**Minutes of the Meeting of BRINGTON PARISH COUNCIL**

**held on Wednesday 19th May 2021, Reading Room, Great Brington**

[www.bringtons-pc.gov.uk](http://www.bringtons-pc.gov.uk) email:clerk@bringtons-pc.gov.uk

**Present**: Chairman Cllr K White, Cllr S Beeusaert, Cllr T Lake, Cllr J Milne, Cllr P Richardson,

**Also** **Present**: Clerk, 5 members of public

**Meeting** **Start**: 7.45pm

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|  |  | Action |
| **14/21.22** | **To Elect Chairman for 2021-22**  It was proposed that Keith White is re-elected as chairman. He accepted |  |
| **15/21.22** | **To Elect Vice Chairman for 2021-22**  It was proposed that James Milne is re-elected as vice chairman. He accepted |  |
| **16/21.22** | **To receive and approve apologies for absence**  Apologies accepted for Cllr N Tompkins |  |
| **17/21.22** | **Members are requested to make any declarations of personal or prejudicial interests relating to items on the agenda.**  None declared |  |
| **18/21.22** | **Members of the Public are invited to address the council**  Member of the public asked about the box at the pavilion for equipment. Ground needs to be leveled to allow it to sit straight. To be actioned.  Dog signs have been received from DDC. Placement needs to be considered. KW to put up.  Now that the Reading Rooms will start to be used again clerk will contact Gigaclear about the offer given last year that was put on hold due to closure of the Reading Rooms due to Covid. | KW  Clerk |
| **19/21.22** | **To approve and sign the minutes of the meeting held 28th April 2021 and any matters arising**  It was agreed the minutes were correct and could be signed.  Clerk in discussion with Caretaker about watering of tree.  Althorp to be chased on bins. | Clerk  Clerk |
| **20/21.22** | **Clerks Report**  See Appendix. |  |
| **21/21.22** | **To consider approval of use of General Power of Competence**  Clerk gave summary of the Power of Competence and advised that the council currently qualified to use this. It was proposed the council would use the General Power of Competence. |  |
| **22.21/22**  **a)** | **Finance**  **Reconciliation of Bank Balance**  See appendix. Bank balance confirmed by internal controller |  |
| **b)** | **Payments due in May**  See appendix. |  |
| **c)** | **To approve External Audit Section 1 – Governance Statement**  It was agreed that the council could say yes to all items. Clerk advised that external audit had told the council to say no to item 4 as notice of exercise of public rights was published on start date and not before. | KW/  Clerk |
| **d)** | **To approve External Audit Section 2 – Financial Statement**  It was proposed that the statement was correct and should be signed | KW /Clerk |
| **e)** | **To receive internal auditors report and approve any actions**  Internal auditor advised that she was content that proper practices took place and there were no actions suggested. |  |
| **f)** | **To consider contribution towards defibrillator in Little Brington**  The school can apply for discount through an NHS scheme which would provide the defibrillator and case for £979.19 + VAT and training for £99. There would then need to be an electrician to install to allow battery charge and heat.  A member of the public asked if the school was the best position as it is on the edge of Little Brington and suggested the pub may be a better location.  The school approached the council and the council felt 1 in the village was better than none.  It was proposed the that council purchase and install the defibrillator outside the school.  There was also a discussion about poor mobile phone reception at the Reading room and if there was something the parish council could do about this. | SB /Clerk |
| **23/21.22** | **To approve council policies and procedures**  It was proposed to re-adopt the Financial Regulations and Risk Assessment without change. The Standing Orders contained an addition about Meeting virtually which can now be removed and then readopted.  It was proposed to adopt the same Code of Conduct as West Northants Council. | Clerk |
| **24/21.22** | **To review detailed analysis of village survey for presentation at village meeting**  Councillors had already given feedback to presentation and these changes will be made. It was agreed to share this on village email before the meeting so that all could see and attend with any questions. | KW |
| **25/21.22** | **To consider a process to draft a 4-year objectives strategy for the Parish Council, to include how to engage parishioners**  Some things that come out of the survey would need more involvement from the villagers. For example many wanted to revive social activities. This is where the parish council could support others rather than take a lead. There are also areas where we would need to consult a wider audience to make sure the council moves in the right direction.  Not all ideas will need financial input but time and resource.  There was a discussion about the relationship between the Parish Council and the Reading Room Committee. Many councillors were unaware of the current standing and need to be updated.  This is the start of a 4 year term for the councillors and the council is keen to show this is a fresh start and be proactive with a plan. | Clerk |
| **26/21.22** | **To consider Parish Councillor relationships and how to work better with the local community**  There is very much a feeling of “them and us” which needs to be broken down. The Parish Council is just doing what they can to support the parish in a constructive way. There is the opportunity over the next 4 years to do a couple of big things in the parish. |  |
| **27/21.22** | **To consider strategy and actions to engage with West Northants Councillors and council and Local MP**  Clerk had already invited new councillors to Parish Meeting next week. One has accepted the invitiation.  Clerk is also going to contact similar parishes in local area to see if the chairs would like to work together on similar issues – louder voice from more voices. | Clerk |
| **28/21.22**  **a)** | **Updates from Councillors:**  Highways (Cllr White)  No updates |  |
| **b)** | **Planning (Cllr Tompkins)**  No updates. |  |
| **c)** | **Grants / Police (Cllr Beeusaert)**  No Updates. |  |
| **d)** | **Community (Cllr Lake)**  No updates |  |
| **e)** | **Communications**  Cllr Tompkins and Clle Beeusaert to take this on. |  |
| **f)** | **Environment (Cllr Richardson)**  No updates |  |
| **g)** | **Finance (Cllr Milne)**  No update. |  |

Meeting closed: 8.40pm

The next meeting of the Parish Council is Wednesday 16th June 2021.

Items for the agenda to be received by Tuesday 8th June 2021.

**Appendices to accompany the Agenda for 19th May 2021**

**APPENDIX**

**Clerks Report May 2021**

**BINS** – Dog Bin has been delivered for installation at the avenue of trees. Althorp will install soon. We are also working with Althorp to add extra bins around the villages.

**BROADBAND AT THE READING ROOMS** – Gigaclear have made and offer and the clerk is in discussions with the Reading Room Committee and Gigaclear. This is on hold until a time when the Reading Rooms will be able to be used regularly again.

**BATH HOUSE DEVELOPMENT** – Althorp have contacted the Parish Council with some ideas of what they would like to do with the land. A meeting is to be arranged to discuss pros and cons of proposals. When Althorp have firm plans these will be available for the public to comment on.

**ELECTIONS –** 6 people stood for the 8 seats on the Parish Council. As such these people have been elected uncontested. There are still 2 vacancies. Anyone interested in joining the Parish Council should contact the clerk.

**OUTDOOR GYM EQUIPMENT** – at the April meeting it was noted that a piece of equipment was broken. This has now been fixed.

**Bank Balance as end April**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Bank Balance** |  |  | **Cash Book** |  |
| **Balance in Current Account YTD** | 164.80 |  | **Opening Balance** | 19,382.81 |
| **Value of cheques yet to clear** | 1,409.74 |  | **Expenditure to Date** | 1,693.26 |
| **Reserve account balance YTD** | 18,934.49 |  | **Income to Date** | 0 |
| **Total** | 17,689.55 |  | **Total** | 17,689.55 |

**Payments for approval in May**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Payee** | **Cheque** | **Description** | **Total** | **VAT inc** |
| Thomas James | **SO** | KF Caretaker | **20.00** | 0.00 |
| Peter Leydon | **SO** | LB Caretaker | **20.00** | 0.00 |
| R&G Groundworks | **BT** | grass cutting | **577.82** | 96.32 |
| Northants CALC | **BT** | Training Course - K White | **44.00** | 0.00 |
| Mrs S Willis | **BT** | Clerk May | **423.31** | 0.00 |
| HMRC | **BT** | PAYE | **48.00** | 0.00 |
| HCI Data | **BT** | Email data storage | **6.60** | 1.10 |
|  |  | **Total** | **1,139.73** | **97.42** |
| **Income** |  |  |  |  |
| West Northants Council |  | Precept 1 | 10,840.00 |  |