

ELMLEY CASTLE, BRICKLEHAMPTON & NETHERTON PARISH COUNCIL MINUTES

From the meeting of Elmley Castle, Bricklehampton & Netherton Parish Council.
Held in the Village Hall Thursday 5th March 2020 19:00 hours.
Meeting was audio recorded.

PRESENT: Cllr James Hickman (Chairman), Cllr Jerry Strong (Vice Chair), Cllr Mike Taite, Cllr James Maude, Cllr Jane Martin, Cllr Dave Thompson, Cllr Andy George, Cllr Chris Ballard, Cllr Jim Douglas, Cllr Malcolm Meikle, Cllr Adrian Parker, County Cllr Adrian Hardman, District Cllr Tony Rowley, Andy Robinson (Clerk), 5 Police personnel, approximately 5 members of the public.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE: None

2. WEST MERCIA POLICE, SAFER NEIGHBOURHOODS TEAM - UPDATES AND OPPORTUNITIES FOR QUESTIONS

Updates verbally provided by members of the SLT. A written copy of the crime update is available from the Clerk at request.

3. OPEN FORUM: There was a public participation section.

4. DECLARATION OF INTEREST REMINDERS

5. DISPENSATIONS

- Cllr Strong 1 year from 7 March 2019 Queens Public House (discussion but no voting rights)
- Cllr Hickman 1 year from 6 June 2019 Queens Public House (discussion but no voting rights)
- Cllr Parker 1 year from 6 June 2019 Queens Public House (discussion but no voting rights)
- Cllr Parker 1 year from 6 June 2019 Neighbourhood Watch (discussion and allowed to vote)

6. APPROVAL OF MINUTES from the meeting 9th January 2020.

Cllr Hickman proposed to approve the minutes, seconded by Cllr Martin, Cllr Parker abstained (as he was not present during the previous meeting), all others voted in favour and they were duly signed by the chairman following the meeting.

7. COUNTY COUNCILLOR REPORT - Cllr Hardman gave a verbal update to all including:

- An update on the Coronavirus and how it may effect the County Councils Workforce.
- Flooding in the region (however it is reported that the Parish was not as badly effected as previous occasions).
- An update on The Riddings, re-affirmed his support of the Parish Councils actions.

8. DISTRICT COUNCILLOR REPORT - Cllr Rowley gave a verbal update to all including:

- A further update on the Riddings, advising the Parish Council liaise with the Police Crime Commissioner to establish if there is an interest.
- SWDP updates including the fact that WDC are moving towards publication of the report towards the end of this year.
- Sand and Gravel extraction - it was advised that the residents of the Parish including Bricklehampton should not be unduly worried and that it would effect neighbouring parishes more.
- Hayloft - it was reported that the MD of the Hayloft is willing to meet the Chairman of EC, B&N PC and also neighbouring Parish Councils to discuss traffic flow to and from the site. It was reported that the building of the new 'shed' that has been recently approved is unlikely to be started until 2022 or 2023. **CLERK TO ORGANISE.**

9. FINCANCES TO 31ST JANUARY 2020

The current bank balances and a list of income and expenditure was presented to the council. Cllr Hickman proposed to approve these statements, it was seconded by Cllr Strong and all voted in favour.

10. PLANNING

It was noted that due to time restrictions it was decided by the Clerk in consultation with Cllrs who attended a site visit that no objection be submitted in relation to the application 19/02730/HP (3 Besscaps). No objection was submitted on 14th February 2020.

11. CODE OF CONDUCT

Cllr Hickman proposed to adopt the new Code of Conduct compiled by NALC that had previously been circulated to all Cllrs, Cllr Taite seconded and all voted in favour.

12. DISPENSATION CLLR STRONG

Cllr Strong left the room due to having a disclosable interest. Cllr Thompson proposed that the Council accept a dispensation application from Cllr Strong regarding the Queens Public House, Cllr George seconded, 7 Cllrs voted in favour. Cllr Hickman and Cllr Parker declared an interest and so abstained.

13. TRAINING

- (I) It was noted that a Training Course (costing the Council £20.00) was approved between meetings by the Clerk and the Chair under the approved delegation scheme.
- (II) Cllr Hickman proposed an amendment to the proposal for a member of the Council to attend a Playground Workshop Day. The amendment was to allow further research by the Clerk with the Insurance Company as to liability cover should a Council Member become trained to formally certify the playground as safe and fit for purpose. **CLERK TO CONDUCT FURTHER ENQ'S AND REPORT BACK TO THE COUNCIL.**

14. VE DAY

Cllr Martin gave an update on the VE Day celebrations, it was warned that the Coronavirus may disrupt the proceedings. It was also reported that no Parish Council money will be spent until nearer the time or until the event is not under threat of cancellation due to the spread of the disease. Cllr Martin also reported that there would be a meeting held in the Queens Public house at 7pm on 17th March should volunteers wish to attend.

15. WINTERFELL

Cllr George left the room due to a disclosable interest. Cllr Hickman proposed that the Council carry out further enquiries into the feasibility of purchasing the land 'Winterfell' in Bricklehampton for use by the community, Cllr Parker seconded, 9 voted in favour with 1 Cllr abstaining.

16. ELMLEY CASTLE PLAYGROUND IMPROVEMENTS

- (I) Cllr Thompson proposed to submit the New Homes Bonus application for funding to improve the Childrens Play area to WDC, Cllr Strong seconded, 10 Cllrs voted in favour with 1 abstaining.
- (II) Cllr Hickman proposed to formally allocate the funding shortfall of £8.00 from the Parish Council reserves, Cllr George seconded and all Cllrs voted in favour.

17. BRICKLEHAMPTON SPEED SIGNS

- (I) Cllr Douglas proposed that speed signs be marked on the road surface at the entrance to the north side of Bricklehampton. This would be funded by the Highways and at no cost to the Parish Council. Cllr Hickman seconded this motion and all voted in favour.
- (II) In relation to a second part of the motion regarding that a further 3 speed restriction markings on the road surface at a cost of £900. Cllr Hickman proposed an amendment to delay the vote on the basis that further investigation with possible funding from the PCC. Cllr Strong seconded this amendment and all voted in favour.

18. PARISH NEWS

This item was withdrawn due to the Parish News not being ready for publication.

19. CLERKS EXPENSES

Cllr Hickman proposed a motion seconded by Cllr Martin, to pay a contribution of £15.00 a month to the Clerk (working from home) towards electricity / heating oil / internet and telephone. All voted in favour.

20. RISK ASSESSMENT

Cllr Hickman proposed a motion to adopt a new Risk Assessment compiled by the Clerk in consultation with CALC. The motion was seconded by Cllr Strong and all voted in favour.

21. BRICKLEHAMPTON PHONE KIOSK

Cllr Hickman provided an update on the phone box and the fact the phone had now been removed and was now owned by the Parish Council. Cllr Hickman proposed, seconded by Cllr Parker a motion to carry out restoration work at a cost of £500.00. It was noted that the phone box did not yet have a use but it was also noted that the box was very much in need of the restoration and its current state was not portraying a positive appearance. 8 Cllrs voted in favour whilst 2 voted against and 1 abstained. It was also noted that the community would be asked (by means of a survey) what they would like the phone box to be used for.

22. WYCHAVON GAMES

Cllr Meikle requested that the Parish consider involving themselves with the Wychavon Village Games. It was agreed that the Clerk would investigate if it is too late to apply for the games during 2020. **CLERK WILL REPORT BACK TO THE COUNCIL.**

23. PLAYING FIELD TREES

Cllr Hickman proposed a motion, seconded by Cllr Ballard to seek permission from the Wychavon Tree Officer to undertake the tree works recommended by the arboricultural consultants report in November 2019 and if approval is received to obtain quotes to carry out the work. 10 Councillors voted in favour and 1 abstained.

24. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Thursday 7th May 2020 (Annual Parish Council Meeting).

PLANNING

- No further planning application matters to report.