

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

Held on

Wednesday 27th October 2021

at 7.30pm

Present: Cllrs: Kate Rowlands, Mark Smale, Andrew Oke,
Nick Langley, Ann Richmond.

Also present: Parish Clerk/RFO: Lindsay Dearing, TDCllr. Ken James,
DCCllr. James Morrish, Mr T. Marsh.

AGENDA

- 1) a) **Receive nominations for election of meeting Chair.**
Cllr. Rowlands agreed to chair the meeting.
b) **Receive apologies of absence.** None received.
- 2) **Declarations of Interest, dispensations and vacancies**
 - a) **To receive declarations of interest from councillors on items on the agenda.**
DCCllr. Morrish is acquainted with the owner of the cattle discussed in 4 (a).
 - b) **To receive written requests for dispensations for disclosable pecuniary interests (if any).**
 - c) **To grant any dispensations as appropriate.**
 - d) **Resignation of Cllr. Nigel Manners in September.**
After many years of service to the council, Nigel has now left the parish.
 - e) **Current councillor vacancies.** 7 vacancies: 4 in Bradford and 3 in Cookbury, are all available to be filled by co-option. It is hoped to encourage new parishioners to join, when eligible.
- 3) **It was resolved that the draft minutes of the meeting of the Council held on the 11th August 2021 (circulated to members) is a correct record and were signed by the chair.**
- 4) **Items for discussion:**
 - a) **Whiteleigh Meadow SSSI: Report from Natural England concerning alleged cattle trespass to neighbouring farms and bulls on field with public right of way (PROW).** Mr T. Marsh, an adjoining property owner, detailed his complaint about cattle from the Common breaking his fencing, trespassing on his land and expressed concern about overgrazing. The clerk gave an update on some of the actions of interested agencies: Natural England have contacted the parish council and Black Torrington PC (as the parish councils are joint custodians of Whiteleigh Meadow) and informed us that they have served an enforcement notice on the owner of the cattle and that legal action may follow. The council will await events and have sought further advice from the DALC/NALC concerning their joint powers, if any, and have also contacted Devon PROW officer and Forestry England, as Cookworthy Forest boundaries the Meadow, and has also experienced cattle breaking fencing and entering the forest.
Mr Marsh left the meeting at 8.10pm
 - b) **Any CBF Committee grant requests for approval and payment.**
A request for £5080.50 towards refurbishing the Village Hall flooring, recommended by the CBF Committee at their August meeting, was agreed for payment by transfer.
Proposed: Cllr. Richmond; Seconded Cllr. Oke. Vote: unanimous.
 - c) **Road condition: Lana Cross to Holemoor.**
Cllr. Smale, as parish Road Warden, raised concerns about the state of this road. DCCllr. Morrish has reported this to Highways and was informed that repairs are budgeted for the current year.
- 5) **FINANCE**
 - a) **Half-year accounts for review and approval.**
That the accounts be accepted as a true and accurate record:
Proposed: Cllr. Oke; Seconded Cllr. Richmond. Vote: Unanimous.

DCCllr. Morrish left the meeting at 8.25pm

6) CORRESPONDENCE

a) Any correspondence received since agenda produced.

A Cookbury parishioner contacted Cllr. Smale concerning defibrillator training. This was discussed and it was agreed the another training session will be organised in the Spring of 2022. Councillors will circulate this information to parishioners.

b) Cllr. Langley expressed concern at the amount of dog excrement being left in the lane from Holemoor to the School. Notices will be placed.

Date of next meeting: TBA

Close of meeting: 8.50pm