

Minutes of the meeting of Broadhempston Parish Council
Thursday 9 March 2023

Present: Cllrs Wright (Chair), Goddard, Head, Isaacs, Sear, Sutcliffe, White, Widger.

Also present: 3 members of the public
 Cathy Aubertin (Clerk)

No	Subject	
2022/ 23/171	The Chair will open the Meeting and receive apologies.	Cllr Wright opened the meeting at 7.32pm. Apologies were received from District Cllr Daws.
2022/ 23/172	To declare any interests at this meeting.	None declared.
2022/ 23/173	Approval to consider, amend as agreed by the Council and approve the minutes of the following meetings: 9 February 2023.	The minutes were agreed.
<i>The Council adjourned for the following items:</i>		
2022/ 23/174	<p><u>Public Question Time:</u> A period of 10 minutes will be allowed for members of the public to ask questions or make comment regarding the work of the Council or other items that affect Broadhempston which do not form part of the agenda.</p> <p><u>District Councillor Report</u></p> <p><u>County Councillor Report</u></p> <p><u>Parish Councillor Report</u></p> <p><u>Parish Lengths-man Report</u></p>	<p>Cllr Sutcliffe advised that the Community Land Trust (CLT) has a broker seeking alternative insurance quotes for the Easterways play area so there may be no need for the PC to lease the land.</p> <p>Councillors reported two empty grit boxes to the clerk, who requested that DCC refill them. One of them has been filled.</p> <p>Distribution of the flyer was agreed and Cllr Wright will collect and pay for the printed copies tomorrow.</p> <p>It was RESOLVED that the cost (£95) would be reimbursed immediately that Cllr Wright sends the invoice to the clerk.</p> <p>Cllr Widger reported that the drains are blocked in ?????</p>
<i>The Council reconvened to conduct the following business:</i>		
2022/ 23/ 175	To consider the following planning applications:	None received.

CHAIR

DATE.....

2022/ 23/ 176	To consider ways to improve partnership working between the CIO and the PC.	<p>Peter Sheridan and David Howard, from the CIO, attended for this item.</p> <p>Cllr Sutcliffe raised concern about possible friction between the CIO and PC and it might help if the CIO explained how the finances work and the reason for the CIO holding a large reserve.</p> <p>Peter Sheridan advised that the CIO is always willing to provide information to the PC.</p> <p>He further explained that a high level of reserve is required for the maintenance and replacement of fixtures and fittings, in addition to work to the car park. There is a need to have £30-40,000 set aside for such items, and in case there is a drop in income from bookings. Approx £20,000 of this balance was received in grant funding during the pandemic.</p> <p>Headlands is a separate issue, as it doesn't generate income. In terms of charging, the hall is part of the local government structure. The differing rates are shown on the website, and rates for parishioners are lower.</p> <p>Some rates are negotiated where groups may be unable to afford the full amount.</p> <p>Rates have not been increased this year.</p> <p>The accounts are audited each year and are published on the Village Hall noticeboard for all to see.</p> <p>Cllr Wright noted that, once or twice each year, the issue of the PC paying to use the hall comes up, and was particularly questioned this year in light of the tight budget the PC has had to set for next financial year. Other than raising the precept, the PC has no way to increase its income.</p> <p>It was noted that some charities seem to get free use of the hall whereas others pay for it.</p> <p>It was further proposed that the PC make a request for free use of the hall for one year, whilst the PC considers ways to improve its budget situation.</p> <p>Peter Sheridan and David Howard agreed to consider the request and respond to it in due course.</p>
2022/ 23/ 177	Climate change emergency: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Feedback from the working group. 	Minutes from the meeting had been previously circulated to Councillors. The next meeting will be held on 21 March, 7.30pm, by Zoom.
2022/ 23/ 178	To consider Teignbridge Local Plan 2020-2040 Proposed Submission.	No comments from the community were received following the post on Facebook. Thanks were recorded to the group who worked so hard in responding to the original consultation, which TDC seem to have listened to. Solar panels on rooves were discussed and it was suggested that TDC be asked to make it easier for householders to get planning permission for the installation of panels. Clerk to complete response form on TDC's website.
2022/ 23/ 179	To consider ideas for the King's Coronation.	The Royal Family website is encouraging a Big Lunch to take place in communities on Sunday 7 May and a Big Help Out on Monday 8, where people will be encouraged to try volunteering. It was felt that the PC could encourage street parties but it doesn't have the budget to provide such an event. A meeting will be held on Thursday 23 March, 7.30pm, to consider detailed arrangements.

CHAIR

DATE.....

		<p>Clerk to encourage attendance at the meeting on Shout Out Broadhempston.</p> <p>Clerk to book large meeting room.</p>
2022/23/ 180	<p>To review of the following policy:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Equality and Diversity. 	<p>Orientation – Guy will provide new wording.</p> <p>With this change in wording, the policy was agreed.</p> <p>TO BE REWORDED FOLLOWING INFO FROM GUY.</p>
2022/23/ 181	<p>Open spaces update:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Small playing field <p>• Headlands - to finalise arrangements for the Jubilee tree</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Kings Close Field Community Orchard <p>- to consider a request from a member of public to turn part of the orchard into allotments.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Allotments <p>- to consider a concern raised by an allotment holder about the use of plastic bags as ground cover</p> <p>- to consider an appeal from an allotment holder given notice to quit.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Car Park 	<p>The gate was fixed but it was broken again almost immediately! The fort needs to be repaired or replaced and is something that the new council will need to consider seriously. Funding will need to be found for this and it was noted that grant funding may be available, possibly Rural Aid Funding.</p> <p>Clerk to investigate grant funding.</p> <p>The tree (an oak) will be planted by Cllr Sutcliffe and will be commemorated at the Coronation celebration. It was considered that a plaque should be placed next to the tree identifying it as a Platinum Jubilee tree.</p> <p>Cllr Goddard will look into options for the plaque.</p> <p>It was reported that a couple of working parties have taken place recently and the orchard is looking great.</p> <p>The request was considered but, due to the requirement to dig up trees to facilitate, it was not considered to be a viable option, particularly in light of the environmental impact this would have.</p> <p>Clerk to advise the member of the public.</p> <p>Cllr Wright has measured all allotments and produced a plan.</p> <p>Clerk to circulated the plan to all councillors.</p> <p>A request will be made to the allotment holder to not use plastic bags on their allotment to suppress weeds.</p> <p>Cllr Wright will discuss with allotment holder.</p> <p>After a lengthy discussion, it was felt that councillors have a responsibility ensure that allotments are available for parishioners. There is now a long waiting list for allotments and the allotment agreement has always stated that they should be rented to people who live within the parish boundary, and this has been made more explicit in the new allotment agreement.</p> <p>Clerk to email and write a letter to the allotment holder.</p> <p>Cllr Sutcliffe reported that there are no current issues with the car park.</p>
2022/23/ 182	<p>Finance:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To agree payment of accounts. 	<p>It was RESOLVED that payments were approved.</p> <p>Clerk to make payments.</p>

CHAIR

DATE.....

2022/ 23/ 183	Clerks Report: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review of actions in previous minutes. 	Outstanding actions are as follows: Cllr Sear is working on digitising the drainage maps. Councillors Sear and Widger will confirm that they have read the Data Protection Policy.
2022/ 23/ 184	To note any correspondence received: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hedgehog Highway Project. 	Although the PC was keen to support the project, it is not in a financial position to purchase a box of hedgehog highway surrounds which may not be resold. However, it was agreed that the clerk would post the newsletter on Facebook in order to raise awareness of the project.
<i>The Council adjourned for the following items:</i>		
2022/ 23/ 185	Public Question Time: 10 minutes.	
<i>The Council reconvened to conduct the following business:</i>		
2022/ 23/ 186	To note the date of the next meeting: Thursday 13 April 2023.	With the addition of the Annual Parish Meeting at 7pm, and the extraordinary meeting to be held on 23 March to discuss the King's Coronation, this was noted and the meeting closed at 9.12pm. Clerk to advertise the Annual Parish Meeting.

CHAIR

DATE.....