



MINUTES

BRANTHAM PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
Wednesday 06 January 2021, 7.30pm held via ZOOM

PRESENT: Cllrs M Bridgeman, J Heywood, E Osben, G Rasch, P Revell

CHAIRPERSON: Cllr A McCraw

IN ATTENDANCE: S Keys (Clerk), 3 members of the public, Cllr Wood

PC 01.21.01 OPENING

The Chair declared the meeting open at 7.45 pm and thanked all for attending. A statement was read out by the Chair indicating that, in accordance with legislation, the public and councillors were permitted to film, record, photograph or use social media in order to report on the proceedings of the meeting. A full transcript is available from the Clerk.

The Chair reminded the public that a Council meeting is not a public meeting, it is a meeting conducted in public. Members of the public, the press, and District, Borough or County Councilors are invited to attend our meetings and contribute during the public forum. Comments from the public during the remainder of the meeting should be by invitation from the Chair only.

PC 01.21.02 APOLOGIES

Cllrs V Abrahams, C Elliott and P Seward. Cllr Bridgeman proposed that these apologies were accepted, this was seconded by Cllr Heywood and aif.

PC 01.21.03 DECLARATION OF INTEREST AND LOCAL NON-PECUNIARY INTERESTS

- a) There were no local non-pecuniary interests declared for the Agenda under discussion. There were no gifts of hospitality exceeding £25 declared.
- b) There were no requests for dispensations for the Agenda under discussion

PC 01.21.04 PARISH COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

The Council considered the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 02 December 2020. Cllr Bridgeman proposed that the minutes were approved as a true and accurate record of the meeting, this was seconded by Cllr Heywood. 4 councillors voted in favour of the proposal. 2 councillors abstained from the vote. The motion was carried. The Council agreed that the minutes would be formally signed at the next available opportunity for the Council to meet in person.

PC 01.21.05 ACTION POINTS FROM THE PREVIOUS PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

MINUTE NO.	ACTION	Ongoing/ Dismissed
PC 12.20.06	Email Trot Ward and send best wishes <i>Completed</i>	Dismissed
PC 12.20.08	Advertise Parish Council vacancy <i>Details included in the Bugle and circulated on Facebook</i>	Dismissed
PC 12.20.09 (1)	Inform Mr Cherry that his quote has been accepted <i>Completed. Confirmation received from Mr Cherry that he intends to</i>	Dismissed



	<i>begin the work in January</i>	
PC 12.20.09 (1)	Inform BML of extension to their rent holiday until 28.02.20 <i>Completed</i>	Dismissed
PC 12.20.09 (2)	Contact Mr Keeble to see if he is able to source replacement fencing for GPL Play area <i>The Clerk confirmed that she had discussed this with Mr Keeble who felt he would be able to source fencing at a reasonable cost and would be able to provide some labour at farm rates to install it. Cllr McCraw proposed that the Council should authorise the Clerk to purchase this fencing and arrange installation if the cost was around £1500 plus labour. This was seconded by Cllr Heywood and aif.</i>	Dismissed
PC 12.20.09 (2)	Submit funding request for picnic benches to Cllr McCraw <i>Completed. Funding of £250 received</i>	Dismissed
PC 12.20.09 (2)	Arrange purchase of benches when outcome of funding request is known <i>To be completed</i>	Ongoing
PC 12.20.09 (3)	Submit BPC response to JLP consultation <i>Completed</i>	Dismissed
PC 12.20.10	Inform local resident that a request for a snooker club should be made to the landowner <i>To be completed</i>	Ongoing
PC 12.20.10	Respond to Savills accepting their offer of compensation for work to the sewer <i>Completed</i>	Dismissed

PC 01.21.06 PUBLIC SESSION

A written report had been submitted from Cllr. Wood (available as Appendix B). Cllr Wood gave an update on the following issues:

- Concerns about Highways capacity as a result of lots of new development/building
- Still chasing application for 20mph limit on Church Lane
- AONB featured in recent episode of Countryfile

Cllr McCraw gave a report on the following issues:

- District Council has been working on its COVID-19 response which included dealing with grants for organisations and individuals who have to self-isolate
- 2021-22 budget being reviewed. Mostly a neutral budget with some changes:
 - Council tax will be increasing by 3% (approximately £5 for a Council Tax Band D property)
 - Rents for council-owned properties will be increased by 1.5%
- Cllr McCraw confirmed that there will be elections in Suffolk in 2021. Cllr Wood added that it was likely that County Council elections will be delayed.

The following queries/issues were highlighted by members of the public:

- How do those interested in being part of the local open spaces group get in touch with each other. The Clerk stated that interested parties had been asked to contact the Clerk to coordinate. So far there had been only one interested party. Cllr Osben suggested that a WhatsApp group could be set up for this purpose.



- How can we track the progress of additional tree planting on the Brantham Open Space now that the action is no longer on the minutes? Cllr McCraw confirmed that this action had now been passed to him as the Babergh District Councillor for the local area and is not the responsibility of the Parish Council. Cllr McCraw confirmed that since this piece of land has not yet been adopted by the District Council from SFG it was difficult to make progress however he continues to discuss this with the head of Public Realm at BDC. Cllr McCraw confirmed that he would continue to update on this issue and any queries should be directed to him personally.

PC 01.21.07 FINANCE REPORT

- a) To note and approve the balance of accounts as at 30 November 2020 - The Clerk reported the following balances:
 - Current Account - £5000.00
 - Deposit Account - £133,712.89
 - Salaries Account - £383.67Cllr McCraw proposed that the balance of accounts were approved, this was seconded by Cllr Bridgeman and aif.
- b) The Council noted the updated Appendix A circulated by the Clerk which detailed the accounts awaiting payment, the accounts paid since the last meeting and the receipts allocated since the last meeting. Cllr Osben proposed that Appendix A was approved by the Council, this was seconded by Cllr Revell and aif.

PC 01.21.08 REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES AND REPRESENTATIVES

1. Finance Committee
 - a) To update on any actions since the last meeting – nothing to report as there had been no meeting in December
 - b) To consider/agree proposals for contributions from the Finance Committee – none received.
 - c) To consider/agree any other proposals presented by the Finance Committee – Cllr McCraw highlighted that the Council tax base figures for Brantham had not yet been received and that this may affect the proposed budget from the Finance Committee. Due to the delay in receiving these figures Cllr McCraw suggested that delegated authority was given to the Finance Committee to consider amended the proposed precept request by 1% or 2% to accommodate any loss of income as a result of these new figures. Cllr Heywood proposed that this suggestion was approved, this was seconded by Cllr Osben. 5 Councillors voted in favour of the motion, 1 Councillor abstained from the vote. The motion was carried.
2. Recreation Sub-Committee
 - a) To update on any general actions since the last meeting – Cllr Heywood informed the Council that she had received a quote from APL of £1464.00 for the necessary repairs to the local play equipment as identified in the recent Inspection reports. Cllr Heywood confirmed that she would be seeking further quotes in the near future.
 - b) To consider/approve any actions or expenditure as required - none
3. Planning Committee
 - a) To note recommendations made by the Committee –nothing to report as there was no meeting in December 2020. One consultation document had been received in December in Slough Road. A response was agreed by email from the Planning Committee. Cllr



Bridgeman informed the Council that the BPC response to the JLP Consultation had been submitted by the deadline date.

- b) To note the planning decisions received – none.
4. Village Hall Management Committee
- a) To update on actions since the last meeting – nothing to report.
- b) To consider/agree any actions/expenditure necessary – None
- c) To receive an update from the VH working Group – nothing to report.
- d) To consider/agree any proposals made by the VH Working Group – nothing to report
- e) To consider/agree next steps as necessary – nothing to report.
5. Footpaths Sub Committee
- a) To consider/agree any proposals presented by the Footpaths Sub Committee – Nothing to report. Cllr Osben noted that he will discuss the local open spaces group with the interested resident.
6. Services Sub Committee
- a) To consider/agree any proposals presented by the Services Sub Committee – Cllr Osben noted that work will be beginning on the GPL bus shelter in the near future.
7. Legal Sub Committee
- a) To consider/agree any proposals received from the Legal Sub Committee – nothing to report
8. SALC Representative – Nothing to report
9. BLC Representative – Nothin to report
10. SNT Representative – nothing to report

PC 01.21.09 CORRESPONDENCE TO NOTE/ACTION

The Clerk reviewed the correspondence that had been received in December 2020 (copies had been circulated to Councillors prior to the meeting). Councillors noted the following:

- An email from a local resident about the “dog poo fairy” suggestion. The Council agreed that since there had been no positive feedback on this proposal this would not be pursued further.
- An email from the local Beavers group to borrow litter picking equipment. The Clerk confirmed that she had discussed this with BDC and been able to secure provision of litter picking equipment for 20 people. This is now stored at Brantham Village Hall and is available for any local groups who want to use it. The Clerk also confirmed that the local Beavers group would not be undertaking the proposed litter pick due to the current COVID restrictions.
- Confirmation that the Lychgate at the church has now been completed.
- An email from a local resident with queries on a number of items relating to previous minutes and the planting of trees at the new open space near Decoy Pond. The Clerk confirmed that she had responded to the individual directly and that Cllr McCraw had also responded on behalf of the District Council too.
- An email from Casualty Claims in relation to the tree root liability claim at Merriam Close. The Clerk confirmed that she would await further correspondence.
- A letter from Suffolk County Council formally noting the locality grant from Cllr Wood for the mobile SID
- An email from Mr Cherry re: repairs to the GPL bus shelter
- An email highlighting a fallen fence on Cinder path and damage to a dog litter bin on Factory Lane. The Clerk confirmed that the fence had been lifted and that Danny Orman had undertaken some repairs to the dog litter bin.



PC 01.21.10 MISCELLANEOUS CORRESPONDENCE

All miscellaneous correspondence by email had been forwarded to Councillors during the month. Cllr McCraw highlighted an email about street planning which he had circulated to the Planning Committee.

PC 01.21.11 INDUSTRIAL SITE DEVELOPMENT UPDATE

- a) To receive an update on recent/forthcoming activity on Industrial and Greenfield site – nothing to report except that Taylor Wimpey have now started work on the Greenfield site following the Christmas break.
- b) To agree any other next steps as necessary – none.

PC 01.21.12 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Wednesday 03 February 2021, 7.30pm via Zoom or at Brantham Village Hall

PC 10.20.13 IN CAMERA ITEM

Cllr Bridgeman proposed that as per section 1(2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to meetings) Act 1960 the meeting should be closed to the public due to the confidential nature of the business to be transacted. This was seconded by Cllr Osben and aif.

The meeting closed to the public at 8.32pm

SIGNED.....DATED.....



ACTIONS

MINUTE NO.	ACTION	WHO
PC 12.20.09 (2)	Arrange purchase of benches when outcome of funding request is known	Clerk
PC 12.20.10	Inform local resident that a request for a snooker club should be made to the landowner	Clerk



APPENDIX A

PC 01.21.07 FINANCE REPORT

ACCOUNTS TO BE AGREED FOR PAYMENT	Chq/Debit Card/SO	NET	VAT	TOTAL	Powers Used
D. Orman (Strimming work at GPL Play area)	003347	£50.00		£50.00	Public Health Act 1875, s.164
Mr S. Page (Donation for repair to Church Lychgate as per PC 07.20.09P)	003348	£320.00		£320.00	General Power of Competence
HMRC (PAYE and NI Q3)	003349	£1641.24		£1641.24	LGA 1972

ACCOUNTS PAID SINCE THE LAST MEETING	Chq/Debit Card/SO	NET	VAT	TOTAL	Powers Used
Parish Clerk – Salary	BACS	£1201.50		£1201.50	LGA 1972, s.112
Parish Clerk – Office	BACS	£20.00		£20.00	LGA 1972, s. 112
Phil Wainwright – Litter Picker	BACS	£206.40		£206.40	Open Spaces Act 1906, ss.9 and 10
Tina Bird – Litter Picker	BACS	£248.08		£248.08	Open Spaces Act 1906, ss.9 and 10
B.M.L Maintenance Payment	SO	£332.00		£332.00	Local Government (miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976, s.19
Brantham Village Hall Maintenance Payment	SO	£250.00		£250.00	General Power of Competence
O2 (Clerk’s mobile phone)	Direct Debit	£18.05	£3.61	£21.66	LGA 1972
ZOOM Video Communications Inc (Online Meetings package)	Direct Debit	£11.99	£2.40	£14.39	The Local Authorities and Police and Crime Panels (Coronavirus) (Flexibility of Local Authority and Police and Crime Panel Meetings) (England and Wales) Regulations 2020

RECEIPTS RECEIVED SINCE THE LAST MEETING	TOTAL
Bank Interest	£1.16
Babergh District Council (S.106 Fund donation to LPF update)	£13,801.28
Suffolk County Council (Cllr Wood’s donation to cost of Mobile SID)	£1500.00
Babergh District Council (Donation from Cllr McCraw to cost of picnic benches)	£250.00
Highcliff Veterinary Practice	£1250.00



BRANTHAM
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(Rent payment)	
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APPENDIX B

Parish Report January 2021

Councillor

David Wood

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Tattingstone, Ipswich
IP9 2NN

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It has been a busy month for my group, but we have had some big successes. I want to wish you all a merry Christmas and happy new year in these strange times!

Biodiversity strategy adopted

At Full Council on the 3rd December, Suffolk County Council unanimously passed a motion that will see Suffolk County Council developing a biodiversity strategy and embracing biodiverse land management practices. The motion was proposed by the LDGI Group and supported by all other groups. The motion will ensure:

- Delivery of a biodiversity strategy that will set out how we could increase Suffolk's biodiversity, halt the loss of habitats and species, and reintroduce declining species in suitable locations.
- Assessment of how the council can lead organisations across the county in efforts to improve biodiversity.
- Adoption of biodiverse land management options on council land.
- A letter to the Secretary of State asking what further support can be made available to local authorities to enhance bio diversity within their areas.

Cllr Elfrede Brambley-Crawshaw, Leader of the Liberal Democrat, Green and Independent Group and proposer of the motion, made the following statement:

"I'm really pleased that this motion has been met with such overwhelming support from the council and thank Cllr Richard Rout for his support. Our efforts can feel like a drop in the ocean, but by working together and listening to each other we can make a difference. Suffolk County Council has today taken another step on the path to making that difference. By working together, across political party lines, we can have a real impact."

"Good biodiversity supports healthy ecosystems which protects our food security, cleans our air and water and enhances our lives in many ways. I would encourage everyone to do their part to support our native species, and I am thrilled that the County Council will now be doing the same thing."



Resisting the decision to reclaim local highways budgets

The Suffolk County Council cabinet will be reclaiming unspent Local Highways Budgets from councillors on the 31st of December. Local highways budgets can be spent by councillors in their divisions, on projects like new yellow lines, resident parking areas or zebra crossings. The LDGI Group has fought against this decision, arguing that the pandemic has increased delays to work which was already difficult to complete due to cumbersome processes and excessive red tape. Lockdown meant that officers weren't allowed to go out and look at sites, and teams were overwhelmed by the amount of work caused by the pandemic. Some larger projects will not be ready to receive payment by the 31st. This reclaiming of the budget would not have become absolutely necessary until March, when the financial year ends.

The LDGI Group has been fighting against this decision, taking it to Cabinet and senior officers, as well as the press. Cllr Elfrede Brambley-Crawshaw, Leader of LDGI Group, commented that the decision means that dozens of projects will now remain unfinished and local communities will not benefit from the money.

Preparing budget amendments for 2021-22 budget

SCC is currently preparing its budget for 2021-22 and the LDGI Group has been preparing its amendments. My Group has chosen three key priorities for our budget amendment: Warm homes, Supporting community groups and charities through the pandemic, and Income generation & the climate emergency. We will be proposing multiple projects and policy decisions around these three key themes.

Consultation on the Suffolk Climate Change Action Plan

SCC is currently running a consultation on its proposed Streets Guide, which will assist with the design of new residential developments showing how best to create sustainable transport layouts that promote walking and cycling. A new Street Guide has been commissioned to update guidance for residential streets. Comments on the draft guide are welcomed and there is a survey to complete. The consultation closes at 5pm on 10th February 2021.

Link: <https://www.suffolk.gov.uk/planning-waste-and-environment/planning-and-development-advice/suffolk-design-streets-guide/>

Consultation on the Suffolk Climate Change Action Plan

SCC is currently running a consultation on the Suffolk Climate Action Plan. The consultation is running until January the 4th and you are invited to comment on the following areas:

- Sustainable Buildings
- Large Industrial & Commercial Energy Users
- Transport & Air Quality
- Small Industrial & Commercial Energy Users
- Energy & Planning
- Community Action & Schemes



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Link and further information here: <https://www.suffolk.gov.uk/planning-waste-and-environment/initiatives/pledge-to-climate-emergency-declaration/>