

# BADWELL ASH PARISH COUNCIL

## MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH COUNCIL MEETING BADWELL ASH VILLAGE HALL THURSDAY 22 JUNE 2017 7.00 PM

### PRESENT:

Councillors Clive Hawkins (Chairman) (CH), Bim Patel (BP), Christopher Evans (CE), Ed Walsh (EW), David Smith (DS) and Clive Morris (CM).

### IN ATTENDANCE:

Councillor Roy Barker (RB), Christopher Garman (Parish Clerk) (CG) and 12 members of public.

### 1. PUBLIC FORUM

- 1.1. There was concern about hedges overhanging highways in the location of the White Hart PH and Badwell House.
- 1.2. It was suggested there is a need for a village minibus to take people to doctors etc. However, a facility is already available using Connecting Communities who can organise transport.
- 1.3. On Remembrance Sunday, there will be a service in church at 10.15 am followed by a service at the war memorial at 10.55 am.
- 1.4. County Councillor Jane Storey was not present and there was no report.
- 1.5. District Councillor Roy Barker gave an update in the boundary changes and ward sizes. A consultation is in progress. There will be a presentation on equipment for discouraging speeding vehicles at Great Ashfield on 28 June 2017. Section 106 funds will soon be released for the drainage work on the playing fields. It had been noted that some of the local footpath stiles were in poor repair. In respect of the former school site, RB reported he had no response from the Diocese.

### 2. APOLOGIES

- 2.1. All councillors were present.

### 3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATIONS

- 3.1. No declarations of interest.
- 3.2. No requests for dispensations.

### 4. MINUTES

- 4.1. The minutes of the meeting held 11 May 2017 had been previously circulated.  
**It was resolved that these were an accurate record of the meeting.**
- 4.2. There were no matters arising.

### 5. CLERK'S REPORT AND CORRESPONDENCE

- 5.1. CG had made little progress with installing the defibrillator at the new location. However, CE has now got the cabinet in working order. Also, CE has been in touch with Jonathan Needle of the Ambulance Service to check what is needed to get operational. Some new pads etc are needed and CE will investigate purchase. CE and BP will also approach the White Hart PH and the owner to confirm arrangements for fixing the cabinet to their wall and a suitable power supply.
- 5.2. It was confirmed that it was appropriate that new councillors should attend a SALC training course. The cost of fees and reasonable transport to be met by the Parish Council.

5.3. CG mentioned a letter concerning boundary changes which RB had previously mentioned. There is a consultation in progress.

## 6. ENVIRONMENT

- 6.1. The issue of permissive footpaths was considered. CG had previously circulated the response from the footpaths officer at MSDC. There were concerns on how this could be moved forward and the difficulties this could encounter, and the time and resources available. CG is to investigate what is involved in pursuing this further in both skills, time and funding.
- 6.2. The Community Speedwatch team are now seeking funding to purchase equipment. BP reported on progress to date and the collaboration with Great Ashfield PC. This is working well and the team are covering Badwell Ash, Long Thurlow and Great Ashfield. Funding is needed ideally for two SID's at approx. £3600 inc VAT each and a speed gun at approx. £1200 inc VAT. Great Ashfield have almost secured funding for one SID. Badwell Ash have allocated budget for equipment but would need additional funding and both district and county councillors are to be approached for possible funding from their locality budgets. Guidelines for speed guns means there are no appropriate sites in Badwell Ash.
- 6.3. The new street light is still work in progress. SCC have advised it should be working by the end of June when hopefully UKPN will have made the appropriate connections.
- 6.4. CG has been pursuing the issue of the lack of visibility when vehicles are exiting Austen Close with SCC Highways. SCC will be writing to the resident that uses the disabled parking bay to seek a solution.
- 6.5. A request had been received to give the noticeboard by the telephone box to the PCC. There was some confusion with the noticeboard that is fixed to the wall of the former school building. However, the board by the telephone box is the official parish council board and should remain so.
- 6.6. It has been highlighted that space in the extended churchyard is limited. It was acknowledged that the Parish Council are not obliged to provide a burial ground. However, enquires will be made to find suitable land. As a first step, CG is to approach the owner of the land off Hunston Road as this was considered a possible site many years ago.
- 6.7. CM had made enquiries about sourcing and costing of a new noticeboard at Long Thurlow to replace the existing noticeboard which is beyond economic repair. There is a resident that is prepared to make one using oak. CM is to seek a design and firm price, and prices from internet providers.
- 6.8. A report from the Community Street Cleaner concerning the condition of signage had been previously circulated. As a first step, CG to ask SCC Highways to replace the fading 30 mph signs in Long Thurlow and Richer Road. Also, CG to request for '30' to be painted on the road.
- 6.9. A response had been received from the Diocese about the future of the former school site and how the sale would secure benefits for the village hall etc. This had been circulated previously but as it had only been received that day, further discussion on the proposal will be deferred until the next meeting.

## 7. PLANNING

- 7.1. There were no new planning applications.
- 7.2. It was noted that the application in respect of The Bailey, Richer Road, has been approved.

## 8. FINANCE AND POLICIES

- 8.1. The following payments were considered:
  - £28.76 to Dean Clarke - expenses
  - £89.40 to Dean Clarke - salary
  - £85.00 to Malcom Saunders - audit
  - £318.00 to MSDC – bin emptying
  - £59.60 to HMRC – PAYE/NI

**It was resolved to issue cheques for all the above payments.**

- 8.2. BP advised that Badwell Ash Playing Field and Recreation Ground would be applying for a grant of £4000 towards the refurbishment costs of the village hall toilets. The total cost is approx. £6600 and further grant

funding has been secured. The request was looked upon favourably and BP will be finalising quotations for the work and a formal request will then be submitted.

8.3. BP advised that Badwell Ash Playing Field and Recreation will be proceeding with the drainage work on the playing field using the section 106 monies. However, a letter of support from the Parish Council is required.

**It was resolved that this project was to be supported and to issue a letter of support to MSDC.**

8.4. The bank mandate needs updating following recent changes.

**It was resolved that CE and EW are to be new signatories and Stephen Rose is to be deleted.**

#### 9. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next scheduled meeting will be Thursday 3 August 2017 at 7.30 pm. However, there is a need for an interim meeting which will be arranged to discuss two planning applications and possibly the letter from the Diocese.

Meeting closed at 9.00 pm.

Christopher Garman  
Parish Clerk  
25 June 2017