

Bryanston Parish Council

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting 16th November 2016 at Bryanston Club

Councillors: Cllr C Tompsett – Chairman, Cllr B Church, Cllr T Tompsett, Cllr R Nolan and Cllr Smurthwaite

In attendance: Nicola Phillips – Clerk; 1 member of the public; Cllr J Stayt – North Dorset District Councillor.

Democratic Period: There were no questions.

16/31. Apologies for absence, Declarations of Interests and Dispensations.

Cllr C Conlon and Cllr C Gale - Vice Chairman.

16/32. To agree minutes of the Parish Council Meeting dated 14th September 2016.

It was proposed by Cllr T Tompsett and seconded by Cllr B Church that the minutes were a true and accurate record and to be duly signed by the Chairman. All agreed.

16/33. Matters arising from the meeting dated 14th September 2016 and new matters:

To consider The Forum View bungalows ‘small island’ land maintenance – after debate it was agreed to contact Dorset County Council Highways Department, to report the Parish Council concerns and suggestions. **Action - Clerk**

To consider the Parish Council budget – the Clerk had tabled the proposed budget for 2017/18 for the Parish Council. After debate it was proposed by Cllr Church and seconded by Cllr T Tompsett to increase the precept from £3900.00 to £4500.00, an increase of £600.00, this was agreed by all members. The Parish Council’s precept it used for the following:

- Clerks wages/expenses/pension.
- Subscriptions to advisory companies.
- Public and asset insurance.
- Internal and external audit.
- Grants for local organisations.
- Training for Councillors and Clerk.
- Maintenance of grassed areas.
- Neighbourhood Plan.
- Parish Councils expenses, stationary, materials.
- Re-furbish of finger posts, which Dorset County Council no longer finance.
- Contingency for future projects and additional highways maintenance, which Dorset County Council maintain at the moment, but are considering withdrawing.

RESOLVED: to set Bryanston Parish Council’s precept at £4500.00 for 2017/18 (2016/33 – Budget-precept).

To receive phone box update – It had been reported that a notice of removal of the telephone box had been placed. Miss Alice Rawdon-Mogg from Bryanston (RFE) Ltd has acknowledged that the telephone box is on their land and if the Council and residents of the village would like to keep the phone box, Miss Rawdon-Mogg will investigate adopting it for the Village. The members of the Parish Council confirmed that they would like to keep the phone box. The Clerk has contacted BT requesting that the notice be extended until this matter is resolved. **Action – Clerk and Chairman**

To consider maintenance agreement for the village - The Clerk reported that Dorset County Council Highways Department have announced the possibility of moving services, provided by them, to Parish and Town Councils. The costs for these services have been calculated in their budget for 2017/18. We await further information about how this will impact on Bryanston.

16/34. Reports from representatives of NDDC & report from Police

There were no reports received from the Police.

County and North Dorset District Cllr J Stayt reported the following:

- Is continuing to support his wife, the Mayor of Blandford, in her official role.
- Will continue to protest against the proposed withdrawal of funds for County Council, to CAB. Concerns were expressed over the lack of information on the public consultation, which County Council has produced. If CAB have their grant removed, who will offer the services to the local people, who are in desperate need of support in lots of different areas. The Parish Council supports the CAB and have sent their comments to County Council.
- The consultations for a unitary Council are still being looked at.

16/35. The Neighbourhood Plan report:

Cllr C Tompsett and Cllr Church had circulated the following report:

- The independent Examiner, Mr Jeremy Edge, has been appointed, which had been agreed by all members of the Parish Council.
- Unspent grant money has been allocated for holding public information events, announcements and publishing booklets for the final public referendum. A slight overspend of £529.47 will mean Bryanston Parish Council will need to pay £21.17.

16/36. Officers reports:

Cllr C Smurthwaite – IT Officer had circulated the following report:

- Wessex Internet has confirmed that they have received funding from RFE for the additional wireless antenna(e) in the village and will be installing these "as soon as possible". They have indicated that as soon as this is done they will begin accepting orders for Internet connections and asked if BPC would support publicity for both Wessex Internet and Bryanston (RFE) Ltd who have been very generous in permitting and funding this project. Cllr Smurthwaite suggested we offer our support with this as soon as they are able to start installing connections for people. This was agreed by all members.

Action – Cllr Smurthwaite & Chairman

- The village website is now complete. Cllr Smurthwaite has spent time improving the ranking on Google and other search engines. This will further improve as we add content to the website. Cllr Smurthwaite will begin work on some step-by-step documentation to explain how to publish content to the site. Please contact the Clerk if you would like to access the site, to edit, or to have your own pages.

Action – Cllr Smurthwaite

Cllr C Tompsett – Tree officer and RFE had circulated the following report:

- The dead tree on the roadside of the Cliff, between the corner of the hill to the Club and Little Monington has now been removed by Bryanston School.
- Councillors were consulted electronically about an application for tree works at 16 Walnut Avenue. The majority view of BPC was not to oppose the application. The application was permitted.
- Bryanston RFE has cleared fallen trees from their land as outlined at the last Parish Council meeting.

Cllr C Gale – emailed the following report:

- Triangle at the bottom of Dorchester Hill: Vegetation was cleared in accordance with all legal requirements and now awaiting yellow lining. The Clerk reported that Blandford St Mary Parish Council had written to Cllr Gale, expressing the concerns of a member of the public, if the well-being of bats had been considered before clearing the vegetation. Cllr Gale assured Blandford St Mary Parish Council that advice had been taken and the bats taken into consideration.

Cllr Nolan – gave the following report on the paths, bridle way and benches:

- Cllr Nolan took photos of both benches and researched local and national companies who could make suitable replacements. The Parish Council agreed to replace the benches in the next 18 months. Cllr Nolan agreed to forward designs and costs to the Council for their consideration. It was also suggested that Bryanston School be asked if any A-level students, who need a project, could design and make the benches. Cllr Conlon will be requested to ask the school on behalf of the Council.

Action – Cllr Nolan and Cllr Conlon

Cllr T Tompsett- Environment Team had circulated the following report:

- Four cuttings of the 6 planned and costed have been completed. No further cuts are planned as the weather is cooling.
- The raised corner at the entrance to Walnut Avenue has been cut as agreed to help promote the growth of Cowslips. The task to cut back the overgrowth/hedge – now about 10 ft deep of brambles and scrub – has started. This is a large task if the aim is to cut back to reveal again the two trees planted for John and Jackie Tory. The underspend from the grass cutting budget is available and

asked if it could be used to progress this project. All members agreed to progress this project. An extra working party's help will be needed to complete the job.

Cllr T Tompsett – had circulated the following planning report:

- 2/2106/1171 - 56 New Road - Further application following approval has been refused.
- 2/2016/1461 - Bryanston School - Demolish old house building and replace with two houses. No objection.
- 2/2106/1575 - 41 The Kennels - Change of use from workshop to annexe. Objection.
- 2/2016/1598 - 30 The Warren -Demolish existing, replace with larger – further discussion required.
- 2/2016/1599 - 31 The Warren - Refurbish and extend existing – further discussion required.

Cllr B Church - DT11 and transport officer had circulated the following report:

DT11 - Grants are still being processed. Tesco Bags of Help initiative has closed the voting at the Blandford store, so we await their decision as to which idea is to be chosen for the extra £4000 of funding.

Cllr Conlon- Bryanston School Liaison had circulated the following:

- The full Council meeting of the School Governors is on Saturday 19th November when it is hoped that a decision will be made about the island on The Cliff.

16/37. Finance.

The Clerk tabled the Payment Schedule and Financial statement for September and October 2016 for the sum of £826.24. This was agreed by all members.

16/38. Chairman's report – the following had been circulated:

On Sunday 13th November, the Chairman laid a wreath, on behalf of the village, at the Corn Exchange, during the Remembrance Parade in Blandford.

Over recent weeks the **Council has been consulted on a number of important issues**. In each case the Councillors were consulted and the majority view recorded:

- The structure of Dorset Councils is currently undergoing consultation and change, to primarily address the huge shortfall in funding for council services which is set to escalate without drastic action. I attended a workshop on 20th September which set out the key issues and consultation proposals. The 'Reshaping your Councils' questionnaire was completed recording BPC's support for option 2b to restructure into 2 Councils:
 1. Bournemouth, Poole and Christchurch
 2. Rest of Dorset

This will give two similar population sizes and contributors to council tax, meaning similar funding for provision of services.

- NDDC needs to cut spending and identified two options:
- Citizens Advice Bureau Grant
- Community Development Service (including DT11 Forum)
Both services give important support to the local community. BPC strongly opposed both cuts. No information was offered as to why these two services were particularly singled out by NDDC and in isolation from cuts to other budgets.
- The 2017/2018 Local Government Settlement Consultation outlined proposals to extend 'referendum principles' from larger councils like DCC (i.e. holding a referendum if a council proposes a precept rise above 2%) to smaller parish councils like ours in an effort to stem rising parish council tax levels across the county. BPC strongly opposed referendum principles to little parish councils such as ours. For us, the reshaping programme of Dorset councils will undoubtedly push the responsibility for services, currently provided by DCC, down to our council. This will require extra funding and a higher precept as a result. 2% of a little precept like ours would pay for very little. The cost and admin required to run a referendum would be large, putting an extra burden on our limited funding.
- The Review of the NDDC Local Plan, only approved in January, is underway. BPC expressed their concerns about ongoing lack of infrastructure in the proposed Plan, and any consideration of the B+ Neighbourhood Plan.
- BPC replied to the North Dorset Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) Draft Charging Schedule Consultation stating their concerns that the data used to calculate CIL rates was already out of date, took no account of rising costs or the infrastructure desperately needed by the area, as shown in the B+ Neighbourhood Plan. *(CIL money is paid by developers to local authorities to help deliver infrastructure to support the development of their area).*

Other news:

- Paul Starkey has been confirmed as our DCC Highways Officer.

- The Chairman and Clerk will meet with MP, Simon Hoare, on Friday 9th December. Please send any items for discussion to the Clerk.

The **Village Litter Pick**, kindly organised by John Baker, is being held on Saturday 26th November at 10am, meet at the phone box.

The Chairman thanked the Clerk and Councillors for all their hard work this year and wished everyone a very Happy Christmas and a healthy New Year.

16/39. Clerk's Report – Correspondence - Matters of interest

All correspondence had been circulated.

Request for grants from Blandford Town Council, for the toilets and CAB. These will be discussed at the meeting in January.

At this point, standing orders were removed to allow Mr J Baker to talk.

Mr Baker read out details of a proposal for the Parish Council to support contacting Bryanston (RFE) Ltd about part of Walnut Avenue as a permissive path. This area had previously been used as a walk (**it is not a registered right of way**), with permission from the previous tenant. However, the present tenant does not support this. This proposal is that Bryanston (RFE) Ltd, at a suitable point in time, should grant the status of Permissive Path in respect of part of Walnut Avenue. The Parish Council agreed. **ACTION - Chairman**

Standing orders were re-instated.

16/40. Items for next agenda and date of next meeting. Will be agreed

The next Parish Council meeting will be held on **Wednesday 11th January 2017 at **Bryanston Club**, commencing at **7pm**.**

Should you wish to contact the Clerk please use the email address below: bryanston@dorset-aptc.gov.uk

There being no other business, the meeting closed at 20.50 pm.

Chairman..... Date

Minutes and Agendas for Bryanston Parish Council can now be viewed on the new village website: bryanstonvillage.com