

BREDHURST PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes of the Ordinary Parish Council Meeting
Blacksmiths Barn
Wednesday 10th April 2024 at 7.00pm



Present: Cllr Vanessa Jones (Chair), Cllr Dan Fifield, Cllr Sue Harwood, Cllr Andrew Lawrence, and Cllr Richard Collins

Steve Hill – Locum Clerk & RFO
 Public – 0

24/1 Apologies for Absence

Received from Cllr Claire Sharp and Cllr Lee Gooda.

24/2 Declarations of Interest

None declared.

24/3 Appointment of Locum Clerk & RFO

This is to **ratify** that Cllrs Fifield, Harwood, Collins, and Jones **agreed** by email to the appointment of Stephen Hill as the Locum Clerk and RFO to Bredhurst PC, from the 26th March 2024.

24/4 Minutes of the 13th March 2024 Parish Council Meeting

The minutes were **agreed** by Cllrs and signed by the Chair.

24/5 Matters Arising (for information only)

Cllrs who submitted nominations for election have been appointed. It was a non-contested election.

Action Points from 13-03-24

Action Points	Actions	Clerk or Cllr	Completed or new Agenda Item on 10-04-24
AP1	Planning Inspectorate report & appendices to be put on website	Clerk	Completed
AP2	Email residents regarding protest outside Town Hall 20/3/24	Clerk	Completed
AP3	Cllr Lawrence and Cllr Jones to attend and speak at full council meeting, advise Democratic Services.	Clerk	Completed
AP4	Inform charity event organiser, no charge for the barn.	Clerk	Completed
AP5	Financial statements for Q3 and Q4 to be completed.	Clerk	24/7a

24/6 Planning

Cllrs Jones provided an update on the latest information regarding Lidsing/MBC Local Plan. MBC adopted the local plan, 31:21 votes on 20th March although many modifications are required to make the Plan sound and deliverable. Soon after adoption, BPC received advice regarding a legal challenge of the Plan including advice there is only a six-week window allowed to bring a challenge. Details were circulated by email on 24th March. Cllrs Harwood, Collins, Gooda and Jones **agreed** to proceed. This decision was **ratified** on 10th April. Further items were discussed in the closed session. Legal challenges are also being considered by other organisations.

24/7 Finance

- a. The financial statement and bank reconciliation for March 2024 and the FYE statements were not available due to the resignation of the previous clerk. Item deferred. The locum clerk will inspect and review the financial records and present to Cllrs when his findings are complete.
- b. All payments made out of and at meeting were **agreed** by Cllrs.

Payments made out of meeting.

Ref:	Details	Amount	VAT*	Total	Auth
172	Bytes Software Services – March – Inv. 1256850	8.77	1.75	10.52	DD
176	Onecom Invoice – March – Inv. 7030662	33.70	6.74	40.44	DD

* VAT to be reclaimed.

Payments for authorising at meeting

Ref:	Details	Amount	VAT*	Total	Auth
1	Southern Water – Inv. 711002108392	23.64	-	23.64	SH & DF
2	Cllr Jones – Printer Paper/Barn Misc.	22.56	-	22.56	SH & DF
3	Motion, Transport Consultants – Inv. 17501	750.00	150.00	900.00	SH & DF
4	Safeplay – Monthly Inspection – Inv. 26464	55.00	11.00	66.00	SH & DF
5	Rachel Ford – Gardening – March (8 Hours)	220.00	-	220.00	SH & DF
6	Savills Q1 Playing Fields Lease- Inv. 903863	137.50	-	137.50	SH & DF
7	Every Little Nook - Barn Cleaning March Inv. 0048	64.00	-	64.00	SH & DF
8	Deposit Refund to Barn Hirer	100.00	-	100.00	SH & DF
9	Leigh Day – Leigh Day Fee - Stage 1 Inv. 1222333	1000	200.00	1200.00	SH & DF
9A	Leigh Day – Legal Counsel Fee: Stage 1 Inv. 1222333	1200	-	1200	SH & DF

* VAT to be reclaimed

Cllrs Harwood and Fifield **agreed** to authorise the above payments.

- c. KCC audit costs of £386 per day were considered. It was **agreed** by Cllrs for the 2023-24 Internal audit to be carried out by KCC. An alternative auditor for 2024-25 will be considered once other quotes have been received.

BPC must submit the AGAR to Mazars by 30 June 2024.

24/8 Reports from Parish Councillors

No reports received.

24/9 Reports from Borough and County Councillors (if present)

No reports received.

24/10 Correspondence

• Crime Reports:

Between 21:00 on Thursday 22nd February and 05:00 on Friday 23rd February in Kemsley Street Road, number plates from a Volkswagen Tiguan were stolen. Vehicle parked in the road.

Crime Report No. 46/30282/24 - Posted 27/02/2024.

On Monday 18th March around 01:30 in Dunn Street Road. A black Mercedes C32 AMG, X2*** was stolen from drive. **Crime Report No. 46/44588/24 - Posted 20/03/2024.**

- The Hazlitt open air theatre group wish to put on the Three Musketeers at Bredhurst Community Field on 25th August. Cllrs have no objections to the event providing it does not clash with any events being held in Village Hall on the same day.

AP1 - Cllr Jones to check dates with Village Hall.

- A resident from Hempstead has shown interest in becoming a Cllr for Bredhurst Parish Council. There are currently no vacancies, but this could change going forward.

AP2 - Cllr Jones to contact the resident and advise of the situation.

24/11 Closed Session

- a. Staffing – Locum Clerk contract discussed and agreed. Details minuted separately.
- b. Legal action regarding Local Plan was discussed and agreed. Details minute separately.

24/12 Close of Meeting

The meeting closed at 8.15pm

24/13 Date of Next Meeting – Tuesday 14th May at 7.00pm

Signed.....

Date.....