



Brean Parish Council

Clerk to the Council Hazel Brinton, 35 Hannah Drive, Locking, Weston s Mare BS24 7JS

Minutes of the Brean Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 2nd September 2019

Present

Chairman Cllr T Hicks
Councillors J Augustus, M Chatterton, T Legg and from minute 56/19 N McCoy, M Baker and A Noble
Clerk to the Council Hazel Brinton

County Cllr Filmer and two members from the RNLI together with three members of the public were in attendance.

The Chairman opened the meeting by thanking Peter Wright for serving as a parish councillor who would be missed by those on the parish council. Mr Wright had unfortunately had to step down from the council but he had put forward a number of good proposals in his short tenure.

55/19 Apologies

Apologies from District Cllr Grimes were received.

56/19 To consider the co-option of three candidates to the parish council

It was unanimously agreed to co-opt Nicola McCoy, Michael Baker and Alan Noble to the parish council. All three signed their Declarations of Acceptance of Office in front of the clerk.

57/19 Declaration of Interests

No declarations of interest were received.

58/19 Approval of draft minutes

The draft minutes of the meeting dated Monday 1st July 2019 were approved by council and signed by the Chairman.

59/19 To respond to members of the public

Two members of the RNLI gave information on how they felt a lifeguard service could be provided to Brean. Lifeguards are currently stationed at Burnham on Sea and Berrow and whilst happy to help in times of risk to life, they are not always able to respond to requests for help from the Brean beach wardens. Councillors asked for more information on a proposal for a beach lifeguarding service and the clerk was asked to make contact initially.

60/19 Discussion of matters arising from previous minutes

- Fencing at Old Rectory – the Chairman reported that a planning application was in with SDC for the property in question and suggested that any further discussion be held over until the planning application was discussed by council.

61/19 To note progress with on-going planning application and applications for premises licences –

Signed by Chairman.....

7th October 2019

- **06/19/00003/DRT:** Erection of detached dwelling and garage partly on site of adjoining garage to be demolished – **councillors noted that the application had now been withdrawn.**

62/19 To review new Planning Applications and Licensing Act Premises Licences for consideration

- **06/19/00006/LE : Erection of workshop building for light industrial use partly on site of existing farm workshop building to be demolished.** County and District Cllr Bob Filmer left the room whilst the application was discussed. Cllrs Chatterton and Legg had reviewed the application and location and reported on findings to members. It was unanimously resolved to recommend the application for approval based on the following comments:
 - The appearance and design matched the current street scene
 - There would be little or no noise from the building once constructed
 - There would be little impact on the surrounding roads
 - There was no privacy concerns with no immediate neighbours
 - There were already building in situ and the site would only be enhanced with the demolition of an old building to be replaced with a new
 - There were no concerns on the height of the building

Cllr Filmer re-joined the meeting

63/19 Reports on beach management

The Chairman thanked previous councillor Jon Harris for looking after the beach over the summer. Cllr Noble had also been helping out and Cllr McCoy was asked to support him with the future management. Mr Harris would carry on and help out as necessary.

- **Abandoned vehicle** – the matter was discussed by council at some length as the parish council was facing a bill of £3600 for the removal of the vehicle that had been left by the owner stuck on the beach. The parish council had arranged to have it removed after it had been swamped several times by the tide as there was a risk of pollution and danger to water users at high tide as the vehicle was submerged. Cllr Noble offered to look on an ONS map to determine the exact location of the abandoned vehicle to establish if the Harbour Master was actually responsible for its removal. The clerk was asked to complete the necessary DVLA form to see if the owner could be traced. The Chairman asked whether the risk should be insured. It was suggested that the parking concession holder could be required to have an insured vehicle to remove stuck vehicles at the next tender.
- **Beach litter picks** – the dates of 15th or 22nd September; 6th or 20th October and 10th or 17th November were noted . Cllrs McCoy and Noble will arrange the actual dates.
- **Knoll Park Residents Association request** – Cllr Noble will organise the relocation of seaweed as per the request.
- **Wrist bands** – Cllr Noble will speak with Discover Brea to establish if they would sponsor them next year.
- **Miscellaneous**– Cllr Noble reported that there was a proposal to alter the beach leaflet to add a warning regarding the parking of vehicles and the mud. He also reported that Jon Harris had offered the warden’s vehicle to the parish council. He added that the warden thought it would be good for another couple of years but the parish council would be responsible for maintenance and repair costs. Cllr Noble was asked to speak with the local garage re servicing costs with the council to pay for the parts. Residents’ passes would continue to be given out at

Warren Farm during the summer and Cllr Noble would hand them out in the winter.

- **Sun loungers concession** – it was noted that this did not go ahead.
- **Running event** – the Beach running race would take place on 11th July 2020

64/19 Update from the clerk on Public Sector Website Accessibility Regulations –

the clerk reported that she had attended the SLCC webinar regarding the new regulations and said that it would involve her assessing the current website for ease of use and addressing any issues found going forwards. There would be a fair amount of work but the parish council did have until September 2020 to comply.

65/19 To consider matters of interest to the Village

- **Brean Court flooding** – the Chairman gave the background to the issue to members. The clerk was asked to contact SCC and ask for a review of the drainage issues from Pinewood to the ditch as this was the responsibility of SCC Highways. She was asked to attach the report commissioned by the Chairman to the correspondence with SCC.
- **Rural Community Energy Grant** – it was noted that this could possibly apply to the Village Hall as a project. Cllr Augustus noted that the matter could be considered further as the funding was being released in quarterly tranches.
- **Natural England Coastal Access Path consultation** – the Chairman noted that whilst some landowners in Brean were affected, the parish council was not directly affected by the new path. It was agreed that there would no response from the parish council.
- **“Members Improving Lives Grant”** – members would consider further possible applications for the grant.
- **Powerlines being hit by birds** – the clerk gave new members the background to the issue and said that she was chasing Western Power for a response to her communications with them over the matter.
- **Village Hall** – Cllr Chatterton had met with Linda Trebble who had agreed to be the hall secretary. Cllr Augustus reported that there had been very few bookings over the summer and he was still promoting the hall and trying to generate interest. He reported that the food hygiene certificate had been renewed and the fire checks carried out.

66/19 Approval of cheques and direct debits for the current month’s expenditure – the clerk reported that payments were also required for £20 to Warren Farm for a top up to the beach warden mobile and £700 had been requested as a grant towards the grass cutting at St Bridget’s. Council unanimously agreed to approve the cheques, online payments and direct debits as presented by the clerk.

67/19 Financial matters

Members received and noted the bank reconciliations for July and August 2019 and the income and expenditure statement as at 31st August 2019.

The clerk would send any information on the bus shelter advert costs to Cllr Legg for review. There was one outstanding invoice but she was not sure whether the advertiser actually had adverts in the bus shelters and she could not be sure that all those advertising had been invoiced as she was not aware who was behind what advert.

68/19 Other matters raised by Councillors for discussion

Cllr Baker noted that a child had been knocked off their bike by the flood waters at Brean Court.

Cllr Augustus inquired into the recent incident at Pontins and noted his concern that people had spilled out onto the road during the incident which was unsafe for them and road users. The clerk suggested that this may be a matter for Licensing at SDC and questioned whether a risk management assessment had been completed for such risk so that they could be managed safely. The matter was to be reported to Licensing copying in District Cllr Grimes.

The Chairman reported that with the resignation of Peter Wright, he would now work with Cllr Baker on the toilet block project. Cllr Legg asked that a deadline for proposals be brought to council by the end of the financial year.

Cllr Noble asked members to consider an annual newsletter for residents. This would be put on October's agenda. He also asked whether ID cards for councillors could be obtained. The clerk replied that as no individual councillor could take decisions and act alone on behalf of the council, that ID cards were not required or advisable. She added that it would be acceptable for the beach manager and wardens to have cards if council felt it necessary.

Cllr Legg expressed his thanks to SDC Clean Surroundings for the efficient way they had dealt with the detritus left after the recent Bank Holiday. He reported that there were four areas of sunken path left after the Gigaclear works. He was asked to send the photos to the clerk who would report the matter to SCC Highways.

County and District Cllr Filmer reported on the following from county:

- Some areas covered by school transport had been taken back in house as costs had been increasing due to a lack of competition as operators had folded
- After last year's auditor's warning regarding SCC accounts, the auditor now wishes to consider the plans for social services to ensure they are robust and if they consider them to be so, a clean audit will be issued.
- Financial reserves were now back up to above £15m
- There was to be a one year funding formula from central government which was currently awaited
- Gritting routes cut as a result of last year's cutbacks had been reinstated and new ones added as new infrastructure was built
- There would be a possible expansion of the M5 Edithmead junction as this was the only one locally that had not been upgraded in spite of housing growth in the area

69/19 Date of next meeting

It was agreed that the next meeting would take place on Monday 7th October 2019 at the **Methodist Church** due to the Cowboys and Indians festival.

There being no more business the Chairman closed the meeting at 21.16.