

Broadway Parish Council

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held at Broadway Village Hall on 5th September 2023 at 7.30pm.

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818 Attendance: Councillors Gregory (Chairman), Preece, Champion, Frayne, Neate, Toms and Clerk Fiona Mckenzie, and 15 members of the public . Cllr Gregory noted that there is a vacancy on the Council following a resignation and that applications have been received which will be considered by the Council at a future meeting.

819 Apologies: None.

820 Public participation:

- a) A member of the public asked if there is defibrillator training available. Cllr Champion advised there is and will look into arranging some.
- b) It was confirmed that the damage to the footpath bridge over the Ding at the Bell Field has been reported and chased up.

821 Declarations of interests: None.

822 Approval of minutes: The Council approved the minutes from the meeting held on 4th July 2023 as a true record to be signed by the Chairman.

823 Matters arising:

- a) It was noted that the hedges encroaching onto Broadway Road and Suggs Lane have been attended to, as requested by the Council;
- b) The family of Richard Baker have confirmed that they are happy to have a tree planted in the play area in his memory. Cllr Frayne will source in consultation with the Horton and Broadway Eco Group and liaise with the family;
- c) Cllr Preece reported back on her contact with Horton PC over the loan of a Speed Indicator Device. The Council discussed where a SID might be located in the village, there being only a small number of places where that would be technically feasible. She

agreed to discuss further with Horton PC and the Highways Authority to find out the cost of pole so that funding can be considered during the budget discussion in November. The Council were advised that the devices also record the numbers of vehicles using the road, which could be useful in responding to planning applications

- d) A meeting with Wessex Water, Natural England and the Planning Department regarding overflows from the Suggs Lane sewer has been agreed. The Parish Council was awaiting confirmation of a da

824 Planning

- a) **18/01311/OUT:** 35 houses at the Pound, Broadway Road: The Parish Council has written to the Planning Department challenging the decision of the Planning Committee South on 25 July to grant outline consent as ultra vires in view of its failure to take account of relevant material considerations and is awaiting a response.
- b) **23/01649/FUL:** 49 houses, Broadway Hill, Horton: The council reiterated its initial objections and agreed that a draft letter previously circulated should be sent to the Planning Department.
- c) Proposed development of 47 houses between Paull's Lane and Pound Road: The Council noted that the agents for this development, Boon Brown, are mounting a presentation of the scheme in the Village hall on 14th September. Councillors were reminded that, at this stage, they could not express a view on the proposal.
- d) Enforcement re 1 The Lanes: The Clerk confirmed that Cllr Osborne was to take this up and as yet has no update.
- e) A member of the public asked for the Council's advice on the installation of a window at first floor level on an existing garage which overlooks their property. The Council agreed to look at the correspondence to see if they are able to offer any suggestions.
- f) The Chairman referred to the updated planning application statistics he had circulated. The Council agreed that these should replace those already on the website.

825 Website: Cllr Neate briefed the Council on his review of its website. He said that the current website was poorly designed and visually unattractive information from village organisations with access to it do not appear to be using it. As a result, it needed significant redesign. He said that the site could be run at a lower cost than that currently charged. The Clerk advised that the existing arrangement for hosting will run out in April 2024 and the domain name has just been renewed for a further year. Somerset Web services have advised her that the existing platform is now outdated so would have to be upgraded anyway in the near future. The Council agreed that Cllr Neate should obtain quotes from our existing host and 2 others for a new website and that he would advise the Council at its November meeting on his findings.

826 A358 dualling: Cllr Gregory had circulated a draft Council position statement on this scheme in preparation for a meeting with National Highways in October.

827 Archiving: Cllr Gregory will deposit the minutes from May 2019 to November 2020 at the Somerset Heritage Centre.

828 Councillor Reports:

- a) a) Vardens Pond: Cllr Champion agreed to contact Aquatic Solutions to discuss clearing the pond and will report back.
- b) Cllr Champion agreed to seek volunteers to tidy up/repaint the phone box housing the defibrillator and to put together a working group for the restoration of the tower in the play park.

829: Finance:

- a) Payments were approved to the Clerk for salary and postage (July) £293.64 chq 346, Somerset Web Services (domain) £21.80 chq 347, HMRC £35 chq 348, Woodland Garden Services (Standerwick Orchard) £108 chq 349, Clerk (August), £294.74 chq 350 , Grinters (grass cutting) £1200 chq 351 , HMRC£35 chq 352.
- b) It was agreed to invest a further £12,500 into second 1-year bond with Cambridge and Counties Bank and £9,994 for maintenance of the new play equipment into a 95-day notice account with NatWest, both these accounts offering a good rate of interest;

- c) At Cllr Champion's request, the Council will discuss at its next meeting the possibility of using internet banking.

830 Date of next meeting: November 7th.

Signed.....

Dated.....