

Minutes of the Meeting of Brewham Parish Council held on Tuesday, 10th November 2020, by Zoom Conference Meeting at 7.30pm

Present: David Dabinett (Chair), Eddie Harper, Richard Hiscock and Patricia Stainton.

In attendance: Sue Price (Clerk), Anna Groskop (County Councillor), Robin Bastable (District Councillor) & two members of the public.

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.

1. **Apologies for Absence:**

Apologies for absence had been received from Robert Jackson & PCSO Tim Russell.

2. **Declarations of Interest:**

There were no declarations of interest.

3. **Minutes of the Meeting held on 8th September 2020**

The minutes of the 8th September 2020 meeting were unanimously approved and were signed as a correct record by the Chairman.

4. **Matters Arising:**

The Clerk had written to Mr & Mrs Clayton and they had confirmed that they have no intention to lay any sort of track from their orchard field across the common land in Street Lane and that the pillars are purely aesthetic and they are simply using up left-over materials from the house build. They also have some black iron gates they will be hanging between the pillars in due course.

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 income of £190.01 had been received – this being the purchase of a burial plot by Mr Mott and the burial fee for the late Mrs Mott and .01p interest on the HSBC Savings Account. The cheque for £118.15 for the SALC affiliation fee had been cashed as had the cheque for £350 to Clive Thorman for the 3rd mowing and maintenance of the Burial Ground.

The financial transactions for the period 8th September-9th November 2020 were therefore as follows:

Bank balances brought forward at 8 th September 2020	£4,663.19
<u>Income</u>	
Interest on HSBC Savings account	0.01
Burial plot sold to Mr J Mott	140.00
Burial fee for the late Mrs Mott	50.00
<u>Expenditure</u>	
Somerset Association of Local Councils affiliation fee 2020/21	£118.15
Clive Thorman – 3 rd Mowing and maintenance of the Burial Ground	£350.00

The Fund balances at 9th November were therefore:

General Fund	£3,039.65
Burial Ground Fund	345.40
Reserve Fund	1,000.00

Represented by Bank a/cs:

National Savings Bank Investment a/c	£845.46
HSBC Savings a/c	241.34
HSBC Community a/c	3,298.25

Total £4,385.05

Bank balances carried forward at 9th November 2020 £4,385.05

- ii. The Clerk requested approval for the payment of £40.00 to the Office of the Information Commissioner for their annual fee.

It was unanimously agreed that this payment be made.

6. **Planning Applications:**

i. **Decisions on applications already considered by the Parish Council:**

- a. 20/00640/FUL - Batts Farm Cottage, Hutchins Lane, Brewham, BA10 0QN – the demolition of existing two storey detached dwelling and construction of new proposed two storey replacement dwelling. Decision awaited.
- b. 20/01034/DPO - Dreamers Farm, North Brewham, BA10 0JW - Application to discharge a section 106 agreement between South Somerset District Council and Mr Simon Joseph Giles Oakley attached to planning approval 07/04295/FUL dated 29th September 2008 in relation to an agricultural tie and non-fragmentation of the holding. Decision awaited.
- c. 20/01836/FUL - Hillcombe Farm Kingsettle Hill, Brewham BA10 0LB – The erection of a replacement dwelling (with replacement courtyard building) (Revised application). Decision awaited.
- d. 20/02155/HOU - Rose Cottage Bruton Road, Brewham Bruton BA10 0JF – Erection of a single storey extension to side of dwelling and timber cladding to replace existing render. Decision awaited.

ii. **Applications received since the Parish Council's last meeting:**

There have been no new applications since the September meeting.

Patricia Stainton asked what is happening to applications where timescales are not being met. Robin Bastable advised that the planning officers can ask applicants for extensions to determination dates and although the report shows that 86% were determined in time, the further column in this shows that two thirds of the applications were actually extended to achieve this. This is something which is raised regularly and people are increasingly frustrated at not being able to get answers to questions. The situation is not satisfactory but he hopes it will soon be sorted out.

He also advised that SSDC have now said that they can demonstrate a five-year land supply. He is not sure how this has been achieved but there are a lot of approvals already given that developers have not started building on as yet. This means that there is no presumption of approval on applications under the NPPF and local plans will be taken more into consideration.

7. **Burial Ground & Churchyard:**

It was agreed to renew Clive Thorman's contract to mow and generally maintain the Burial Ground and Church path for the 2021 season on the same terms as his current contract.

David Nye has finished cutting the grass in the closed Churchyard and has fenced it off ready to be grazed by the sheep and they will be arriving in the next couple of weeks.

The collapsed tomb still needs filling in although he has already filled some of it in with earth to make it safe for the sheep. The gate post near the top of the Churchyard also needs attention. **The Clerk** will get in touch with Robert Jackson to see if he can do this work now that the grass cutting is complete.

The Clerk reported that Clive Thorman had said that there is also sinkage around Mrs Mott's grave and he will put more soil there.

Someone had contacted the Clerk after Remembrance Day because she had been to lay a cross for her great uncle and she had been disappointed to see the memorial looking dirty and unkempt. **It was agreed** that the Clerk would ask Clive Thorman to clean and tidy around it and then submit his invoice for this work.

8. **Roads:**

i. **Outstanding matters:**

The potholes on Barrow Water Lane and Tower Road have been repaired although following the recent rain some of those have already begun to wash away and disintegrate. The road at Border towards Cooks Farm is still subsiding on the left-hand side and if drivers are unaware they can easily scrape the underneath of their cars. **The Clerk** will report this again.

ii. **New matters:**

There are potholes at the cross-roads at Border, in Street Lane and on the main road on the left-hand side near Goodedge Farm that need attention. There is water running onto the road on School Hill above Jackdaw Cottage which is then continuing to run down the road rather than into the drain and which will be dangerous if the road becomes icy and similarly on the bend on Hardway above the Bull. **The Clerk** will report these. Richard Hiscock has already reported the problems on the Bedlamgreen road.

9. **Footpaths & Bridleways:**

i. **Outstanding matters:**

The Clerk had heard from Clare Haskins, the Footpath Officer, that she has yet to look at the footpath at Swanton Farm and the stiles on the footpath leading from Hoofprints because of Covid 19 but she had asked what was priority and the Clerk had said Swanton Farm because this has been dragging on for some years. She also said she is happy to meet anyone who would like to walk it with her and had indicated that this could probably be done in the not too distant future. The Clerk will contact her again and try to fix a date and will hopefully be able to attend.

ii. There were no new matters to report.

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

Due to the ongoing Covid 19 pandemic the Village Hall remains closed and Patricia Stainton had nothing to report. The Clerk advised that Hauser & Wirth currently have no plans to re-open the Bull and the staff who had been furloughed since March were made redundant at the end of September.

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

PCSO Tim Russell was unable to attend the meeting but had sent a report. There were no incidents in the Brewham area since the last meeting. The NH Team and Response Officers continue to make regular patrols of the area and opportunist thieves are still looking for unlocked or poorly secured sheds and garages in order to take power tools, chain saws, mowers and similar items. The spate of vans being broken into targeting workmen's tools continues.

12. **Correspondence Received:**

The following correspondence had been received since the last meeting:

- (i) Somerset Waste Partnership Briefing, October 2020.
- (ii) Get SuSSed latest news October 2020.
- (iii) SSDC Updates.
- (iv) Somerset County Council Coronavirus Updates -
<https://www.somerset.gov.uk/coronavirus/covid-19-latest-advice>

13. **Dates of future meetings:**

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, 12th January & the last meeting of the financial year on 9th March 2021.

14. **Open Forum:**

Robin Bastable advised that grants are once again available to businesses affected by the second lockdown – businesses who applied before can apply for a second time and any new business can also apply.

Anna Groskop advised that the number of Covid 19 cases in Somerset has been rising recently and there are cases in both Yeovil and Taunton hospitals. There have been 209 deaths in Somerset but deaths overall are 5% lower than normal. The Somerset Coronavirus Support Helpline is open seven days a week – 0300 790 6275 – and this will make it easier for people to access any local authority help they may need, including emotional support, in the current crisis.

There were no further questions or matters anyone wished to raise and there being no further business the meeting closed at 8.02pm.

The minutes of the 10th November meeting were unanimously approved on 12th January 2021 and were signed as a correct record by the Chairman.