Broadway Parish Council

 Minutes of the meeting held at Broadway Village Hall on 4th April 2023 at 7.30 pm

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**763 Attendance**: Councillors Gregory (Chair), Preece, Toms, Frayne and Clerk Fiona Mckenzie.

**764 Apologies**: Councillors Champion and Driskell.

**765 Public participation:** No members of the public were present.

**766 Declarations of interests:** None.

**767 Minutes:** The Council approved the minutes from the meeting held on 7th March 2023 as a true record to be signed by the Chairman.

**768 Matters arising:**

1. Cllr Osbourne reported that SCC had informed her that the drain issues she reported would be attended to;
2. The Council noted that the signpost at the Pound had been removed at its request for renovation;
3. **Resolved** to add Cllr Toms and Cllr Frayne as Nat West signatories and to remove Cllr Baker following his retirement from the Council. Proposed by Cllr Gregory, seconded by Cllr Preece and adopted unanimously;
4. Cllr Gregory said the village walkabout by the Council had been a very useful start to compiling a regular maintenance schedule of the Councils assets. He would circulate a draft maintenance schedule for the next meeting.

**769 Planning:**

1. **21/03078/HOU: The Old rectory: installation of heat pumps:** The Council noted this application had been refused by SSDC;
2. **23/00596/HOU 12 Tanyard: extension:** The Council had no objection;
3. **23/00560/1/2Ful, 23/00561/Ful, 23/00562/Ful & 23/00725/FUL: Two Waters: roofs over silage clamps:** The Council had no objections;
4. **23/00578/FUL: Roche Farm: roof over silage clamp:** The Council had no objection;
5. **23/00372/TPO: Blackdown Lodge: felling of protected tree:** The Council had no objection.
6. The Council agreed to chase the Planning Authority again on the enforcement position concerning the building at 1 Lanes.

**770 Council Vacancy**: The Public notice of a vacancy had been displayed and SSDC informed.

**771 Playing field:**

1. Cllr Gregory confirmed the outstanding monies from SSDC have not yet been received. He would chase this so that the Wicksteed invoice could be paid.
2. Cllr Champion had sent a report saying the very wet weather had hampered a lot of the restoration of the original equipment and thanked the team of volunteers for their work so far and when the weather allows completion. It was agreed to reconsider in the Autumn whether to fence the perimeter of the site.
3. An opening date to be confirmed. (Subsequently agreed for 5 May at 1 pm.)

**772 Correspondence:** Cllr Gregory advised the meeting that SCC had temporarily closed footpath CH2/1 because of slats missing on the bridge over the Ding. He would ask the Rights of Way team for an update before the next meeting.

**773 Code of Conduct:** The Parish Council **Resolved** to adopt the SALC revised code of conduct.

**774 Archiving of Council accounts and minutes**: Cllr Gregory was passed those minutes and accounts held by the current Clerk prior to 2019. The Council **Resolved** that they should be deposited at Somerset Heritage Centre. The Council also **Resolved** that this arrangement to be repeated at the annual parish council meeting each year.

**775 Councillor reports**: Cllr Toms confirmed that the Defibrillator tests had been carried out.

**776 Finance**:

1. Payments were approved for the Clerk’s salary £350.12 chq 330, Grinters for grass cutting £1,440 chq 331, Horton & Broadway Eco group £100 chq 332 and Grinters £132.00 for maintenance chq 333.
2. The Clerk reported that the estimated balance for the current account available for investment was £32,000. The Chairman said that this comprised part of the £44,581 Standerwick Orchard reserves. Cllr Toms referred to the results of the research he had been commissioned to undertake into suitable investments consistent with the Council’s investment guidelines. He had identified 2 suitable saving bond accounts currently paying a reasonable amount of interest, fixed for 1 year and with no access during that period. After a discussion of the risks involved in investing this money and how much should be invested, the Council concluded that investing £20,000 would leave a comfortable margin to deal with any unexpected expenditure. A discussion of whether to invest a further sum from the reserves would be deferred until the approval of the 2022-23 final accounts. The Council **Resolved** to invest £20,000 in the Cambridge & Counties 1-year fixed interest bond. Proposed by Cllr Toms, seconded by Cllr Frayne and unanimously adopted.

**777 Date of Annual Parish meeting and Annual Parish Council meeting: 9th May 2023.**

**Signed…………………………………….. Date……………………………………….**