Bramfield and Thorington Parish Council

A Meeting of the Parish Council was held at the Village Hall on Monday, January 10th 2022 at 7pm.

Minutes:

Present:

Cllr. A. Thomas (Chairman); Cllr. A. Rozkalns (Vice-Chairman); Cllr. M. Bond; Cllr. D. Hughes; Cllr. A. Niven and Cllr. W. Shoote:

Also Present:

Paul Widdowson (Clerk); County Cllr. R. Smith (left 7-22pm) and two parishioners (one left at 7-50pm and the other left at 8-54pm):

1) Apologies:

Cllrs. J. Key; Cllr. S. Key and District Cllr. N. Brooks:

2) To receive Declarations of Interest:

Cllr. A. Rozkalns and 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) <u>To receive a report from the County Councillor and the District</u> Councillor.

County Cllr. R. Smith reported that the Planning Inspectorate was writing to the Government with their report on building Sizewell C. He said that there was some discussion regarding a desalination plant but he thought that the project would now probably go ahead with the 10-12 years building probably changing things locally.

County Cllr. R. Smith said that the Council was setting its Budget and he said that the County was raising its budget to £625 million so there would be no cutbacks. He said that the Council Tax rise of 1.99% and the Social Care Precept rise of 1% was still 3% less than the current rise in inflation. He noted that £120 million of the £625 million budget would be spent on Nursing Home Fees.

5) <u>Public Session: Members of the public have fifteen minutes to ask</u> questions on topics on the agenda:

A parishioner asked what the parishioners planned for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee.

The Chairman, Cllr. A. Thomas, said that this would be discussed in Agenda Item 7.

6) To confirm the Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on November 8th 2021 and the Extra-Ordinary Parish Meeting on Monday, December 6th 2021:

The Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on November 8th 2021 were agreed.

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

The Extra-Ordinary Parish Meeting on Monday, December 6th 2021 were agreed.

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

7) **Queen's Platinum Jubilee:**

County Cllr. R. Smith confirmed that he could offer £500 for a permanent commemoration of the Queen's Platinum Jubilee and a parishioner expressed their interest in helping out. Cllr. A. Rozkalns suggested that there could be an afternoon/evening meal which could perhaps be a Hog Roast on Friday 3rd and Saturday 4th June. He said that the village Hall could probably fund this event.

It was suggested that as some old trees need to be felled and replacement new trees could be a permanent commemoration and the railings and bridge could be tidied up in Bridge Street. It was agreed that the Chairman, Cllr. A. Thomas, would contact Suffolk County Council Highways and the Clerk would check what could be done legally.

It was agreed to continue discussing this topic at the next Parish Council Meeting.

8) Traffic Report on A144:

Cllr. A. Niven reported that the Police had rewritten the paperwork regarding Speedwatch and therefore getting Speedwatch underway again after the pandemic was proving harder as all participants in Speedwatch now had to fill in new Health and Safety Forms and watch a video.

Cllr. A. Niven said that the Police had put in an order for Speed Guns which are to be given free to Parish Speed Teams. He said that the percentage of all vehicles going through Bramfield above 30mph was slowly rising and in two years the number of vehicles going through Bramfield on the A144 had risen from 2 300 a day to 2 800.

9) Bramfield Green Verge:

After some discussion, it was agreed that Cllr. A. Niven would discuss with Suffolk County Council Highways what to do on the Village Green to conserve it.

10) Village Hall:

Cllr. A. Rozkalns reported that the Village Hall Committee had met to discuss the Queen's Platinum Jubilee and had discussed the lack of storage. He said that the Village Hall Finances were fine but the Hall had lost the Bingo Nights. Cllr. A. Rozkalns said that the Village Hall was looking to perhaps advertise in local magazines.

11) Internet Banking:

Cllr. W. Shoote reported that he had made progress and with Barclays Bank had set up Internet Banking. He said that he tested the system by transferring 1p from the Current Account to the Deposit Account and back again. The Clerk said that paying a bill through internet banking must need the consent of two councillors.

12) **Bramfield Hedge Planting:**

Cllr. A. Rozkalns said that the hedges had been planted.

13) **Churchyard Donations:**

Cllr. D. Hughes said that the Audit 2021 had highlighted that a Parish Council could be challenged by giving a donation to a graveyard. There was some discussion on how to donate to the churches whilst keeping without risking challenge.

14) Planning Matters:

"Proposal: Construction and operation of a Holiday Park comprising holiday lodges, reception and amenities building and ancillary infrastructure." ("Bramfield and Thorington Parish Council")

Address: Thorington Quarry, London Road, Thorington, Suffolk. IP17 3QZ

Ref: DC/21/3251/FUL

The Parish Council refused this planning application.

The Parish Council believed that they should refuse this planning application because of the History of the Quarry, Environmental and Overdevelopment of tourism reasons. Cllr. D. Hughes agreed to write the submission for East Suffolk Council.

Proposer: Cllr. D. Hughes: Seconder: Cllr. A. Rozkalns:

15) Clerk's Report and Correspondence including Donations:

The Clerk reported that he had received the 'Clerks and Councillors Newsletter', a letter from St. Elizabeth Hospice asking for a Donation whilst the Planning Inspectorate looking into the proposal to build Sizewell C had sent a communication.

16) Financial Report:

a) Balances at the Bank on December 31st 2021:

Business Community Account £2 731-68
Business Savings Account £6 630-79

b) Cheques and Receipts:

Chq. 101215	Hy-Tex UK Ltd	£223-20
Chq. 101216	Clerk's Pay – October until December 2021	£586-60
Chq. 101217	Clerk's Tax – October until December 2021	£146-60

Proposer: Cllr. A. Niven: Seconder: Cllr. A. Rozkalns:

17) Cil Report:

The Cil Report was agreed.

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

18) To agree Audit Arrangements:

It was agreed to use Suffolk Association of Local Councils (SALC) for the Internal Audit 2021-2022.

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

19) <u>To agree Council Risk Assessment Procedures:</u>

The Council Risk Assessment Procedures for 2021-2022 was agreed.

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

20) To agree Council Asset Register:

The Council Asset Register for 2021-2022 was agreed.

Proposer: Cllr. A. Niven: Seconder: Cllr. W. Shoote:

21) <u>To receive information and agenda items for the Parish Council Meeting</u> to be held on Monday, February 14th 2022:

It was agreed to discuss the Queen's Platinum Jubilee, Bramfield Green Verge and Churchyard Donations at the next Parish Council Meeting on February 14th 2022.

The Meeting ended at 9-17pm.