

BRENT KNOLL PARISH COUNCIL

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Public Session

MINUTES

Minutes of the Meeting of **Brent Knoll Parish Council** on **Wednesday 5th April 2023** at 7pm when the following business was transacted.

PRESENT

CLlr M Borland, (**Chairman**) Cllr S Bougourd, Cllr R Filmer, Cllr J Gray, Cllr M Kingscote, Cllr D Knott, Cllr J Mathews, Cllr A Povey, Cllr A Reason, Cllr T Woods and Owen Cullwick Clerk, and 9 members of the Public.

The meeting opened with two members of the public, the first was concerned with the restoration of a water feature placed to alleviate drought during the 19th century and also a presentation to highlight the work of the RSPCA (Brent Knoll Branch)

A minutes silence was led by the Chairman Cllr M Borland in respect of the sad passing of former Parish Council Chairman and Councillor Maurice Jackson. The late Maurice Jackson served this Parish Council for a number of years

247/22: TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES AND REASONS GIVEN

Apologies: Received and accepted from Cllr C Townsend

248/22: DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

Cllr R Filmer Other Registerable interest (ORI) on all matters relating to his role as Councillor for the new Somerset Council and member of the Parish Hall. A dispensation granted on the 5th October 2022 re stated on matters relating to shareholding in the Community shop and is further declared at this meeting. Cllr T Woods and Cllr J Gray and Cllr A Povey, declared ORIs reflecting their shareholding in the Community shop. Cllr J Mathews declared an ORI as a committee member on item to discuss grant funding to the Forge Allotments

249/22: APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

Resolution to approve and sign as a correct record the Minutes of **1st and the 15th March 2023** this was unanimous.

Planning (To consider planning matters and to respond accordingly to the District Planning authority within the due time)

07/23/00008: Re Pollard weeping willow(TPO ref T9) back to previous pruning points at 6 the Willows Brent Knoll TA9 4EJ

Response: No Observations

250/22: COMMUNITY SHOP MATTERS

1722

251/22: A proposal that the Parish Council remove the item 5(i) from the agenda this proposal was seconded however the meeting did not support the proposal by a majority decision and therefore the agenda item 5(i) remained as an agenda item.

252/22: National Grid Report on the power supply cable

Proposal: That the building working group of the Parish Council (Cllr R Filmer, Cllr C Townsend Cllr S Bougourd and Owen Cullwick Clerk meet with the engineers from National grid to discuss a number of matters including the most appropriate siting for the sub-station and the timings of this project. This proposal was supported by a majority of Council members and will be put in place in the near future.

One final point is that the and toilet block shop building project cannot proceed until this work is completed hopefully towards the end of summer 2023.

Independent Valuation for the Lease and rental agreement

253/22: A proposal the removal of agenda item 5 (ii) concerning the valuation from Stephen and Co that they undertook on Council instructions. This valuation relates to the initial leasing and rental agreements between the Parish Council and the Shop Management Committee. No vote was taken on this matter and the agenda item 5 (ii) remained for discussion and a resolution

254/22: The Parish Council recently sought the services of a professional valuer in order to consider the appropriate rental for the shop on completion. It was however not a binding valuation but a guide to current values.

Proposal 1 That the Parish Council adopt the valuers assessment of current value in the sum of **£5200.00** per annum from the outset of occupation. This proposal was not supported by the majority of members

Proposal 2: That the Parish Council defer a decision on this item this proposal was not supported by the majority of members

Proposal 3: That the Parish Council should adopt the previously discussed rental figure of **£3000.00** with appropriate annual increases. There would be no rent free period and the shop would pay rental from day 1. The Parish Council voted to support this proposal by a majority of members.

The Tendering Process for the shop Build

255/22: The Clerk provided an update that a tendering pack in readiness to send to interested parties was now available and this process would commence shortly. Electronic Copies will go to interested developers on 6th April 2023.

PWLB Loan Rates

256/22: In response to a question raised by members the clerk detailed the workings of the PWLB and fully explained that the rates from PWLB have recently reduced even after the general rates have increased however the loan that the Parish Council secures will be a fixed rate for the whole term of the loan and from the date the loan is taken out.

257/22: TO RECEIVE REPORTS FROM MEMBERS

(a)Footpaths: Follow up Matters

There were no new matters for discussion on footpaths although there was one follow up with National Trust on the failing steps near the top. Clerk will follow up with NT

(b) Highways: Follow up Matters

There were no new matters in relation to Highways

The Village green had an early cut recently and the poor state of a couple of picnic benches has been highlighted. The perimeter of the car park is looking a bit untidy and will need some spraying in near future. The toilet block has been out of action again due to the long term problems of the drainage issues.

(d) To receive a report from GB Sports on the monthly inspection

Pre Circulated to Members. There are a number of small low or medium risks and the Parish Council decided to deal with some of these over the coming year or two with quotes to repairs from GB Sports. This needs a follow up with quotes on the required remedial action.

(e) The Chairman's Report

Chairman will report at the Annual Parish Meeting

(f) The Clerks Report.

No new matters and the surgery had one visitor and the comments were noted

(g) The Police Report

No report so far

258/22: Cllr R Filmer Councillor for the new Somerset Council

SDC Now part of the new unitary authority which commences this week
There will be a gradual transition of planning to the new authority
Over 75 now entitled to a Covid booster

259/22: FINANCIAL MATTERS AND PAYMENTS

Statutory Payments Listing approved by the Parish Council unanimous **2023/2024**
This document was pre circulated to include

- (a)** Energy payments
- (b)** Staff payments
- (c)** contracts to GB and JP Mayo
- (d)** Water supply
- (e)** Nichols facilities management

260/22: Statutory Payments resolution to approve for the month of April 2023

Variable Payments Listing for April 2023

ICO Subscription for 2023/2024 Information Commissioners)	£40.00
CPRE (Campaign to protect rural England) Subscription	£36.00
Arien Signs (Car Park Signage for Hill Lane)	£75.00
Office Expenditure and Allowances (Jan to March 2023)	£352.25
Stephen and Co (Shop valuation survey)	£300.00
E&S Bristol (SBEM Calculations for tender)	£330.00
Paul Dixon (Trim Trail Repair)	£176.00
RW Butler Plumbing repair	£121.00

262/22: It was resolved to make the variable payments for April 2023

Statutory Agreements End of Year 2022/2023 (to March 31st 2022))

- 263/22:** Internal Controls document resolution to approve unanimous
- 264/22:** Risk Management Document resolution to approve unanimous.
- 265/22:** AGAR Audit compliance Annual Governance Statement resolution to approve unanimous.
- 266/22:** AGAR Accounting Statements 2022/2023 resolution to approve

267/22: Annual Accounting Statements 2022/2023 (Council Accounts) resolution to Approve unanimous.

1724

268/22: Request for Financial grant from Forge Allotments:

Further Information requested from the organisation re the benefits to Brent Knoll Parishioners and also the financial position of the group

269/22: ONGOING MATTERS (Reported updates only)

- (i) Weight restriction consultations (On going with Highways) weight restriction
- (ii) Station Road Bridge to be checked as a possible source of enforcement)
- (iii) Speed Restrictions near school 20MPH (On going and to be implemented 2023 Some start has been made with the installation of posts some delay caused by installation contractor.

270/22: Correspondence

No new Correspondence

271/22: NEW MATTERS OF CONSIDERATION (Decisions to be taken)

272/22: Surgery Attendance May 2nd 2023 (10am to 12 noon)

Cllr A Povey to attend

273/22: ANPR Meeting and SID Location session

Matter deferred due to further information from the Police

274/22: Flag Pole Refurbishment

Cllrs D Knott, Cllr A Reason and Cllr A Povey have kindly completed this refurbishment thanks to them for this project.

275/22: Warm and Social Project

This project ended and some discussion on a possible replacement project

276/22: Coronation

Although there is no official Beacon lighting in the Country for the Coronation Brent Knoll will be lighting the Beacon for this celebration 6th May 2023 on the evening of the eve of the Coronation Friday 5th May 2023

277/22: Play Equipment and grants

This item is deferred for further discussion on matters of refurbishment, replacement and funding

278/22: Annual Parish Meeting Format

A trial format this year on the 19th April Annual Parish Meeting is to have a question time format for a number of local groups and this proposal was accepted by the Parish Council as a suitable trial the aim of which is always to get more people to attend. Cllr A Reason and Cllr J Gray have kindly offered to provide some tea and coffee refreshments at this event.

279/22: SID Location and post installations

Cllr R Filmer outlined the recent discussions and subsequent location maps and there was a unanimous agreement that the Parish Council will fund up to £1000.00 for improvements and changes to make our SID Sites totally compliant

280/22: MATTERS OF REPORT

1725

The Pump update
Station Road and Ham Road over grown bushes
Hill Lane Rubbish Bin
refurbishment of Water feature

Meeting closed at 9.35 pm

DATE OF NEXT MEETING May 3rd 2023 APCM Jubilee Room and a Parish Surgery on **the 2nd May 2023** in the Jubilee room 10am to 12 noon the annual Parish Meeting will be on **April 19th 2023** at 7pm the main Parish Hall