

Bramfield Parish Council

Minutes of the meeting held on 16th July, 2018

Present: John Wells (JW) (Chair), Nick Savage (NS) Treasurer
Marietta Johnson (MJ), Chris Armstead (CA), Pam Rutherford (PR)

1. Apologies

Stella Johnson (SJ) Liz Hamilton (LH) Clerk, Guy Tucker (GT) (Vice Chair), Cheryl Jackson (CJ), Michael McMullen (MM)

2. Declaration of interest

None

3. Minutes of the meetings held on 19th June 2018

The minutes of the meeting were agreed. The Chair signed the minutes as a true record.

4. Matters arising from the previous meeting

- (a) Declaration of acceptance of office – JW signed the required declaration, which will be countersigned by LH
- (b) Village Hall Car Park – JW presented information on the proposed height barrier, which would cost £1068 plus installation and could be unlocked to allow for emergency vehicles. The PC thanked JW for his review but concurred that the height barrier was not immediately necessary so would not be taken further at this point.
- (c) Village sign – Due to supply complications, the project has been delayed in the short term. PC to revisit in September.
- (d) Marshall site in Bury Lane - Given that there was still activity on the site post the 17th June deadline for the site being cleared, the PC sent a letter to the Chief Executive of East Herts Council (22nd June) via LH, enquiring what action would be taken. The PC's letter was responded to by Kim Bowers (Planning Enforcement Officer) on 27th June, who stated that the site was being cleared and that the clearance was being monitored via weekly visits. She then followed up with a further mail on 29th June updating the PC on progress. The PC raised concerns via email dated 10th July that further skips had been observed entering the site, but were reassured that photographic records for EHC showed continued progress and that Ms Bowers would

- continue to keep the PC updated. Ms Bowers stated it was in the best interest to work with the owner to ultimately clear the site
- (e) Grass cutting – The PC resolved to negotiate a contract to cut the grass as required with Stuart Kirkham, who currently cuts the village green. The kind offer of the donation of the mower by Keith Childs will no longer be pursued given concerns about the ongoing costs of its upkeep.

5. **Financial Matters**

Bank Balance

Current Account £812.09

Expenditure to date #2065.22

Income to date £1,020.05 being precept with further precept payment due circa September 2018

Savings Account £6,303.03

Accounts for Payment

Costs for replacement safety glass and sealant for the Village Notice Board £40

Annual Audit Report

NS reported that the internal audit report had been posted on the noticeboard and website until the end of July. Any questions to be referred to the RFO (NS).

6. **Planning Applications**

Ref – 3/18/0935/FUL - David Thomas Garage

The planning application was rejected by EHC on the basis that there was insufficient evidence to demonstrate that the retention of site for employment had been fully explored without success

7. **Correspondence**

None

8. Any Other Business

- a) Road Channel Cleanse: The scheduled visit carried out by the EHC mechanical broom vehicle on 6th July had little effect on the removal of vegetation from the kerb edge or the road channels. Following a complaint by the PC made to the Environmental Operations EHC we were advised this matter to be investigated under ref no 20306
- b) Road Drain Cleaning: This is contracted out to Ringway and was scheduled to be completed May/June. This has not happened so following further enquiries, the PC has been assured that Ringway continues to work in the area and should come to Bramfield shortly.
- c) Recycle Point Sign Bury Lane: The removal of the Recycle Point sign in Bury Lane is being reviewed by East Herts Council, who will also look into the replacement of fly tipping warning signs in the parish which have been recently removed.
- d) Report on Basic Councillors Training: MJ reported positively on the basic councillors training provided by HAPTC
- e) Grass cutting Walnut Tree Memorial Grove recreation field (JW) agreed to investigate this following complaints by at least two persons that access to this area was difficult due to uncut grass. Possible discussions with Stuart Kirkham who cuts recreation field
- f) (JW) to contact Thames Water re roadside growth of hedges on the perimeter boundary of the sewage plant in Hollygrove Road
- g) Following a request by the Bramfield PCC it was agreed a donation of #100.00 be made by the PC towards the cost of maintaining the church yard

Next meeting 18th September 2018 – 7.45 p.m.

The Chair closed the meeting at 9.30 p.m.

Signed as a true record

Chair

Date: Tuesday 18th September 2018