

## EAST BRENT PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of East Brent Parish Council held at the Village Hall on Monday 2nd September 2013 at 7.30pm, when the following business was transacted.

**Present:** Councillors; Cllr E. Champion, Cllr J. Bowden, Cllr V. Rawles, Cllr A. Gilling, Cllr J. Webb, Cllr B. Woodward, Cllr Y. Roscorla, Cllr N. Lloyd-Jones, Cllr B. Bees.

### **Apologies for absence and declarations of interest.**

Apologies were received from Mr Bob Filmer and Cllrs S. McGreavy and W. Walker.

### **CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

The minutes of the meetings held on Monday 1st July and Monday 29th July 2013, were signed by the Chairman as being a true reflection of the business carried out by this Parish Council on those dates.

### **ONGOING ISSUES**

**Minute 24/12: Defibrillator Equipment** . Cllr Webb addressed the meeting and said that she had secured a donation of £750.00 today, from the Clarks Foundation. This takes the total raised so far to £2864.00. She has approached County Cllr John Denbee for support from his £5,000.00 available from S.C.C. to promote health and wellbeing in the division and awaits a response. She expressed her gratitude to the Village Agent, Chris Stephens, for her help in finding sources of funding for the project. Work on restoring the telephone kiosk, to house one of the Defibrillators, will start very soon. Cllr Bowden proposed that the Committee proceeds with this work to enable the installation of the Defibrillators before the date of the next meeting. This was seconded by Cllr Woodward. Cllr Webb agreed to continue with her fund raising efforts and she will also try to obtain the supply of the paint for the phone kiosk, free if possible from the local Dulux Paint Representative. The equipment will be included in the P.C.'s insurance cover once it has been installed. Training for the use of the equipment (knowledge transfer) will follow.

### **Minute 08/13: The play area at Pill Road, Rooksbridge: Affordable Housing Project.**

Cllr Gilling declared his interest in the land in question and took no direct part in the discussions. Cllr N. Lloyd-Jones addressed the meeting and explained that he had been extremely busy on professional matters since the last meeting and had not been able to expend much time advancing the project. Also, he has not received a response from Shanta Hobbs (now married/name changed) at S.D.C., to the various questions he has raised with her. He has had some contact with Phil Yorke, who has advised him that all requisite planning consents have now been given by S.D.C. and the building work has commenced. It is hoped that this will finish in August 2014. The fencing of the play area will hopefully be carried out during July 2014. The P.C.'c planning application for change of use of the land, will hopefully be submitted to S.D.C. before the next Committee meeting. Funding from the Lights for Life organisation is being pursued. Cllr Gilling commented, in an ex officio capacity, that funding of £2,000 is available for such projects under R.T.L.3 funding with S.D.C. Cllr Lloyd-Jones said that he was aware of this and he is pursuing a possible grant.

### **Minute 14/13: Planning Appeal relating to the Pilrow wind farm.**

The Chairman reported that there was not much news regarding this matter. A further meeting with the No Pilrow group is scheduled soon, when more news might be available.

Discussions as to whether the P.C. will eventually decide to become a "Rule 6" party to the Appeal, will continue. Being a Judicial case, the possible question of liability for costs is being given careful consideration. If the case presented by the P.C. was flawed in any way, Broadview Plc. could pursue an action for costs against it. The Chairman reminded the Committee that they needed to be aware of this. It was thought that the dates mentioned in the previous meeting regarding the resolution of the Appeal were somewhat optimistic and it is more likely that no final decision will be announced until well into 2014.

#### **Minute 15/13: The Village War Memorial**

Cllr Webb advised that she had obtained a quotation from Wells Cathedral Stonemasons (the P.C.'s preferred choice of craftsmen) of £565.00 +VAT. This was considered to be most reasonable and she asked the Clerk to prepare the submission application forms for presentation to the War Memorial Trust. He agreed to do so and will report to the Committee during the next meeting.

#### **PLANNING MATTERS**

The Chairman read out the list of decided applications shown on the Agenda. There were no current applications before the Committee to consider.

#### **FINANCIAL MATTERS**

The Clerk advised the Committee that he had concluded the purchase of the computer equipment to replace the non functioning laptop. In conjunction with Cllr Lloyd-Jones he had researched the procurement of suitable products and fortunately, the Company for whom his son works, had offered to supply a high spec. laptop at a very much reduced price, as it was for the P.C.'s own use. In addition, the Company have supplied free of charge, two memory data transfer sticks and installed both Office and Outlook 2007. The total cost for all this was therefore only £250.00 + VAT, which will be recovered. Cllr Bowden proposed that a letter of thanks is sent to IJT Ltd. on behalf of the Parish Council. This was seconded by Cllr Gilling. The Clerk will undertake this.

Approval for the payment of all of the costs listed on the Agenda was proposed by Cllr Rawles and seconded by Cllr Woodward. A unanimous vote was carried by the whole Committee to pay these items and cheques were subsequently signed by the Chairman and Cllr Rawles. Cllr Lloyd-Jones responded to questions raised about the P.C.'s Financial Budget. He said that expenditure was running to plan and everything was on target. Cllr Webb asked for confirmation that last year's Jubilee funds have not been earmarked for expenditure and were still available. Cllr Lloyd-Jones confirmed that this was so. He said that he will produce a spread sheet of the P.C.'s current financial position, for circulation during the next meeting. He also said that in the light of the release of the approved Audited Accounts from the Audit Commission, details of the P.C.'s income and expenditure during last year, could now be made available on the P.C.'s website. A discussion followed as to how much information should be made available. Cllr Bowden said that all of the P.C.'s accounts should be open to the public. Cllr Webb said that the details to be shown on the website should be in summary only. Persons wishing to obtain detailed information could then do so by contacting the Clerk in the usual way. It was decided that Cllr Lloyd-Jones will prepare suitable spread sheets which will contain a small narrative with them. He will then liaise with Mr Ron Champion to put them onto the P.C.'s website.

## **CORRESPONDENCE**

None received.

## **MATTERS OF REPORT**

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The Chairman advised the Committee that three weeks ago, he had been called to the old butchers shop, where a lorry belonging to Haley Engineering Ltd., had hit the building whilst turning. He met with Cllr Denbee and Mr William Haley. Unfortunately this sort of collision has occurred before and is familiar to the Villagers. Various plans and proposals have been put forward previously, in an attempt to resolve the problem. A previous plan (suggested 7-8 years ago), to take in part of the Green land to make a wider sweep for turning, will be considered. Cllr Bowden declared an interest in the land around it. It was agreed that Cllrs Lloyd-Jones and Rawles will accompany the Chairman to the next meeting. Another issue raised by the Chairman was the funding of the Village Magazine. Unless further funding from the P.C. is given, the magazine may not be able to continue. The general view was that ways to save the magazine, should be explored. Cllr Lloyd-Jones reminded the Committee that it had agreed to fund the magazine until the end of the year and that it might be decided that the number of editions is reduced to six in a year; rather than twelve. The funding costs were being investigated. The Chairman commented that bi-monthly editions would reduce the advertising revenue. Cllr Rawles said that it was important that the P.C. now gets details of costings. Cllr Bowden said that it was important that the P.C. discusses the production costs with Molly Richards before any announcement about its future, is put in the magazine. The Chairman suggested an informal meeting between various Councillors and Mrs. Richards should take place. He read the email sent by Cllr McGeavy to the Clerk (as Cllr McGeavy was unable to attend the meeting). It mentioned the need to set up a meeting with Mrs. Richards, who had asked that the P.C. tells her, when it could meet with her. Cllr Rawles said that conversely, the P.C. should ask Mrs. Richards when she will be available. It was finally agreed that Cllrs Champion, McGeavy, Rawles and Lloyd-Jones will convene a meeting with her.

Cllr Rawles said that the replacement of the Village road signs was still ongoing and they have still not been completed. This was very disappointing, given the efforts made by the P.C. to try and ensure the completion of this work in time to catch the holiday period and to celebrate "Harvest Home", also following the assurances given by S.C.C., as to the timescale of this work. The second matter she raised concerned the details of the current Parish Councillors, on the Rooksbridge notice board. It has incorrect details of the names and contact details. The Clerk was asked to deal with this and to correct the situation.

Cllr Gilling said that he had been asked by Phil Yorke to make suggestions for the name of the new development at Rooksbridge. He told the Committee that he would personally like to see the inclusion of the name "Joseph" and the word "Pound", in its title. The Committee unanimously agreed with this.

Cllr Bees raised the housing development next to the Knoll Inn. The tarmacing of the pavement has still not been carried out and the hedge is growing out, well into the road. The Chairman said that this was an ongoing problem being made more difficult by the fact that the name of the company carrying out the development keeps changing. He will continue to

try to arrange a meeting with the new owners in an attempt to resolve the outstanding matters.

Cllr Bowden advised the Committee that earlier that evening, the Cemetery Committee, under his direction, had held a meeting to discuss various issues, including the proposed edging of Ernest Plank's grave. It had been decided that the Clerk will approach Mrs. Plank, to find out exactly what sort of edging she wished to construct, in order to see if it could be approved. He said that the general appearance of the Cemetery was very good and the P.C. could be proud of it, when comparing it with many other Parish Cemeteries. He offered public thanks to Cllr Bees for personally undertaking the re-treating of the seat within the Cemetery, dedicated to the late Col. P.A. Johnson.

Cllr Webb said that she was still looking for suitable sites to plant the trees being cared for by Cllr Rawles and when she finds the right locations for these, she will present them to the Committee. She also told the Committee that unfortunately her husband was currently unable to undertake grass strimming within the Village, due to injuring his shoulder. She asked that if any other Committee member was able to assist, or knew of anyone who could, then they should contact her.

There being no further business to discuss, the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 8.42pm.

**The next meeting of the East Brent Parish Council will be on Monday 7th October 2013 at 7.30pm at the Village Hall.**