

Minutes of the Meeting of Brinklow Parish Council
Held on
Thursday 8 March 2012, 19:15 Hours at Brinklow Community Hall

Present:	Cllr H Pearson (Chair)	Cllr J Boonham
	Cllr D Lowe	Cllr C Moore
	Cllr H Page	Cllr A Gillias (RBC)
	P Creek (Clerk)	three members of the public

1. Open section of meeting at which members of the public can speak.

1.1. A representative from the youth club briefed the meeting about the proposed skateboard ramp and the efforts the club was making in fund raising from various sources. There was a discussion on the possible reconfiguration of the children's play area to accommodate the ramp. The Council recorded its' support, in principal, for the project; subject to the necessary planning consents and village acquiescence.

1.2. A resident raised the issue of parking for the possible increased traffic likely to be attracted to the Brinklow Castle site. He suggested a plot of land at the bottom of Ell Lane that RBC had been trying to acquire.

Action: Clerk.

Post meeting note. This issue has been raised with RBC. Various problems were highlighted from ownership of the land to the suitability, or otherwise, of designating the land a car park.

1.3. There was a spirited debate, prompted by a member of the public, over the merits or otherwise of the recent rejection of a planning application in Broad Street.

2. Apologies received and noted. Cllrs Tew and Timms.

3. Declarations of interest. None.

4. News and views from Borough and County Cllrs.

4.1. Rural broadband funding now approved with the roll out by 2015/16 to achieve a minimum line speed in rural Warwickshire of 2mb.

4.2. Council tax changes were outlined.

4.3. There is to be a revision and streamlining of the housing allocation process.

4.4. Following a work service review; it was reported that 'in house' personnel now carried out 50% of housing repairs.

4.5. The Council was asked its' opinion on the recent tree work in the churchyard which had taken place in the Conservation Area against the advice of the RBC Tree Officer. The Council recorded its' view that the work had improved the churchyard.

4.6. 1 Dunn Cow close had received conflicting planning advice over the construction of a brick wall.

5. Matters arising from the minutes other than continuing minutes. Minute

14.1. It was reported that the resident survey had yet to be carried out.

6. Minutes of the last meeting. Minute 4.1. should have recorded the action for HT and not HP as had been erroneously recorded. Subject to that revision; the minutes were agreed as accurate and signed by the Chair.

7. Accounts

7.1. A copy of the updated Income, expenditure and cash balance spreadsheet had been circulated to all Cllrs prior to the meeting.

7.2. The following were approved for payment.

All sums are in £s Sterling.

Krishnan Printing	Printing	Chq: 1357	28
Colin Cook	Burial fees	Chq: 1358	48
Phil Creek	Stamps	Chq: 1359	28.32
WCC	Lighting maintenance	Chq: 1360	434.39
SLCC	Clerk's manual	Chq: 1361	47
Brinklow comm hall	Room hire (Feb)	Chq: 1362	24
Krishnan Printing	Printing	Chq: 1363	28
Round the Revel	Donation	Chq: 1364	75
RBC	Litter bin fitting	Chq: 1365	83.9
RBC	Supply and fit new litter bin	Chq: 1366	330.75
Colin Cook	Cemetery fees	Chq: 1367	30
Styvechal Estate	Castle rent; next half year	Chq: 1368	180

7.3. The latest NatWest Business Reserve Account statement sheet number 148 was shown to the Chair. The statement put the balance at £37,667.

8. Planning applications. Willowbank Farm, Smeaton Lane. The Council expressed its' concern over this further ingress into Green Belt Land.

Action: Clerk.

Post meeting note. Council's concern raised with RBC planning.

9. Correspondence.

9.1. RBC had advised that the budget for Parish amenity verge cutting was frozen at last year's rates.

Action: Clerk.

Post meeting note. The Clerk has invoiced RBC for the sum allocated.

9.2. The election timetable had been received and was passed to the Chair. As the Clerk will be on holiday during some of the process the Chair agreed to co-ordinate those actions required between 6 and 22 April.

Action: RP, Clerk.

9.3. A letter of complaint, about recent activities on the Castle mound, had been received by the Clerk. It was from a resident adjacent to the Castle and was read to the meeting. It was agreed that the Clerk would approach the resident to discuss the issue raised in his letter.

Action: Clerk

Post meeting note. A discussion was held with the resident and all the points raised in the letter were addressed and explained.

10. Reports from associated meeting.

10.1. A WALC meeting had been attended by Cllrs Pearson and Lowe.

10.2. A recent meeting of the Events Committee reported a recent successful silent auction with £437 raised. Plans for the Jubilee celebration are ongoing.

11. Continuing Minutes.

11.1. Cemetery. It was reported that the cost of the headstone repairs was covered by the year's cemetery income.

11.2. Playing field. The Council resolved to explore the possibility of registering the playing field under the Queen's Jubilee scheme.

Action: All Cllrs.

There was further discussion about the possible skateboard project. It was determined that the matter needed to be put to the electorate for consideration; possibly at the Annual Parish Meeting to be held on 17 May 2012.

The new system of letters to masons and undertakers appeared to be working well.

11.3. Communications with the Parish. It was decided to explore the possibility of resending some of the e-mails to Parishioners who would be asked to sign up to a distribution list. It was thought that not all e-mails should be forwarded (due to volume and content) and that the Chair should filter them.

Action: All Cllrs, Clerk.

Pursuant to improving communications with the Parish; it was resolved to sign up with the incumbent web site host to provide a news feed page where links to appropriate web pages could be posted. Cost £30 pa.

Action: CM.

The election will be publicised in the forthcoming Round the Revel.

Action: JB.

11.4. Brinklow Castle. The meeting was updated as to the progress made on the site, the LEADER funding, forthcoming working parties and the need to complete the fencing and invoice for it by the end of March 2012.

Action: Clerk.

Post meeting note. The contractor has been made aware of the timescale.

12. April's meeting. The Clerk advised the Council that, due to holiday, he would not be able to attend the April meeting. Cllr Boonham kindly agreed to take and publish the minutes of that meeting.

Action: JB.

13. AOB.

13.1. It was reported That WALC had advised that it is usual for a Parish Council to assume responsibility for the ongoing maintenance of a war memorial.

13.2. Affordable housing. It was decided that Neil Gilliver be asked to display posters advertising the upcoming public consultation.

Action: RP.

13.3. The scouts offered to help with the litter pick on 21 April; unless daffodil picking duties (for fundraising) prevented them from attending.

13.4. Various sites for the war memorial were discussed. One particular sight needs to be discussed with the landowner.

Action: Clerk.

13.5. The Council recorded a unanimous vote of thanks, for her valued contribution to the Council and Parish over the years, to Cllr Page on her retirement as Deputy Chair

The meeting concluded at 21:50.

The next meeting is to be held on Thursday 12 April 2012, 19:15 at the Community Hall.

Phil Creek. Clerk to Brinklow Parish Council. Tel 07767 380696