

BRENT KNOLL PARISH COUNCIL

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Clerk to the Parish Council

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Before the meeting commenced a number of representations were made by members of the public who have been affected by recent flood and drainage issues Councillors were able to ask questions about the extent of the various issues. Also two grant applications were put before the Parish Council.

Minutes of the of Brent Knoll Parish Council meeting that was held at the Parish Hall on 3rd December 2012 commencing at 7.30pm when the following business was transacted'

Present: Councillors P Osborn, A Hurkett, I Ward, D Knott, J Harper, M Borland, R Filmer, C Townsend, C Trivett Bill, B Freestone + Clerk 8 members of the public

"Members are reminded that the Council has a general duty to consider the following matters in the exercise of any of its functions: Equal opportunities (race gender, sexual orientation, marital status and any disability) Crime disorder and Human Rights"

215/12: TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

There was one absence from the meeting of Cllr R Ibrahim Apologies received from District Councillor Gilling

216/12: TO RECEIVE ANY DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr R Filmer declared a prejudicial interest on all planning matters due to his position on the District Planning Authority. Plus pecuniary declarations of interest by Cllr Hurkett, Cllr Ward, Cllr Trivett-Bill and Cllr Filmer as trustees of the Parish Hall (in consideration of grants) Cllr J Harper as a member of PCC and declared pecuniary interest on the St Michaels church grant. Cllr I Ward pecuniary interest on the application of meet and eat grant discussions

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

217/12: The minutes from the meetings on 5th and 19th November 2012 were approved and accepted as true accounts of the meetings

ONGOING ISSUES

218/12: Footpaths: A stile collapse was reported at the top of Manor Ride and a walking of the village stiles was agreed by members of the Parish Council to ascertain the extent of the stile maintenance needed in and around the village.

Many footpaths have become very wet during the recent bad weather and more will be considered as part of the overall flood planning strategy.

Action Points:

Cllr Knott and Cllr Harper will walk around the village and Consider the issues of the stile maintenance.

219/12: Highways: Church Lane opposite Bodys Lane is in a bad condition currently and also the road outside the bungalow at the end of Manor Ride is in need of some reconstruction work. It was reported that the white lining outside of Tadpoles in Brent Street has now been completed.

Action Points

Follow up identified further in these minutes with the Parish Council strategy for dealing with recent flood issues.

220/12: Village Green: Much of the green has been underwater over the past month there are significant concerns regarding blocked culverts and Rhynes. The rear fence is still waiting for repair and there are some hedges that still need to be trimmed The overgrown bushes close to the Parish Hall border require severe cutting back. It was resolved that this matter will now be dealt with and estimates to be given to deal with the matter will be sought.

Action Points:

Cllr Osborn to deal with fencing repair and estimates sought to Clear the overgrown hedges and scrub near the Parish Hall Clerk

221/12: Speeding Issues:

No new issues raised at this meeting

Action Points:

No action points from this meeting

222/12: Public Conveniences: The quotes for a lower spec refurbishment of the block are currently being sought and there may be some issues with timer switches

Action Points:

Cllr C Townsend to action the Quotes from Baytree Building contractors

Cllr Filmer and Cllr Freestone to check out the timer switches

223/12: Website: A template for the new Website has been provided and meets the needs for a clearer more functional website. There are two points to raise with the developer. Firstly a desire for email alerts to indicate new content published and secondly a hit counter to enable the monitoring of use.

224/12: A survey for residents of Brent Knoll will be sent out in the January edition of the BKN and it was agreed by a majority to include in the survey an opportunity to win a £ 25.00 voucher for use in the village shop for the first one to be pulled out of the box.

Action Points:

Clerk to Confirm the website queries with Decision power

Cllr B Freestone to update the survey document ready for inclusion in the January edition of BKN

CORRESPONDENCE

225/12:

(A) Parish Hall Grant request (for consideration in January precept meeting)

(B) Manor Ride Big Lunch Grant request (for consideration in January precept meeting)

(C) Pro Bono offer of communications support in the village (to be kept on file)

(D) Temporary road closure West Road Lympsham

(E) Homes in Sedgemoor letter (upgrading of local authority housing stock)

(F) Temporary Road Closure Berrow from January

(G) Heritage Landscapes Knoll Footpath quote (for consideration under matters of consideration)

(H) Letter of thanks from Parish Hall for annual grant

(I) Meet and Eat Grant request (for consideration in January precept meeting)

FINANCIAL MATTERS AND TO APPROVE PAYMENTS**226/12: Payments to be made**

Clerks Salary for December 2012	£ 424.09
HMRC Tax and NI Payments December 2012	£ 106.20
Brent Garden Services Nov Invoices	£ 480.00
GB Sports play equipment inspection Nov 2012	£ 18.00
	1109
Total Value of all Payments	£ 1028.29

227/12: It was unanimously agreed to make all of the above payments in full.

228/12: A Decision was made to defer all considerations on grant applications until January 17th Precept setting meeting

229/12: Precept discussions and decisions deferred until precept meeting in January but an explanation of the process and the budget calculations were outlined by the clerk. A dispensation clause will need to be placed before a precept setting meeting to comply with the code of conduct pecuniary interest requirement. This will be put before the January 17th Precept setting meeting

PLANNING MATTERS

230/12: Cllr Filmer left the room at this point due to his declaration of prejudicial interest.

231/12: 07/12/00047: Erection of cover over existing livestock yard on land at Ham Farm Ham Road Brent Knoll TA9 4BJ. The Parish Council decided unanimously to support this application for reasons of Improved facilities and environment enhancement considerations

232/12: Cllr Filmer returned to the meeting at this point.

MATTERS OF CONSIDERATION

233/12: Speed Indicator devices purchase : Decision deferred until new year

234/12: Toilet Block Refurbishment : Deferred pending quotes

235/12: Footpath quotation for Knoll Footpath: The quote of £2486.00 for Knoll footpath work near the top of the Knoll was considered. It was decided however that there was no certainty that these works would provide the improvement required and the Parish Council wish to consult

with Chris East and request a visit to look at all of the options available before committing to this capital expenditure.

236/12: Flood and Drainage issues in and around the village:

The meeting heard from a number of local residents prior to the meeting regarding the recent problems in an around the village as a result of bad weather. The Parish Council are determined to deal with this matter in the best way that it can in the coming months.

The Key Issues

237/12: Water Channelling from the Knoll footpath
Rhynes over filling in various locations
Flooded homes in Brent Knoll
Sewer problems and over flows
Surface Water issues over loading

238/12: As a result of the discussions that took place decisions have been taken by the Parish Council.

239/12: To set up as a matter of urgency and no later than January a multi agency meeting in the village to include the following agencies

Somerset County Council
Brue / Axe Drainage board
Bristol Wessex Water
Parish Council
Environment agency

240/12: Survey of local rhynes ditches and residents experiences this will be added to the communication survey already planned for January edition of BKN.

241/12: An article will be placed in BKN Requesting that residents do themselves look at their surrounding ditches and rhynes to ensure that they are clear of obstructions.

242/12: A management plan by the Parish Council to deal with issues in the future and also to consider any contingency policy this should be put in place early in the New Year.

243/12: The above action plan will be aimed at supporting the village during the difficult periods of flood risk and to determine from the main agencies their action plans for 2013

244/12: Community Warden Scheme:

This scheme has been set up with funding to allow groups of Parishes to have the services of a community warden with a time allowed of 5 years. It will be necessary for one of the Parish Councils to take a lead and Brent Knoll have offered this support for the Scheme and more on this matter will be forthcoming in 2013. There is also a community enablement fund which will be used to fund specific projects in the villages.

245/12: Use of Village green for Fete and Music events in 2013

At this point Cllr R Filmer, Cllr A Hurkett , Cllr C Trivett Bill and Cllr I Ward left the meeting having declared a pecuniary interest as trustees of the Parish Hall.

246/12: Request for use of Village green for Fete and Music events in 2013 this was agreed by the Parish Council.

247/12: Cllrs R Filmer , Cllr A Hurkett, Cllr C Trivett- Bill and Cllr I Ward returned to the meeting at this point

MATTERS OF REPORT

245/12 : A local Village agent has been appointed to support the villages of Brean, Berrow, Lympsham, East Brent and Brent Knoll and will visit the Parish Council meeting in February to outline the scheme

246/12: A consideration to be given to fitness equipment on the village green and to be discussed at the January meeting.

247/12: Thanks were expressed to Cllr D Knott for his recent work and efforts during the flood problems in the village

The Meeting ended at 9.40 pm

The Next full meeting of the Parish Council is on **January 7th 2013** have an additional meeting on the **17th December 2012** to matters that arise before that date of a planning nature