

Bramfield and Thorington Parish Council

A Meeting of the Parish Council was held at the Village Hall on Monday, October 11th 2021 at 7pm.

Minutes:

Present:

Cllr. A. Thomas (Chairman); Cllr. A. Rozkalns (Vice-Chairman); Cllr. M. Bond (left 8-30pm); Cllr. D. Hughes; Cllr. A. Niven and Cllr. W. Shoote:

Also Present:

Paul Widdowson (Clerk); County Cllr. R. Smith (left after Item 4) and Helen Bateman (Community Action Suffolk) (left after Item 5):

1) **Apologies:**

Cllr. J. Key; Cllr. S. Key and Cllr. N. Brookes (District Councillor):

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

Cllr. R. Smith apologised for not being at previous meetings. He said that the Sizewell C Planning Enquiry had been taking place. He stated that he was against the building of Sizewell C because of its effect on the community. He said that the Planning Inspectors had been very fair as they had asked very searching questions. He believed that Electricite De France (EDF) had not been well prepared last year but were much better prepared this summer. Cllr. R. Smith said that he thought that all those who opposed Sizewell C had been treated fairly and believed that it would probably be built as the government wanted it. He believed that the government still did not know how to fund the £20 billion budget though.

Cllr. R. Smith reported that the County Council via the Town/Parish Councils was conducting its review of what roads that Heavy Goods Vehicles (HGV) could travel along. He said that it began on October 22nd and the consultation was open for eight weeks. Cllr. W. Shoote said that HGVs can go where they like except for weight restrictions. He said that there was no network in Ipswich.

5) **Presentation on 'East Suffolk Rural Youth Work' from Helen Bateman, VCSE Youth Development Officer at Community Action Suffolk.**

Helen Bateman said that her role was to develop youth projects and her remit was to especially develop them in rural areas. She said that Community Action Suffolk (CAS) was trying to support the development of groups. Therefore she said that she was at the meeting to ask what do young people wish to do in the Bramfield and Thorington area? Once some groups were identified she would help set the group up and help with any safeguarding issues.

Cllr. A. Rozkalns said that there were very few young people in the two parishes. He said that there used to be football/cricket teams and discos held for the younger members of the community but now perhaps young people now look to Halesworth for joining groups. Cllr. W. Shoote said that transport was a key issue for the parishes to Halesworth and there was no work in the area for the young. Cllr. D. Hughes said that there were no playing fields in the parishes and sports facilities were very few in the area including Halesworth. She said that parents acted like chauffeurs and as soon as children were seventeen, they had to learn to drive. Helen Bateman asked if a drop-in pizza evening could be held to find out what the young wanted. Councillors discussed at length how to gain young people's views on what they wanted but believed that technology was progressing so fast that the young had many interests and lifestyles that were quite different from when the councillors were younger. Therefore they concluded that perhaps the Parish Council was not the right body for Helen Bateman to ask and that perhaps the schools were better institutions to ask.

6) **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

7) **To confirm the Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on September 13th 2021 and an Extra-Ordinary Parish Council Meeting on August 12th 2021:**

The Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on September 13th 2021 were agreed.

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

The Minutes of the Extra-Ordinary Parish Council Meeting on August 12th 2021 were agreed.

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

8) **Traffic Report on A144:**

Cllr. A. Niven said that there was nothing to report.

9) **Bramfield Green Verge:**

Cllr. D. Hughes said that there needed to be a barrier of some form all around Bramfield Green Verge.

It was agreed that Councillors would think about the issue and discuss it further at the next Parish Council Meeting.

10) **Village Hall:**

Cllr. A. Rozkalns reported that the Village Hall had hosted a very successful Harvest Supper which had generated a profit of £574. The committee was deciding on which charity to give the £574.

11) **Internet Banking:**

Cllr. A. Rozkalns said that this was ongoing.

12) **Insurance Renewal 2021-2022:**

Councillors agreed to enter a three-year agreement with Zurich Municipal Insurance to provide the Parish Council's Insurance for 2021-2022 with an annual payment of £364-43 unless new assets are added over the next three years where the price may change.

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

13) **Bramfield Hedge Planting:**

The Chair said that she had received an email from the Tree Warden, Marie Rolfe, asking if the Parish Council would be willing to fund a weed suppressing membrane again and to help with further hedge planting to finish what was started last year.

Councillors agreed in principle to pay the cost of planting hedges.

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

14) **Churchyard Donations:**

The Clerk said that the Internal Auditor had commented in their last report that these donations should be reviewed. The Clerk said that he would consult the Suffolk Association of Local Councils as part of the review.

Cllr. A. Rozkalns said that he would consult with the three Parochial Church Councils.

15) **Planning Matters:**

The Clerk said that there were no current Planning Applications

