

BRIGHTWALTON PARISH COUNCIL

General Meeting Held Monday 11th September 2023 7.30pm in Brightwalton Village Hall

Present

Tim Wyatt	Chair	Sarah Youldon	Clerk
Christine Delahunty	Councillor		
Sue Sayers	Councillor	Apologies:	
Annie Agnew	Councillor	Mike Cooper	Councillor
Damien Goatley	Councillor	Anna Britnor Guest	Village Hall Committee
Clive Hooker	Downland Ward Councillor		
	(8.30-9.30)		
Katherine Moore	Community Coordinator		
	(7.30-8.00)		

	Action
Declaration of Interests: None. Apologies: As above	Resolved
Minutes: The minutes of the July meeting were agreed and signed as an accurate record.	
Community Coordinator Update Katherine reported that there had been an excellent turnout for the Youth Club BBQ and the brunch over the summer. First Youth Club back today with 27 attending, and lots of new children signing up. Great Shefford had donated some Youth Club bits over the summer holiday. Youth Club Halloween party booked. SY to follow up with VHC on invoicing. Lunch arranged for 25 th September with a talk from Barrie Hedges on Brightwalton's Reliance Motor Service memories. DG agreed to post on the Newbury and other local Part and Present pages. SY to add to church email. September social agreed with the Peasmore Ukulele Group on the 30 th September. Agreed a donation of £50 to their charity, plus cost to hire hall. Also looking to organise a Christmas concert with them for early December.	
Village Hall Committee Update: ABG reported via email that the team is working their way round the hall with a deep clean. TW reported that gaming party had gone well and there were some broadband thoughts to discuss, agreed it would be useful to have a joint PC and VHC meeting. SY to request.	
Brightwalton Church: Benefice had held an interview the week before for a new Rector, no news yet.	
Matters Arising	
Village Working Party: Agreed 15 th October. SY to advertise in Brickleton News, complete with full list of tasks, DG will then copy over to Facebook. TW and SY to meet 20 th September for village walk round and agree what is required. New bark for playground had arrived and been spread by the Councillors and Clerk. SY to add note to BNews thanking those that regularly maintain areas around the village.	TW, SY All
Village Housing: PC was disappointed that Sovereign had decided to sell off Ash Close property. Cllr Hooker explained later in the meeting that he had raised this with the legal team and justification from Sovereign was the cost involved to bring this up to EPC standards. Cllr Hooker agreed to also find contact that we can discuss the ongoing allocation problems and lack of opportunity for those with local connections. SY and TW to work on the case to be made.	CH SY, TW All
Consultation of Rights of Way Improvement Plan: Councillors agreed to read through information provided and put thoughts on email for consideration and a single PC response to the consultation.	SY
Parish Plan Sub Committee: SY to put an article in the BNews to ask for volunteers for the committee with representation from around the village. TW agreed to represent the PC, ABG had also volunteered.	SY, KM
Brickleton News Articles: Working party and Parish Plan. KM submitting an event update.	
Highways: Log of signs needing attention finally acceptable by WBC, a works order has been submitted. Complaints that the verges had still not been cut, WBC highways had stated that they had been short of a tractor driver. Cllr Hooker to assist to move this forward on the basis of safety, especially considering recent accidents at Farnborough and Woolley. Clerk complained to Cllr Hooker of the deterioration of service and response times from the Report a Problem link.	CH, SY

Brightwalton Parish Council Clerk – Sarah Youldon

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Minute Page Reference: 2023/

<p>Finances</p> <p>2022/23 Accounts External auditor had signed off the accounts, new period for inspection notice up and all documents on the website, as required.</p> <p>Income & Expenditure: Current Account Balance: £2,076.71 - Payments made since the last meeting: 19/08 Transfer of Youth Club Subs and Concert Donation £29.59 in and out to community account. £4.92 donation over to the Brightwalton PCC. 27/07 Imprint, July Brickleton News £77.00 17/08 External audit fee £210.00 plus VAT 30/07 Scofell July mowing, August mowing both £256.71 plus VAT and cherry trees £140 plus VAT 31/08 MKM play bark £220 plus VAT 31/08 Stiles landscapes – removal of tree on common £60.00 Savings Account Balance £7,644.83 - 4th September interest received £20.43 Coordinator Account Balance £12,462.88. Payments Made since last meeting: 21/07 donations in from lunches 3 months less costs £33.39 Youth club subs £172.46 and £44.21 Wages for July £144 Wages for August £81.60 Expenses £46.24 plus VAT Full year to date budget will be provided for the November meeting. SY confirmed that signatories had been updated on the bank accounts but online access for AA was still pending.</p>	<p>Resolved</p> <p>SY AA, SY</p>
<p>Clerk Reports & Any Other Business</p>	
<p>Cllr Hooker raised the matter of a Local Neighbourhood Plan. Following new Council party leadership the Local Plan to 2036 which had already been submitted to the planning inspectorate, has been put on hold. The Liberal Democrat leadership arguing that the plan was not fit for purpose. Within their arguments they are looking to see 700 of the proposed new houses to move to the AONB and away from North Thatcham and south of Bucklebury (original version had none in the AONB). This would potentially mean that the Downlands ward would now have to consider where houses could be built. Cllr Hooker advised that PC should consider their position on Neighbourhood Plans carefully and suggested that we arrange a meeting with Bryan Lyttle of Planning Policy to discuss fully. All agreed, SY to organise – hopefully for next meeting.</p> <p>Member Bids Grants: Cllr Hooker reported that there were Members bid funds available and these were now based on a 30% contribution rather than 50%. SY to share with nursery and coordinator in case they have any relevant projects.</p>	<p>SY</p> <p>SY</p>

Meeting closed at 9.35pm

The remaining 2023 Meeting will be held: 13th November at 7.30pm

Signed: S K Youldon 14th September 2023