

Minutes of the Meeting of Brewham Parish Council held at Brewham Village Hall on Tuesday, 12th July 2022

Present: Robert Jackson (Chair), Richard Hiscock, Eddie Harper & Christopher Saxton

In attendance: Lucy Trimnell & Tom Power (County Councillors), Robin Bastable (District Councillor) Sue Price (Clerk) & eight members of the public.

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.

1. **Apologies for Absence:**

Apologies for absence had been received from Patricia Stainton and PCSO Tim Russell.

2. **Declarations of Interest:**

Robert Jackson declared an interest in item 7ii (a), the planning application for the Bull Inn.

3. **Code of Conduct**

The Code of Conduct had been updated, based on the template that the Somerset Association of Local Councils suggested should be used. There were no alterations needed and it was unanimously agreed that the updated Code of Conduct be adopted. The Clerk to send a copy to SSDC for their records.

4. **Minutes of the Meeting held on 10th May 2022:**

The minutes of the 10th May 2022 meeting were unanimously approved and signed as a correct record by the Chairman.

5. **Matters Arising:**

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

6. **Financial Business:**

i. **Financial transactions:**

The Clerk reported that interest of 0.03p had been received on the HSBC Savings account and the payments agreed at the May meeting had all been made. Also agreed at the last meeting payments for printing Below the Tower (£526 which was lower than anticipated) and the purchase and engraving of a plaque for the bench in the closed Churchyard (£15.95) had been made. Following the May meeting a large limb had come off the yew tree in the Burial Ground. Fortunately none of the graves had been damaged but it had been necessary to get it removed quickly which Jody Osborne had done and the cost of this work was £348.

Further work needs to be carried out to both yew trees and the Clerk advised that it might be necessary to use some of the reserve funds before year-end unless there is unforeseen income for the Burial Ground.

The financial transactions for the period 10th May-11th July 2022 were as follows:

Bank balances brought forward at 10 th May 2022	£7,690.60
<u>Income</u>	
Interest on HSBC Money Manager Account	0.03

Expenditure

Water2Business – annual water charge for the tap in the Churchyard	£84.74
The Old Red Lion - hire of meeting room for May meeting	10.00
Graham Kimber – 1 st mowing of Burial Ground	500.00
Press to Print – Below the Tower printing	526.00
Plaque and engraving for bench in closed Churchyard	15.95
Jody Osborne – emergency work to remove fallen limb from yew tree	348.00
Bank charges for May & June	17.00

The Fund balances at 11th July 2022 were therefore:

General Fund	£3,658.56
Burial Ground Fund	635.74
Reserve Fund	1,500.00

Represented by Bank a/cs:

National Savings Bank Investment a/c	£851.64
HSBC Savings a/c	241.43
HSBC Community a/c	4,701.23

Total £5,794.30

Bank balances carried forward at 11th July 2022 £5,794.30

The Clerk requested approval for payment of the following:

Brewham Village Hall Committee – hire of Village Hall for meetings for remainder of the financial year – £52.50

Graham Kimber – 2nd payment for the mowing of the Burial Ground - £500.00

It was unanimously agreed that these payments be made.

Changing bank accounts from HSBC is ongoing.

7. Planning Applications:

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

- a. Ref. 22/00982/DPO - Hoofprints, Tile Hill, Brewham, BA10 0JY. Application to modify a S.52 Agreement pursuant to planning permission 811009. Application approved.
- b. Ref 22/00870/FUL – Land OS 7858, Hammer Street, Brewham, BA10 0JR. Proposed erection of a replacement Class B8 Storage Building. Application approved.

ii. **Applications to be discussed:**

Having declared an interest, Robert Jackson stepped down before the next item was discussed and Richard Hiscock took the Chair.

- a. 22/01460/FUL The Bull Inn Hardway Brewham, BA10 0LN – Extension to the kitchen, insertion of roof lights and a roof lantern. Councillors had no comments or objections and it was agreed that they are happy to support the application.

Robert Jackson returned to take the Chair.

- b. 22/01688/FUL - Land OS 0006, Gladwill Farm, North Brewham, BA10 0JS – Application for change of use of agricultural hard standing to allow for siting of mobile showman's wagon trailer conversion for holiday let accommodation. Councillors had no comments or objections and it was agreed that they are happy to support the application.

iii. New applications for consideration:

Since the agenda was published the Clerk had received one further application –

- a. 22/01953/HOS& 22/01954/LBC at Canwood House, Canwood Lane Brewham - erection of a conservatory and pergola, construction of a courtyard. (Revised Application). Patricia Stainton had asked that she would like to add a point about light pollution particularly because Alfred's Tower is an International Dark-Sky Reserve and encourage them to take this into careful consideration with the type of lighting used in and around the conservatory and pergola. Councillors had no other comments and were happy to support the application.

The Clerk reported that Chris Kelly, a consultant to SSDC Planning Department, had left a message to say he wanted to update about Swanton Farm but he had not telephoned again and the Clerk did not have his number or email and so will update Councillors as and when she has any further information.

8. Burial Ground & Churchyard:

As noted above, a large limb had fallen from one of the yew trees and fortunately no damage had been done particularly as it had fallen near two listed tombs. Jody Osborne had met with Mr Poulton, the SSDC Tree Officer, and had provided two quotations for work that will be allowed on both trees. These totalled over £1,000. The Clerk had also written to Mr Poulton asking him for a list of suggested arborists who might also quote for the work. The Parochial Church Council are also concerned about some of the limbs near the Church and will discuss this at their meeting on the 18th July. The Clerk and Churchwarden will then liaise to obtain further quotations for the work needed on each tree and the matter will again be discussed in September. When a contractor is chosen they will submit the necessary paperwork (because the trees are listed) to SSDC.

The Clerk reported that the plaque commemorating Her Majesty the Queen's Platinum Jubilee had been fitted to the bench in the closed Churchyard.

David Nye reported that there are so many flowers in the churchyard this year that it was difficult to know where to start. The Yellow Rattle has reduced the grass resulting in more flowers and at present they have been able to count about twenty-five different flowers in total including - Meadow Cranesbill, Field Scabious, Devil's Bit and Knapweed which are the predominant flowers at the moment along with Hedge Bedstraw, Cat's Ear, Agrimony and Betony and so far six different grasses have been identified. They have also found Sawort and Common Valerian for the first time and earlier in the year there were eight Orchid plants flowering. There are a number of meadow brown, ringlet and small skipper butterflies and plenty of slow worms.

9. Roads:

i. Outstanding matters:

The Highways Department continue to mark and fill in a number of potholes throughout the village and others are marked and awaiting repair. They have also jetted the blocked drains on Barrow Water Lane.

The edge of the road between Tower View and the entrance to Horseley Farm remains dangerous, Robert Jackson has spoken to Mr McKelvey about the growth on the tree outside Hookgate Farm and there is still a problem with the drains outside Hillside House.

ii. New matters:

The Clerk has had to report fly tipping on Pinkwood Lane by the gateway to the railway line. The triangle at the bottom of Pinkwood Lane where it meets the Brewham Road is about 6ft overgrown and the visibility is very poor at the top of Hassocks Lane where it meets the A359 because the hedge is too tall. Christopher Saxton said he would speak to Mr Clothier about cutting this back.

10. **Footpaths & Bridleways:**

i. **Outstanding matters:**

The Clerk has heard nothing further from Eve Wynn regarding the blocked footpath at Swanton Farm and nor has there been any progress on the broken stiles on footpaths in the parish or the rails on the bridge across the river on Cards Farm which are rotting. She will continue to press for the works to be done.

ii. **New matters:** There were no new matters to report.

11. **Update on the Village Hall & Parish Plan**

The Village Hall Committee had organised a very successful and well attended tea party during the Jubilee weekend and this had marked the partial reopening of the Village Hall. Kate Ward is running Pilates every Monday for six weeks starting on the 18th July and The Chat & Coffee mornings will be starting again on the 25th July and will be held on alternate Mondays. Other events are planned but the Hall can only be used for smaller events until the problem with the sewage disposal has been sorted. Cath Coward is hoping to secure some grants towards the cost of this and donations are being sought. Councillor Bastable was surprised that the sewage had not been sorted before all the work was started on the Hall as a grant had been given by the Council. Liza Greaves explained that it had been known for some time that there were problems and conversations had been started and then everything was closed down because of Covid and it had not been realised how serious and costly it would be to fix because a sewage treatment plant needs to be installed to conform to current regulations.

On behalf of the Parish Council Robert Jackson thanked Ric Rogers for all the hard work involved in producing the current edition of Below the Tower.

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

PCSO Tim Russell was unable to attend the meeting but had sent a report which noted 1 incident of violence against the person in the area. The NH Team and Response Officers continue to make regular patrols of the area and it should be noted that opportunist thieves are still touring looking for unlocked or poorly secured sheds and garages in order to take power tools, chain saws, mowers and similar items and there is also an ongoing spate of catalytic converter thefts.

13. **Correspondence Received:**

- a. Somerset Waste Partnership July Briefing.
- b. Cranborne Chase July Newsletter.
- c. SSDC's Environment Champions Network Briefing.
- d. Census 2021 – first results.
- e. SSDC GetSuSSed Newsletter
- f. South East Somerset Pilot Bulletin & Terms of Reference.
- g. One West Bulletin.
- h. Somerset Police Rural Bulletin.

14. **Dates of future meetings:**

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, 13th September 2022

Dates for the remainder of the financial year are 8th November 2022 and Tuesdays, 10th January & 14th March 2023.

15. **Open Forum:**

Robert Jackson welcomed our County Councillors, Lucy Trimmell and Tom Power, who had been elected in May. They gave a brief introduction and answered questions about the changes due to take place next year and what is being done to prepare for this.

David Nye and others said that they had found it difficult to hear anything being said during the meeting. Liza Greaves confirmed that there is a sound system in the Hall but that there has yet to be an official handover from Burfitt & Garrett but it should be working

by the time of the September meeting and it is hoped that this will make it easier for everyone to hear.

There were no further questions or matters anyone wished to raise and there being no further business the Chairman thanked everyone for attending and the meeting closed at 8.19pm.

These minutes were unanimously approved at the 13th September 2022 meeting of Brewham Parish Council and duly signed by the Chairman as a correct record