

Brampton and Oxnead Parish Council

Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council

Wednesday 1st December 2021

Held in the Village Hall

Present

Councillors:

Mark Little (ML) Jon Sawyer Stone (JS-S) Maggie Whiley, (MW) Gary Bean (GB)

Trevor Whiteman (TW)

Also in attendance:

Karen Lawrence (District Councillor)

Maggie Claridge (Clerk to the Council)

[2021/35 Apologies](#) – Apologies were received from County Cllr Steve Riley

[2021/36 Minutes](#) - Minutes of the meeting held on 8th Sept 2021 were circulated, agreed and signed by the Chairman as a true record

[2021/37 Matters Arising from the Minutes](#) –There were none

[2021/38 Adjournment-](#) There were no members of the Public

[2021/39 Reports-](#)

[Cllr Sawyer-Stone](#) Reporting on Crimes informed us that in Aug there was one incident, in September there were five incidents and there were no incidents in October.

[District Cllr Karen Lawrence](#)

Reported that there was no Council meeting in November but she will attend the next Council meeting on Dec 9th 2021. She reported that most Cllr time has been about scrutinizing the moving of offices and where the two Councils should reside together. There has been a lot of hype around the Horizon building, formerly the old Aviva building in Norwich.

Cllr Lawrence also reported that the waste contract has been awarded to VIOLA again who have been assessing whether to move their vehicles over to electric, or whether to change to using vegetable oil to power their fleet of vehicles.

She also reported on the NCC scheme to plant 130,000 new trees, but was unsure as to how that figure works out, and whether it covers purely new tree planting or whether it includes replacing those trees that have been lost in the county eg those removed due to ash die back.

[County Cllr Steve Riley](#)

Due to illness Cllr Riley was not present

2021/40 Planning there were no Planning applications, but the Planning Portal is up and running again.

2021/41 Finance-

- a) The Bank reconciliation was approved.
- b) **It was agreed** to approve the following payments:

S Turbett grass cutting	29.68
Clerk's salary and expenses	412.95
URM	12.60*

*Due to URM not allowing payments by cheque, the Clerk paid the invoice and was reimbursed.

- c) The Draft Budget was circulated to all Cllrs and will be discussed at the next PC meeting in January, in time for the Precept to be sent to BDC before the deadline of Jan 15th.

2021/42 Highway & Footpath Matters

Highways

The Highway Rangers have been to the village and have fixed several highway issues.

The Chairman (ML) asked all Parish Cllrs to consider what village projects should be put forward as Capital Projects. Cllr S-S suggested using funds towards reducing the speed limit through the village, and commented that a meaningful discussion was needed with the Highways engineer following a gap in communication.

It was noted that the small passing places have worked well but there is a reluctance to create more in the area of Oxnead bridge where they would only be used as parking bays. Marsham Rd was discussed as there is no provision of passing places along the road. Field entrances are currently used as passing places, but with very steep sided road banks the creation of legitimate passing places would be complicated. The Chairman reiterated the point that PC funds need to be used to positive effect and agreed that he and Cllr JS-S will do another walking survey through the village to identify areas where passing places could be installed. The Clerk is to look into the deadline for the NCC match funding grant that the PC used for the previous passing places.

The white lines on the Marsham Rd junction with The Street need to be renewed.

Footpaths

Cllr S-S suggested that PC funds be used towards cutting the footpaths, a revenue cost rather than a capital cost.

Cllr Lawrence informed us that she now understands more about the clear-felling licence of the trees on the BVR, and what 80 cubic metres of timber entails. Under the Conditions of the licence the Contractors were asked to keep as many of the healthy trees as possible, but the issue of wind blow might cause any single trees remaining to be at risk.

Tree Planting

The Chairman (ML) informed the PC about the 'Queens Green Canopy' which involves tree planting to Commemorate her Platinum Jubilee. A discussion took place about past and future planting in the villages, much of which was carried out over 70 years ago under a stewardship scheme when a large number of the Bryant & May Poplars were planted. Many

of these are coming to the end of their lives, having been planted as a cash crop for matchsticks. The introduction of cigarette lighters meant they were not cut down and remain as tall features in the local landscape. Cllr GB has inherited the legacy and following the strong winds of last winter 2020-21 he informed the Parish Council of his plans to obtain a felling licence from the Forestry Commission to remove them before they are blown down. This will open up an opportunity for new reinstatement planting. The Chairman suggested planting more native trees such as the Black Poplars which are in great decline in Norfolk, and are highly suitable as specimens in our water meadows.

Mink

Mink have been spotted near the Oxnead Bridge.

Dog Poo Bins

The Clerk is to contact BDC to discuss the protocol for installing new Dog Poo bins in the Cradle Bridge area, between the two villages of Brampton & Burgh.

[2021/43 Late Correspondence and refer as appropriate to next meeting 12 01 2022](#)

[2020/44 Closure of Meeting:](#) There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 8.23pm.

Approved

Date