

MINUTES FROM BRADFORD PEVERELL PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Held in the Village Hall on Thursday 7th March 2024

Present: Cllr S Denning, Cllr N Howard, Cllr C Hawkins, Cllr P Meaden, Cllr D Taylor (Dorset Council)

Apologies For Absence: Cllr G Towner, Cllr J Desborough, C Cook (Parish Clerk), C Chapman
Chair For Meeting: Cllr Denning chaired the meeting.

Open Session:

No Matters raised.

Minutes of the Meeting held on 7th January 2024.

The minutes were agreed as a correct record of the meeting.

Matters arising:

There were no matters arising not covered in the agenda.

County Councillor D Taylor

Cllr Taylor reported on the following matters:

* The Highways department have repaired the gaps at the edge of the road surface on the access road to the A37. They have also trimmed hedges on the footway/cycle path on the A37.

* Dorset Council have been particularly busy dealing with floods in local villages, including Charminster and Lower Bockhampton.

* Dorset Council has agreed a budget for 2024/25 with the involvement of all political groups. Financial difficulties are foreseen in meeting the care budget in the following financial year.

* The County Plan for Dorset has been postponed for another year. In response to a question, Cllr Taylor reported that the proposal for the North Dorchester development was still on hold. There was no indication of work starting on the proposed Care Community in Poundbury.

* Dorset Council is still pressing for truly affordable housing developments to be submitted for planning permission. Discussions are taking place with housing associations with regard to their role in meeting housing needs.

Elections 2024

Arrangements were agreed for delivering nomination papers to County Hall. Cllr Denning agreed to deliver completed nomination papers.

Cllr Denning informed the meeting that she would not be seeking re-election. Cllr Hawkins also said that he would not be seeking re-election but would continue to attend meetings as Flood Warden and assist with any other practical tasks as required. His offer was welcomed and appreciation expressed that Colin's extensive local knowledge would still be available to inform the work of the Parish Council.

Representative Reports

Planning Matters. Cllr Meaden reported that a planning application had been submitted for an extension at Tauntons, Muckleford Lane. The Parish Council has no objection in principle but asked the Planning Officer to consider the suitability of the proposed materials to be used in view of the location of the property within the village Conservation Area.

This was the first planning application received since the appointment of the new Parish Clerk and the meeting agreed that future Parish Council responses should be submitted by the Clerk.

Amenity Fields. C Chapman was unable to attend the meeting but had submitted a written report.

There has been little use of the fields in the recent poor weather

We are still awaiting the annual safety inspection by Wicksteed which usually takes place in January. Colin Chapman has pursued the matter and has offered to be available should an appointment become available due to a cancellation elsewhere.

Colin asked for suggestions about a suitable location for the memorial plaque to the Hannay sisters recovered from the rotten bench in the Millenium Field. It was agreed that the benches on the Jubilee Field would be a suitable location. Cllr Hawkins offered to fix the plaque.

Village Maintenance. Cllr. Howard was pleased at the response of the Highways department in filling the ruts at the side of the access road to the A37 and in clearing the footpath/cycle way along the A37.

Flood Warden. Cllr Hawkins commented that rainfall had been exceptional this winter, resulting in a greater number of floods across the roads at both ends of the village and at Muckleford. A new flood warning sign has been obtained for use at the Giles Cross junction.

Councillors welcomed a community initiative to establish a Flooded Road information page on Facebook.

Village Hall. Representative not present.

Muckleford. Representative not present.

Following a misunderstanding regarding the status of village representatives it was agreed that the practice of sending agendas and minutes should continue.

Finance.

a) Payments made since last meeting

Jubilee Field hedge cutting shared with Parish Church – £175 (invoice paid)..

b) Payments to be paid.

Christopher Cook- Monthly wage as Clerk plus back pay appointment.

It is understood that arrangements for an on-line bank account with Lloyds Bank have still not be finalised.

Future Meetings

May 16th, July 4th (at 7.30 to accommodate request from Village Hall), Sept 5th, Nov 7th.

Date of Next Meeting

As above

Any Other Business

A presentation was made to Cllr Sylvia Denning in recognition of her 15 years as a Parish Councillor following her decision to not seek re-election. All present expressed their appreciation for all that Sylvia has contributed to the life of the village.