

# ***Bryanston Parish Council***

## **Minutes of the Virtual Annual General Meeting and the Parish Council Meeting**

**13<sup>th</sup> May 2020, Via Zoom.**

**Councillors:** Cllr C Tompsett -Chairman, Cllr C Gale – Vice Chairman, Cllr B Church, Cllr R Nolan, Cllr F Stocks, Cllr M Edwards and Cllr C Moxham.

**In attendance:** Nicola Phillips – Clerk and 2 members of the public

### **20/1. Election of Chairman and signing of Declaration of Office**

The Clerk asked for nominations or volunteers for Chairman of Bryanston Parish Council for 2020-21  
Cllr Gale nominated Cllr Tompsett for Chairman, this was seconded by Cllr Nolan, all members in favour.

**RESOLVED:** For Cllr Tompsett as Chairman for Bryanston Parish Council 2020-21. (20/1, no budgetary provision required)

### **20/2. To received and accept apologies of absence**

Dorset Councillor S Jespersen

### **20/3. Election of Vice Chairman**

Cllr Church proposed Cllr Gale for Vice Chairman for 2020-21, this was seconded by Cllr Tompsett and all members in favour.

**RESOLVED:** For Cllr Gale as Vice Chairman for Bryanston Parish Council 2020-21. (20/3, no budgetary provision required)

### **20/4. Parish Council legal documents**

- **To confirm that having met the conditions of eligibility as defined in the Localism Act 2011 and SI 965 The Parish Councils (General Power of Competence) (Prescribed Conditions) Order 2012 will be agreed.**
- **To confirm there have been no changes to the adopted policies and procedures for 2020.**

It was proposed by Cllr Gale and seconded by Cllr Edwards that the Parish Council confirmed that they have met the conditions of eligibility for the GPC and that all adopted policies and procedures have not been changed for 2020, all in favour.

**RESOLVED:** confirmation that the Parish Council are eligible for the GPC and that all adopted policies and procedures have not been changed for 2020. (20/4 no budgetary provision required).

### **20/5. Approve the Minutes from AGM dated the 8<sup>th</sup> May 2019.**

The minutes were proposed by Cllr Nolan and seconded by Cllr Tompsett that the contents were a true and accurate record and the minutes were signed by the Clerk on behalf of the Chairman.

### **20/6. Approval of the annual accounts and governance statement.**

The Clerk circulated the annual accounts and showed the bank reconciliation and governance statement to the Parish Council for approval. The Clerk asked for the following to be agreed:

- To agree: The annual governance statement 2019/20 – this was agreed
- To agree: The end of year accounting statements 2019/20 - this was agreed
- To agree: The asset register was amended and agreed for 2019/20
- To agree: The bank reconciliation 2019/20 – this was agreed

**RESOLVED:** The Parish Council agreed to the above financial agreements and they will be sent to the Chairman for signing (20/6-agm- no budgetary provision required)

***At this point the Chairman closed the AGM and opened the Parish Council meeting.***

*There will be a 3-minute public consultation period at the beginning of the meeting where the public can raise issues and concerns to the attention of the Council. The Chairman will ask if anyone present wishing to record the meeting, please let themselves known.*

A resident reported that she had a wildlife camera stolen from near her vegetable patch a few weeks ago, the camera was replaced, but again, this was also stolen. Please can all residents be vigilant and report any suspicious activity to the police. The Parish Council were incredibly sad to hear that this kind of incident is happening in the

village and will investigate providing signage in windows and around the village, promoting neighbourhood watch and CCTV cameras.

**Action - Clerk**

Mr Carl Conlon thanked the Councillors and Clerk for all their hard work for the village, whilst serving on the Parish Council. The Chairman thanked Mr Conlon for all his hard work whilst he was serving as a Councillor.

#### **20/7. Declaration of interest and dispensations**

There were none.

#### **20/8. Approve minutes from 11<sup>th</sup> March 2020 and matters arising from the meeting.**

The minutes had been circulated. These were proposed by Cllr Nolan and seconded by Cllr Church. All members agreed that the contents were a true and accurate record, and the minutes were signed by the Clerk on behalf of the Chairman.

#### **20/9. Officers reports: All reports had been circulated or reported at the meeting.**

The Chairman tabled details of the Blandford + Neighbourhood Plan Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) and gave more details of the agreement. After debate, the Parish Council agreed amendment to the Memorandum of Understanding. The Parish Council would also like to forward their thanks to Sally Gardener, who has been the project co-ordinator for the Blandford + team and is now leaving the role.

Concerns were expressed about the lack of grass cutting opposite Hillside, at the end of the Club. It was agreed for the Clerk to ask Langers for a quote to add this to their cutting schedule.

**Action - Clerk**

Concerns were also raised over the lack of grass cutting around the finger posts at Broadly Wood and Normandy Lodge. The Clerk will contact Dorset Council Highways and request these are done urgently.

**Action – Clerk**

Cllr Edwards offered to cut the grass at Lower Bryanston, as it is only being cut once a month by Langers, which is not enough to keep the area tidy. Cllr Edwards proposed that the Parish Council supply a brown bin for the residents of Lower Bryanston, as they have not got enough room in the gardens of a compost heap and nowhere to put the grass cutting from cutting the small area of grass at Lower Bryanston. After debate, it was agreed for the Clerk to obtain quotes from Dorset Waste Partnership for the cost of supply a brown bin.

**Action – Clerk**

The Chairman asked the Clerk to chase up Dorset Council Highways to ensure that the work to complete the resurfacing of the road through the village is still on their schedule of works.

**Action – Clerk**

The Chairman had received a complaint about the state of the footpath along Forum View, where the tree had fallen on the 31<sup>st</sup> October last year has damaged the footpath. This is a serious health and safety issue and will be reported to Sovereign Housing and Dorset Highways, for urgent action.

**Action – Clerk**

Cllr Gale thanked Cllr Nolan for reporting the broken style, which has now been rebuilt by Dorset Rangers.

The Chairman had circulated photos for Councillors to consider using for the Parish Council's website. The Councillors will send in their proposals. The Chairman will collate choices and decide on which to be used.

#### **Cllr Gale circulated the following report:**

It has been a frustrating time with regards to the damaged bench. All the woodwork and carving is ready, but the casting of the new support has delayed completion. As the reconstruction and re-positioning of the bench is in the hands of the Mens Shed there will be further delay until lock-down is lifted. The other bench, although in poor condition, is still safe and usable. The fingerposts have been inspected and all are in very good condition although the vegetation at Broadley Wood and Normandy Lodge is badly in need of attention.

#### **Cllr Stocks circulated the following report:**

Since joining Bryanston Parish Council in July 2019 we have looked at 15 applications in the parish and 1 in Blandford St. Mary, a number of which are still pending decision.

The outline application for 75 houses in Dorset AONB at Lower Bryanston Farm remains undetermined after 15 months of Section 106 (S106) negotiation. The former North Dorset Council resolved to grant permission on 26 February 2019 to grant outline permission. The Parish Council remains hopeful that a number of S106 benefits may be secured for the village. The CV-19 pandemic has undoubtedly had an impact on progress of this application.

Bryanston School have submitted the majority of planning applications, some involving the main house – the Grade I Listed Building. Whilst the majority of the applications have been uncontentious, some applications have involved inadequate supporting material to explain the proposals and allow a proper assessment of heritage impact. In the main this does not seem to have led to any particular issues, but with such a significant Listed Building this aspect requires careful monitoring.

The Hall & Woodhouse Brewery outline application in Blandford St. Mary Parish has been split into constituent parts and has resulted in separate applications. This makes assessment of the development as a whole somewhat problematic. Again, the CV-19 pandemic has undoubtedly had an impact on progress of this development.

The Canada Park Solar Farm application is the other large application, but simply involves extension of the period from 25 to 40 years. The site is largely invisible other than from long views, with no real implications for the Dorset AONB.

The few remaining applications have been a mixture of Householder and Minor applications that have raised some local issues.

**Cllr Church circulated the following report:**

**B+ Neighbourhood Plan Report:** In July 2019 the Neighbourhood Plan reached the Examination stage. The Examiner, Mr Terry Kemmann-Lane, requiring more detail, held a meeting with the B+ Steering Group and Dorset Council. His next step, in November, was a public hearing and site visit.

In February 2020, Mr Kemmann-Lane found that the B+ Neighbourhood Plan met Basic Conditions and was passed to Dorset Council to progress to Referendum.

However, several objectors to the Plan believe the Examiner's decision to be flawed. Dorset Council has sought legal advice and have compiled a Draft Decision Statement, which is currently out for consultation.

**DAPTC AGM Report:** Bryanston Parish Council requested that a proposal be put forward to the DAPTC AGM that all councillors have a gov.uk email address. This proposal was not accepted because the expense was thought to be prohibitive. However, this proposal will be resolved with the new Council website.

**Trees AGM Report:** I accepted the responsibility of Tree Officer in September. My first task was unfortunately to report that a tree had been removed without permission. It is obvious that villagers are not always aware that Bryanston is in a Conservation Area. This needs more detailed publicity.

Also in September the Council was made aware of the dangerous state of the trees outside 17 The Cliff. Although the resident who lives in the house close to these trees had reported the problem to Dorset Council, they denied responsibility. It took many months and a huge effort by the Clerk, but this was resolved in March, when DC arranged for the trees to have remedial work done. On behalf of the PC I contacted John Sellgren, DC's Director of Place, to complain about the shoddiness of DC Highways actions and particularly the very poor communication with BPC. A reply was received from Steve Maros Arboriculture Manager apologising for DC's poor response. The positive is that I have now made contact with a member of the Arboriculture team, so, hopefully, matters will be resolved much more quickly in future.

**Chairman's report:** Bryanston villagers, and Bryanston Club, have stepped up during the COVID-19 outbreak to support one another, during the crisis, including volunteers to collect medicines, essential shopping and to organise spirit-lifting activities, such as the amazing Bryanston Fairy Walk. The village has grown closer, and the Bryanston Village Facebook page has become an increasingly important communication aid, with many more members now than at the start of the outbreak. The phone box has continued to be an important village asset as both a book exchange, and now as the village plant exchange.

Bryanston Parish Council has again worked hard over the last year to meet its targets.

- To consider planting on the island, the Cliff, and bulbs around the phone box  
Awaiting discussions with Bryanston School for permission to plant on the island and Bryanston Estate for planting around the phone box
- To review the refurbishment of the second bench in New Road  
The repair of the damaged, recently refurbished, bench in New Road has taken precedence and is still ongoing.
- To continue to monitor, communicate, and represent resident's views to the relevant parties, with regard to the planning application at Lower Bryanston Farm. The Council is waiting to hear about the next stage of the planning application. BPC has been in discussions about CIL money from this development towards play equipment near the Club.
- To work with Blandford Town and Blandford St Mary Parish Councils to conclude the Blandford+ Neighbourhood Plan. Late objections, following successful examination, has halted the Neighbourhood Plan until a further consultation has taken place by Dorset Council. The final stage, the referendum, cannot be held in any case due to the COVID-19 outbreak.
- After persistent pressure, most of the road surface along Forum View/The Cliff was resurfaced.  
We await the completion of the road resurfacing down the hill to the Club indicated by Dorset Highways for this year.

Over the next year, the Council will focus its efforts on the following targets, including those ongoing above:

1. To continue to work with Bryanston Club management team to develop the Club, and the surrounding area, as a village hub and amenity

2. To continue working with Wessex Internet, who have been hard at work, to bring ultrafast, fibre broadband provision into the village, using government funding (free connection for everyone with the government's voucher scheme)
3. To consider any measures that could reasonably be introduced to reduce the effects of climate change
4. To continue to promote the phone box as a book exchange etc.
5. To promote better communication between the two major landowners, Bryanston School and Bryanston Estate (better links with the new tenant farmer have already been forged recently).

Again, this year, the Council had to make the difficult decision to increase the precept in response to rising costs. As in previous years, the main focus has been to maintain the village vegetation to an aesthetically pleasing level. BPC is grateful to the Bryanston Estate for regularly maintaining its areas, and to Langers who maintain the Parish Council areas and consistently do a great job.

BPC awarded grants of £50 to each of:

- Durweston & Bryanston PCC towards the upkeep of the churchyard
- Citizen's Advice Bureau
- Air Ambulance

Two hard working and valuable councillors left last year, Cllr Tony Tompsett and Cllr Carl Conlon. Two new Cllrs Frank Stocks and Catherine Moxham were co-opted in July and March respectively, bringing the council back to the full complement of 7.

The annual Litter Pick on 8th March was again coordinated and organised by John Baker, and was a success, despite inclement weather. Again, less litter was found, which has been improving year on year. Thanks to John and all who took part.

Congratulations to the Bryanston Newsletter team who organised another brilliant 'Tea on the Lawn' event last June, with the money raised going towards the cost of producing the village newsletter. The event is now a firm favourite of the village and we will certainly all miss it this year.

Bryanston Parish Council is grateful to our new Dorset Councillor Sherry Jespersion who has given support on a number of issues this year.

Finally, I would like to thank the Parish Council Clerk, Nicky Phillips, for her continued hard work, support and advice, and to my fellow councillors for all their time, enthusiasm and effort put in for the benefit of the Bryanston community.

#### **20/10. Received report from Dorset Council representative**

There was no report given.

#### **20/11. Finance**

The Clerk tabled the Payment Schedule and Financial statement for April 2020 for the sum of £932.90. This was proposed by Cllr Church and seconded by Cllr Edwards, all agreed, and the Clerk signed the payment schedule on behalf of the Chairman. Details are as below:

|                          |                      |                 |
|--------------------------|----------------------|-----------------|
| N Phillips expenses      | Expenses for March   | £ 75.60         |
| John Baker               | Internal Audit       | £ 50.00         |
| Information Commissioner | Data protection      | £ 40.00         |
| Vision ICT               | Part payment website | £ 390.00        |
| Clerk wages April        | Clerks wages s/o     | £ 343.63        |
| Clerks expenses April    | Clerk exp April      | £ 33.67         |
|                          |                      | <b>£ 932.90</b> |

**RESOLVED:** to pay the payment on the schedule for the sum of £932.90 (20/11 current account).

**20/12. Clerk report** – all correspondence has been circulated and actioned as required.

**20/13. Items for the next agenda and date of next meeting.**  
Items to be agreed.

**Date of next meeting 8th July 2020, time and venue yet to be agreed.**  
Should you wish to contact the Clerk please use the email address below:  
[bryanston@dorset-aptc.gov.uk](mailto:bryanston@dorset-aptc.gov.uk)

**There being no other business, the meeting closed at 19.22pm.**