

MINUTES
of the
BRADFORD & COOKBURY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
Held on

Wednesday 12th July 2023 at 7.30pm

Present: Cllrs: Mark Smale (Chairman), Ann Richmond, David Higgins, Karen Osborne, Elizabeth Chandler, Nick Langley, Terri Higgins.

Also present: Parish Clerk/RFO: Lindsay Dearing, TDCllr. Ken James and one member of the public.

AGENDA

- 1) **a) Receive apologies of absence:** Donna Bowman, Rebekah Allan, Andrew Oke.
b) Signing of declaration of acceptance of office by Cllr. Nick Langley
took place and was witnessed and signed by the clerk.
- 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.**
 - d) Current councillor vacancies:** 2 in Cookbury. None in Bradford.
- 3) **Draft minutes of 17 May 2023, having been circulated, were approved as an accurate record by the meeting and signed by the Chairman.**
- 4) **Other items for discussion:**
 - a) EV Charging points at Village Hall: Supply contract update.**
Cllr. Smale has sourced a UK based supplier and will arrange a 3 year service contract for the Chargers. Estimated cost is within budget allocated for the project.
 - b) Community Singing Group: possible uses for surplus funds from Coronation.**
After discussion it was agreed that the £117 will be used to off-set the Hall hire costs for the group agreed in May.
 - c) Whiteleigh Meadow meeting report from Cllr. Smale.**
Cllr. Smale attended on behalf of the council. Natural England were asking stakeholders for ideas for the future management of the SSSI. Cllr. Smale has contacted the Whiteleigh Commoners Association and put them in touch with the other stakeholders including the Devon Wildlife Trust.
 - d) Councillor Training courses: feedback from recent attendees.**
As the two councillors were not present this item was deferred.
- 5) **FINANCE**
 - a) 1st quarter accounts were reviewed and that they be approved as an accurate record.** Proposed: Cllr. Langley, seconded: Cllr. Richmond. Vote: Unanimous.
 - b) Confirmation of any BACS payments since last meeting:**
DALC Training £36, Hall Hire £83.20, Photo Albums £33.98
Payment records were signed by the Chairman.
 - c) VAT refund for last 12 months received.** £819.69 received, of which £656.46 was returned to the Vaglefield Community fund to cover item 4 (a).
- 6) **PLANNING**
 - a) 1/1300/2022/FULM Installation of 7.6MW Solar Farm and infrastructure (amended plans), Land at East Rightadown Farm, Brandis Corner.**
Previous comments still apply, project is supported in principal.
 - b) 1/0435/2023/FUL Erection of 1 dwelling & garage, Land at Cookbury.**
This appears to be a development in open countryside contrary to current rural development rules.

7) CORRESPONDENCE

a) Letter from Alison Nutt requesting support for parish athlete.

After discussion it was agreed to offer help with travel costs through a grant to the B&C Travel Club as a supportive measure. Cllr. Smale will contact Ms. Nutt.

b) Applications received for Clerk/RFO vacancy in October.

Two applications have been received from suitable candidates. It was agreed to proceed to interviews before the end of July.

c) Any other correspondence received since agenda produced.

A general e-mail from Totnes Town Council, sent to all Devon parishes, concerning the “20 is plenty” speed limit reduction campaign was briefly discussed. As a rural parish with no large nucleated settlements, where such a speed limit would not be viable, it was not deemed to be a policy worth furthering at the present time.

The developing problem of groups of cyclists speeding down the hill from Cookbury towards Middlecott and a potential risk to pedestrians was raised by the parishioner present. That section has a 60mph limit so would need to be addressed through signage. The clerk will initially contact the police for guidance, and also Devon Highways.

Date of next meeting: 27 September 2023

Close of meeting: 9.40pm

Signed **Date**