

BRENT KNOLL PARISH COUNCIL

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Clerk to the Parish Council

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Minutes of the of Brent Knoll Parish Council meeting that was held at the Parish Hall on 21st January 2013 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 Cllr R Ibrahim + Clerk 2 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"

276/12: TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

There were no apologies at this meeting

277/12: TO RECEIVE ANY DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Dispensation resolved at the 7th January meeting for members pecuniary interest as local residents affected by precept is still in force for this meeting

Declarations of interest were made by Cllr Filmer on all planning considerations and also his position on the Parish Hall committee as a trustee on matters relating to a grant as part of the 2013/14 precept decisions.

Declared Interests from Cllr Ward , Cllr Hurkett and Cllr Trivett-Bill on matters relating to the Parish Hall grants for the precept discussions for 2013/14

Declared Interests from Cllr Harper on matters relating to grass cutting grants for the Church of St Michael's and his position on the PCC

278/12: PLANNING APPLICATIONS

Cllr Filmer left the meeting at this point having declared an interest on all planning matters

279/12: 07/12/00049: Change of use to carwash facility (Three Year Temporary permission) at The Goat House Ollies Café Bristol Road Brent Knoll TA9 4HJ. The Parish Council decided not to support this application on the grounds of Heavy traffic generation, Road Safety issues and concerns about drainage problems in the area.

280/12: 07/12/00039: Erection of Dairy Cubicle Building and demolition of existing building at Laurel Farm Vole Road Mark. The Parish Council decided to support this application on the grounds of enhancement and improvement for the Site

281/12: 07/12/00051: Erection of agricultural building to be used as a collecting yard and livestock housing at Ham Farm Ham Road Brent Knoll TA9 4BJ. The Parish Council decided to support this application on the grounds of improved facilities for the site and animal welfare

All of the above to be notified electronically to Sedgemoor District Council planning officers on Tuesday 22nd January

282/12: Cllr Filmer returned to the meeting at this point.

283/12: CHAIRMANS STATEMENT

The Chairman Cllr Townsend stated that the previous meeting caused him concerns on the attitude and behaviour of some members of the Parish Council. He therefore asked members to consider their actions in future meetings so that the meetings can gain the maximum benefit to all. He also requested that each member takes a full and active part in the process and on requests for support outside of the meeting be considered by all.

284/12: PRECEPT DECISIONS FOR 2013/14

A budget proposal and precept calculation sheet was produced for members with some amendments on the December version.

The Process

The Budget was taken in sections

Section (a) Administration

The Parish Council accepted a budget of £10168.76 against a budget of £9758.60 in 2012/13. This budget takes account of minor inflationary increases in the year

Section (b) Village Expenditure

The Parish Council decided to increase the Play Equipment budget to £ 500.00 to take account of possible maintenance issues during the year all of the other items of expenditure were set at the proposed budget totalling £ 7190.00 reduced slightly from 2011/13 of £ 7397.00.

Section (c) Grants

School Grant:

It was proposed and seconded to resolve to give the School the continuing grant contribution from the Parish Council of £250.00 to be conditional on using it for educational books for the school

General section 137 grants

The Parish Council resolved to increase these grants to a level of £500.00 up from £250.00 last year.

285/12: Trustees of the Parish Hall Cllr Filmer, Cllr Ward, Cllr Hurkett and Cllr Trivett- Bill having previously declared an interest left the meeting.

Parish Hall Grant

The meeting considered the application for grant funding towards the running of the Parish Hall. Consideration was given to the Parish Council's use of this facility over the course of the year. Questions were raised regarding the accounts which the clerk has a copy of and this will be circulated to members prior to final decisions on the grant payment. The meeting allocated £500.00 in the budget for this grant for 2013/14.

Trustees Cllr Filmer, Cllr Ward Cllr Hurkett and Cllr Trivett- Bill returned to the meeting at this point.

286/12: St Michael's Church Cutting Grant

Cllr J Harper left the room at this point having declared an interest in this matter as a member of the PCC at St Michael's.

Consideration was given at this meeting to end the grant to St Michael's PCC and to take on the grass cutting contract from the Parish Council
The main purpose of this discussion was to establish one contact with the contractor and to ultimately go for a tender to ensure best value for the residents of Brent Knoll. It was decided to remove the grant and to take on the contract ourselves and to put the matter to a tender process prior to April and invites to be given to the following

Brent Garden Services
Sedgemoor Services
Taunton Deane Contracts
David Knott

A work Specification will be sent to these contractors so that they are quoting on a like for like basis and the Parish Council will decide on the appropriate tender.

287/12: It was stressed that we should write to the church and explain our decision but to make them very clear that the Parish Council is responsible for grass cutting alone and not for the churchyard.

288/12: Reserve Allocations

The Parish Council are considering a number of projects currently including

**Toilet Block Refurbishment
Knoll Footpath Improvements
Speed Indicator device purchase**

In addition there may be money allocated for drainage issues locally together with stile improvements and Scrub Clearance.

As a result of the above list the Parish Council have resolved to set aside a sum of £10,000 Pounds to make some progress on these matters.

289/12: Precept Proposal

The precept proposal for final decision at the February meeting is for £25,000 to be maintained from 2012/13 level. This has been achieved as a result of the Parish Council building reserves over 4 or 5 years this has now allowed the Parish Council to maintain its precept level for 2013/14

The Meeting ended at 9.40 pm

The Next full meeting of the Parish Council is on **February 4th 2013**