

Minutes of the Meeting of Brewham Parish Council held at Brewham Village Hall on Tuesday, 12th March 2024

Present: Robert Jackson (Chair), Christopher Saxton & Patricia Stainton.

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

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.

1. **Apologies for Absence:**

Apologies for absence had been received from Eddie Harper, Richard Hiscock and Councillors Tom Power & Lucy Trimnell.

2. **Declarations of Interest:**

There were no declarations of interest.

3. **Minutes of the Meeting held on 9th January 2024:**

The minutes of the meeting held on 9th January 2024 were unanimously approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

4. **Matters Arising:**

There were no matters arising that would not be dealt with elsewhere.

5. **Financial Business:**

Financial transactions:

The Clerk advised that since the last meeting there had been income of £100 for the burial of the late Mr William Down and all the invoices which had been approved had been paid, the defibrillator pads had cost £194.40. Despite repeated requests that SALC bank the cheque for the annual subscription, sent in November 2023, this has still not been done.

The financial transactions for the period 9th January-11th March 2024 were as follows:

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|---|-----------|
| Bank balances brought forward on 9 th January 2024 | £4,625.31 |
|---|-----------|

Income

| | |
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| Burial fee for the late Mr William Down – Wakely Funeral Directors | 100.00 |
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Expenditure:

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|---|--------|
| Website hosting and domain – Mr Stuart Turnbull | 87.14 |
| Defibrillator pads – Mr Eddie Harper | 194.40 |

The Fund balances on 11th March 2024 were therefore:

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|--------------------|-----------|
| General Fund | £2,560.25 |
| Burial Ground Fund | 383.52 |
| Reserve Fund | 1,500.00 |

Represented by Bank a/cs:

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|--------------------------------------|---------|
| National Savings Bank Investment a/c | £852.43 |
| Lloyds Bank Treasurers a/c | 3591.34 |

Debtor

| | |
|--|---------|
| Somerset Association of Local Councils – annual subscription | £122.99 |
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|---------------------------------|-----------|
| Bank balances to include debtor | £4,320.78 |
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The Clerk requested authorisation to pay the invoice for £60.00 from Nigel Payne for the initial tidying of the Burial Ground and £1,000 for her annual salary/PAYE. **It was unanimously agreed** that these should be paid.

The Clerk also requested that she should pay the invoice from Water2Business for the water supply to the Churchyard tap when it is received in early April and **it was unanimously agreed** that the invoice should be paid when received.

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 the siting of a mobile showman’s wagon trailer conversion for holiday let accommodation. Decision awaited.
- b. 3/00864/FUL - Lindum Farm, Bruton Road, Brewham, BA10 0JF - The erection of steel framed agricultural machinery storage shed. Decision awaited.
- c. 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. Decision awaited.
- d. 23/01410/FUL – Land opposite Jerrards Farm, Hammer Street, North Brewham. - the erection of a new dwelling for agricultural occupancy for a family member. Decision awaited.
- e. 23/01635/FUL – Land at Hardway, Brewham, BA10 OLR – siting for two safari tents for use as holiday accommodation. Decision awaited.
- f. 23/02787/FUL – Cards Farm, South Brewham, BA10 0LQ – construction of a slurry store, reception pit and associated works. Application approved.

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

- a. 24/00181/FUL – Border Lodge, Hammer Street, Brewham, BA10 0JQ – installation of photovoltaic panels within field adjacent to Border Lodge and associated planting/screening. Application approved.

iii. **Other applications to note:**

- a. 24/00105/LBC & 24/00104/HOU - The Old Smithy, Street Lane, South Brewham, BA10 0JZ - various internal alterations, exterior demolition, replacement glazing and new rooflights. The Clerk did not have any record of having received a notice about these applications but Patricia Stainton had printed out details. It was agreed that if anyone had any comments following the meeting they should send them to the Clerk.

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

There were a lot of snowdrops this year and once they had finished flowering the sheep were put in to graze the long grass and they have done a very good job.

Applications for the mowing contract had been received and it had been unanimously agreed to offer it to Nigel Payne for the coming season at the same cost as last season, i.e. £1,500. It had also been agreed that as the Burial Ground was looking very untidy that Nigel Payne would do some initial work at a cost of £60. He has started to do this but has only been able to do about half of it due to the incessant rain.

The Clerk has asked Dr Tamsyn Cowie if she could run a session for parishioners about using the defibrillator and she had said she did not feel she was the right person and suggested that someone from St John’s Ambulance might do this. It was agreed that the Clerk would first check with Eddie Harper whether he had anyone in mind who might do this.

The large amount of rain has caused a considerable part of the Burial Ground wall to collapse into Mrs Ward's garden. We are currently waiting for quotes for this to be repaired which we hope to have in the next week or two. Robert Jackson and Christopher Saxton very kindly offered to provide any necessary spare stone when the work is carried out.

Ric Rogers has started work on Below The Tower but needs a copy of the Electoral Register which the Clerk has been trying to obtain. He is putting a notice in the next edition of the Parish Magazine and has sent out letters to asking for various details to be updated. Councillors thanked him for the huge amount of work putting this together entails.

8. **Roads:**

a. **Outstanding matters:**

The Highways Department continue to repair potholes throughout the parish but as soon as some are mended others appear elsewhere especially after the amount of rain that has fallen this winter and there is still a problem throughout the parish with blocked drains.

b. **New matters:**

The Clerk advised that she had received a further email from Michael Vaughan setting out costings to produce a report to assist an application to move the 30mph limit to the other side of the crossroads. She had replied that unfortunately the Parish Council did not have any funds to contribute to the cost but had reiterated that they would support any application made to the Highways Department in the future.

The hedge at the top of Hassocks Lane has grown and is making exiting on to the road very dangerous. It was noted that the farm has been sold to the Emily Estate (the Newt) and it was agreed that Christopher Saxton would approach them about cutting it back or that the Clerk would write to the Estate.

The Clerk will report the problems throughout the Parish that were mentioned in the meeting.

9. **Footpaths & Bridleways:**

Outstanding matters:

The Clerk had had no response from the Footpaths Officer about the blocked footpath at Swanton Farm although it is now nearly eight years since this was first reported and she will continue to chase for something to be done.

Patricia Stainton has mended the bridge on her land as the wood was very rotten and dangerous.

10. **Report from County Councillors:**

The County Councillors has sent their apologies and the Clerk will forward on their latest report when it is received.

11. **Report from the Police:**

The Clerk had not received a report from the Police.

12. **Dates of future meetings:**

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, 14th May, following the Annual Meeting, and subsequent meetings will be held on 9th July, 10th September, 12th November 2024 and Tuesdays, 14th January and 11th March 2025.

13. **Open Forum:**

Mary MacDonald Watson thanked the members of the Parish Council for not increasing the precept for the coming year. She was also concerned about the number of large lorries that frequently use Hassocks Lane, sometimes in a convoy of several lorries, as this road is not wide enough to accommodate such large vehicles and they are breaking down the banks

and it is a danger to other vehicles using the road. It was thought that they are possibly using this road to avoid using the road from Upton Noble because of the children coming out of school. It was noted that this had also been reported at a previous meeting and Eddie Harper had gone to see the owners involved and it was agreed that the Clerk would speak to him again to see what can be done.

Ann Saxton reported that the drain outside her property is still blocked and causing a problem.

The Chairman thanked everyone for attending and the meeting closed at 8.09pm.

These minutes were unanimously approved and signed as a correct record by the Chairman at the meeting of Brewham Parish Council on Tuesday, 14th May 2024.