



Brean Parish Council

Approved Minutes of the Brean Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 6 March 2017

Present

Cllr J Harris	Chairman
Cllr T Hicks	Vice-Chairman
Councillors	Mrs J Jackman, Mrs J Smith, Mr D Scott, and Mr D Holland

In attendance:-

Cllr T Grimes	Sedgemoor District Council
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Five members of the public

Jacqueline Manning	Clerk to the Council
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37/17 Apologies

Cllr Chatterton was not present.

38/17 Declaration of Interests

Cllr Harris informed the meeting that where members consider they may have a potential interest in any topic for discussion and decision they should declare an interest and withdraw from the discussion and decision making process.

39/17 Approval of draft minutes

The draft minutes of the meeting dated Monday 6 February 2017 were approved without amendment and signed by the Chairman.

40/17 To respond to members of the public

Tony Tandy from Weston Angling Club informed the meeting that the Club would like to hold a fishing competition in October 2017. Mr Tandy wanted to enquire what information the Parish Council would want the Club to supply. To be discussed further under agenda item Beach Management.

41/17 Discussion of matters arising from previous minutes

Invitation to James Heapey to attend a parish meeting to discuss village issues – Mr Heapey could attend on a Thursday or Friday evening. Members agreed that a Thursday evening would be preferable and that the meeting could be open to members of the public.

Action: Clerk to follow up with Mr Heapey's PA.

Winter bus service to Brean – the Clerk had contacted First Group, who had clarified that the Sunday service would start on 9 April 2017, but that the increased frequency service for the summer timetable would not start until 1 May 2017. The costs of starting the summer service earlier would not be balanced by demand. A discussion followed:

- Increased visitor numbers meant that the service needed to start from 1 March.
- Single-decker buses might be a cost-effective solution.
- Residents needed the buses to get to work.
- It would be helpful to meet with a representative of First Group to go through issues.

Action: Clerk to contact First Group again to explain the above points and request a meeting with a local representative.

Maintenance of road signs and markings – there was to be a meeting with Liam Gill from Highways, to discuss blocked drains in the village. The issue of road signs and markings could be discussed at the same time.

Traffic congestion and lack of pedestrian crossings in Brean – a request for a new crossing would need to be put on the Small Improvements Scheme. Councillors agreed that the crossing should be located at Brean Court and should be a zebra crossing.

Action: Clerk to request that Cllr Denbee submit this application to the Small Improvements Scheme.

Signage for beach – dogs to be kept on lead at busy times. Cllr Scott reported that he would be contacting Sandbay Parish Council about problems that they had experienced with dogs on the beach. It was possible that we might have to consider asking dog owners to keep dogs on lead at peak times. Cllr Scott to report back at the next meeting in April 2017.

LDF consultation – Councillors reviewed a list of points as follows:

Brean had retained Tier 3 status – in view of the population figures, members were in agreement with Tier 3 status for the village.

Flood defences – Policy BH11. No flood defences were planned for Brean. Flooding was more likely to come from the river rather than the sea and flood defences were needed. All agreed.

Residential boundary map – Hill View and Knoll Park should be included within the residential boundary. All agreed.

Land adjacent to St Bridget's Church was to be allocated as a public open space. All agreed.

Flood risk assessments – each planning application currently had to be submitted with a FRA. There should be one comprehensive flood risk assessment for the area, rather than a repetitive FRA for every planning application. All members agreed.

The tourism boundary was not correct. Modernisation had been allowed for in the Plan, but the tourism boundary did not allow for expansion and needed to be increased.

Cllr Hicks commented that there should be improvements to the coast road to Berrow. We should support this and also a link road to the motorway. All members agreed.

Action: Clerk to submit the Parish Council's comments to Sedgemoor.

42/17 **Current Planning Applications**

➤ **Application No: 06/16/00044**

Proposal: Erection of detached triple garage and formation of paved drive area

Location: Beaumont Lodge, Warren Road, Brean, Burnham On Sea, TA8 2RP

Noted: granted permission on 9/2/2017.

➤ **Application No: 06/17/00001**

Proposal: Erection of a vehicle maintenance building

Location: Land to the West of the Bowling Green at Brean Leisure Park, Coast Road, Berrow, Burnham-on-Sea, TA8 2QY

Noted: granted permission on 9/02/2017.

43/17 **New Planning Applications for consideration by the Parish Council**

There were no new planning applications this month.

44/17 **Beach Management**

Schnauzer dog walk event – the date for the dog walk was confirmed as Sunday 23 April 2017. Members suggested that we ask the organisers to walk the dogs on the harder sand away from the dunes and children playing.

Letter from Brean Land Yacht Club to James Heapey MP – in view of the numbers of other beach users, members considered that the bye-laws were correct as they were.

Action: Clerk to write to Mr Heapey.

Members discussed the request from Weston Angling Club to hold a fishing competition in October this year:

- It was noted that there would be approximately 50-100 anglers, fishing on the beach from the Seagull to Brean Down.
- Parking would be on the beach or at the Seagull.
- Insurance arrangements were in place and there would be first-aiders and marshalls.
- Depending on the time of the competition, arrangements might be needed to lock the gates to the beach, which were usually locked around 5 or 6 pm in October.

Members agreed that the event could take place. Mr Tandy would let us know the date and supply paperwork in due course.

45/17 **Reports from Councillors on village issues**

- Footpath to Weston – Cllr Hicks reported that this had progressed slowly over the last three weeks. Fencing had been put up at Warren Farm. The anticipated completion date was still planned for May 2017.
- Village Hall management committee – Cllr Harris would contact Derek Petrie and ask him to contact Cllr Smith.
- Blocked drains – Cllr Harris was due to meet with Liam Gill, but the meeting had been postponed.
Action: Clerk to check new date and inform Cllr Harris.
- Complaints regarding fencing at The Old Rectory – the fencing had been erected out on the verge, and verbal complaints from residents had been received by Cllr Harris and Cllr Scott. There was discussion about whether the land had formerly been an open space, which provided a footpath for pedestrians. Members noted that landowners had the right to put up

fences, as long as these were not over a certain height. Cllr Harris stated that we needed to clarify the legal position and would write to Planning Control at Sedgemoor District Council.

Action: Clerk to investigate with Planning Control.

- Cllr Harris gave notice of a meeting with the Police on Thursday 9 March 2017 at 1pm at The Tavern. This was a follow-up to the meeting that took place at the end of 2016.

46/17 **Feedback from the Joint Sedgemoor Parishes Cluster Meeting on Wednesday 22 February 2017.**

The Clerk reported that this had been a well-attended meeting with many questions from Parishes. The topics for the meeting had been Highways Matters and the LDF consultation plan:

- Highways Matters – this section had been led by Cllr David Fothergill. Parishes had a number of questions ranging from the timely development of infrastructure to repairs to potholes and changes to speed limits. It had been explained that if parishes required traffic calming measures or pedestrian crossings, they should contact their Ward Councillor and request a submission to the Small Improvements Scheme. Councillors are asked to promote two such schemes every year.
- LDF consultation plan – a presentation was given by Nick Tait, and a handout of this presentation was included in the circulation file for members' information. The aim of the presentation was to summarise the current LDF plan. Thirteen and a half thousand new homes were to be built in the period until 2032, which equated to 644 per annum. 60% of this growth would take place in Bridgwater and Tier 3 would absorb 7% of the total. The presentation covered each tier of the Plan, showing strategic allocations for each one. At this stage, there was evidence to support the Plan, together with a detailed sustainability assessment. Next steps were that the consultation would finish on 17 March 2017 at 5pm. Then the Council would consider all representations and various modifications to the Plan might be recommended. All comments would be forwarded to an independent inspector and would be discussed at a public examination which was likely to take place later this year. Adoption of the Plan was expected to be by March 2018.

47/17 **Approval of cheques for the current month's expenditure**

A schedule of cheques and direct debit expenditure for February 2017 is included at Annex 1 to the minutes.

48/17 **Financial matters**

Councillors received schedules of payments and receipts for the period 01/01/2017 to 31/01/2017.

The Chairman received and signed the bank reconciliation statements for 31 January 2017, together with schedules of payments and receipts for January 2017.

A report on income and expenditure for the period April 2016 to January 2017 was circulated to all members for information.

The Clerk had prepared draft financial regulations, using a standard document obtained from SALC. Minor changes had been made to reflect practice at Brea. The draft document was on circulation for members to consider.

49/17 **Staffing matters – Clerk**

The candidate we were hoping to interview had withdrawn her application and a re-advertisement had been put on the SALC website, with a closing date of 31 March 2017.

50/17 **Adoption of Standing Orders**

Members agreed to formally adopt the standing orders, subject to one minor amendment in paragraph numbering.

51/17 **Correspondence for review and circulation**

- Somerset Coast Advice Partnership – request for support
The Somerset Coast Advice Partnership had written setting out details of services they were planning for local residents and people coming into the area to work at Hinckley. The Partnership requested Councillors to confirm if they were willing to offer financial support for these services. The letter was on circulation for members to consider.
- Notice of RLT2 Funds available to parishes
We had received a reminder notice of the RLT2 funds available. For Brean, this was £793.00.
Action: Clerk to check if these funds could be used for such items as beach signage.

52/17 **To note the following correspondence on the circulation list**

- Draft financial regulations
- Advance Notice of the Great Weston Ride on 16 July 2017
- E-mail – Heart of the South West Productivity Plan
- SDC – presentation from Joint Sedgemoor Parishes Cluster Meeting 22 February 2017
- SDC – briefing note regarding the forthcoming Somerset County Council elections
- SDC – information round-up form members 22 February 2017
- SDC – news release: no cuts to services and best economic regional growth
- PCC newsletter – Stop and Search Know Your Rights
- Hinckley Point C Look Ahead February 2017

53/17 **Members' comments on previously circulated correspondence**

No comments had been raised for discussion at the meeting.

54/17 **Other matters raised by Councillors for discussion at the next meeting in March 2017**

Cllr Hicks commented that the road towards Animal Farm had collapsed on the left hand side.

Cllr Scott raised the following issues:

Could Highways look at the road surface between Merrybee and Northam Farm?

Grass-cutting – could this be carried out earlier in the year, and could verges be cut twice instead of once?

Had any progress been made with moving the bus stop nearer to Animal Farm?

Action: Clerk to contact SDC about the bus stop.

Cllr Holland mentioned the pile of sand on the beach that had been excavated at Wayside; it was confirmed that this had been moved.

55/17 **Date of next meeting**

It was agreed that the next meeting would take place on Monday 3 April 2017, at 7.00 pm in Brean Village Hall.

The meeting was declared closed at 8.10 pm.