

Minutes of the Meeting of Brewham Parish Council held in St John The Baptist Church on Tuesday, 9th November 2021

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

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

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.

1. **Apologies for Absence:**

Apologies for absence had been received from Richard Hiscock, Robin Bastable (District Councillor) & PCSO Tim Russell.

2. **Declarations of Interest:**

There were no declarations of interest.

3. **Minutes of the Meeting held on 7th September 2021:**

The Clerk apologised that she had omitted income of £50 for a Burial fee and that she had amended the figures so that the total bank balance was £6,217.35 rather than £6,167.35.

The minutes of the 7th September 2021 meeting were then 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 £0.01p being the quarterly interest on the HSBC Saving account.

The payments to Michael Gardiner for the second mowing of the Burial Ground, The Old Red Lion for meeting room hire, Brewham Village Hall annual donation towards the defibrillator maintenance and Charltons Timberstore for a new bench for the closed Churchyard, as agreed at the September meeting, had been made.

A cheque for £50 had been received for burial fee for the late Mrs K Cook. A payment to Somerset Association of Local Councils for the annual subscription had also been made and, following agreement by email, a further payment to Michael Gardiner for additional work and mower repairs. At the time of the meeting all these had yet to be shown on the bank statement, although the next one is due imminently, and nor had payment had been received for the two burial plots purchased by the Garrett family.

The financial transactions for the period 7th September-8th November 2021 were as follows:

Bank balances brought forward at 7 th September 2021	£6,217.35
<u>Income</u>	
Quarterly interest on HSBC Savings a/c	0.01

Expenditure

Michael Gardiner for 2 nd Mowing of the Burial Ground	£500.00
The Old Red Lion – September meeting room hire	10.00
Brewham Village Hall Committee – defibrillator maintenance	50.00
Charltons Timberstore – bench for closed Churchyard	472.50

The Fund balances at 8th November 2021 were therefore:

General Fund	£3567.88
Burial Ground Fund	116.98
Reserve Fund	1,500.00

Represented by Bank a/cs:

National Savings Bank Investment a/c	£851.55
HSBC Savings a/c	241.38
HSBC Community a/c	4091.93

Total £5,184.86

Creditors

The Garrett Family – purchase of two burial plots	280.00
Burial fee for the late Mrs K Cook	50.00

Debtors

Somerset Assn of Local Councils – annual subscription	120.92
Michael Gardiner – additional work and mower repair	59.00

Bank balances to include creditors & debtors £5,334.94

Bank balances carried forward at 8th November 2021 £5,184.86

- ii. The Clerk requested approval for the following payments to be made: £10 for the hire of the Church for this meeting and £102.50 to Christopher Saxton for work to clear undergrowth near War Memorial and cleaning Memorial. **It was unanimously agreed** that these payments be made.

The Clerk also requested approval that when the invoice for the Remembrance Day wreaths (circa £35) is received this could be paid before the January meeting. **It was unanimously agreed** that this should be paid when the invoice is received.

The bridge at the bottom of Tower Road had recently been spray painted with graffiti and Holly Pepper had voluntarily undertaken to remove it which took at least 7 hours. **It was unanimously agreed** that the Parish Council would buy a £20 gift voucher as a token of appreciation for her hard work.

6. Planning Applications:

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

- a. 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 - approved.

The following applications b-d are all awaiting decisions:

- b. 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.

- c. 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. Cockeysmoor Farmhouse, Tile Hill, Brewham, BA10 0JF.
- d. 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.
- e. 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 – planning website has ‘status unknown’.

ii. **Applications received since the Parish Council’s last meeting:**
No new applications had been received since the September meeting.

iii. **Updates from September meeting:**
The Clerk reported that she had contacted the Planning Department about Swanton Farm being run as an equestrian livery business which required a change of use from its current agricultural status and had received an acknowledgement that the query had been received.

7. **Burial Ground & Churchyard:**

David Nye was not present but it was noted that the remaining grass had been cut and removed.

As agreed in September a three-seater wooden bench had been purchased. The Chairman has recently collected it and will arrange for it to be sited in the closed Churchyard. Councillors thanked Richard Hiscock for negotiating a discount on the purchase.

8. **Roads:**

i. **Outstanding matters:**

The Clerk had reported the various potholes throughout the village and Tony Leach had visited and marked the ones he considered needed repairing and most of these have now been done.

Tony Leach has now retired and will be missed as he has always responded to issues in the parish as quickly as possible.

The Clerk had written to Stacey Breaden to ask her to remove the small tree by the edge of the road on the common land and re-plant it either within her property or at least 20 feet further back. The tree has not been moved and **it was agreed** that the Clerk should follow this up with Ms Breaden.

ii. **New matters:**

There are further potholes on Street Lane and the road surface on the road to Upton Noble is much worse. Mrs Taylor had reported that in the recent heavy rain she had had a lot of rainwater in her drive and the vegetation on the bridge is growing back again causing damage to the stonework. There is also a lot of water on the bend on the Hardway above the Bull. The Clerk will report these asap.

9. **Footpaths & Bridleways:**

i. **Outstanding matters:**

There has still been no progress on the blocked footpath at Swanton Farm or the broken stiles on other footpaths. The Clerk had been in touch with Eve Wynn but she only works part-time and has yet to respond and it is assumed that she is still trying to

catch up on the tremendous workload handed over by previous Footpaths Officer. The Clerk will continue to pursue the matter of the footpath at Swanton Farm as this has been ongoing since 2016.

ii. New matters:

There were no new matters to report.

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

Patricia Stainton reported that work on the next phase of the Village Hall restoration began in September and is going to schedule and they are pleased with the progress made so far.

Scaffolding has been erected for repointing work and the plumbing and electrics to the kitchen and toilets has been disconnected and everything stripped out and the partition removed. The ceilings to the multi-purpose room and the toilets have been removed together with any loose plaster and a bird cage scaffold has been erected in the multi-purpose room and the purlins have been sandblasted. The first fix of electrics has been done in the multi-purpose room and a hatch opening formed between this room and the kitchen.

There has been a short hold up recently as a small amount of asbestos was found above the toilet ceiling and this has now been removed by a specialist firm.

The mains electricity cable has been moved but they are now waiting for a new meter to be installed as a result of which a generator is being used in the interim.

The roofing sheets for the toilet block roof and the large steels for the opening have now been delivered so work on these will start imminently and the multi-purpose room ceiling has been plastered with two coats of lime plaster.

Eddie Harper reported that the defibrillator has just been serviced and new pads have been fitted and it is now registered on the NHS system. The box is not locked and so available to anyone who needs it. Although it is very easy to use, it was agreed that once the Village Hall is open again it would be a good idea to invite all parishioners to a demonstration.

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

PCSO Russell had given his apologies and following the meeting sent a report for October/November 2021. During this time there was one 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 be aware that van break-ins continue.

12. **Correspondence Received:**

- i. Councillor Groskop's October & November Briefings.
- ii. Somerset Waste October briefing.
- iii. Somerset weekly Covid updates.
- iv. Get SuSSed October newsletter.
- v. NALC report on climate change.
- vi. Somerset Community Foundation Annual Review.
- vii. SSDC Community Matters October 2021.
- viii. The Queen's Platinum Jubilee Beacons information.
- ix. Letter from Bruton, Wincanton & Castle Cary Town Councils re a meeting to discuss Somerset Local Government Reorganisation.

13. **Dates of future meetings:**

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, 11th January 2022 and it is hoped that this and the final meeting of the financial year on 8 March 2022 will both be held at The Old Red Lion.

14. **Open Forum:**

David Cowie had reported that there is a dangerous ash tree opposite the entrance to Jerrards Farm near Horseshoe Farm. The Clerk will contact Mr Hoskins about this.

There were no further questions or matters anyone wished to raise and there being no further business the meeting closed at 8.07pm.

These minutes were unanimously agreed and signed by the Chairman as a correct record at the 11th January 2022 Parish Council Meeting.