

Minutes of the Meeting of Brewham Parish Council held on Tuesday, 10th March 2020, at The Old Red Lion, North Brewham, at 7.30pm

Present: David Dabinett (Chair), Richard Hiscock, Robert Jackson & Patricia Stainton.

In attendance: Sue Price (Clerk), Robin Bastable (District Councillor) and four members of the public.

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.

1. **Apologies for Absence:**
Apologies for absence had been received from Eddie Harper, Anna Groskop (County Councillor) & PCSO Tim Russell.
2. **Declarations of Interest:**
There were no declarations of interest.
3. **Minutes of the Meeting held on 14th January 2020**
The minutes of the 14th January 2020 meeting were unanimously approved and signed as a correct record by the Chairman.
4. **Matters Arising:**
There were no other matters arising that would not be dealt with elsewhere.
5. **Financial Business:**
 - i. **Financial transactions:**
The Clerk reported that since the last meeting the cheque for £180 for the burial fee for the late Mrs Wyatt and the purchase of a burial plot for Mr Wyatt had been cashed, HMRC had paid £441.24 by Bacs, this being the reclaimed VAT for the repairs to the Burial Ground Wall and the grit bin, and £6.71 annual interest on the NS&I Savings account had been received. The Clerk explained that although payment for the Burial Ground wall had been taken from the three funds, she had allocated all the VAT refund to the General Fund.

The cheque for £2,501.10 for the repair of the Burial Ground wall had now been cashed and payments made to Road Ware (£146.34) and Qwerk Digital (£90.09) as agreed at the January meeting, the latter cheque had not been cashed when the February bank statement was received.

The financial transactions for the period 14th January-9th March 2020 were therefore as follows:

Bank balances brought forward at 14 th January 2020	£5,351.54
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Income

Grassby – burial fee for the late Mrs Wyatt and purchase of burial plot by Mr Wyatt	180.00
HMRC – VAT reclaimed on wall repair & grit bin invoices	441.24
NS&I Savings account annual interest	6.71

Expenditure

Burfitt & Garrett – repairs to Burial Ground wall	£2,501.10
Road Ware – salt and grit bin for Tile Hill	146.34

The Fund balances at 9th March 2020 were therefore:

General Fund	£2,045.65
Burial Ground Fund	286.40
Parish Plan Fund	0.00
Reserve Fund	1,000.00

Represented by Bank a/cs:

National Savings Bank Investment a/c	£845.46
HSBC Savings a/c	241.10
HSBC Community a/c	2,245.49

Total £3,332.05

Creditor

Qwerk Digital – web hosting and domain renewal 90.09

Balance to include creditor £3,241.06

Bank balances carried forward as at 9th March 2020 £3,332.05

- ii. The Clerk requested approval for payment of the following:
Hire of meeting room at the Old Red Lion for March meeting - £10
Clerk's annual salary and PAYE – £1,000
Approval for payment of the water bill for the tap in the Churchyard was also requested as this will be due in early April (budgeted figure £85).

It was unanimously agreed that these three payments be made.

6. **Planning Applications:**

i. **Applications already considered by the Parish Council**

- a. 19/02981/FUL – The continued use of existing building and land for Use Class B8 (storage) and the erection of an additional Use Class B8 storage building on land OS 7858 Part, Hammer Street, Brewham, BA10 0JR. Application approved.
- b. 19/02764/FUL – Installation of three woodchip fuel boilers, hot water tanks, woodchip storage, demolition of existing stables and extension to existing outbuilding to provide storage facility and salt water tank for salt making process and installation of solar panels at Brewham House, Hammer Street, North Brewham. Application approved.
- c. 19/03117/LBC – Listed Building Consent for a retrospective application to replace 5 single glazed sash windows with double glazed units and to enclose existing utility area link at Cockeymoor Farmhouse, Tile Hill, Brewham, BA10 0JF. Decision awaited.
- d. 19/02837/OUT/Sam Fox – Amended outline application for the erection of a detached dwelling, all matters reserved – application amended with revised access details and confirmation of reduction from 1.5 storey dwelling to single dwelling. Application approved.

ii. **Applications received since the Parish Council's last meeting and discussed by email:**

- a. 19/03489/HOU - The erection of a single storey side extension to dwelling at Border Cottage, Border Lane, Brewham, BA10 0JQ. Application approved.

No further applications had been received.

7. **Burial Ground & Churchyard:**

As discussed at the January meeting the coping on top of the wall on the roadside is crumbling and although the Clerk had asked Burfitt & Garrett to look at this and repair as necessary the work has not yet been done.

8. **Roads:**

i. **Outstanding matters:**

The Chairman thanked Richard Hiscock for filling the new salt bin at the bottom of Tile Hill with salt. The other bins throughout the village have not been filled but hopefully this will not now be necessary this year.

The potholes in Street Lane have now been marked for repair.

ii. **New matters:**

The Clerk reported that a vehicle has driven into the bridge wall at the bottom of Tower Road and done considerable damage. This has been reported and the Bridges Department have inspected it but at the moment it is not known when the repair will be done.

There are potholes and subsidence down Border Lane and on the main road near Hassocks Lane which the Clerk will report.

9. **Footpaths & Bridleways:**

i. **Outstanding matters:**

Nothing has yet been done about marking the footpath at Swanton Farm and the stiles on the footpath leading from Hoofprints because it is currently still too wet.

ii. There were no new matters to report.

10. **Update on the Village Hall Restoration Project & Parish Plan**

Patricia Stainton reported that the work on Phase 1 has now been completed and the Hall thoroughly cleaned and there will be a Village Hall opening event on Saturday, the 14th March, from 2-5pm. All parishioners had received an invitation and the planned fundraising events towards the Phase 2 work were also listed on this. Detailed plans and costings are now being obtained for the Phase 2 works.

The Our Brewham Support Group had met on the 12th February and the Wildlife Watch Club on the 21st February.

Ric Rogers has started work on compiling the 2020/21 edition of Below The Tower and he hopes to have this ready for printing towards the end of April so that it will be ready for distribution in early May.

The bird count forms have gone out and if anyone would like to complete the survey and does not have a form these can be obtained from Caroline Rathbone or Patricia Stainton.

11. **Report from PCSO Tim Russell:**

PCSO Tim Russell was unable to attend the meeting but had sent a report. There were no reported thefts in the Brewham area in the last month and the current and future PACT priorities remain the same in that there will be regular patrols of the area by the NH Team and Response Officers. Opportunist thieves are still looking for power tools, chain saws, mowers and similar items in unlocked or poorly secured sheds and garages and there is still an ongoing spate of van break-ins targeting workman's tools.

The Chairman noted that there is currently a lot of lead being stolen from Church roofs in Somerset.

12. **Correspondence Received:**

The following correspondence had been received since the last meeting:

- (i) Somerset Waste January Briefing.
- (ii) CAT Bus Funding Appeal.
- (iii) Letter re the future of Local Government in Somerset.

13. **Dates of future meetings:**

The next meeting will be held on Tuesdays, 12th May (following the Annual Meeting) and then Tuesdays, 14th July, 8th September & 10th November 2020 and 12th January & 9th March 2021

14. **Open Forum:**

Robin Bastable gave an update on the future of Local Government in Somerset - whether there should be one Council for the whole of the county or the current four District Councils. Somerset County Council are currently preparing a business plan for a Unitary Authority and the District Councils, who do not want a Unitary Authority but have agreed to work together to merge some departments in order to save money, will be doing the same. Once these have been completed consultations with towns and parishes will take place. Further discussion took place and Robin Bastable hoped that as many people as possible would take part in the consultations.

He also noted that the Village Hall Restoration Project had made a funding application to the District Council and he would support this at the forthcoming meeting.

There were no further questions or matters anyone wished to raise.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 20.08

The minutes of the 10th March 2020 meeting were unanimously approved on 12th May 2020 and were signed as a correct record by the Chairman.