

EAST BRENT PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of East Brent Parish Council held at the Village Hall on Monday 2nd March 2015 at 7.30pm, when the following business was transacted.

Present:

Cllr. V. Rawles (Chairperson)

Cllr. B. Bees
Cllr. J. Bowden
Cllr. E. Champion
Cllr. A. Gilling
Cllr. N. Lloyd-Jones
Cllr. S. McGreavy
Cllr. Y. Roscorla
Cllr. W. Walker
Cllr. J. Webb
Cllr. B. Woodward

Also Present:

Mrs. E. Oliver (Parish Clerk)

Apologies:

Cllr. B. Filmer

Declaration of interest:

Cllr. A. Gilling declared an interest in relation to all planning matters, in view of his position on the Development Committee at Sedgemoor District Council.

Public Session

The Chairperson brought forward item 4 from the Agenda.

Cllr. A. Gilling left the meeting.

4. Planning

New Planning applications:-

Minute 10/15 Application to Vary and Existing Premises Licence.

The Cider Mill, Orchard Barms, Bristol Road, Rooksbridge BS26 2TG

Decision: No paperwork was available so it was resolved to discuss this matter at a forthcoming additional East Brent Parish Council meeting to be held to discuss planning issues

Application Number:
24/15/00003

Parish/Town Council:

East Brent

Registered Date:

22/01/2015

Type:

Full Planning Permission

Applicant:

Mr D Harvey

Location:

South House, Lake House Lane, East Brent, Highbridge, TA9 4HN

Proposal:

Change of use of land from agricultural to Equestrian use, including erection of stables, tack room and hay storage area and menage area with 1500mm high post and rail fence for personal use

Case Officer:

Shanta Parsons

Discussion: The location of the planning application had been visited by Cllr. Bowden and Cllr. McGreavy. Several issues including access, neighbours, noise and lighting were discussed. It was proposed by Cllr. Bowden and seconded by Cllr. McGreavy that the application be passed subject to no additional lighting. All were in favour.

Application No: 24/15/00004	
Parish/Town Council:	East Brent
Registered Date:	28/01/2015
Type:	Outline Planning Permission
Applicant:	Mr & Mrs J Fortune
Location:	Land to the East of, Laurel Cottage, Chapel Road, Rooksbridge, Axbridge, BS26 2TB
Proposal:	Erection of dwelling and formation of access off of Chapel Road.
Case Officer:	Shanta Parsons
Full Application Link:	http://www.sedgemoor.gov.uk/planning_online/Details.aspx?App=24/15/00004

Discussion: The location of the planning application had been visited by Cllr. Bowden and Cllr. McGreavy. Outline planning permission being sought so limited drawings. Several issues were discussed including vehicle movements and neighbours. It was proposed by Cllr. McGreavy and seconded by Cllr. Bowden that the application be passed. All were in favour.

Application No:	24/15/00006
Parish/Town Council:	East Brent
Registered Date:	13/02/2015
Type:	Full Planning Permission
Applicant:	Mr I E & Mrs LM Marshall
Location:	Agricultural Building, Land to the East of A38, Bristol Road, Highbridge, TA9 4HN
Proposal:	Erection of agricultural livestock building
Case Officer:	Sharon Houlet
Full Application Link:	http://www.sedgemoor.gov.uk/planning_online/Details.aspx?App=24/15/00006

Discussion: The location of the planning application had been visited by Cllr. Bowden and Cllr. McGreavy. Several issues were discussed including the necessity of the barn due to TB restrictions, a permissive footpath, visibility, traffic and neighbours. It was proposed by Cllr. McGreavy and seconded by Cllr. Bowden that the application be passed. All were in favour.

Application No:	24/15/00007
Parish/Town Council:	East Brent
Registered Date:	13/02/2015
Type:	Notice of Proposed Agricultural Devt.
Applicant:	Mr I E & Mrs L M Marshall
Location:	Proposed Agricultural Building, Land to the East of A38, Bristol Road, Highbridge, TA9 4HN
Proposal:	Erection of agricultural building for the storage of fodder
Case Officer:	Shanta Parsons
Full Application Link:	http://www.sedgemoor.gov.uk/planning_online/Details.aspx?App=24/15/00007

The clerk was instructed to contact Sedgemoor District Council Planning Department to reply that East Brent Parish Council need not respond to this application.

Application No:	24/15/00008
Parish/Town Council:	East Brent
Registered Date:	23/02/2015
Type:	Full Planning Permission
Applicant:	Barnaby Farms
Location:	Building at, York House Farm, Rooksbridge Road, Rooksbridge, Axbridge, BS26 2UD
Proposal:	Erection of agricultural building, partly on site of existing (to be demolished)
Case Officer:	Sharon Houlet
Full Application Link:	http://www.sedgemoor.gov.uk/planning_online/Details.aspx?App=24/15/00008

Discussion: The location of the planning application had been visited by Cllr. Bowden and Cllr. McGreavy. Several issues were discussed including the current state of the site. It was proposed by Cllr Bowden and seconded by Cllr. McGreavy that the application be passed. All were in favour.

Cllr. A. Gilling rejoined the meeting.

AGENDA ITEM

1 Welcome and Apologies

The Chairperson welcomed all those present to the meeting.

2 Minutes of the previous meeting held on Monday 2nd February 2015

It was proposed by Cllr. W. Walker and seconded by Cllr. B. Woodward to approve the Minutes.

The Minutes of the meeting held on Monday 2nd February 2015 were agreed and signed as a correct record.

3 Matters Arising

Minute 04/15: Field off Stowlands, waste wood and plastic.

Message received by Cllr. Walker via the parish website admin email regarding waste dumped at Stowlands.

Cllr. Walker read out in full an email which had been received via the East Brent Parish Council website, from a resident of Stowlands, regarding a pile of wood and plastic waste in a farm field off Stowlands. There followed a detailed discussion which included: environmental issues, potential for fire, licence requirement, private land, civil matter and ownership. Cllr. Rawles offered to speak to the landowner and Cllr. Walker would reply to the email via the parish website.

Minute 05/15: Mr Stephen Hooper.

Email received 9th February 2015 seeking EBPC support for a proposal for sea angling provision and training which is being submitted to the Hinkley Point Mitigation Fund.

After a general discussion about sea angling and fishing in general the clerk was instructed to write a letter of support for the project.

Minute 06/15: Mobile phone for Parish Council use.

Discussion about the possible need for a Parish Council mobile phone.

There was a detailed discussion about the possible need for a mobile phone which could be used by the clerk and by others in the absence of the clerk. Cllr. Lloyd-Jones explained that the clerk does not receive any payment toward phone costs and for safety the clerk might not wish to leave a message on a landline answerphone if away. If on holiday it might be useful for a councillor to have the mobile phone to be contacted particularly regarding the cemetery and funeral arrangements. The clerk presented information regarding HMRC requirements and explained the only option which would not attract a tax liability personally or for the parish council was a mobile phone on contract. The clerk also expressed a wish not to be considered "on call" or to incur an additional financial tax liability. The clerk did not feel a mobile phone was essential and some councillors expressed concern for additional costs being incurred by having a contract. There was a discussion about the different types of monthly contracts available. It was proposed by Cllr. Bowden and seconded by Cllr. Woodward not to purchase a phone. It was suggested that the clerk keep a log of calls made and assess in three months.

Minute 07/15: East Brent Parish Council dates for April 15 - March 16.

Suggested dates for the next twelve months of East Brent Parish Council meetings, taking into consideration Bank Holidays and an election year.

There was a discussion about dates for the next year and how best to accommodate the election requirements and when to hold the Annual Parish Meeting. There was a reminder that with it being an election year that from Monday 16th March Purdah applies. It was agreed that the Annual Parish Meeting would be held on Monday 13th April at 7.00pm and the usual parish council meeting would follow at 7.30pm. The May meeting would remain on Monday 11th May which would fit in with legal requirements. It was agreed that the meeting in June would move from Monday 1st June to Monday 8th June. The clerk will compile a list of the dates.

Minute 08/15: Preparation of end of year 14/15 accounts.
Person of choice for the annual internal audit.

It was agreed that the clerk would contact Graham Jarvis who has conducted financial audits previously.

Minute 09/15: Cemetery meeting February 2015.
Feedback from the quarterly cemetery meeting.

Cllr. Bowden gave feedback from the Cemetery meeting held on Monday 2nd March at 6.45pm. It included:

- a request for the clerk to contact Greenslade Taylor Hunt in writing to request the removal of the bales currently on the grass keep land
- detail that the auction of grass keep will be taking place shortly
- the repair to the wall with the tap will include a rebuild of the whole wall
- there is £2105.64 in the cemetery bank account

4. Planning

Recorded under Public Session.

5. Financial Matters :

The Chairperson read out the list of proposed payments recorded on the Agenda and payment of all these items was proposed by Cllr. Lloyd-Jones and seconded by Cllr. Walker. These were then passed unanimously by the Committee. Cheques for these payments were then signed by the Chairperson and Cllr Gilling.

6. Correspondence :

Information from the clerk:

Email Received

- J Hopkins. Re: PROW at Dolhurst Farm Lymsham - the clerk was asked to contact J Hopkins to inform her that there is no copy of a letter she has asked to have a copy of.
- CSS February Newsletter - circulated to all councillors.
- CSS Community Transport - circulated to all councillors.
- SDC Clean Up your Community information - circulated to all councillors.
- Rural Services Network, Rural Transport - circulated to all councillors.

Sent

- To Somerset County Highways enquiring about the installation of a S.I.D. device (raised Feb. 2015 under Matters of Report). Reference EB848D2541728 Re: Application for a S.I.D.
- To Phil Yorke South Western Housing Association with best wishes on his leaving

7. Matters of Report :

(a) Chairperson

- Cllr. Rawles reported that she had spoken to Liam Gill of Somerset County Highways regarding the use of a planter next to the highway. He had informed her that a licence costing £575 would be required. Hanging baskets might also constitute a hazard. Cllr. Bowden asked if it should be discussed at a cluster meeting to see what other parishes are doing.
- Cllr. Rawles will organise for an appropriate person to come out for an assessment regarding the one way road system.
- Cllr. Rawles has reported that the verge in Edingworth has disappeared leaving nothing between the tarmac and the rhyme
- Cllr. Rawles reported on a previously discussed matter in 2012 which had been brought to her attention again by Mary Harris regarding a H sign, parking and faded white road lines.
- Cllr. Rawles reported she had spoken to Sedgemoor District Council Democratic Services team regarding the forthcoming elections and the clerk will be collecting the nomination papers when attending election training on Tuesday 3rd March. The clerk will also clarify the position regarding the responsibility for returning the forms. It was felt that there had been adequate advertising of the elections in the parish.

(b) Members

- Cllr. Webb reported that she had sourced a local company to supply a plaque for the bench at a cost of £26.00. The inscription will be " In commemoration of the Diamond Jubilee of her majesty Queen Elizabeth II 2012".
- Cllr. Webb reported that the East Brent Parish Magazine will be opening a dedicated bank account.
- Cllr. Webb reported that she has conducted some due diligence and has sought alternative quotes for the printing of the magazine. The new quotes are more expensive she will continue to use the current provider.
- There is now a hood to go over the defibrillator at the medical centre
- VETS voluntary scheme training and testing has been completed. It will go live and be advertised in the April parish magazine
- There will be an additional familiarisation session and training
- The solar farm has contributed an extra defibrillator for Edingworth. There was a discussion about the best place for it to be located.
- Cllr. Woodward reported that the map in the churchyard is disintegrating and asked who is responsible for it. It was agreed it is the parish council and it was agreed to make enquiries about the cost of replacement and a new mounting
- Cllr. Woodward asked if it is correct that the bus service 102 is being cut. It was confirmed that it is. The "Slinky" bus may be available and this is being investigated
- Cllr. Woodward requested that notices placed for reading on the notice board be printed large enough to be read.
- Cllr. Woodward reported that some people had not received their February copy of the parish magazine. Cllr. Walker will look into this.

Cllr. Gilling reported that he had obtained some quotes for gates.

Cllr. Bees reported that the land opposite the new houses which is used as a makeshift layby is in a terrible state. Cllr Walker had further information about it (listed below).

Cllr Walker reported on four items:

- The condition of the internal pegboard in the Parish notice board outside the East Brent Village Hall – in that it is badly worn and needs replacing – Cllr Webb offered to have a word with the carpenter that is currently working on the defibrillator shelter outside the medical centre.
- That a Dr Lott had emailed, via the EBPC website, stating her dismay at the timescales over Planning Application 24/15/00002.
- A request from a local business woman to have the details of her business posted on the business directory on the EBPC website.
- The matter of the Building development/Footpath opposite the Brent Knoll Inn. Cllr Walker re-read the email of 27 November 2014 from Stuart Houlet, Service Manager of Sedgemoor District Council (SDC).

He then read the latest email from Mr Houlet, dated 2nd March 2015, in which he states that:

The enforcement notice to get the footpaths completed took effect from 25th January 2015 with a four month compliance period. In addition a Section 215 notice was served on 20th January 2015 to get the site cleared up within a 3 month compliance period. Neither of the notices have been appealed.

However we have recently received a further planning application (reference 24/15/00005) but this is invalid currently as it requires further plans and a flood risk assessment. The fee however has been paid. Once valid this will be consulted on and processed accordingly.

Cllr Walker stressed that until this invalid planning application becomes valid the PC must not comment on it.

Cllr. Bowden asked if the fence into the ditch on the footpath is to be included in the items being looked at by Cllr. Rawles. It was agreed it is.

Cllr. McGreavy said that the organisers of the village fete had asked for a donation of £300 to hire a jazz band. All proceeds from the fete to go to the church. Cllr. Lloyd-Jones confirmed that there is an allowance in the budget of £250 for events and for donations of £250. The parish council have already donated £40 for the licence. It was proposed by Cllr. Webb and seconded by Cllr. Walker to donate £200.

Cllr Lloyd-Jones reorted on

- Brent Road - Playing Field.
- Within a couple of days of the last meeting SDC did come to the site and remove the tree stump - actually dug it out fully.

- Also SDC staff spent another couple of days cutting back the growth around the play equipment area and car park and that's looking good.
- Two benches - keep asking Dave Aggett for date when they are going to be installed - even offered to pay for the one the PC has committed to before the end of the financial year.

02/03/2015 Received at 6.20pm

"Hi Nigel

Apologies for not getting back to you before, I will arrange for the benches to be installed as soon as possible, very busy at the moment but if you inform your members that I promise that they will be there by the end of March, ready for Easter.

Regards, Dave."

- Placement of four signs asking owners to clean up after their dog.
- Litter in the Rhyne along the section opposite Church Road / phone box - may be a dozen items including bags. Cllr. Lloyd-Jones will remove.
- Overall the fence condition is good, as there are some 50 posts and only 5 clearly broken ones. Cllr. Lloyd-Jones will get quotes for repair.

Rooksbridge Playing Field

- Phil Yorke (Chief Executive) left the Housing Society last month - we did send a letter from Val thanking him for his assistance and copied in the new lady (Donna Johnson) taking over - so need to look to contact her.
- No news about the road have been adopted by Highways - so then hopefully the kerb lowering work will be done.
- Contacted Phil Collings about a quote for grass cutting and strimming - need to send this to another party as well.
- Contacted the goal post supplier to check the price is at least the same as SDC.
- Gates - give Alan Rawles suggestion on what to install - a 12 foot wide one (to be locked and only used for grass cutting or other such needs) and then another smaller 4ft gate for pedestrians - need to check with the Housing Society if we can use more of their fencing to make the 2nd smaller gate opening. Need to contact Mole Valley and Somerlap re gate and fixings cost + installation cost - look to ask Nigel Phillips for fitting cost option.
- Signage - contacted Insurance company - they sent an Information Sheet from Rospa - Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents - and give summary of what points we may use . . . plus other signs like No Dogs or Area Closed to be ready in case needed.
- Thanks to Cllr. Bowden for helping Cllr. Lloyd-Jones to remove unwanted items from the area.

(c) Clerk

- The clerk passed on thanks from Mike Grant and the Village Hall Committee to East Brent Parish Council for the £15 Cheque for the use of the Christmas tree lights
- The clerk reported that at the SALC North Area Meeting it was announced that new guidance has been issued by the Department for Communities and Local Government (DCLG) - Transparency code for smaller authorities and this will

need to be adopted by East Brent Parish Council. the information will be distributed.

There being no further business to discuss, the Chairperson declared the meeting closed at 9.40pm.

The next meeting of East Brent Parish Council will be held on Monday 13th April 2015 at 7.30pm, in East Brent Village Hall

Minutes signed as an accurate record by the Chairperson.

Signed..... Date.....