

BRIGHTWALTON PARISH COUNCIL

Meeting Held Monday 10th January 2022 at 8.00pm in Brightwalton Village Hall

Present

Shaun Orpen	Chairman	Clive Hooker	Downland Ward Councillor
Tim Wyatt	Councillor	Sarah Youlton	Clerk
Christine Delahunty	Councillor		
Mike Cooper	Councillor		
Annie Agnew	Councillor		

Apologies

Sue Sayers Councillor

	Action
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Minutes: The minutes of the November meeting were agreed and signed as an accurate record. ▪ Declaration of Interests: There were no declarations of interest. 	Resolved
Open Session	
<p>Councillor Clive Hooker apologised for being unavailable for a few of the recent meetings, he reported being very busy in his new role as Chairman for West Berkshire Council. Cllr. Hooker provided an update on the Local Plan which had been delayed following the Governments insistence that this should now be a 30 year plan rather than 15 years. This requires further work to get it to a draft stage ready for the next step of public consultation. A general discussion was held on the use on the benefits of Neighbourhood plans alongside Parish Plans, which gave the Parish Councillors something to consider. It was noted that the call for sites for residential development was now closed.</p>	
Committee Updates	
<p>Village Hall Committee: The report was received: Regular users are making good use of the hall. As well as the nursery, regular hall users include the following and welcome new joiners: Relevé Dance, Brickleton Babes, Young Farmers and temporary home to West Ilsley table tennis club. The hall is available for private and club bookings. Plans are afoot for a fete in 2022 after an absence of 2 years. The fete is a major and vital fundraiser for the village hall so we hope we can make 2022 a big success. We've kept the books balanced through covid but it's prevented any significant maintenance or improvement projects and this can't continue indefinitely. Thank you to Dave and Gill Judge for taking on the lead for the fete and all the current volunteers. We'd love more volunteers and fund raising stalls if any villagers would like to get involved. Thank you to Jeremy Snow for his lead on the previous three years' fetes – although two had to be cancelled.</p> <p>PCC Update: Report received that the School House had now been let. Church warden reported that The School House is owned by the School House Trust. This is a charity for the advancement of education in Brightwalton and asked if anyone has a good suggestion as to how the trust's income could be spent for the benefit of any age group, to get in touch. The Christmas Carol services with drinks served after was also noted as a success, note to be published in the Brickleton News. ASPIRE: Major fundraising is underway for phase 2 of the works, grant for chairs had been received and final fundraising for the Village Co-ordinator was underway in the hope that recruitment process would start soon.</p>	
Matters Arising	
<p>Brightwalton Hill Tree Planting: Thanks to the volunteers that gave up time on the weekends in the running up to Christmas to get the 19 flowering cherry trees planted. All are successfully in the ground. Highways have requested photographs for their records. TW to take and send over.</p> <p>Superfast Broadband coverage: Clerk had sent out email to the rural parishes across West Berkshire to understand if other parishes were in the same situation with a percentage of properties left on FTTC. Limited response to date, Cllr. Hooker confirmed that it was the same situation for West Ilsley. One local PC had provided a good contact to help assist further. Clerk to make enquiries and liaise with T Wyatt on next steps.</p> <p>Planning – Local Plan: This topic had generally been covered in the open session. Councillors were interested to hear that WBC is considering having an independent planning consultant on the team that can provide input to Parish Councils. All agreed that it was worth holding some money in reserve, should the need arise to seek planning consultant advice on a contentious application. Councillors discussed with Cllr Hooker the difficulty the Parish Council has arguing some cases; having expert advice on the relevant policies could really help strengthen arguments.</p> <p>Brickleton News November Articles: Tree planting, Christmas Carol Service plus note on Cricket Net</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Resolved</p> <p style="text-align: center;">TW, SY</p> <p style="text-align: center;">SY, TW</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Resolved,</p>

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materials. Queens Jubilee: S Orpen agreed to set up a Zoom call to check if the VHC, Fete and potentially school had any jubilee plans before trying to get a team together to set up a village celebration.	SY SO
Finance	
Review Current Year to Date Spend and Agree 2022/23 Precept Clerk provided a copy of the 2021/22 budget together with the year to date spend and a proposed 2022/23 budget. PC expected to carry forward £11,321.43 of Parish Council Savings (compared to £12,002.86 starting the financial year), £907.97 of CIL funds and £370.35 of Pop Up Drinks money. General day-to-running expenditure for 2021/22 was £6,261.80, as the PC had used CIL funds to help with Dunmore Tree work and playground maintenance (£1,245). PC had additional adhoc expenditure of £1,670 that came from precept and reserves, including the fees for the 20 year lease renewal. 2022/23 Projects for Budget Setting With small expected increase across all expenditure, the day to day spend for 2022/23 was forecasted to rise to £7,353.66. Councillors agreed a 5% increase on the precept to meet this increase in cost. Which results in an equivalent of £42.43 for a D Band house (up from £40.36 last year). Projects such as an information board for the Old Churchyard, replacement Holt notice board, re-build of the Cricket Club nets, establishment of the wildflower corner and playground improvements would be met by grants and some reserves held. Clerk to produce draft pie chart of expenditure and additional information for the Brickleton News for review at the March meeting. Balances, invoices and receipts since the November meeting Balance of the Current Account as of 10/01 will be £2,980.78 Deposit Account £9,035.57 01/12 Jadecliff Christmas Tree £156.00 (including £26 VAT) 02/12 Imprint November Brickleton News £67.00 28/12 Clerk Q3 wages £546.85 28/12 HMRC Q3 PAYE £136.60 04/01 Penwood Nurseries – trees, stakes and ties £598.30 (inc £99.72 VAT) 04/01 Oakleaf Trees – Dunmore £620 plus additional storm damage branches £100 - £864 (inc £144 VAT) Duplicate Q3 PAYE payment to HMRC for £104.60 made 4 th January, agreed with HMRC that this would be held on account and taken off the April liability. Clerk will make note for auditor. Councillors approved the following payments, Clerk to set up payments: 15/01 Arkells – use of Chairman’s Allowance £74 supply of refreshments for the village Carol Service 15/01 Annual donation to the Brightwalton & Catmore PCC towards Churchyard upkeep £250.00	SY
Planning	
Received as adjoining Parish 21/03172/MDOPO, Leckhampstead Farm – Application for the removal of S106 condition on planning granted in 1999. PC agreed a response of No Objections.	
Any Other Business	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Dog Fouling: Continual problems noted with dog fouling on the playing field, particularly in front of the hall where the Pre-School use. It was noted that the bin was full on a couple of occasions. Clerk requested that this be reported to the PC or direct to WBC as a matter of urgency. ▪ Accident on the junction opposite Keepers Cottage noted due to black ice. Clerk reported that salt bins were full and being checked regularly. It was also noted that this was an issue on that day all around the villages. ▪ Cricket Nets: it was noted that the Cricket Net poles that had been saved from West Ilsley for re-use had been moved and were being used to be build jumps in the corner of the playing field. In addition, stakes had also been removed from the newly planted trees. Items had been picked up and moved back to where they should be; note to be published in the Brickleton News. ▪ Meeting Time: It was agreed that the Parish Councils meetings would be moved forward to 7.30pm as meetings were often finishing after 10pm. 	SY

Meeting closed at 10.05pm

The 2022 Meetings will be held: March, 16th May (AGM & Parish Meeting), 11th July, 12th September and 14th November. **7.30pm Start**

Signed: S K Youldon 13th January 2022

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