

**Minutes of the Meeting of Broadhempston Parish Council**  
**Thursday 12 December 2024**

Present: Cllrs Wright (Chair), Miles, Widger, Goddard, Clarke, Bamford.

Also present: 1 member of public  
 Cathy Aubertin (Clerk)

No	Subject	
2024/25/126	The Chair will open the meeting and receive apologies.	Cllr Wright opened the meeting at 7.33pm. Apologies were received from Cllr Stevens, Cllr White, District Cllr Parker and District Cllr Daws.
2024/25/127	To declare any interests at this meeting.	None declared.
2024/25/128	Approval to consider, amend as agreed by the Council, and approve the minutes of the following meeting: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 14 November 2024.</li> </ul>	<b><i>It was RESOLVED to approve the minutes.</i></b>
2024/25/129	<p><u>Public question time:</u> a period of 10 minutes will be allowed for members of the public to ask questions or make comments regarding the work of the Council or other items that affect Broadhempston.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• District Councillor report.</li> <li>• County Councillor report</li> <li>• Parish Councillor reports</li> <li>• Parish Lengths-man work.</li> </ul>	<p>A member of public thanked the PC for this year's rural skip scheme, for the Christmas tree and all the work put in by councillors over the year.</p> <p>A report was received from District Cllr Paul Parker which forms part of these minutes.</p> <p>It was noted that the gritter is broken and is not now fixable because it is so rusty. It was originally provided by Devon County Council (DCC) who are now advising that they will not provide a replacement.  <b>Clerk to ask DCC again and CC County Cllr Sarah Khan.</b></p> <p>Work this year, so far, has been carried out by Cllrs White and Widger.</p>
2024/25/130	To consider concerns about whether the fete committee will be arranging a fete for next year.	<p>There doesn't seem to have been any action from the fete committee.</p> <p><b>Clerk to email the committee chair to ask if there is anything the PC can do to help with organising the fete.</b></p> <p><b>In addition, Cllr Wright will talk to the chair about whether there is still the wish to hold a village meeting.</b></p>
2024/25/131	To consider the proposal Broadhempston Community Shop to repay its loan (loan	<p><b><i>It was RESOLVED that the PC would welcome the early repayment of the loan.</i></b></p> <p><b>Clerk to advise Broadhempston Community Shop.</b></p>

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	number 2) from the Parish Council early.	
2024/25/132	To consider a suitable location for parish council storage for sandbags and equipment, and to consider purchasing sand and sandbags for use when needed.	It was noted that there is a container unit at Headlands which could be used, even if only whilst the PC looks at alternative storage solutions. <b>It was RESOLVED that the PC should purchase 1 ton of sand and approximately 200 sandbags. Clerk to action.</b> <b>Cllrs Wright and Goddard will discuss storage with the Headlands Committee.</b>
2024/25/133	To receive an update in respect of the submission of a planning application for additional parking bays in Kings Close Field, and the progression of the Village Square Project.	The final draft of the planning application was considered by councillors and agreed that it will be ready for submission once the replanted hedge is shown on the plan. <b>It was RESOLVED that Cllr Wright will liaise with the architect to ensure that this change is made and then the plans can be submitted.</b>
2024/25/134	Climate change emergency: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Feedback from the clerk in respect of offering energy and carbon cutting advice on 27 November (Fuel Poverty Awareness Day).</li> <li>• To consider next steps following attendance at the previous meeting by Sustainable Staverton.</li> </ul>	The clerk advised that only one person attended for advice. It was felt that the next event should be at the village fete.  <b>It was agreed that steps will be considered in the spring, when the parish council will consider promoting to parishioners keeping a part of their garden wild, or no mow May.</b>
2024/25/135	Open spaces update: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Small playing field: To receive an update about the small broken rocker. To consider alternative contractors to repair the rocket rocker and toddler swing. To receive an update in respect of gate fixings to keep off-lead dogs out and additional signage regarding a fixed penalty for taking a dog into the area. To consider an update in respect of replacing the missing fence under the gate.</li> </ul>	It was agreed that the toddler swing to be left for now, pending consideration of new play equipment.  <b>Signs have been purchased, and Cllr Wright will erect these. It was RESOLVED that the effectiveness of the signs should be established before the PC pays for a gas gate closer, due to the high cost of these.</b>  <b>It was further agreed that the clerk should look at the cost of purchasing 'Please close the gate' signs.</b>  It was noted that it may be possible to peg the membrane down.

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	<p>To consider what action to take in respect of the surface below the three bars. To note the offer of funding from District Cllr Paul Parker.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Easterways play area.</li> <li>• Headlands.</li> <li>• Kings Close Field.</li> <li>• Community Orchard.</li> <li>• Allotments.</li> <li>• Car Park.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Cllrs Wright and Goddard will have a look to see what can be done to make the area safe.</b></p> <p>It was noted that the new trees will be planted in January.</p>
2024/25/136	<p>Finance:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To agree payment of accounts.</li> <li>• To further consider the recommendations from the finance working group in respect of setting the budget for 2025/ 26.</li> </ul>	<p><b>It was RESOLVED that payments should be approved. Clerk to make payments.</b></p> <p>As the play equipment working group has not yet been established the budget will be further considered in January.</p>
2024/25/137	<p>Clerk's report:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Review of actions in previous minutes.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Cllr Wright will put the Jubilee tree sign on a taller post.</b></li> <li>• <b>Car park signage – Cllr Stevens has found a product that will increase the height of the signs at a cost of approximately £82. Cllr Stevens to advise clerk if any clips etc are required. It was RESOLVED that Cllr Stevens should provide the information to the clerk so that this can be purchased.</b></li> <li>• <b>Cllr Stevens and Wright will have another look at the rocker and obtain quotes for covering the rocker with steel.</b></li> <li>• <b>Cllrs Wright and Stevens to add a piece of wood to the bottom of the small playing field gate to make the gap smaller.</b></li> </ul>
2024/25/124	<u>Public question time.</u>	
2024/25/125	To note the date of the next meeting: <b>Thursday 9 January 2025.</b>	This was noted and the meeting closed at 8.50pm.

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