



# Brean Parish Council

## Approved Minutes of the Brean Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 4 April 2016

### Present

Cllr J Harris  
Cllr T Hicks  
Councillors

Chairman  
Vice-Chairman  
Mr D Holland, Mr D Scott, Mrs J Jackman, Mrs J Smith, Mr M  
Chatterton

### In attendance:-

Cllr T Grimes, Sedgemoor District Council, 1 elector of Brean, two members of St Bridget's Parochial Church Council, 1 representative of the South and West Association of Traction Kiting (SWATK), 1 member of the Press (Weston Mercury), and Jacqueline Manning, Clerk to the Council.

### 50/16 Apologies

No apologies had been received.

### 51/16 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.

### 52/16 Approval of draft minutes

The draft minutes of the meeting dated Monday 7 March 2016 were approved without amendment and signed by the Chairman.

### 53/16 To respond to the electors of Brean

At this point, the Chairman informed the meeting that the Monitoring Officer at Sedgemoor District Council had pointed out that any member of the public has the right to speak at a parish meeting, even if they are not an elector of Brean. The Clerk was to investigate this point and make any necessary amendments to future agendas.

1 elector reported that since the last parish council meeting in March 2016, the gate to the National Trust car park had only been locked once, and cars had been speeding up and down the road.

There had also been reports that a horse had fallen off the Down. No horse had been washed up and the Chairman reported that this was believed to be a hoax call.

A representative from the South and West Association of Traction Kiting (SWATK) explained that there would be tandem buggy rides on the beach at the VW event. The planned time was 6-8 pm, but there would be a high tide that day, and permission was therefore sought to start at 4 pm.

#### 54/16 Discussion of matters arising from previous minutes

Crown lease – in progress.

WW2 memorial – Marion Kerby had brought a full-size plan of the proposed memorial, together with a piece of stone showing a figure of a soldier in relief. All agreed that the names should be the same as the paper scroll in the Church. Councillors agreed to go ahead with the new memorial and the Chairman thanked Marion for all her work.

Parish notice-board – the Clerk had looked at specifications and confirmed that the price would be £648.00 + VAT, giving a total price of £777.60. Councillors confirmed that the surround should be in aluminium and the lettering at the top of the board should match the format of the Brean Parish Council letterhead. The “Etna” shape was chosen for the header.

**Action:** Clerk to place an order.

Sand hazard opposite Brean Down Inn – this had been removed. No further action.

Re-valuation of rates for Weston Road toilets – the Clerk reported that there should be void relief for the five months of the year that the toilets were locked. The Valuation Office would be able to confirm if this was already included. The Clerk was looking into this.

Donation towards grass-cutting at St Bridget’s Church – all members agreed that a donation of £500.00 should be made. Cheque to be made out for signature at the May 2016 meeting.

National Trust car park at Brean Down – the Chairman had spoken to Tracey Grobbeler, PCSO. She had confirmed that police do attend to monitor the situation when possible. The National Trust was planning to renovate the car park, and in the meantime, there would be some resurfacing works.

Letter to Stardust to request lorries unload at less busy times – the Clerk had written. No response had been received as yet.

Communities for Renewables Wick Solar Farm community owned project. Councillors discussed briefly and decided that they would like to visit the solar farm in June 2016.

**Action:** Clerk to arrange.

Resurfacing in Weston Road – noted that preparation works would take place on 16/18 May 2016, followed by resurfacing works on 23/25 May. The road would be closed on these dates.

Litter picking on the verges in Brean – Cllr Harris had spoken to Keith Cann from Clean Surroundings and it had been agreed to monitor the litter picking over the next couple of months to make sure it improves.

#### 55/16 **Current Planning Applications**

- **Reference 06/16/00001/DD** – Use of land to site a static caravan for employee use during the holiday. Location: The Old Rectory Motel, Church Road, Brean, Burnham-on-Sea, TA8 2SF.  
**Noted** that the above application had been invalidated, as a flood risk assessment was required.
- **Reference 06/16/00002/STP** – Erection of single storey extensions to North and East elevations. Location: Hideaway, Brean Down Road, Brean Burnham-on-Sea, TA8 2RS.  
**Noted** that there had been an amendment to the above application, and that the date for comments had been extended to 22 April 2016. The Council had approved the original application and this was still supported, with no further observations to offer.
- **Licensing Act 2003. Application for a New Premises Licence** – Northam Farm Café and Takeaway.  
**Noted** that a licence had been issued on 31 March 2016.
- **Licensing Act 2003. Application for a New Premises Licence** - National Trust Brean Down Cove and Café.  
**Noted** that the application was still under consideration by Sedgemoor District Council.

#### 56/16 **New Planning Applications**

Planning applications received in respect of Diamond Lodge Meadow Park – temporary change of use for specified lodges to be used for residential use for the lifetime of the current occupants, after which, to revert back to holiday accommodation, as varied by Planning Permission 06/09/00014. Please see Appendices 1 and 2 to the minutes for details of the applications. Appendix 2 contains details of applications received after the agenda was circulated.

Cllrs Hicks, Harris and Scott declared an interest and left the room. Cllr Grimes also left the room. Cllr Holland took the chair.

Councillors had given long and careful consideration to the applications and to the supporting statements and letters. Councillor Jackman stated that she was in favour of the applications. Further discussion took place and a vote was taken with the result that there were 3 votes against the proposals, and 1 in favour. **Resolved:** to object to the planning applications in respect of Diamond Meadow Lodge Park, on the grounds of non-compliance with national, regional and local planning policy and guidance, and on the grounds of environmental issues arising from the situation of the lodges on a flood plain.

Cllrs Hicks, Harris, Scott and Grimes returned to the room.

The Chairman reported that he and Alan House had met with Nick Tait at SDC, to discuss capacity grid and site licensing issues. (Capacity Grid works with local

councils on matters such as reviews of mobile homes on static caravan sites.)  
Members briefly discussed site licensing generally.

#### 57/16 **Beach Management**

Update on concession holders – there were no new concession holders for the two vacant food concessions, or for bouncy castle rides. The Clerk had sent an advertisement to burnham-on-sea.com, but to date, this had not appeared on the local jobs board section of the website.

**Action:** Clerk to chase.

Seasonal caravan pitch holders – request to hold one barbecue event on the beach during July or August. This had been discussed at the March meeting and permission had been declined. The Clerk reported that the representative from the Facebook community had e-mailed to ask for re-consideration. It was agreed to ask for more information about expected numbers of people, whether first-aiders were needed, was any security planned, and had any risk assessments been completed. Councillors also expressed concern about numbers attending, given that the event was on Facebook.

SWATK – permission to start buggying at 4pm at the 2016 VW event. Cllr Harris explained that a 4 pm start would not be in accordance with the bye-laws, and that any change would need to go through Sedgemoor District Council. The request was therefore declined.

An e-mail from Mrs Duke had been received about a dog-walking event, planned for two Sundays on 25 September and 16 October 2016. There would be about 100 Schnauzer dogs and their owners. Cllr Harris explained that this was a well-run event. Members agreed that dogs should be walked near to the dunes to avoid other beach users such as kite buggies and land yachts, and that dogs should be kept on leads when near other beach users.

**Action:** Clerk to e-mail Mrs Duke.

#### 58/16 **Reports from Councillors on village issues**

Drain in Wyndham Park - an engineer had attended on 14 March 2016, and would be reporting back in due course.

#### 59/16 **Approval of cheques for the current month's expenditure**

A schedule of cheques for March 2016 expenditure was circulated for information and approval. Cheque expenditure is included at Annex 1.

#### 60/16 **Financial matters**

The Chairman received and signed the bank reconciliation statement dated 3 March 2016, together with a payments and receipts report for the period 04/02/2016 to 03/03/2016.

A report on income and expenditure for the period April 2015 to February 2016 was circulated to all members for information.

**61/16 Availability of Policy RLT2 and RLT3 monies**

Members noted that monies were available should any development take place in the village. The monies would be held for ten years.

**62/16 Requirements of Automatic Enrolment**

The staging date for the Parish Council was 1 October 2016 and we were required to choose a pension scheme. Members noted that NEST, the workplace pension set up by government, was one of the pension providers available and members decided to adopt this scheme.

**Action:** Clerk to set up scheme with NEST.

**63/16 Renewal of Insurance Policy**

The Council's insurance policy was due for renewal in June 2016. Members agreed that it would be appropriate to seek quotes and it was decided to obtain two.

**Action:** Clerk to obtain quotes.

**64/16 Correspondence for review**

1. Campaign for the Protection of Rural England (CPRE) – request for the Parish Council to join CPRE.  
Members decided against joining CPRE.
2. Advance Notice – 2016 Great Weston bike ride.  
Noted that this was taking place on 17<sup>th</sup> July 2016.
3. E-mail from SDC – surveying, restoration and maintenance of fingerpost signs in Somerset.  
The poor condition of the fingerpost at the junction with Weston Road was noted.  
**Action:** Clerk to write to SDC to find out if any funds were available for repairing the fingerpost.
4. E-mail from Historic England – proposal to assess the WW1 memorial for special architectural or historic interest.  
Historic England had compiled a report of factual details about the WW1 memorial, prior to a decision about giving it listed status. Members decided that they did not want the memorial to be listed, as they felt there was no benefit, and the Parish Council is responsible for maintaining it anyway.  
**Action:** Clerk to inform Historic England.

**65/16 To note the following correspondence on the circulation list**

1. Letter from SDC – Policy RLT2 and RLT3 contributions from developers
2. SDC – News Update on Local Plan (core strategy) 5 year review
3. Introductory e-mail from the new Sedgemoor Neighbourhood Sergeant
4. The Stream – progress update Easter 2016
5. Hinkley Point C Look Ahead April 2016
6. Sedgemoor District Council News Release – ready for Spring
7. Sedgemoor District Council News Release – community safety survey
8. Government Policy on planning permission for new mobile phone masts
9. E-mail from Mrs Duke – dog walk event
10. Tourism Update – March 2016

Items added after the agenda was circulated:

E-mail from Frederick Wilde – National Trust car park at Brean Down.

**66/16 Members' comments on previously circulated correspondence**

There were no issues to raise.

**67/16 Other matters for discussion raised by Councillors**

Cllr Jackman queried why we were still putting minutes in Coastline, at a cost of £25.50. It was confirmed that we had decided to keep submitting minutes for the next year, and then review costs and benefits.

Cllr Scott reported the following issues:

A child had been knocked down outside Stardust Amusements and the police had been called to the incident. No vehicles had been parked outside at the time.

PCSO Tracey Grobbeler had asked if a vehicle could be made available for her to travel to Brean, as use of patrol cars is being cut back. Members agreed that PCSO Grobbeler needed access to a car.

Action: Clerk to write to Sue Mountstevens, the Avon and Somerset Police and Crime Commissioner, with a copy to James Heappey MP.

Cllr Holland had a copy of the Hinkley Point C – Marine Delivery Operations newsletter for March 2016. It was agreed this would be on the circulation list for the next meeting in May 2016.

Cllr Harris reported that a bank of street lights had gone out – this would be taken forward to next month's meeting.

Cllr Harris also informed members that the question of Standing Orders had arisen. Councillors recalled that they had previously voted against the adoption of Standing Orders, but it was agreed to look at this again, using a model scheme as a basis.

**Action:** Clerk to obtain model scheme.

**68/16 Date of next meeting**

The next meeting would take place on Monday 9 May 2016.

The meeting closed at 8.20 pm.