

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 **4th March 2020** commencing at 6.45pm when the following business was transacted.

Present: Councillors Cllr M Borland, Cllr W Camp, Cllr R Filmer, Cllr B Freestone, Cllr J Harper, Cllr A Hurkett, Cllr D Knott, Cllr C Townsend (Chairman) Cllr C Trivett Bill , Cllr N Summers. The Clerk Owen Cullwick and 17 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.

The Parish Council has agreed to film all public meetings in accordance with the legislation Draft Regulations laid before Parliament under section 43(3) and (4)(i) of the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014.

A public session prior to the start of the meeting was opened and there were questions raised about the following matters

1. *Updating on the Shop Questionnaire*
2. *Dog Training Centre Proposal*
3. *Opposition to further Dog Bin provision*

167/19: APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies received and accepted from Cllr D Sturgess

168/19: TO RECEIVE DECLARATIONS OF PREJUDICIAL AND PECUNIARY INTEREST

Cllr Filmer declared a personal interest on matters relating to Sedgemoor and County as the elected Councillor for the District and the County. Cllr R Filmer declared an interest to avoid pre- determination as a member of the District Planning Authority on planning matters. Cllr R Filmer declared a Personal Interest on matters relating to British Legion grants also Cllr C Trivett Bill declared a personal interest on matters relating to British Legion grants and Cllr J Harper also declared a personal interest on matters relating to grants to the British Legion. These declarations as a result of their membership of the Brent Knoll RBL Branch Cllr C Townsend declared a pecuniary interest on a payment in respect of expenses.

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

185/19: The minutes from the meeting on the 5th February 2020 accepted as a true record of the meeting proposed and seconded and approved unanimously by those who attended the previous meeting.

(Cllr Filmer Left the Room)

Signature of Chairman

186/19; Public Session prior to planning a number of submissions were made from both the applicant and those opposing the development on Land to the North East of Shrub Farm

187/19: PLANNING CONSIDERATIONS

07/20/00002: Erection of 11 dwellings to include for under affordable classification on land to the North East of Shrub Farm Burton Row Brent Knoll TA9 4BX

Response:

The Parish Council has decided to object to this proposal on the following grounds

- (a) Not in keeping with the rural nature of the location specifically 3 storey houses..
- (b) The appearance of these properties would not match the local street scene.
- (c) The Design of the properties proposed would be entirely out of character to the rural location.
- (d) Environmental concerns with a potential for at least 61 additional people with cars and the associated generation of vehicle movements.
- (e) The road safety aspect of this site is a major concern and the exit from it would create significant hazards on an already dangerous road.
- (f) There is significant concern about flood risk and the provision identified for surface water run off would not alleviate these concerns.
- (g) Considerable concerns over Privacy of neighbouring properties and the close proximity of 3 storey homes would exacerbate this loss of privacy.
- (h) It is considered by the Parish Council to be over development on a 0.64 acre site.
- (i) The Parish Council were also unhappy about lack of engagement by the developer prior to a planning application being submitted something which is normal practice on this kind of application.

The decision was unanimous and the Parish Council would strongly request that this application be rejected by the planning authority

Cllr Filmer Returned to the meeting

188/19: COUNTY AND DISTRICT COUNCILLOR REPORT

Cllr Filmer updated the Parish Council on the following matters

District and County

- (a) Unitary Discussions ongoing
- (b) Budget set for forthcoming year of 3% SDC and 3.99% SCC including 2% social care
- (c) More Social Care Provision set in the County Finance Plan
- (d) The County reserves now recovered to just under 20 million
- (e) Additional funding for Bus Services that may hopefully benefit Brent Knoll long term

189/19: Footpaths Report

- (a) Cllr Trivett Bill reported Pot Holes causing some problems for Cyclists Crooked Lane
- (b) Issues regarding the footpath opposite the Tennis Club where the gate has been chained the Chairman has looked into this matter ongoing

190/19: Highways Report

Signature of Chairman

- (a) There have been Pot Holes reported near then end of Battleborough Lane
- (b) Recent flooding on the central reservation of the A38
- (d) A fence is reported as being in very poor condition in Ham Road by the railway (Clerk to report to Network Rail

191/19: Village Green/ Toilet Block and Car Park

Toilet Block: The lighting in the toilet block has now been fixed and the blockage in both toilets is being investigated by Aqua Blast for a long term solution

Green: Just reported as very wet at this time of the year

Play Equipment:

Colin Lewis of GB Sports has reported a matter that needs immediate attention for repair or replacement to chain Traverse on the Trim Trail and has been asked to quote ASAP an agreement in the sum of up to £150.00 authorised for an immediate repair.

Car Park: No Issues of concern.

192/19: GB Sports report

Pre Circulated to the Parish Council

193/19: Parish Surgery

Four Matters were raised

- (a) Problems behind the Church with excess mud and water from the Knoll (Cllr Knott further investigations
- (b) The Village Flag needs replacement (Cllr J Harper to organise)
- (c) Concerns raised over planning application 07/20/00002
- (d) Additional 30mph signs requested by speedwatch team Burton Row(Cllr Filmer to check out)

There were 5 visitors and our village Agent Kim Wilcox

194/19: Police/Crime/Speed watch /SID report

The SID is to be re set in line with manufacturer's instructions and ultimately a person from the supplier has agreed to come to the village to assist in the setting up of the equipment.

195/19: Clerks Matters

The clerk stressed the need for emails within the Council to be kept to a minimum to avoid a deluge of matters that should be dealt with at meetings however anything that involves useful information should be encouraged.

196/19: Emergency Planning

Sub group to be formed to include Cllr D Knott Cllr C Townsend and Cllr J Harper although the Chairman stressed the need for as much participation in all matters between meetings on the workload of the Council should be encouraged

197/19: Correspondence Items

Signature of Chairman

- (a) Letters of thanks from Mendip Community Transport and Sedgemoor CAB
- (b) Local residents concern over Body's Lane addressed earlier on this agenda

198/19: Financial Considerations and decisions

To approve the statutory payments Listing as previously circulated to members in **April 2019**

To Include

Total of Statutory payments for March 2020

As agreed April 3rd 2019

£ 826.00

Other variable payments

CPRE Membership from April 20 to March 21

£ 36.00

Cllr Townsend Left the room having declared a Pecuniary Interest

Colin Townsend Postage Costs

£ 11.29

Cllr Townsend returned to the room

Arien Signs (Signage)

£ 22.80

Clerks Financial update

Updating from the Mini Audit Sub Group meeting earlier in the afternoon

End of Year mini Audit

Internet Banking Arrangements

Budget Analysis

Special Grant for VE Day

It was agreed to make a donation from the Parish Council in the sum of £ 250.00 towards the cost of trees to mark the celebrations in early May.

(a) To consider any matters relating to the website development Sub Group

This matter was deferred until April when Cllr D Sturgess will lead on his observations

(b) The Community Shop/ and to consider any actions and requests made to the Council

Questionnaires have now all gone out and the steering group will be calling a meeting at the end of March

(c) Flooding issues Brent Street and the current improvement

The concerns raised at the road flooding on the Old Manor Side of Brent Street have Been taken up with the County and they are proposing to investigate possibly Resulting in the digging up of part of the road it was stressed that the this work Needs to be completed prior to housing development.

(d) Battleborough Lane Gates and Posts

Quotes out for tender and this is an ongoing matter

(e) Village Green Fencing Project

Signature of Chairman

Cllr Harper outlined the two tender quotes and was impressed by the quality of However in the end the Parish Council decided on Ian Morgan Fencing at a cost of £ 5280 .00 to complete both sides of the green.

(f) The Chest Tomb Project in the Churchyard

After months of considerable work on this project Mr G Brown has decided that the due to the PCC not being prepared to assist with the faculty application and failure to provide the £200.00 grant he would rest the matter and withdraw. The Parish Council would like to thank George for his passion and commitment to this worthy project and wish him well.

(g) Health and Safety in the village

The Parish Council has looked at various ways to improve the risk management and Health and Safety Policy for the Council and decided that a sub group comprising of Cllr Hurkett, Cllr Camp and Cllr Summers will look at the process and consider the best way forward to assist the compliance of the Council. The Clerk agreed to provide the Sub Group with an asset Register of the Council owned equipment and its responsibilities. The sub group will report to the May meeting.

(h) The Speaker at the Annual Parish Meeting

Mark Lidster Somerset Conservation Officer has accepted the invitation of the Parish Council to speak on conservation matters and Policy at the Annual Meeting on 15th April.

(i) Improving The village

Cllr Freestone is proposing to work with Richard Ibrahim in making a village film In Spring and Autumn this year it is also proposed to encourage the village to promote and red white and Blue themed presentation at the VE and VJ days in May and August of this year.

(j) Housing Need Survey

This Document will be the subject of some further analysis at a future meeting

(K) Dog Bins Provision

A suitable site is being considered near the tennis club in Brent Street and will be considered further at the April meeting. Awaiting confirmation from the Tennis Club

184/19: MATTERS OF REPORT (and items for April 2020)

Under 5's Play Equipment

Moving Telephone Kiosk Proposal

It was agreed to send a newsworthy item to Next Door and Burnham .com on matters of Planning and grants made by the Parish Council

NEXT MEETING

The Next meeting of the Parish Council will be on April 1st 2020 a Parish Surgery will take place at 4.30pm – 6pm **Meeting ended 9.45pm**