

Bramfield and Thorington Parish Council

A Meeting of the Parish Council was held virtually via Zoom on Monday, March 8th 2021 at 7pm.

Minutes:

Present:

Cllr. A. Thomas (Chairman); Cllr. M. Bond; Cllr. D. Hughes; Cllr. J. Key; Cllr. S. Key; Cllr. A. Niven and Cllr. W. Shoote:

Also Present:

County Cllr. R. Smith (Arrived 7-37pm and left 7-44pm); District Cllr. N. Brooks (Left 7-16pm) and Paul Widdowson (Clerk):

1) **Apologies:**

Cllr. A. Rozkalns (Vice-Chairman):

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

Cllr. M. Bond declared a personal interest as member of the Village Hall Committee.

3) **Requests for dispensations:**

There were no requests for dispensation.

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

This item was moved by the Chair to when County Cllr. R. Smith arrived which was after Item 13.

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

There were no members of the public at the meeting.

6) **To confirm the Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Monday, February 8th 2021 and the Extra-Ordinary Parish Council Meeting held on Tuesday, March 2nd 2021:**

The Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Monday, February 8th 2021 were agreed.

Proposer: Cllr. A. Niven:

Seconder: Cllr. D. Hughes:

The Minutes of the Extra-Ordinary Parish Council Meeting held on Tuesday, March 2nd 2021.

Proposer: Cllr. M. Bond: Second: Cllr. S. Key:

7) **Traffic Report on A144:**

Cllr. A. Niven said that he hoped to restart speedwatch soon when the regulations allowed and he reported that he had sent out a spreadsheet and some statistics. Cllr. A. Niven reported he thought that generally speeding was less than before because speedwatch had moved around.

8) **Cil Money:**

The Clerk said that the Council had £7777-41 to spend as Cil Money. There was no further news on how to spend it.

9) **Village Hall:**

There was no report.

10) **Internet Banking:**

There was no report.

11) **Planning Matters:**

The Clerk reported that there were no planning applications.

12) **Clerk's Report and Correspondence including Donations:**

The Clerk said that he had received the 'Clerks and Councillors Newsletter' and had emailed to Councillors the Local Police update.

13) **Financial Report:**

a) **Balances at the Bank on February 28th 2021:**

Business Community Account	£8146-95
Business Savings Account	£6630.11

b) **Cheques and Receipts:**

Chq. 101192	Clerk's Salary – January until March 2021	£553-40
Chq. 101193	Clerk's Tax – January until March 2021	£138-40
Chq. 101194	Clerk's Expenses – April 2020 until March 2021	£26-64

The Clerk said that his Clerk's Expenses was not finalised as some stationery may be bought in preparation for the next financial year. He said that the final figure would be agreed with the Chairperson.

Proposer: Cllr. S. Key: Second: Cllr. M. Bond:

Item 4: To receive a report from the County Councillor and the District Councillor:

County Cllr. R. Smith reported that the County Council had put their share of the Council Tax up by 4%. He said that the council spent £600m a year and if the funding for the Local authority Schools was included, this rose to over a £1bn.

County Cllr. R. Smith said that Sizewell C was now with the Planning Inspectorate. He said that this was procedural with a barrister giving Suffolk County Council's view and he would look to be active later this year regarding this issue.

County Cllr. R. Smith reported that the Saxmundham Surgery had vaccinated 6 700 people and was the best in the country. He concluded by saying that this was his last appearance before the County Council Elections on May 6th 2021 as 'purdah' begins on March 25th 2021. There were no questions.

14) To agree Audit Arrangements:

It was agreed to use Suffolk Association of Local Councils (SALC) for the Internal Audit 2020-2021

Proposer: Cllr. W. Shoote: Second: Cllr. D. Hughes:

15) To agree Council Risk Assessment Procedures:

The Council Risk Assessment Procedures for 2020-2021 was agreed.

Proposer: Cllr. J. Key: Second: Cllr. S. Key:

16) To agree Council Asset Register:

The Council Asset Register for 2020-2021 was agreed with the amendment of adding the Monitor which had cost £307-50 excluding VAT.

Proposer: Cllr. D. Hughes: Second: Cllr. W. Shoote:

17) New Policies:

Cllr. D. Hughes reported that it had taken a long time to go through the 'Audit and Impact Assessment' and therefore had not completed her revisions. It was agreed to discuss this policy again at the next meeting.

18) To receive information and agenda items for the Parish Council Meeting to be held on Monday, April 12th 2021:

Cllr. D. Hughes said that she had read about a new theatre being built locally whilst Cllr. W. Shoote noted that he had read on the BBC Website that the planning rules had changed for camp sites which he thought may help those in Suffolk. Cllr. A. Thomas proposed a wild area at the top of Pitmans' Grove with Flagship to name it with the help of the pupils at Bramfield Primary School.

The Meeting ended at 8-23pm.