

Brisley Parish Council

Minutes of a meeting of Brisley Parish Council held at 7.00pm on Wednesday 2nd June 2021 in the Village Hall.

Present: Cllr Henry Collinge (Chairman)
Cllr Tony Irons (Vice Chair)
Cllr Brigid Fairman
Cllr Peter Dennis
Cllr Nicola Curl
Cllr Bobby Green

County Cllr Mark Kiddle-Morris
One member of the public
Sheryl Irving (Clerk)

1. Welcome and apologies for absence.

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting, there were no apologies for absence.

2. To receive declarations of interest.

Cllr Curl declared an interest in item 10g and Cllr Dennis declared an interest in item 14b, and will withdraw from the decisions regarding those respective items.

3. To approve the minutes of the meeting held 5th May 2021.

With one minor amendment to item 10d, which should mention the ponds rather than a footpath, Cllr Irons proposed that the minutes be accepted as a true record, this was seconded by Cllr Fairman and agreed by Council.

4. To receive County and District Councillor reports.

C/Cllr Kiddle-Morris reported that he had been re-elected for a further four years, with the County Council now having a party breakdown as follows: Conservatives 58, Labour 11, Lib Dems 8, Greens 3 and Independents 3, with one vacancy. The AGM was held at the Showground and the C/Cllr is now a member of six committees including Standards and Planning. An extra-ordinary meeting is to be held regarding the Western Link road, there is opposition to the scheme although environmental mitigation is being put in place. In response to a query the C/Cllr confirmed that this scheme would not take funds away from other highway projects in the county.

5. Open Forum: an opportunity to hear from members of the public.

A representative of the Village Hall Committee thanked the Parish Council for the recent resurfacing of the overspill car park. They also reported on the plans to over-clad the existing asbestos roof with an insulated, pre-formed metal roof. The existing roof had been leaking for some years and been patched up many times. It was hoped that the project will be funded by grants and a favourable quotation had been received from a reputable, experienced company. It was anticipated that the works would commence in August and there will be no need to close the adjacent footpath. Building regulations will be adhered to and neighbouring properties will be kept fully informed.

6. Highways

a) To receive an update on matters reported to Norfolk and Breckland Councils.

- Gateley Road – covered drain – the C/Cllr had attended a site visit with the new Highways Engineer and this is being investigated.
- The pothole repairs on Fludges Lane have been programmed for works.

b) To receive a report from the Public Rights of Way Warden.

The report from the PROW warden is attached and there was no further update in respect of the maize field.

c) To receive an update regarding the SAM II Speed Sign.

Cllr Fairman reported that there was just one other Council interested in continuing with the speed sign and maintenance and repair costs would be shared with them in the future. However, the sign will be in the village for longer periods of time.

The C/Cllr reported that the police should investigate any persistent speeders and he will contact them to ensure this is taking place. Council agreed there was no evidence of much speeding in the village although the perception was sometimes different.

An ongoing issue is the use of School Road as a cut-through, rather than access only, but this was difficult to address. It may be possible to ask the police to attend again.

The C/Cllr updated Council regarding his £10,000 budget for both highway and environmental projects and he will circulate the list of possible options.

Cllr Dennis queried whether cattle grids would be permitted on the B road adjacent to the common and the C/Cllr will investigate.

7. Planning

a) Applications for consideration.

- 3PL/2021/0789/HOU – Rowan Cottage, The Green - Single Storey Rear Extension – there were no issues raised and Council agreed a ‘no comment’ response.

b) To note any planning decisions.

Council noted there had been no decision in respect of the following application:

- 3PL/2021/0274/CU – Caravan, Back Lane, Stanfield - change of use of agricultural and brown field land to residential caravan use for an extended Traveller family. A maximum of two static caravans and three touring caravans to be stationed on the land, on either a temporary or permanent basis (Retrospective).

8. Open Spaces

a) To receive an update regarding the long-term plan for the Jubilee Wood.

Cllr Dennis hoped to have quotes available for the next meeting.

b) To receive an update regarding the ragwort treatment of the Amenity Area.

Cllr Fairman continues the work although the plants within the trees are now difficult to reach as the grass has grown, there may be some hand-pulling of plants required.

c) To consider any maintenance works required on the Green.

Cllr Dennis is obtaining quotes for the clearance of trees to access the beck, which is the final waterway to be cleared. The Environment Agency do not maintain this section but will be taking a look and providing a quote for the works.

d) To receive an update regarding the management document for the Green and to note the date of the next Grazing Rights Holders meeting.

Council noted the date of the meeting is Monday 28th June and our representative from Natural England hopes to be able to attend. Council also agreed to invite a representative from Open Spaces who is well-informed regarding access law etc on commons.

e) To consider guidance for horse riders using the common and the amenity area.

Council agreed guidance in the event of any queries from local riders and also agreed to deal with any issues, if they arose.

f) To receive an update on the pond restoration project.

Cllr Dennis reported the outcome of a recent meeting with our advisor from the Norfolk Wildlife Trust and Bridget Diggins, our pond project lead. It was hoped that funding could be obtained to tackle two ponds later this year, one on the South Green and one on the North Green.

g) To consider a request from the Cricket Club to plant trees on the perimeter of the grounds to mark Her Majesty's platinum jubilee in 2022.

After careful consideration by Council, Cllr Collinge proposed that this request be denied as it would change the visual impact of the open common and have potential maintenance issues for the parish council in the future, however, Council remains supportive of the Cricket Club. This was seconded by Cllr Green and put to the vote, with 4 for and 1 against, with the proposition being carried.

9. To receive reports on the regular checks.

North Green (Cllr Bobby Green) - Nothing to report on the North Green.

South Green (Cllr Nicola Curl) - The thistles are beginning to grow and, regarding the previously reported broken/blocked pipe under the access into the field (eastern side of the Green), some serious 'digging activity' has taken place and the water is again flowing freely which is excellent. However, Cllr Curl received some concerns about disturbance of habitat during this important nesting time and highlighted the optimum times for doing such works in the future to ensure that Council continues to provide the best environment possible for our nesting birds.

Churchyard (Cllr Tony Irons) - Nothing new to report with the exception of 3 or 4 fresh mole hills at the East of the church which will be dealt with.

Play Area (Cllr Tony Irons) - Nothing new to report. An inspection has been booked but is unlikely to take place until approx. August.

Patch Corner (Cllr Peter Dennis) – Council agreed to look at costs for a replacement, recycled plastic, bench. Council noted that the grass contractor had been unable to cut everywhere due to cars being parked on the grass.

Allotments (Cllr Peter Dennis) – Nothing to report.

Amenity Area (Cllr Peter Dennis) - The area is looking good and the grass is finally beginning to grow away. There are now a good number of Roe and Muntjac deer in the woodland.

Harpers Green (Cllr Peter Dennis) - There are 12-14 cattle grazing the Green. They are a mix of older cattle, year old and very young stock; not ideal for grazing the area but better than nothing. Other than that, it is looking good at the moment.

10. To consider the option of exploring a joint village initiative to replace septic tanks.

Cllr Dennis was yet to receive a response from any of the companies contacted, however, he had been informed of a company which would convert existing tanks and hoped to have more detail by the next meeting.

11. To investigate the low power supply available in the village and any problems arising from this.

In the absence of Cllr Savory, this was deferred to the next meeting.

12. Finance & Governance Matters

a) To receive a financial report for the year ending 31st March 2022.

The report is attached and was noted by Council, no queries were raised.

b) To review the Allotment rental fees.

Cllr Irons proposed that the rental fees remain as they are, this was seconded by Cllr Collinge and agreed by Council.

c) To approve the following payments.

Cllr Collinge proposed approval of the following payments, this was seconded by Cllr Irons and agreed by Council.

• Clerk (June Salary & Expenses)	£367.72
• Grass Contractor (1)	£480.00
• Grass Contractor (2)	£162.00
• Website Annual Renewal (Refund to Clerk)	£98.86
• SAM II Speed Sign repairs	£TBC
• Cllr Fairman (Barrier H)	£121.98 (paid 14.5.21)
• Village Hall Car Park	£1105.92
• Village Hall Recycling	£207.03 (TBC)

13. Correspondence for circulation.

- Defibrillator – consideration of registration on the Circuit system – Council agreed not to register the unit as advised by Community Heartbeat.

14. To receive any new items for the next agenda.

The following two items were received for the next agenda:

- The provision of an Information Notice Board.
- To consider the maintenance contract in respect of the defibrillator.

- 15. To note the next meeting of the Parish Council will be held at 7.00pm on Wednesday 7th July 2021 in the Village Hall.**

Council noted the date of the next meeting and the meeting closed at 8.31pm.

Signed:

Date:

BRISLEY PARISH COUNCIL

REPORT FROM THE PUBLIC RIGHTS OF WAY WARDEN

JUNE 2021

No attempt has been made to define the crossfield path leading from Woods Lane in the direction of the common and the maize is growing furiously at the moment. I will send a photo to Jason Morse, the Highways Supremo at N.N.C. who has promised to intervene personally on the basis that this is an ongoing issue where the farmer regularly flouts the rules surrounding crossfield paths.

The path from School Road that crosses the footbridge bridge, goes across a field and alongside a hedge towards Harpers Green is overgrown on the section that runs alongside the hedge. I will try and find out if it features on a path cutting schedule. In the past I think it has.

Otherwise, most paths are in reasonable passable condition.

The footpath sign for the path near The Hill, School Road is still lying on the ground although I reported it as damaged sometime ago.

The Duke of Edinburgh award scheme participants have been regularly making use of some our paths which is good to see.

Cllr B Fairman
PROW Warden

BANK RECONCILIATION AS AT 11.05.2021		
Balance per bank statements		
Barclays Current Account	23,758.41	
Less any unrepresented cheques	36.00	
Add any outstanding payments into bank	0.00	
		23,722.41
The net balance reconciles to the Cash Book for the year, as follows:		
Opening Balance as at 1st April 2021	19,865.50	
Add receipts in the year	6,912.84	
Less payments in the year	3,055.93	
Closing balance per cash book		23,722.41
which includes the following reserves:		
Higher Level Stewardship Scheme	6,511.71	
Amenity Area	-965.00	
Defibrillator	1,152.65	
Townlands	244.00	
Admin - Office Equipment	200.00	
Open Spaces:		
Pond Project	190.00	
Knotweed at The Hill	100.00	
GENERAL RESERVE		16,289.05

BUDGET REPORT FOR YEAR ENDING 31ST MARCH 2022									
PAYMENTS**	BUDGET 2021/22	SPEND TO DATE	AVAILABLE	% SPEND	RECEIPTS	BUDGET 2021/22	RECEIVED TO DATE*	DUE	% RECEIVED
Salary	3993.00	1052.25	2940.75	26%	Precept	11850.00	5925.00	5925.00	50%
Admin	1651.00	766.79	884.21	46%	Burials	0.00	0.00	0.00	
Open Spaces***	5270.00	1897.36	3372.64	36%	Bank Interest	0.00	0.00	0.00	
Donations	0.00	100.00	-100.00		Wayleaves	508.00	0.00	508.00	0%
TOTAL	10914.00	3816.40	7097.60	35%	Allotments	455.00	10.00	445.00	2%
					Admin*	0.00	207.03	-207.03	
HLS	270.00	0.00	270.00	0%	TOTAL	12813.00	6142.03	6670.97	48%
AMENITY AREA	3460.00	1262.84	2197.16	36%	HLS	1469.00	0.00	1469.00	0%
TOWNLANDS	240.00	0.00	240.00	0%	AMENITY AREA	2028.00	0.00	2028.00	
DEFIBRILLATOR	451.00	0.00	451.00	0%	Defibrillator	0.00	0.00	0.00	
**includes payments awaiting authorisation at this meeting					TOWN LANDS	240.00	0.00	240.00	0%
***includes £921.60 for Village Hall car park which was not in the budget					VAT refund of £987.84 due for year 2020/21.				
Open Spaces includes the Churchyard, Patch Corner, the Play Area and the Allotments & the Christmas Tree project etc.									