

BROOKTHORPE WITH WHADDON PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 2nd JULY 2024 - at Brookthorpe Village Hall

PRESENT

Messrs John Hendry [Chairman], Paul Gaze, Rhodri Stokes-Rhys, Cllr Susan Williams [Gloucestershire County Councillor], Martin Coles [Whaddon Fields Representative], Nigel Bone [St Swithun's Church Building Lead], Mrs Anne Szabo [Parish Clerk] and 2 members of the public.

24/095 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllrs Eric Hibbert, Demelza Turner-Wilkes [Stroud District Councillor]

There were no other apologies for absence.

24/096 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

It was proposed by Cllr Rhodri Stokes -Rhys and seconded by Cllr Paul Gaze that the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 4th June be agreed and signed as true records. **RESOLVED**

24/097 MATTERS ARISING

Upton Lane Speeding and Overweight Lorries – It was noted that the new signs warning of the weight limit for lorries have gone up and appear to have considerably reduced instances of large lorries using Upton Lane. However, it appears that these could be better placed. Cllr Sue Williams to investigate this with the Highways Manager. Each report of non-compliance is being passed onto him. It was stated that this also needs to be enforced by the Police and Sue will contact PCSO Nicola Woods regarding this. The Clerk reported that Cllr Demelza Turner-Wilks is also pursuing this. It was also reported that PCSO Nicola Woods has contacted Lynda King regarding the timings of the worst speeding issues.

There were no other matters arising that did not appear on the on the agenda elsewhere.

24/098 POLICE REPORT

No report submitted.

24/099 COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

The report from Cllr Sue Williams had been received and will be circulated to Councillors. Councillors raised concerns regarding the shutting of Naas Lane, without notice to carry out highway repairs and the loose manhole cover in Haresfield Lane that continues to cause disturbance to local residents. Sue stated that she would take these matters up with the Highways Manager, Yakub Muller.

24/100 STROUD DISTRICT COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

Cllr Demelza Turner-Wilkes had sent her apologies but would forward a report shortly.

24/101 MEMBERS' DECLARATION OF PECUNIARY INTERESTS TO ITEMS ON THE AGENDA

There were no other declarations of interest to items on the agenda.

24/102 FINANCE

a) Cheques for signature

Cheque No	Amount	Payee	Reason
1264		Mrs A Szabo	Clerk's Wages, Office Allowance and Expenses of £26.00
1265	£115.20	HMRC	PAYE
1266	£215.00	GAPTC	Independent Audit
1267	£552.29	Mr D Davies	Verge Cutting

Power used for Council's spending.
General Power of Competence – Power of first resort

24/103 PLANNING

a) Planning applications for consideration

S.24/0996/HHOLD	1 Hill Mead, Brookthorpe	Erection of a two-storey side extension, front porch and a flat roof over existing rear boot room & store. Cllrs had no objections to these proposals
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24/104 CLERK VACANCY

The Chairman confirmed that he had received and accepted the Clerk's written resignation. It is planned that Anne Szabó will leave her position of Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer at the end of November. As a result, it was proposed by Cllr Hendry and seconded by Cllr Stokes-Rhys that there should be at least a one month handover period with the successful applicant. **RESOLVED**

It was proposed that the prepared job description, person spec, rate of pay and advertisement to fill this vacancy be accepted by the Council, so that the process for filling this post can begin.

RESOLVED

It was proposed by Cllr Stokes-Rhys and seconded by Cllr Hendry that £500 should be made available for advertising this post.

It is hoped that the successful applicant will start shadowing Anne during November.

24/105 VILLAGE HALL APPLICATION FOR GRANT FROM CIL MONEY FUND

The application had been previously examined by Cllrs and the Clerk confirmed that it appears to be within the constraints for the use of this allocated money. By doing this work the Village Hall would become more comfortable for villagers and increase the space available for use within the hall. It was proposed by Cllr Hendry and seconded by Cllr Stokes-Rhys that the council should provide £10,000 of the £13,310 available. **RESOLVED**

24/106 BLOCKING OF GREEN LANE NEXT TO MOUNT VIEW MULTI AGENCY MEETING

The Clerk confirmed that the notes from the meeting held on 7th June had been circulated. It was felt that this had been a productive meeting with a member of the Mount View community in attendance. The date of the next meeting is to be confirmed. Cllr Sue Williams was asked to follow up on the second PRoW site meeting that was to take place.

24/107 BUS SHELTER REPAIRS

The Clerk reported that she had advertised the job for carrying out the repairs to the bus shelter on the North side of the A1473 at Whaddon. The job has been advertised on the noticeboard, website, newsletter, Checktrade and Quote My Job. As yet there had been no replies.

24/108 ASSET AND DEFIBRILLATOR REPORTS

The Clerk reported that these had been carried out. The bus shelter repairs to the north of the A1473 at Whaddon is ongoing. The bus shelter to the south of the A1473 at Whaddon still had a large hole under the noticeboard and the noticeboard needs to have some cork added so that it can be used. The Clerk had also reported that the defibrillator cases were difficult to open in an emergency. Cllr Paul Gaze volunteered to look at these. Everything else appeared to be in order.

24/109 NEW UNION FLAG

It was proposed by Cllr Paul Gaze and seconded by Cllr Hendry to order a new Union Flag at a cost of £88.20 be purchased and actioned by Cllr Paul Gaze. **RESOLVED**

24/110 ATTENDANCE AT GAPTC AGM 20th JULY

There is no-one available to attend this meeting. The Clerk was asked to send apologies on behalf of the Council.

24/111 PROPOSED WHADDON FIELDS DEVELOPMENT

Martin Coles reported that it would be another 6 months before anything will happen now as the joint action report will not be out until Christmas.

24/112 STRUCTURAL CONDITION OF ST SWITHUN'S CHURCH

Nigel Bone reported that the structural report had been circulated. There is to be a meeting 31st July at 2 pm. Parishioners are urged to attend and show support.

24/113 INFORMATION FOR COUNCILLORS

Cllr Paul Gaze raised concerns regarding the safety of the trees on the green outside Andrews Close following the fallen branches over recent months. Barriers have been in place for several months around electrical cabling that has been exposed due to the action of tree roots pushing the cable up. National Grid are aware, but this need to be rectified.

Cllr Rhodri Stokes-Rhys reported fly tipping at Red Roofs, Nass Lane. This had been reported to police at the time, but no action has been taken. He is taking this matter up with PCSO Nicola Woods. The Clerk reported that pigeon scarer activity taking place on Sunday 30th June had been reported to Stroud District Council’s Environmental Department.

24/114 QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

The Council was asked by Lynda King if a supporting letter to the Village Hall Committee could be sent so that the Village Hall can add it to grant applications to show community support. This was agreed to. The Clerk to action.

Nigel Bone reported that Neil Chrisopher [Public Footpath Warden] would be supplying a new bridge to replace broken stile and plank bridge with a new bridge. Also, removal of surplus stile on EBR37 and clear adjacent bridge.

Two members of the Brethren community reported to those present that they offer practical community help in the area. They wished to raise awareness for this Charity. It was suggested that they add a report to the Parish Newsletter.

24/115 DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING

Tuesday 3rd September 2024 at 8pm

There being no other business the meeting closed at 9.35.

Chairman

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