

BLACKMORE, HOOK END & WYATTS GREEN PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES

Of the Ordinary Meeting of the Blackmore, Hook End & Wyatts Green Parish Council held on THURSDAY 21st October 2021 at 7.30pm At Tipps Cross Remembrance Hall

Members present: R Keeble (Chairman), N McCarthy, K Bennett, T Lockhart, A Watley, V Dean. S Clapham (Parish Clerk) and R Nelson (RFO). Borough Cllr Thomas Bridge.

Cllr Keeble respectfully asked Members to observe one minutes silence for the late Cllr David Amess, MP.

The meeting then resumed with the following items of business:

0091 **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

T Thomas, T Hinton, J Clarke, H Cannon, J Lewis, K Wood. Borough Cllr P Jakobsson, County Cllr L Wagland.

0092 **APPROVAL OF MINUTES – 16.9.21**

The minutes were signed as a correct record by Cllr Keeble.

0093 **CO-OPTION – Kay Wilkinson (Blackmore ward)**

In accordance with the BBC approval, Kay Wilkinson was co-opted onto the Parish Council and

duly signed the ‘Acceptance of Office Register’, witnessed by the Clerk. The Clerk advised that all seats were now filled.

0094 **DECLARATION OF INTEREST (for items on the agenda):** None declared.

0095 **OPEN FORUM (for Public Attendees):**

A resident of Blackmore (Mr Endersby) attended and wished to raise the following items;

- The junction at the end of Spriggs Lane and Chelmsford road appeared to be flooded after recent heavy rain. He said that ECC used to dig channels out at the side of the road but queried why this was no longer the case. He said that now the rain water sits for several days until it dries out. Cllr Keeble explained that flooding issues should be reported to ECC and the Clerk could add this to the Highways Issues lists if informed.
- He said that it was very disappointing to be left on hold for long periods of time when trying to call the Outings Lane Doctor’s Surgery. Often calls go unanswered and he queried why this would be the case. He asked if the PC could contact the Surgery on behalf of the residents who undoubtedly experienced similar problems.

Action: The PC will discuss this at its next meeting.

0096 **PROGRESS CHECK** – Nil

0097 **CORRESPONDENCE** –

- The Clerk read out an email from the Passenger Transport Team at ECC advising that the next meeting for members will be held remotely on Thursday 18th November – 10.00am-12.00pm. Cllr Dean confirmed he would attend and Mrs Nelson would help facilitate the remote meeting. The meeting link will follow from ECC which the Clerk would forward.
- The Clerk read out an email from Sylvia Shepherd from the ‘Brentwood Bus and Rail Users Association – Their AGM will be held on Saturday 23rd October. This was only open to Association Members but questions could be sent in regarding the Vectare 61 bus service if the PC had any queries. Cllr McCarthy wished to query whether the Wyatts Green Road / Plovers Mead loop part of the service was required and asked if the service provider could advise whether this was an essential and well used part of the Brentwood route. There were concerns that the newly reinstated kerb stones along Plovers Mead would again be dis-lodged due to the narrow vehicular access along this part of the loop due to the parking situation. These kerbstones had only just been replaced by ECC after being on the PC/ECC Highways agenda for the past 7 years. **Action:** The Clerk will email Sylvia Shepherd raising this question.

0098

REPORTS OF BOROUGH AND COUNTY COUNCILLORS

Cllr Bridge reported the following:

- The BBC Neighbourhood Action Team (NAT’s) had visited the parish and had undertaken various works as requested by the Clerk and Cllr Keeble.
- After the recent murder of Cllr David Amess, MP for Southend, the PC Members might wish to remove their personal addresses from the public website. It was acknowledged that if an assailant wanted a Cllr’s personal address they could easily find it but it’s an extra security measure the PC may wish to consider. This will be discussed amongst Members.
- 5G Telecommunications mast planning application – Cllr Bridge said that it might be worth the PC waiting until such time that the company approaches the PC in light of the unanimous refusal of the planning application at last night’s BBC Planning Committee meeting. He said that the Borough were asked to consider 3 such applications, all of which were refused. He stated that the communications companies often registered applications on Highways land as it was a cheap solution for them if the local Council’s approved them. If they were to appeal this would be a six month process which would give the PC time to consider its options or enter into negotiations with the company if it wished to.
- Cllr Keeble asked Cllr Bridge if he could look into the recently reported activity at the new Sandford Paddocks, Red Rose Lane. Diggers and clearance works had been witnessed and the hedges had also been cut. Cllr Bridge will enquire with the Planning Enforcement Team.

POLICY & RESOURCES

0099

Finance - Payments made online:

S Clapham -

Pension -

HMRC -

R Nelson –

£1104.00 (inc.VAT) – NBB Recycled furniture – 2 new composite post office planters (being reimbursed by ECC Locality fund plus an element of the planting)

£400.00 – hedge cutting at Millennium Park

£480.00 – External Auditor’s fee

£900.90 (inc.VAT) – grass cutting – inv. 822

£1758.00 (inc.VAT)– O’Riordan Construction – install 3 new memorial seats on the Green, remove two agility apparatus for Ted Marriage and repair the broken play area fence)
£10.42 – Castle water – supply to Nine Ashes Rd.
£552.00 – Netwise – website/domain name etc
£250.00 - Blackmore Allotment Association – the transfer of un-returned deposits where ex-tenants had left their plots in an unsatisfactory condition and had to be cleared by the Association members.
Parochial Charity - £580.00 for this last quarter.

Payments made on the PC Credit Card: - pending – 2 x £50 Garden centre vouchers for the Parishioner of the Year Awards.

Cash drawn: - nil

Transfers: – nil

Memberships:- nil

Income/receipts: £48,710.50 – BBC second-half precept.

0100 Financial Report to 30th September 2021

Mrs Nelson reported on the financial reports as distributed prior to the meeting as outlined above. All approved with no amendments.

Financial Powers

0101 BBC precept overcharge – The Clerk reported that she had now received an acknowledgement of receipt of her letter to Alex Burghart, MP from his PA. **Action:** The response stated that this had been forwarded to BBC for their comments. Pending a response from BBC.

Double Taxation – meeting on hold until such time that the above issue is resolved.

PLANNING COMMITTEE

0102 There had been a Planning Committee meeting on 18th October and the following applications were considered. All reports and minutes were emailed to the BBC Planning Department, as circulated ahead of the meeting. These were received and accepted without further amendment. Cllr Lockhart had also circulated his report ahead of the meeting and these were accepted without amendment.

- 21/01608/HHA – La Valette, Hay Green Lane (various extensions) – objection raised.
- 21/01643/TPO – 52 Wyatts Green Lane (crown reduction to T1, T2 & T3 oaks) – no objection.
- 21/01644/TPO – 52 Wyatts Green Lane (crown reduction to T4 oak) – no objection.

PARKS & OPEN SPACES

There had been a POS Committee meeting on Monday 18th October 2021 at 10.00am via Zoom. The Clerk will shortly be circulating the meeting minutes. The following items of business were discussed:

0103 POS Committee meeting dates - review

In view of the missing Cllr’s at this evening’s meeting, Cllr Watley will circulate an email to the Committee Members asking if alternative dates and times would be more convenient if it meant a higher member attendance. The next meeting will be held at the scheduled time of Monday 15th November at 10.00am via Zoom if not agreed in time.

0104 Play area annual ROSPA inspection findings (3 sites)

The Clerk confirmed that all Deckanon and O’Riordan works had been completed. However, the Clerk is still chasing for dates for outstanding works by Playquip Leisure.

They had stated that all works were delayed due to staff and material shortages but they hoped to be able to catch up soon.

0105 **Ted Marriage tree survey**

A meeting had been held with John Sharpe on Friday 17th September 2021. He found all trees to be sound and not requiring any immediate work by the Parish Council.

0106 **Newly installed Memorial seats** – installed by O’Riordan Construction in September. All items had been reimbursed by the families.

- Mark Holmes
- Ken Smith
- John & Joan Fleetwood (replacement composite seat)

Wooden Memorial Seat (near to the War Memorial) – Plaque wording to be agreed before this item could be ordered.

0107 **Walter Hobbs**

Cllr Keeble is obtaining a quote to concrete the two main entrances from the car park into the field which get very muddy. **Action:** Referred to next POS meeting for consideration.

0108 **Tennis Club request**

A request was received by Cllr Keeble to trim the perimeter trees. He had received a quotation for £1100.00 (+VAT). **Action:** Due to the level of expenditure, Cllr Keeble will obtain a second quotation. Referred to next POS meeting for consideration.

0109 **RTA – fingerpost at Hay Green Lane Junction**

The Clerk was in receipt of the Insurance claim settlement totalling £1840.00. Deckanon had advised that there was concern over the increased material costs and asked whether this work needed to be scheduled. It was proposed by Cllr Watley and unanimously agreed that this work be approved. **Action:** The Clerk to place the order with Deckanon. The Clerk will ask Cllr Lockhart for the specification for the di-bond finger signs which she will place with Stuart Allan.

0110 **Christmas lights switch on date** – 28th November agreed. The Vicar had confirmed her availability. It was agreed that the lights will be turned on at 4.30pm at Kiln Field and 5.00pm at the Horsefayre Green and then Blackmore Green. Installation is scheduled for 2nd November with Andy Elmes. New lights will be added to the trees near to the War Memorial.

0111 **Queen’s Platinum Jubilee Commemoration – June 2022**

The latest presentation had been circulated from Dave Wilson, Blackmore Village Fayre Committee. The Committee hoped to raise enough funds to pay for the medieval beacon and asked if the PC could adopt it and maintain it going forward. The PC will consider this once costs and details are received from the Fayre Committee. Pending further updates nearer the time.

0112 **Remembrance Sunday Service – 14th November**

Normal services to be resumed since the Covid-19 pandemic. The service would be held at the War Memorial at 10.45am. Cllr Keeble has the PC wreath to lay.

0113 **CLERK’S REPORT (Governance)**

- **Meeting scheduled with MDL to discuss and review the 2022 grass cutting contracts** – 28th October at 12.00pm at Tipps Cross Remembrance Hall.
- **Parishioner of the Year Award** – The Clerk will be purchasing 2 x £50 garden centre vouchers for the two nominees. Cllr McCarthy will organise the plaques/certificates as before.
- **Clerk’s Annual leave** – Monday 8th November, returning Weds. 17th November.

0114 **DATE OF NEXT MEETINGS** –

Planning – TBC - Zoom

Parks and Open Spaces – 15.11.21 at 10.00am – Zoom.

Ordinary Parish Council – 18.11.21 – 7.30pm – **Tipps Cross Remembrance Hall**

INFORMATION EXCHANGE/NEXT AGENDA ITEMS

0115 Cllr Lockhart reported that the Highways sign post at Pettits Lane had been knocked over into the ditch. The Clerk to add this to the Highways issues list for ECC.

Cllr Keeble mentioned that he would organise a litter pick for Blackmore at 10.00am on 7th November as felt that the village could benefit from this.

CLOSE OF MEETING

There being no further items of business, the meeting closed at 8.30pm.

Signed..... *Dated*