

EAST BRENT PARISH COUNCIL

Jim Murray (Clerk) The Robins - Robins Drive - Burtle - Somerset TA7 8NY Tel: 01278 - 722577

Minutes of the of the Meeting of East Brent Parish Council held at the Village Hall on Monday 4th December 2017, when the following business was transacted.

Present: Chairman Cllr B. Walker, Cllr V. Rawles, Cllr B. Bees Cllr C. Loader, Cllr N. Lloyd-Jones, Cllr H. Broderick Cllr A. Gilling, Cllr B. Woodward, Cllr J. Bowden, Cllr C. Searle
In attendance County Cllr B. Filmer and the Clerk

1. Apologies for Absence & Declarations of Interest and dispensations.

Cllr E. Champion - Re Planning - Cllr Gilling and Cllr Filmer to avoid predetermination at Sedgemoor Development Committee.

2. Minutes of the Meeting on Monday 6th November 2017: were agreed and signed as a correct record.

3. Matters Arising: Josephs Pound – following a site meeting with Cllrs Walker and Loader with Dave Aggett from SDC it was agreed that SDC would now replace the damaged matting. It was agreed that over the winter months monthly checks would take place.

Cllr Gilling and Filmer left the meeting at 7.35pm

4. Planning

24/17/00027 - East Brent VC Junior School - Listed Building Consent for Replacement windows. The Council agreed unanimously to support this application.

24/17/00028 - Mill Batch Farm - Removal of Hedgerows. The Council had no observations with this application.

24/17/00029 - Yew Tree Cottage (Bridgwater Road) – Erection of Agricultural Building. The Council had no observations with this application.

Cllr Gilling and Filmer re-joined the meeting at 7.50pm

5. Financial Matters

a) Clerks Salary	£379.39 (November)
b) Clerks Expenses	£43.47 (November)
c) Wells Cathedral Stonemasons	£900.00 + VAT
d) Grant Thornton Audit	£200.00 + VAT
e) Extra War Memorial Insurance	£349.50
f) Kevin Lukins – Village Hall Noticeboard Install	£150.00
g) Kevin Lukins – Rooksbridge Noticeboard Install	£ 80.00
h) PGC Contracting Grass Maintenance (230)	£390.59 (memorial and Rooksbridge)
i) PGC Contracting Grass Maintenance (231)	£806.66 (3 rd part + hedge cutting)

It was agreed unanimously to authorise payment of the above invoices

6. A38 Bristol Road Rooksbridge update: Chairman Walker had visited the three businesses to discuss the alternative solution of a refuge island explaining that SCC would not have yellow or any zig zag lines, but the parking bays will be marked. This option would now go to SCC to undertake a safety audit. The Council agreed that it would be best to arrange an open meeting to gain the opinions of as many parishioners as possible. A date to be arranged for early in the new year.

7. **Parish Maintenance Contract update:** Cllr Lloyd-Jones informed the meeting that a contract had now been awarded to A1 Gardening of Axbridge for the next three years. Cllr Bowden on behalf of the Council thanked Cllr Lloyd-Jones for all his work in securing the new competitive contract.
8. **Parish Litter Pick up:** The Clerk informed the meeting of how successful these had been in other parishes. Cllrs Broderick and Searle agreed to organise this for the parish. This is to be advertised in the parish magazine. The Clerk to let them have the contact at SDC to arrange the litter pickups / high viz jackets / gloves / rubbish bags. A date to be set at the next meeting for this activity in early 2018.
9. **Cluster Meeting update:** Cllr Loader informed the meeting about SPARK – a body which enables parish organisations/clubs to apply for funding from £300 to £10,000. It was agreed to place an article in the parish magazine to advertise this, so organisations/clubs could apply. It was also agreed to possibly ask SPARK to attend our AGM. Speeding, a concern for all parishes was discussed at the cluster meeting and that this had been passed onto the police commissioner.

MATTERS OF REPORT

Chairman – read out a letter from the East Brent C of E Academy Council expressing their concerns with speeding cars especially when children are being dropped off/picked up. The school have asked about the possibility of a 20mph zone and flashing lights to slow the traffic down along the section of Brent Road that Church Road joins.

The Chairman will write to ask for the school to organise a poster campaign about driving slower which could be published in the parish magazine. County Cllr Filmer informed the meeting that highways could possibly part fund warning flashing lights along with the school and Parish Council contributing as well. Also the Chairman will with the assistance of Cllr Loader provide the school with vehicle speed information obtained from the Speed Indicator Device that has been placed along Brent Road so quite close to the turning to Church Road. The Chairman thanked Cllr Searle for reading out all the names at the Remembrance service and Cllrs Gilling and Bowden for traffic control.

Cllr Loader – Reported that three or four names could be added to the War Memorial, but further assessment and contact with the relevant parties would be required. He also raised the matter of what to do about the old red phone box on Brent Road which will be discussed further at the next PC meeting.

County Cllr Filmer – informed the meeting of joint councils (19) in the region working together as a committee for future decisions. SCC are to bid to be a pilot scheme for all the business rates which in turn would mean more local funding would stay in the area. An OFSTED report is imminent re potential improvements with children services for SCC. The damaged milepost near Brent House is to be reproduced using the Rooksbridge milepost as a template - there is also an application by SDC to move the Rooksbridge post about a metre nearer to the highway from its current set back position. Several Cllrs raised the point of needing to put some form of tall post next to the mile post to highlight its location to avoid them being damaged by large verge cutting equipment, as has occurred to the one of these mileposts and hence it is now needing to be fully replaced.

Cllr Bowden – the Christmas tree has been ordered and lights tested so it will be erected on the Village Hall this week.

Cllr Gilling – reported that following a recent fly tipping incident that over 120 tyres were removed with the environment agency involved to find the culprits. Plus raised a question about the land ownership of where the War Memorial is located, as it appears this may not be registered to any one party at the Land Registry.

Cllr Woodward – raised again the concerns that residents have with dog mess on the play field off Brent Road. The Clerk will write to SDC to ask if the dog warden could visit to see the situation for themselves.

Cllr Lloyd- Jones – updated the council re the war memorial structural survey that was carried out by Wells Cathedral Stonemasons. This has provided the council with detailed drawings should at any time parts of the memorial require re-building. In addition, an estimate of the cost to rebuild the whole monument was provided at some £200,000 which is mainly due to high cost to sculpture the service personal on the memorial and this has led to the need to increase the insurance cover and the extra insurance premium being now paid of £390. Repairs had been carried out by SDC to a broken gate at the play field off Brent Road and the drainage board have been busy clearing rhymes in the area.

Cemetery - Cllr Bowden informed the meeting of the updates from the cemetery committee including small signage of the next available plots for all the funeral directors. These are now to be ordered in the new year at a cost of £200. Proposed by Cllr Bowden and seconded by Cllr Rawles. Small remediable work to be carried out on some of the benches.

Clerk – informed the Cllrs of the disturbances reported to him in Orchard Close.

- The meeting closed at 9.10pm -