

Minutes of the Meeting of Brewham Parish Council held at Brewham Village Hall on Tuesday, 11th July 2023

Present: Robert Jackson (Chair), Richard Hiscock, Eddie Harper & Christopher Saxton

In attendance: Sue Price (Clerk) and nine members of the public.

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.

- Apologies for Absence:**
Apologies for absence had been received from Patricia Stainton and County Councillors Lucy Trimmell & Tom Power.
- Declarations of Interest:**
There were no declarations of interest.
- Minutes of the Meeting held on 9th May 2023:**
The minutes of the meeting held on 9th May 2023 were unanimously approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.
- Matters Arising:**
There were no matters arising that would not be dealt with elsewhere.
- Financial Business:**
Financial transactions:
The Clerk explained that the most recent bank statement was dated 19th June at which time the precept had not been paid. On contacting Somerset Council, she was advised that it had been paid in April but that it was the wrong amount and paid into the wrong account. The money had been returned to Somerset Council but they had not been in contact to ask for further bank details (although the correct ones were sent when the precept was requested in January). She was promised it would be paid before the end of June but as of today nothing has been received and she is chasing this urgently with the Finance Department at Somerset Council.

The financial transactions for the period 9th May-10th July 2023 were as follows:

Bank balances brought forward at 9th May 2023 £3,206.18

Income

A J Wakely – burial fee for the late Mr Paul Castle £40.00
Mr & Mrs N Castle – memorial tablet for the late Mr Paul Castle 35.00

Expenditure:

Graham Kimber-Holloway – 1st mowing of Burial Ground £500.00
Gallagher – insurance renewal 411.87

The Fund balances at 10th July 2023 were therefore:

General Fund £1,225.79
Burial Ground Fund -356.48
Reserve Fund 1,500.00

Represented by Bank a/cs:

National Savings Bank Investment a/c £852.43
Lloyds Bank Treasurers a/c 1,516.88

<u>Creditor</u>	
Somerset Council – 2023/24 Precept	£4,400.00
<u>Debtor</u>	
Brewham Village Hall Committee – meeting room hire x 6	£54.00
<u>Bank balances to include creditor & debtor</u>	£6,715.31
<u>Bank balances carried forward on 10th July 2023</u>	£2,369.31

The Clerk requested payment of the following:

Graham Kimber – 2nd mowing of Burial Ground - £500.00
 Andrea Maistrello – previously agreed quotation for work on the yew trees - £750.00
 Jonathan Baker – advice, planning application and supervision of work on the yew trees - £100.00.

It was unanimously agreed that these invoices be paid.

If these cheques and that paid to Brewham Village Hall in May are cashed before the precept is received this will leave a balance of £112.88 in the Lloyds Bank account.

6. **Planning Applications:**

i. **Decisions on applications already considered by the Parish Council:**

- a. 22/01688/FUL - Land OS 0006, Gladwill Farm, North Brewham, BA10 0JS – Application for change of use of agricultural hard standing to allow for siting of a mobile showman’s wagon trailer conversion for holiday let accommodation. Decision awaited.
- b. 22/03355/OUT - Hillcrest, Charcroft Hill, Brewham, BA10 0LE – Outline application for the erection of a detached dwelling with all matters reserved, (renewal of planning consent 19/02837/OUT, permission granted 18th February 2020). Application withdrawn.
- c. 23/00184/COL - application for a Lawful Certificate for the existing use of an Artist Studio on Land adjacent to Border Lodge, Hammer Street North Brewham. Decision awaited.
- d. 23/00780F/FUL – Picketts Farm Bungalow, Bedlam Green Farm Lane, BA10 0LP – the construction of an agricultural umbrella building to cover an open cattle loafing and collecting yard to reduce fouled storm water run-off. Decision awaited.
- e. 22/02460/ROW - Dreamers Farm, North Brewham, Bruton, Somerset, BA10 0JW – diversion of public footpath. Application approved.

ii. **Applications received since the last meeting and considered by email:**

- a. 23/01099/HOU - Lavender Bank, Street Lane, Brewham, BA10 0JZ - Ground floor rear extension with internal reconfiguration and new windows at ground floor. Enlarging the gravel parking area to the front of the house. Installation of a natural pool within the rear garden. Application approved.
- b. 23/00864/FUL - Lindum Farm, Bruton Road, Brewham, BA10 0JF - The erection of steel framed agricultural machinery storage shed. Decision awaited.
- c. 23/01457/HOU & 23/01458/LBC – Border Lodge, Hammer Street, Brewham, BA10 0JQ - Internal and external alterations to listed building, demolition of rear extensions and outbuildings and replacement single story extension. Decision awaited.

iii. **New Applications to be discussed:**

- a. 23.01518/COL – Lavender Bank, Street Lane, Brewham, BA10 0JS - Application for a Lawful Certificate for the proposed erection of a garden room workshop within

the boundary of Lavender Bank. There were no objections or comments and Parish Councillors, including Patricia Stainton who had sent comments by email, were happy to support the application.

- b. 23/01418/HOU & 23/01419/LBC - Jasmine Cottage, Charcroft Hill, Brewham BA10 0LE – Extensions and internal alterations (part retrospective). There were no objections or comments and Parish Councillors, including Patricia Stainton who had sent comments by email, were happy to support the application.
- iv. **New applications for consideration received after the agenda was published:**
 - a. 23/01410/FUL – Land opposite Jerrards Farm, Hammer Street, North Brewham. - the erection of a new dwelling for agricultural occupancy for a family member. Parish Councillors, including Patricia Stainton, had no objections but agreed that the dwelling should be built in stone that was in keeping with the other adjacent dwellings.
 - b. 23/01156/OUT at Stokeford Farm, Stoney Stoke, Stoney Stoke, BA9 8HR - outline application for conversion of the existing barns to 4 dwellings including the retention of the original farmhouse with all matters reserved except access. This application is in the adjacent parish and Parish Councillors had no comments.

There has been no response to the query about whether planning permission had been sought for what appear to be commercial buildings which have been constructed at Gladwill Farm and the application for change of use at Swanton Farm is still to be received. She will continue to chase these with the Planning Department.

7. **Burial Ground, Churchyard, Common Land and Village Amenities:**

The Clerk reported that Mr Maistrello and his team have carried out the work on the two yew trees, as per his agreed quotation, and they have done a good job and the Chairman is leading a team of volunteers to remove the debris which is still work in progress. Thanks too to Jonathan Baker for his assistance throughout the process.

Mr Sunderland is still working on registering the Burial Ground land belonging to the Parish Council.

Mr Nye reported that Hannah Paddison from Somerset Wildlife had organised an 'Introduction to Wildflower Identification' in the Churchyard and Burial Ground on 27th June. It was led by Steve Parker, an expert botanist and recorder from Somerset Rare Plants who identified about 65 different species vicar and who thought the Churchyard was beautiful and something we should be proud of. The vicar and about fifteen people had attended and they were keen to have advice for help with their churchyards. He and a team of helpers will cut the grass once it has seeded, this will probably be in September. Parish Councillors thanked Mr Nye and his team for the work done to refurbish the notices.

Mr Nye reported that there are bees in the wall by the defibrillator which he had found difficult to open. Eddie Harper explained that there are two clips at the side and that he is hoping to arrange a demonstration and training session for any interested parishioners in the autumn.

The Village Show will be held on 5th August.

8. **Roads:**

a. **Outstanding matters:**

The Highways Department continue to mend potholes throughout the Parish and there are a number which are already marked for repair but progress on this seems quite slow. Network Rail have continued to work on the railway in Pinkwood Lane which has stopped further fly tipping for the time being at least. The culvert in Street Lane has not yet been repaired nor have any of the drains been unblocked.

Mrs Macdonald-Watson had reported that the hedges at the junction of Hassocks Lane and the Bruton/Frome Road were very overgrown and as was the grass on the triangle at the end of Pinkwood Lane where it joins the Bruton road. Chris Saxton has very kindly cut the grass and some of the hedges but that work is quite extensive and the Clerk will contact the Highways Department to see if they can remove more.

b. New matters:

There is a large pothole in Street Lane which has not been marked for repair, more on Tower Road and one by Fisherton Cottage. There is a broken signpost at the bottom of Tower Road. There are also holes on the fairly recently resurfaced road at Druley Hill and the Clerk will either contact the Clerk of Kilmington Parish Council or Wiltshire County Council about these.

9. **Footpaths & Bridleways:**

a. Outstanding matters:

The Clerk was pleased to report that Eve Wynn has at last managed to make contact with the owner of Swanton Farm and it has been agreed to clear the blocked footpath but due to lack of resource she does not expect this to be done much before the end of the year. It is therefore thought unlikely that any repairs on other reported problems on footpaths throughout the parish will happen in the near future.

10. **Report from County Councillors:**

Tom Power had sent a report which the Clerk had circulated to Councillors and the main points were highlighted. She had received an email updating about the proposed industrial action by the Somerset waste collection crews and the strike action has been suspended for two weeks pending a union ballot. Residents are therefore asked to present their refuse, recycling and garden waste as usual and updates and advice can be found at www.somerset.gov.uk/strike.

11. **Report from the Police:**

The Clerk had received a report from the Police. There had been one burglary in the area and the team continue to make routine patrols in the area and ask that any incidents be reported to 101 or 999 respectively. They continue to support and encourage the Neighbourhood Watch scheme.

12. **Dates of future meetings:**

The next meeting was due to be held on 12th September but due to a clash the Clerk had asked Councillors if it could be moved. It was agreed that the September meeting will now be held the following day on Wednesday, 13th September. The Clerk will see if the Village Hall is free but if not then it was agreed to hold the meeting at the Old Red Lion.

Meetings for the remainder of the financial year will be held on Tuesdays, 14th November 2023 and Tuesdays, 9th January & 12th March 2024.

13. **Open Forum:**

Mr Nye asked why the forthcoming by-election was being held at the Old Red Lion and not in the Village Hall and also why he cannot be connected to fibre broadband when other houses nearby have already been connected. The Clerk will endeavour to find out about the by-election and let him know but did not hold out much hope around the broadband question if he had already been told this by BT.

There were no further questions or matters anyone wished to raise and there being no further business the meeting closed at 8.04pm.

These minutes were unanimously approved and signed as a correct record by the Chairman at the meeting of Brewham Parish Council on Wednesday, 13th September 2023.

