

Bryanston Parish Council

Minutes of the Parish Council AGM Meeting Wednesday 9th May 2018 At Bryanston Club

Councillors: Cllr C Tompsett
Cllr B Church
Cllr T Tompsett
Cllr C Gale
Cllr R Nolan
Cllr C Conlon
Cllr Smurthwaite

In attendance: Nicola Phillips – Clerk
Cllr John Stayt (North Dorset District Councillor)
5 members of the public
Miss Alice Rawdon-Mogg (Bryanston RFE Ltd)

1. Apologies for absence.

There were no apologies of absence.

2. Election of Chairman & Vice-Chairman.

The Clerk introduced agenda item 2, asking for nominations for Chairman. Cllr Gale proposed Cllr C Tompsett this was seconded by Cllr Conlon. All members were in favour. Cllr C Tompsett accepted the role.

RESOLVED: Cllr C Tompsett to act as Chairman for Bryanston Parish Council for 2018-19 (2016-AGM - no budgetary implications)

The Clerk then asked for nominations for Vice-Chairman. Cllr Conlon proposed Cllr Gale for Vice-Chairman, this was seconded by Cllr Church and all voted in favour.

RESOLVED: Cllr C Gale to act as Vice-Chairman for Bryanston Parish Council for 2017-18 (2015 – AGM -no budgetary implications)

3. Councillors agreed to accept the following officer's roles.

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| • Planning | Cllr T Tompsett |
| • Bryanston RFE | Cllr C Tompsett |
| • Environmental Working Party | Cllr T Tompsett, Cllr C Gale, Cllr Conlon and Cllr Nolan |
| • Tree Officer | Cllr C Smurthwaite |
| • Blandford + | Cllr B Church & Cllr C Tompsett |
| • Bryanston School Liaison | Cllr C Conlon |
| • Footpath Officer | Cllr R Nolan |
| • IT/Website | Cllr C Smurthwaite |
| • Finger Posts | Cllr C Gale |
| • DAPTC | Cllr B Church |
| • Highways | Cllr C Conlon |
| • DPA | Clerk and Cllr Smurthwaite |

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4. To agree the Minutes of previous Annual Meeting held on the 10th May 2017.

The Minutes were proposed by Cllr Gale, seconded by Cllr Conlon and all voted in favour.

5. Finance.

To agree: The annual governance statement 2017/18 – this was agreed by all members

To agree: The end of year accounting statements 2017/18 - this was agreed by all members.

To agree: The asset register 2017/18 – this was agreed by all members.

To agree: The bank reconciliation 2017/18 – this was agreed by all members.

RESOLVED: The members agreed to the above fiancé agreements and they were duly signed by the Chairman (2018/5-agm)

6. North Dorset and County Council Annual Report

There was no report given.

7. Chairman's Annual Report

Thanks to the Bryanston Parish Council team, we have again met the targets we set out to achieve over the last year, which were:

- Continuing negotiations with Bryanston School to establish maintenance of the island on the Cliff – with thanks to Bryanston School, following successful negotiations, tree-works and reduction of scrub have now made the remainder of the island on the Cliff manageable. The Council's contractor will now maintain the whole area.
- Explore and establish a use for the phone box and surrounding area – thanks to the Bryanston Estate who have acquired the phone box from BT and rented it to BPC for a peppercorn rent, the box is about to be repaired, repainted then turned into a book exchange and information point.
- Review the maintenance schedule for the benches in New Road – scrub was cleared around each bench.
- Continue to forge links and working relationships with our neighbours – BPC has continued to work with neighbouring councils, both through joint interests (e.g. planning applications, yellow lines etc) and the Blandford+ Neighbourhood Plan.
- Monitor and communicate any planning application at Lower Bryanston Farm – the Council has considered the possible impacts of the proposed development, met with relevant parties and commented appropriately on behalf of the village.

Important links have again been strengthened between Bryanston Parish Council, Blandford Town Council and Blandford St Mary Parish Council with work on the Blandford+ Neighbourhood Plan. With the coming of the unitary authority in April 2019, collaborative working with our neighbours is increasingly important to ensure we have a voice, powers and resources to deliver services needed by our residents. Bryanston Parish Council is particularly grateful to Councillor Hilary Cox who is working hard on behalf of the smaller councils, and for the particular support she has shown BPC over several issues this year.

Bryanston is a unique parish as the major land areas belong to the Bryanston Estate and Bryanston School. The Parish Council is very grateful for all the help, communication and support both landowners have shown Bryanston this year and look forward to further strengthening our working relationships going forward.

There has been a lot of planning activity following the submission of the outline planning application by Amec Foster Wheeler earlier this year. Given the majority view of its residents in surveys and public consultations that there should be no further development in the parish, the Council will continue to monitor and comment as appropriate on this application going forward.

This year, the Council increased the precept in response to rising costs. As in previous years, the main focus has been to maintain the village vegetation to a pleasing level aesthetically. The Council is grateful to both the Bryanston Estate and Bryanston School who have regularly maintained their areas, and the contractors for the Parish Council areas. As last year, BPC awarded grants to Blandford Town Council towards the upkeep of the toilets at the Marsh and Ham carpark, to our parish church of St Nicholas at Durweston to help maintain the churchyard and to the North Dorset Citizens Advice Bureau.

The two Village Litter Picks, coordinated and organised by John Baker, collected a large amount of litter. The antisocial discarding of plastic bags of dog excrement continues to be a problem. The

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recent installation of three litter/dog bins at Tappers Cut, the phone box, and on the corner opposite the Estate Club will hopefully reduce this unpleasant behaviour.

Over the next year, the Council will focus its efforts on key targets, including:

- To monitor the effects of the evolving unitary authority on the Parish Council's responsibilities, powers, voice, support, training and work load, especially the expectation of provision of services at a local level and the concomitant costs which will inevitably affect the precept.
- To continue to forge links and working relationships with our neighbours
- To consider planting on the island, the Cliff, and bulbs around the phone box.
- To complete the refurbishment of the phone box and set up the book exchange and information point.
- To erect the new noticeboard by the phone box - with thanks to the staff and pupils who have been involved with making it at Bryanston School
- To review the maintenance schedule for the benches in New Road
- To continue to monitor and communicate the evolving planning application at Lower Bryanston Farm.

Finally, I would like to thank the Parish Council Clerk, Nicky Phillips, for her continued hard work, support and advice, and thanks again to my fellow councillors for their time, enthusiasm and efforts given to our village.

8. Officers Annual Reports

Cllr B Church and Cllr C Tompsett reported the following:

Blandford+ Neighbourhood Plan AGM Report: Over the last year, the Blandford+ Neighbourhood Plan was submitted for public examination by the Steering Group on behalf of Blandford Forum Town Council, Blandford St Mary and Bryanston Parish Councils. Despite the Submission Plan receiving wide public support and broadly meeting the Basic Conditions required for a Neighbourhood Plan, the main policies for development of land N/NE of Blandford (Policy 1) and designation of Crown Meadows as a protected green space did not, in the examiner's view, meet Neighbourhood Plan requirements. The Examiner asked for these two policies to be withdrawn. This was particularly disappointing as Policy 1 sought to deliver much needed infrastructure, including a primary school, medical facilities and employment opportunities, as well as additional housing, for the Blandford area. The Steering group did not agree with the removal of Policy 1 and appealed to the government for intervention. As a result, the Department of Communities and Local Government (DCLG) is involved and has recommended the NP be withdrawn, modified and resubmitted to take account of the newly identified shortfall in local housing provision. The Steering Group, with DCLG support has established closer working relationships with NDDC, its consultants and others, to address the additional evidence required and other issues that resulted in the removal of Policy 1. A DCLG grant has now been approved, together with technical support, that will enable a revised Neighbourhood Plan to be prepared and resubmitted by the end of 2018 for re-examination and public referendum. With all the additional support, it is very likely the new plan will go forward to adoption, which will provide a very exciting opportunity to address the current shortfall in housing provision and the much-needed infrastructure for the area – the main objective of our Neighbourhood Plan.

Cllr C Smurthwaite reported the following:

IT/Website: Continues for update and maintain the website.

Trees: Thanks to Bryanston School and The Estate, the trees are being managed very well.

Cllr B Church reported the following:

DCC Winterborne Division Meetings with Hilary Cox: Have attended two meetings chaired by Hilary since the last AGM. Last July there was a presentation by Dorset Waste Partnership. Their representative stated that the number of Enforcement staff was going to be increased to help tackle the increase in fly tipping. According to local press reports the increased staffing levels seem to have resulted in more prosecutions.

The second meeting in October gave Andrew Kirby, NDDC Portfolio Holder for Community Safety and Wellbeing, presented his ideas for ways Parish Councils can help with the physical and mental health of it's parishioners.

This meeting also gave the opportunity to find out about the 'drive safely' wheelie bin stickers. The PC purchased some of these stickers, which have been delivered to many households along The

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Cliff, New Road, and lower part of the village. Hopefully, the message is having an effect and slowing traffic.

DAPTC: The focus of the meetings held by DAPTC this year has, inevitably, been the move to the unitary authority, Dorset Council. BPC raised concerns about the extra burden that could potentially be put on Town and Parish Councils, by sending a letter to the DAPTC chairman, Sajid Javid, the then Secretary of State for Communities, the shadow secretary and local interested parties.

DAPTC are currently organising a survey to ascertain how best Town and Parish Councils can manage these changes.

Cllr C Conlon reported the following:

Bryanston School: This time last year we were considering the offer from the School to rent at a peppercorn rate the Island on the Cliff. Council decided for a number of reasons not to accept the offer and an agreement was reached that the School would reduce the vegetation and tend to the trees after which the Council would be responsible for the ongoing maintenance with the assistance of the School when necessary. Earlier this year the School carried out the work which included the felling of some trees and the Council's contractor has taken on the maintenance work. Our thanks go to the School's estate team for all their work.

In late 2017 the Council approached the School to see if there was any interest in helping with the production of a new notice board for the village. The head of CDT Nigel Davies very kindly agreed to take it on as a project for the students and the planned completion date is April/May this year.

Highways Report: Throughout the year been reporting the potholes with limited success. DCC now appears to be concentrating on filling only large ones and sadly even they quickly fall into disrepair. I attended a meeting with the DCC Highways staff concerning the proposed development at Lower Bryanston Farm. The outcome is awaited.

Cllr T Tompsett reported the following:

Planning: Bryanston Parish Council has completed another year having to deal with a Planning authority that seems distant and uncommunicative. Increasingly the onus is for the Parish Council to search *Dorsetforyou* for any information. This site is often difficult to access, the information can be late, incomplete, misfiled, inaccurate and impossible to open. It does not actually work with us.

Thank you to Cllr Hilary Cox who has given support and action on our behalf over this year.

There have been 21 cases to consider in 2018. Some repeats/updates of the same dwelling application.

The demolition of 56 New Road and replacement dwelling was finally resolved, and work is progressing.

The sad demise of one dwelling and the refurbishment of the other at The Warren has produced two fine dwellings.

The replacement of one incongruous dwelling at The Drive on Bryanston School land with a larger building set into the hillside is currently under construction. As this adjoins a Grade 1 listed building and is in the curtilage the construction must reflect the setting and should blend in.

Application for developing the land at Lower Bryanston Farm is ongoing. A plan to build up to 80 dwellings is under consideration. BPC have a clear mandate from the village, based on surveys and public consultations, to oppose any large development in the parish. To that end we have had many meetings with interested parties to mitigate any impact on the AONB and Conservation areas and wildlife, safety of transport and the impact on infrastructure.

The development at Dorchester Hill has started. The first of the 61 dwellings have the roof timbers. This is not in our parish but the effect on transport and infrastructure will be significant.

The Brewery Development, although not in our parish, is progressing in an ever-changing form. An accidental fire destroyed a large part of the old brewery which originally was planned to be refurbished. Demolition is ongoing. This again will have a detrimental effect on transport and infrastructure for Bryanston.

Environment: It has been a good year. Thanks to all for support and help.

The grit bins held up well during the interruption of the white stuff. Thanks to Highways who promptly refilled any used bins. Just a note – the parish is invoiced for refills. The location and size of the nine bins has now been recorded for the asset register.

The new grass cutting contract is working well. Langers have been very easy to deal with and have done a great job so far. The careful management of the Island has preserved the many flowers now growing. The Rothermere Farm Estate and Bryanston School verges have been well maintained

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also but to date Highways have not cut theirs and are already behind the published plan for urban areas. We will consider adding the neglected Highways areas to our contract and cross charging. Bryanston School, having fulfilled the agreement to clear and fell trees on the second part of the Island, have handed over the management of the lower vegetation to BPC. A first cut has been completed. The aim is to manage the area to be colourful and tidy but not to achieve a "garden" finish and to maintain the improved visual safety on the dangerous corner.

We eventually have 3 new litter/poo bins which we hope will be used responsibly. This should stop the sad situation of a mountain of dog poo bags around the old bin, on pavements and the tree decorations.

The two benches on New Road were cleaned out of a mountain of vegetation and checked. They will need some replacement soon – a task for 2018. Sadly we have seen an increase in fly tipping. Even a bathroom refurb where documents were included. Both RFE and Highways have promptly dealt with clearing the mess. Please report any fly tipping as this can be not only unsightly but a hazard. Please also be vigilant as there is a heavy cost to us all for the clearance. There have been two litter picks arranged by John Baker which pleasingly collect less litter than before but still a large and unnecessary amount. The haul included the usual drinks containers and sweet wrappers and filled dog poo bags.

The Hawthorns continue to grow well and have had a light pruning to maintain shape.

Following the recent heavy rains Highways have been requested and have completed drain clearance at several points.

At last the overhanging branches onto the BT lines along The Cliff have been cut back. Thanks to Bryanston RFE Ltd who have taken this task on.

Cllr R Nolan reported the following:

Footpaths: The footpaths have been kept clear and any missing or damaged signs/gates have been reported to the Dorset Ranger for their attention.

Phonebox: The repairs to the Phone Box have started and with help from other members of the Council, the rubbing down and painting can begin.

Cllr C Gale reported the following:

The Fingerpost project is now complete and they are all renewed and in situ.

It has been my pleasure to represent the Parish Council for various Civic functions when the Chairman has not been available.

Have been involved in various meetings regarding the Planning Application at Lower Bryanston Farm and the Yellow Lining in Lower Bryanston.

Is a representative for the Council on the Steering Committee for Parking in Blandford.

Cllr C Tompsett reported the following:

Bryanston Estate: The Council would like to thank the Bryanston Estate for their good working relationship and continued work around the village to monitor and carry out necessary works on their trees, the reservoir area, green gate and verges. The village is particularly pleased with the opportunity to improve and use the phone box as a book exchange and communication centre for the village.

There being no other business, this meeting was closed at 19.45.
The Parish Council meeting followed.

Chairman..... Date.....