

**MINUTES OF THE
BRADFORD & COOKBURY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING**

Held on

Wednesday 13th March 2019

At 7.00 pm in Bradford & Cookbury Village Hall.

Present: Cllrs: Bill Pennington (Chairman), Kate Rowlands, Mike Welch, Tony Kulisa, Ann Richmond, John Rennie, Mark Smale, Nigel Manners, Andrew Oke.

Also present: Parish Clerk/RFO: Lindsay Dearing, TDCllr. Philip Hackett, DCCllr. Barry Parsons.

- 1) **Receive apologies of absence:** None.
- 2) **Declarations of Interest and dispensations.**
 - a) **To receive declarations of interest from councillors on items on the agenda.**
None.
 - b) **To receive written requests for dispensations for disclosable pecuniary interests (if any).** None.
 - c) **To grant any dispensations as appropriate.** None.
- 3) **Draft minutes of 13th February 2019, having been circulated,**
were approved and signed.

As the District and County Councillors were present the Chairman invited them to address the meeting first.

DCCllr. Barry Parsons expanded upon his recently circulated report: Highways has received more government funding, but still has a huge amount of repairs outstanding. Council Tax: Large difference between Torridge and Central London band D rates highlighted: Holsworthy Hospital: 3 years into the resurrection of services, hampered by severe staff shortages. A dialogue with Stratton Hospital is exploring possible staff sharing. Fuel poverty at 12.4% and Category 1 houses 26.2% in Torridge.

Cllr. Parsons left the meeting at 7.26pm

TDCllr. Philip Hackett further expanded on the Council Tax increases forced by the Government reduction in support grant and the inevitable cuts to services to balance the budget. Homelessness and emergency accommodation provision were hitting the council budgets. Police budgets from government: Nationally 33p per day; in Devon & Cornwall 26p per day per head of population. This inequality is being taken up with the Home Office.

4) Other items for discussion:

a) May Council Elections: Candidates and Nomination Forms

The clerk distributed the official nomination forms to those councillors wishing to stand in the parish election on May 2nd.

b) Vaglefield CB Funds. After discussion, it was unanimously decided to retain at least £5000 (the current balance) under the council's direct fiscal control. Any future surplus to this amount can be transferred into the Dunsland Community Benefit Fund sub-Committee budget. This will allow the council to consider smaller grant applications currently outside the scope of the CFC.

c) Vacancy on Dunsland Community Benefit Sub-Committee

A committee member vacancy and, in August, the secretary post are available for parishioner applicants to apply for. Applicants should contact the clerk for further details.

5) PLANNING

a) 1/0190/2019/FUL Erection of boundary fence, BP Bodyworks, Unit 1, Bryan Workshops, Dunsland Cross.

Councillors have been raising objection with planning over the removal of hedgerows, and encroachment of the roadside verge over recent years. This application is not supported on these grounds and that previous planning conditions do not appear to have been implemented..

6) FINANCE

a) Clerks March reimbursement of £13 was agreed for payment by transfer.

b) Payment record for Grant to Bradford Ladies Group in February was signed by the Chairman.

7) CORRESPONDENCE

a) Any other correspondence received since agenda produced.

A thank you letter to Mr W. Bryant for his help in producing the WW1 memorials was signed by the Chairman.

A further request for support from Hatherleigh Market will be lodged on the web link provided for comments.

At the close of the meeting TDCllr. Hackett said his farewells as the Coham Bridge ward will not exist after 2nd May. Parish councillors thanked him for his diligent and tireless service on behalf of the ward and the parish.

Date of next meeting: 10 April at 7.30pm

Close of meeting:9.07pm