

BRINKLOW PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes of the Meeting of the Council
Held in the Community Hall on 7th February 2023

Present: Councillor J Reid (Chairman) Councillor A Warwick (WCC)
Councillor T Heenan D Lloyd (Clerk to the Council)
Councillor I Currington J Boonham
Councillor S Brown
Councillor K Keene 5 members of the public
Councillor D Forman

1. Apologies.

Apologies received from Councillors H Timms (RBC) and T Gillias (RBC)

2. Declarations of Interest.

There were no declarations of interest made.

3. Minutes of the last meeting. **RESOLVED **That the minutes of the meeting held 12th January 2023 were approved and signed by the Chairman as a correct record for the proceedings.****

4. Comments, Questions or Suggestions made by Members of the Public.

Jeanette Lomas; requested a date to be set for a litter pick for the outlying areas of the village and proposed 18th March – J Reid to check it is agreeable with other PC's possibly affected and if agreed to advertise the date in Round the Revel: stated that the events committee are to meet to discuss the Coronation, possibly a 3 day event to include a picnic in the park and suggested a voluntary help out day to encourage community spirit on a project for the village: asked who is responsible for cutting a hedge to the side of Pocket Park – J Reid responded that RBC are responsible and to request a cut.

Jill Parsons thanked the Lengthsmen for removing the flytipping from the Scouts Cabbage Patch and stated that the name of the person responsible is known.

5. District and County Councillor Reports for Information.

Reports by Councillor A Warwick (WCC)

Grants up to £1000 available from Covid Cost of Living which opened today but will go fast. WCC have won an award for sustainability. The Warwickshire House Project give help, support and guidance with setting up in life to children leaving care when they reach 18. WCC's budget was set at 3.94% increase (2.94% general rise & 1% rise for adult social care) they are one of only 15% of councils not taking the maximum rise available. The Magna Park planning application is not determined yet. J Reid mentioned the surrounding villages PC's being approached for a co-op to deal with the Ansty proposal, Adrian responded that Wolvey PC should definitely be approached.

6. Report by Cemetery Agent.

Jennie read out her report to all present: A number of requests regarding reserved posts have been dealt with, two possible burials in the next few weeks and two interment of ashes are also anticipated. Enquiries are still ongoing regarding the installation of a headstone without permission or any fees being paid and progress is being made concerning RBC's inspector considering some headstones possibly being unsafe – after receiving confirmation that they were installed in an accepted way from the stone mason Jennie will report back to RBC.

7. To discuss and make a decision of the CCTV operation.

This is not working as intended or as sold. The installers say BPC equipment is not suitable and provided a laptop for use. We tested capturing images but number plates were not readable neither was large writing/company name on a lorry. The band width available was not investigated by the company and the cameras are set too high so not fit for purpose. Chairman J Reid proposed a letter is sent to the company stating the technical difficulties and issues, give them the opportunity to suggest a better system (if at a competitive price we will consider it) and ask for removal of the system if no resolution as we have not paid the invoice yet.

AGREED -CLERK TO ACTION BPC to correspond with the supplier.

8. To discuss and make a decision on the Armco Parking Barrier.

3 Quotes were received for the Armco Parking Barrier from S Gibson Solutions, CT Safety Barriers & HTC Fencing. It was proposed that S Gibsons Quote was competitive and are a known and trusted contractor.

APPROVED S Gibsons quote £5890 to be accepted

9. To discuss and approve the Budget for 2023/24.

The proposed budget was discussed and includes a £20k reserve and a further £16k kept available for any unexpected unforeseen costs. This is to be reviewed in 4 months time following some major expenditure to ensure it is sufficiently set.

APPROVED All Councillors approved the proposed Budget

10. To discuss and approve the WCC Streetlight Maintenance Contract for 2023/24.

The streetlight maintenance as set out by WCC is not costly and has been a good service over previous years so it was proposed to continue.

APPROVED-CLERK TO ACTION

11. An update regarding the modifications to our Made Neighbourhood Plan.

We have seen estimates from Rugby Borough Council's overall Housing Needs predictions which means they think they need about 4000 houses over the next ten years. In order to protect Brinklow from excessive development we need up to date evidence of what housing the parish actually needs via a new Housing Needs Survey. The data from the survey will be used to modify our existing Neighbourhood Plan so it is up to date and reflects the current needs of the parish. Jennie Boonham has applied for a grant from Locality to pay for the Housing Needs Survey and some consultant work towards the modified Neighbourhood Plan. The Parish Council may need to add funding to this. The next stage of the new Local Plan preparation from Rugby Borough Council will be a 'Call for Sites' for housing. This is a public document so we must be on the lookout for it.

12. To discuss approaching Ansty and surrounding villages RE: the Ansty proposal.

Previous comments from Councillors H Timms and T Gillias, minuted from the last meeting, were referred to making it feel necessary to do this. Shilton & Barnacle, Wolvey, Ansty & Coombe Fields PC's should be approached as it will be expensive but will make a stronger case and worth defending. The proposal is not yet in.

AGREED To approach the surrounding PC's

13. To discuss and approve the Grass Cutting Contract for 2023/24

5 requests to tender were sent out and 3 received- Colledge Tree & Landscapes £22,992, Lakeside £10,008, Leicestershire Gardens £15,780. The lack of good service given by Lakeside last year was discussed, concerns if they have the capacity to do the work efficiently were raised, the last 25% of last years fee was agreed to be paid once they completed the tidy up that we requested but this was never completed. Councillor K Keene felt that Leicestershire Gardens were very professional, thorough and business like in their approach. It was suggested that,

accounting for our budget and the rebate from RBC for grass cutting, we could consider accepting Leicestershire Gardens if they would reduce their quote slightly.

AGREED – COUNCILLOR K KEENE TO ACTION **Agreed to accept the quote if the contractor would reduce to £12,500 + VAT**

14. To Approve the Accounts for Payment:

Payee	Total Payments	Payment Particulars
Soldo	269.17	lengthsmen spending - card top up
T Heenan	13.76	expenses - ink
J Boonham	164.84	salary
D Lloyd	376.55	salary
V Smith	6.29	lengthsmen expenses
J Reid	67.63	expenses less sale of cabinet & fuel money owed back

APPROVED **All approved for payment as above.**

15. Progress Reports for Information –

- **Brinklow Castle:**
- The Tump bridges now have a mesh covering to help make them non-slip and improve walkability. The cutting of the inner embankments is about to start. Vince has a team of 5 volunteers helping him on Sundays.
- **Playing Field:**
The undergrowth is to be cut back more for Brinklow Football Club. Local enquiries made confirmed the existence of foxes living on the rough land on the outskirts of the playing field explaining the amount of fox and badger excrement on the field. There is little we can do about this other than monitor it to see if it gets worse. Extra signs are to be put up to warn dog walkers to clean up after their dogs.
- **Grant Funding:**
This was already covered in item 11.

Addendum:

Thanks was given by Chairman J Reid to Councillor D Forman for the ongoing work she is putting into the speed reduction brochure.

16. Correspondence received for information.

Nothing received.

To re-confirm the date of the next meeting.

The next meeting will be held on Thursday 9th March 2023 at 7.15pm in the Village Hall.

The Meeting Closed at 8.30pm

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CHAIRMAN