

Minutes of the Meeting of Brewham Parish Council held at the Old Red Lion on Tuesday, 7th September 2021

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

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

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.

1. **Apologies for Absence:**

Apologies for absence had been received from .PCSO Tim Russell

2. **Declarations of Interest:**

There were no declarations of interest.

3. **Minutes of the Meeting held on 13th July 2021:**

The minutes of the 13th July 2021 meeting were unanimously approved and signed as a correct record by the Chairman.

4. **Matters Arising:**

There were no matters arising that would not be dealt with elsewhere.

5. **Financial Business:**

i. **Financial transactions:**

The Clerk reported that since the last meeting there had been income of £280 for the sale of two burial plots but that this was not shown on the latest bank statement.

The payment to Michael Gardiner for the mowing of the Burial Ground, as agreed at the July meeting, had been made.

The financial transactions for the period 13th July-6th September 2021 were as follows:

Bank balances brought forward at 13 th July 2021	£6,667.35
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Income

Burial fee for the late Mrs Bastin	50.00
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Expenditure

Michael Gardiner for Mowing of the Burial Ground, June-August 2021	500.00
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The Fund balances at 6th September 2021 were therefore:

General Fund	£4,100.37
Burial Ground Fund	616.98
Reserve Fund	1,500.00

Represented by Bank a/cs:

National Savings Bank Investment a/c	£851.55
HSBC Savings a/c	241.37
HSBC Community a/c	5,124.43

<u>Total</u>	£6,217.35
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Creditor

The Garrett Family – purchase of two burial plots	280.00
Bank balances to include creditor	£6,497.35
Bank balances carried forward at 6 th September 2021	£6,217.35

- ii. The Clerk requested approval for the following payments to be made:
£500 to Michael Gardiner, being the second of two payments for the Burial Ground mowing.
£50 to Brewham Village Hall Committee for the annual donation towards the maintenance of the defibrillator.
£10 for the hire of the meeting room for this meeting.

It was unanimously agreed that these payments be made.

The Clerk also requested approval that when the invoices for the SALC subscription (circa £120) and the Information Commissioner's Office annual charge (£40) are received these could be paid before the November meeting. **It was unanimously agreed** that both these should be paid when invoices are received.

It had also been agreed at the July meeting that a bench would be purchased for the closed Churchyard. Various examples were discussed and **it was unanimously agreed** to purchase a three-seater wooden bench from A J Charlton & Son which will cost in the region of £525 + any delivery charge and the cost of fixing it to the ground. Richard Hiscock agreed to speak to the company to see what their best price might be and what they recommend to fix it to the ground so that it cannot be removed.

6. Planning Applications:

a) **Planning applications received since the July meeting and considered by Parish Councillors by email:**

- i. 21/00632/HOU. Two storey extension at the back of the house with room in the roof, single storey side extension and side and back canopy to create a gallery around the house. Treetops House, Druley Hill, Brewham, BA10 0JS.
- ii. 21/02457/S73. The erection of a single storey side extension to dwelling. S73 application to vary condition 2 (approved plans) of approval 19/03489/HOU to allow change in roof material. Border Cottage, Border Lane, Brewham, BA10 0JQ.
- iii. 21/02556/LBC. The conversion of garage into a home office, replace timber garage doors with mild steel and glazed doors, new black metal flue in rear roof and internal alterations. Cockeymoor Farmhouse, Tile Hill, Brewham, BA10 0JF.
- iv. 21/01217/LBC. The erection a porch on the front and rear of the property. Shave Farm, Shave Lane, Brewham, Bruton BA10 0LG & 1/01209/HOU. The erection a porch on the front and rear of the property. Shave Farm, Shave Lane, Brewham BA10 0LG.
- v. 21/02098/DOC. Discharge of conditions No.03 (external openings), No.04 (services), No.05 (part- surfaces), No.06 (joinery) and No.07 (hard and soft landscaping) of planning application 18/01348/LBC and No.02 (hard and soft landscaping) of planning application 18/01906/FUL Village Hall, Charcroft Hill, Brewham BA10 0LE.

Parish Councillors had no comments and were happy to support all the above applications.

b) **New applications for consideration:**

No new applications had been received but several people had approached the Chairman about what appears to be an equestrian business being run at Swanton Farm. There are a lot of horses there and they recently advertised for a yard manager. It was agreed that when the previous owner applied for a change of use to put in an outdoor riding arena, this was supported by the Parish Council on the proviso that it was only to be for private and not commercial use. **It was agreed** that the Clerk would contact the planning department to see whether a change of use from agriculture is required to operate an equestrian business.

7. **Burial Ground & Churchyard:**

David Nye reported that half the grass in the closed Churchyard has been cut. He has been greatly helped in this by Jocelyn and Chas Blacker, Christine Cottrell, Cath and James Coward and Simon Hicks. Parish Councillors asked Mr Nye to pass on their thanks to the team for their hard work.

As agreed above a three-seater wooden bench will be purchased and sited in the closed Churchyard.

Ric Rogers had very helpfully done some research about the ownership of the wall surrounding the Church and the car park, the latter would appear to definitely belong to the Village Hall Committee. This had been passed on to the Village Hall and Parochial Church Council committees and it is hoped that a joint meeting will be held when further research has been carried out.

8. **Roads:**

i. **Outstanding matters:**

A lot of the outstanding work in the parish has now been completed. Tony Leach had visited following the July meeting and looked at all the reported problems, some of which were marked for repair and others not considered bad enough to need repair.

ii. **New matters:**

There are various new or worsening potholes which the Clerk will report including outside Hookgate Farm, on Tile Hill, Strap Lane, Street Lane and Tower Road. There is also still some subsidence at the bottom of Border Lane which Patricia Stainton has temporarily filled in with scalplings.

Stacey Breaden has planted a small tree on the common land outside her house and it was agreed that this was too near the roadside. The Clerk will write to her and ask her to replant it 20 feet further back.

9. **Footpaths & Bridleways:**

i. **Outstanding matters:**

There has been no progress on the blocked footpath at Swanton Farm or the broken stiles on other footpaths. Eve Wynn had been in touch with the Clerk to explain that she had received a tremendous workload from the previous Footpaths Officer but that she will prioritise the blocked footpath as soon as she can.

ii. **New matters:**

David Nye advised that his wife has reported the broken bridge across the ditch on the footpath between land owned by the Gullifords and that owned by the Barbers.

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

Patricia Stainton reported that there had been a good response to this year's bird survey and the results have now been published.

The Community Lottery Fund had awarded a grant of £80,000 for the Village Hall restoration project and work on Phase 2 is due to start on the 20th September. The work should be finished by April 2022.

She also noted that the Selwood Facilitation Group has been set up to help Landowners and Farmers within the Selwood area to get together and build a network. There are already 38 members from the area which covers from Wincanton to north of Frome. She asked everyone to publicise this and details can be obtained from her or the Clerk.

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

PCSO Russell had given his apologies and following the meeting sent a report for August/September 2021. During this time there was incident of violence against a person in the Brewham area. The NH Team and Response Officers continue to make regular patrols and everyone should continue to keep sheds and garages securely locked and van break-ins continue.

12. **Correspondence Received:**

- a. SALC email re future Parish Elections.
- b. Local government reorganisation – SSDC briefing slides.
- c. Somerset County Council & SSDC Covid updates.
- d. Get SuSSed! Environment news..

13. **Dates of future meetings:**

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, 9th November 2021. It will be held in the Church as the Village Hall and Old Red Lion will both be closed on that date.

Meetings for the remainder of the financial year will be held on Tuesdays, 11th January & 8th March 2022.

14. **Open Forum:**

SALC had asked the Parish Council to submit their comments about the next parish council election which is due to take place in May 2023. The creation of the new unitary authority means that elections to the shadow authority will be held in May 2022 and thus if parish council elections take place the following year it will be more expensive than if the cost was shared between the two. Anna Groskop highlighted that if the election is moved to May 2022 it will mean a five year rather than four-year term of office.

It was agreed that without further knowledge about the new authority and how it will work it was difficult to give an answer but from a financial point of view only it would be better to bring the election forward a year.

There were no further questions or matters anyone wished to raise and there being no further business the meeting closed at 8.04pm.

These minutes were unanimously agreed and signed by the Chairman as a correct record at the 9th November 2021 Parish Council Meeting.