verges are a problem around the village. The P.C will contact NALC to see if any other Parishes have found a long-term solution. Celia has had discussions with a resident at Sotwell Street who is going to try and dig out the ditch to see if that helps, the P.C. will contact OCC regarding the blocked drain. More investigation is needed for Witches Walk to see where the problem is. Celia is facilitating the clearing of the South perimeter ditch at Mackney Lane Rec.
- h) The Stream Team have almost finished the project and everyone agreed it looks really lovely and will be a great feature for the village. Grundon have agreed to supply the gravel and the Parish Council agreed to buy the last few materials to complete the project. Katie to contact wood suppliers.
- i) There are no CIL updates.

**8 Matters for report and inclusion on December Agenda**

Helen reported that David Fox and his team had been working on the Community Heating project and they had now completed the initial application to apply for the first grant. The tender is almost ready and will need to be sent out from the Clerk. A discussion followed about the project and its suitability for the Village. There was a vote of 8-1 in favour of continuing to the next stage. The next stage is to establish if the Parish is suitable for this sort of initiative and as there is no cost to the Parish Council at the moment the vote was to carry on.

James, Jason and Bob are to meet to discuss the trees and land clearing on the Nursery Lane site, Bob also noted that a tree has grown very close to the Pavilion and needs to come down when the council Tree team are back in the village.

Janet explained there was an increasing amount of horse manure on the High Road, it was decided that we were limited in what we could do to stop this.

The school had asked if they could display their Spoonfest spoon on the Green over the next few weeks, all agreed.

It was agreed that the next meeting of the Council would take place on Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> April 2021 at 7.30pm. There being no further business the meeting was declared closed at 9.25 pm.