

Bramfield and Thorington Parish Council

A Meeting of the Parish Council was held on Monday, July 10th 2017 in the Village Hall, Bramfield at 7pm.

Minutes:

Present:

Cllr. A. Thomas (Chairman) (From 7-20pm); Cllr. A. Rozkalns (Vice-Chairman) (Chaired until 7-20pm); Cllr. M. Bond; Cllr. D. Hughes; Cllr. A. Niven and Cllr. W. Shoote:

Also Present:

Paul Widdowson (Clerk); County Cllr. R. Smith (left at Agenda Item 12) and two parishioners. One parishioner left at 7-30pm:

1) **Apologies:**

District Cllr. R. Catchpole gave his apologies:

2) **To receive Declarations of Interest:**

None

3) **Requests for dispensations:**

None

4) **To receive a report from the County and District Councillors:**

Cllr. R. Smith was welcomed to his first meeting as County Councillor. He paid tribute to his predecessor, County Councillor Michael Gower, and said that he had much to learn about the parishes of Bramfield and Thorington as he lived in Saxmundham. He said that he would therefore stay until 'Planning Matters' and would try to attend a meeting rather than split himself between two meetings therefore leaving very early. As part of learning about his new area, Cllr. R. Smith said that he would be visiting schools and getting to know his villages. He said that he knew Bramfield had an excellent Speedwatch Team but was now moving to a Vehicle Activation Sign as well. Cllr. R. Smith reported that the County Council had a budget of £502million with 66% already allocated to statutory commitments and of that, he had a Highways Budget of £6 500 and a Locality Budget of £8 000.

The Clerk reported that he had sent an email to Cllr. R. Catchpole in reply to his email in the previous meeting.

5) **Public Session: Members of the public have fifteen minutes to ask questions on topics on the agenda.**

A parishioner said that the trees had not been cut back and should be done so at the correct time in terms of season. They also said that the grass needed cutting much more regularly. Cllr. A. Thomas said that she would clarify with Suffolk Coastal Norse when they dealt with these two matters.

6) **To confirm the Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on June 12th 2017:**

The Minutes were agreed.

Proposer: Cllr. D. Hughes: Second: Cllr. A. Niven:

7) **Matters arising: To discuss issues in the Minutes but not on the Agenda.**

There were no Matters Arising.

8) **Emergency Planning: Councillors to discuss an Emergency Plan for the Parishes.**

Cllr. D. Hughes presented her Draft Leaflet Layout to be sent to parishioners. Councillors were very impressed by the laminated A5 leaflet and thought that it could be stored by parishioners so that it was easily available when they needed it in an emergency situation. The councillors agreed that it was very understandable and would proof-read it for the next meeting where they would make a decision to print it at the next Parish Council Meeting.

9) **Traffic Report on A144: To update councillors on A144 Traffic Calming.**

Cllr. A. Niven reported that seven posts had been erected for the Vehicle Activation Sign on the A144 through the village and one near the Village Hall. The Vehicle Activation sign would say the speed of the vehicle travelling past and 'Slow Down' if the vehicle was travelling over the speed limit.

Cllr. A. Niven said that one quote had stopped trading but he had the following quotes:

Vehicle Activation Sign from Westcotec	£2 800
Data Collection Unit	£250
Brackets – Eight at £50 each	£400
Total:	£3 450

The councillors agreed to buy the speeding equipment above.

Proposer: Cllr. A. Rozkalns: Second: Cllr. M. Bond:

10) **Pitmans Grove Land: To update councillors on the status of this land.**

Cllr. A. Thomas said that she had not made much progress except show two Flagship Land Agents around the vacant land in question who had not replied with any decision despite some emails asking for an update.

11) **Telephone Box: To update councillors on the telephone box containing the defibrillator.**

Cllr. W. Shoote reported that he was very glad that the Council had chosen the current supplier of the defibrillator as it had a fault. The supplier have replaced the defibrillator. He also said that a defibrillator charity has sourced red paint for the telephone box free of charge. Cllr. D. Hughes said that she and her husband would paint the telephone box. Finally, Cllr. W. Shoote noted that Perspex is very expensive.

12) **Planning Matters: To agree and discuss the following planning applications:**

*Change of use and convert old bakery to one bedroom cottage
The Old Bakery, The Old Shop, Bridge Street, Bramfield, Suffolk.
DC/17/2281/FUL*

The Council has no objection to this planning application.

However the Council would like to ensure that the 'new building' is no taller than the height of the existing building and would also like to see the views of a parishioner living nearby taken into account in that the condition of the back wall is in a poor condition and needs attention.

Proposer: Cllr. A. Rozkalns: Seconder: Cllr. A. Thomas:

13) **Clerk's Report and Correspondence: The Clerk to update the council on correspondence received and the administration of the council.**

The Clerk reported that he had received the 'Clerks and Councillors Newsletter' and the New Anglia Hub leaflet. He said that he had received a membership renewal letter from the Campaign for the Protection of Rural England and a query from the BDO External Auditors which the Clerk had replied to in consultation with the Chair. Finally the Clerk reported that he had received an EConsultation Registration Letter from Suffolk Coastal District Council. He said that he would be registering the parish council.

Finally, the Clerk said that he had received requests for donations of £150 as a contribution to the upkeep of the churchyards at the Bramfield United Reform Church, St. Andrew's Church, Bramfield and St. Peter's Church at Thorington.

It was agreed to pay £36 to renew the Council's membership of the Campaign for the Protection of Rural England (CPRE).

Proposer: Cllr. A. Niven: Seconder: Cllr. M. Bond:

It was agreed to pay £150 to each of the churchyards at Bramfield United Reform Church, St. Andrew's Church, Bramfield and St. Peter's Church at Thorington.

Proposer: Cllr. D. Hughes: Second: Cllr. M. Bond:

It was also noted that Chris Collins had presented an invoice from 'Bramfield in Bloom' for £173-33. It was agreed to pay this invoice and to pay up to £157 for future planting work in the village.

Proposer: Cllr. A. Rozkalns: Second: Cllr. W. Shoote:

14) **Financial Report:**

a) **Balances at the Bank on June 30th 2017: To receive an update on the current financial status.**

Business Community Account	£10 370-12
Business Savings Account	£6 597-40

b) **Cheques for payment:**

Chq. No. 101051	Bramfield United Reform Church Donation	£150-00
Chq. No. 101052	St. Peter's Churchyard, Thorington Donation	£150-00
Chq. No. 101053	Clerk's Salary for June 2017	£193-06
Chq. No. 101054	Clerk's Income Tax for June 2017	£1-80
Chq. No. 101055	St. Andrew's Churchyard, Bramfield Donation	£150-00
Chq. No. 101056	CPRE Subscription	£36-00
Chq. No. 101057	Chris Collins – Bramfield in Bloom	£173-33

Proposer: Cllr. M. Bond: Second: Cllr. W. Shoote:

It was agreed to pay the Clerk's Salary for July 2017 (£193-06), the Clerk's Income Tax for July 2017 (£1-80) at the appropriate time and any 'Speeding' invoices to be paid as there was no Parish Council Meeting until September.

Proposer: Cllr. M. Bond: Second: Cllr. W. Shoote:

c) **Receipts:**

None

15) **To receive information and agenda items for the Parish Council Meeting to be held on Monday, September 11th 2017:**

It was noted that there had been some damage in the Village Hall Car Park and that drugs related empty packets had been found discarded.

Cllr. W. Shoote reported that the First Aid Training cost £45 per person plus VAT which was very expensive. He said that he would speak to community Action Suffolk for suggestions.

The Meeting ended at 9-20pm.