

# BRADFORD PEVERELL PARISH COUNCIL

## Minutes of a Meeting of Bradford Peverell Parish Council held in the Village Hall on Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> January, 2025

commencing at 7:30pm

### MINUTES

In attendance:

Bradford Peverell Parish Councillors

Gloria Towner – Vice Chair (GT)

Neil Howard (NH)

Paul Meaden (PM)

Terry Bishop (TB)

Brenda Edwards (BE)

Edwin Macknamara – Clerk to the Council

BPPC Representatives

Colin Chapman (CCh)

Apologies for absence:

Jon Desborough

Steve Morgan

David Taylor (Dorset Council)

1. The Vice-Chairman welcomed all those present and wished everyone a happy new year. She also introduced Mr. Edwin Macknamara who had been appointed as Clerk to the Council with effect from the 1<sup>st</sup> January, 2023
2. PUBLIC SESSION: No matters were raised by Members of the Public.
3. MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON THE 5<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER, 2024

The minutes of the meeting held on the 5<sup>th</sup> September 2024 had been circulated to all members prior to the meeting.

RESOLVED: That the minutes be approved as a true and accurate record of the meeting and signed by the Chair.

4. MATTERS ARISING:  
Councillor Bishop reported that work on the Risk Register was almost complete and would be circulated at the next meeting to allow the newly appointed Clerk to be consulted prior to adoption by the Council.
5. ELECTION OF CHAIR: No nominations were forthcoming and this item was deferred until the next meeting.

6. DOCUMENTS AND POLICIES: Councillor Bishop reported that the proposed Standing Orders and Financial Regulations (based on the Models provided by NALC) had been circulated with the agenda. The Internal Auditor and Clerk had also been consulted. It was proposed and seconded that these documents be now adopted by the Council. It was also noted that work continued on finalising additional documents which would be circulated for adoption at the next meeting.

RESOLVED: That the Standing Orders and Financial Regulations circulated with the Agenda and attached hereto as Appendix A Standing Orders and Appendix B Financial Regulations be approved and adopted by the Council with immediate effect.

7. REPRESENTATIVES REPORTS:

a) Planning (Cllr. Meaden) There was nothing further to report however potential further development at Poundbury which may affect Roman Road would continue to be monitored. The proposed senior living development did not appear to be going ahead at present.

b) Amenity Fields (Mr. C. Chapman) The amenity fields looked much tidier now that they had been mowed. The Council should, at a future meeting, consider erecting signs at both fields and also consider whether the Millennium Field should be available to hire for appropriate events, The Jubilee Field was already available for hire.

Councillor Bishop suggested that a second goal should be provided at the Jubilee Field and he offered to report to the next meeting on the likely costs.

The meeting discussed options to improve safety at the Jubilee Field and Colin Chapman was present at the meeting to outline the options particularly to the exposed pipe work and brackets. 3 options were put forward including a protective coat for the posts, top up the surrounding soil or top up with soil/chippings. A further report would be submitted for consideration at the next meeting. It was also noted that the brambles and weeds had now been treated but the litter bin was not regularly emptied and could possibly be moved to an area where emptying could be carried out. It was agreed that as the bin was portable it could be moved to the entrance.

The fencing along the road had also been replaced and a good job had been done. Any replacement could be considered later in 2025/6. A sign at the entrance with details of emergency contacts etc. was being investigated.

The wooden equipment had been treated to remove the lichen including the benches.

c) Village Maintenance (Cllr. Howard) Some potholes had been filled. The pothole near the Old School remained a concern and had again been reported to Dorset Council for action. Cllr. Neil Howard was checking the grit bins to ensure that they had been filled throughout the Parish.

d) Village Hall (Cllr. Morgan) A short update had been circulated prior to the meeting setting out the events recently held at the Village Hall. Some improvements to the Hall had been completed which included a new PA System funded by the Hall and Church. Members felt that whose asset the new PA System would be should be clarified. It was also noted that the pipework to the heating tank had been repaired.

e) Muckleford (Cllr. Bishop) Nothing to report.

f) River/Flood Warden (Colin Hawkins) Despite heavy rainfall there were no incidents to report.

8. CORRESPONDENCE: The Clerk had no correspondence to report. Correspondence had been received from Mr. and Mrs. Goodrum concerning the trees near Frome View.

Cllr. Towner reported that she had contacted the Land Registry to attempt to establish ownership of the area of the Frome View trees. A reply was awaited.

9. GRASS CUTTING: Dorset Council had confirmed the costs for addition fortnightly cuts at £150 for each cut. It was moved and seconded that additional cuts be requested and it was: RESOLVED: That the costs of additional grass cutting at £150 per cut be agreed and additional cuts ordered.

RESOLVED: That one extra cut of the two fields be requested in February, 2025 at a cost £150.

10. FINANCE: The Clerk reported that he was arranging for the Bank Mandate to be changed and for Bank Statements to be sent directly to the new Clerk/Responsible Financial Officer. He would then be able to submit financial reports to future meetings.

In view of the proposal to consider new banking arrangements it was agreed that a report should be made to the next meeting on appropriate alternative banking arrangements.

#### 11. BUDGET/PRECEPT

The report of the meeting with the Internal Auditor held on the 20<sup>th</sup> November, 2024 together with the proposed Draft Budget 2025/26 had been circulated prior to the meeting. The Clerk reported that Dorset Council required the Precept Request to be submitted to them by the 31<sup>st</sup> January, 2025 and details of the tax base had also been received.

The proposed Budget recommended that the Precept for 2025/26 be set at £9617 an increase of 1.99%. The Clerk further reported that the tax base had increased which would minimise the increase paid by residents. He would circulate these details in due course. The figures provided by the Internal Auditor also showed that the proposed Precept would balance with the Budget for 2025/26 and the Clerk would provide further information when he had taken further advice from the Internal Auditor. It was then moved and seconded that the Parish Council set the Precept for 2025/26 at £9617 and that the Clerk/RFO submit the Precept Request to Dorset Council.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk/RFO be authorised to submit the Precept Request to Dorset Council of £9617 for the financial year 2025/26.

#### 12. FUTURE MEETINGS

Dates for future meetings were agreed as follows:

6<sup>th</sup> March, 2025

1<sup>st</sup> May, 2025

3<sup>rd</sup> July, 2025

To be held at Bradford Peverell Village Hall commencing at 7.30pm

#### 13. ANY OTHER BUSINESS (FOR INFORMATION ONLY)

EMAILS: The Clerk was asked to ensure that all documents circulated to Members in A4 format should be in an acceptable printable format.

Millenium Field: Should additional goal posts be provided it was suggested that the Council consider a formal opening.

Printer: The Clerk was asked to provide costings for the purchase of a new printer capable of printing A3 (single sheets) and the costs of printing ink.

The Chalk Stream Magazine: The Clerk would ask the Editor for the dates when submissions were required and that the Council Minutes be also provided to the Editor.

Glebe House Wall: Dorset Council had contacted the owner regarding the condition of the wall and that the bricks should be re-used. The wall formed part of the Grade 2 Listed Building.  
Telephone Box: Jill and Paul Nichols looked after the telephone box.

The Meeting concluded at 8.40pm

Signed as a true Record .....

Date 6<sup>th</sup> March, 2025