

## **BRADFORD ON TONE PARISH COUNCIL**

### **MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 21 NOVEMBER 2018**

#### PRESENT

Mr D Venn (Chairman), Mr A Brodie. Mr C Ellis, Mr P Haines, Mr R Pearse, Mrs L Sidhu  
Three members of the public

#### 1. APOLOGIES

Mrs K Herdman, PCSO Sharon Baker

#### 2. INTERESTS AND DISPENSATIONS

Mr Venn – minutes 5.4 and 5.5, Mr Ellis – minute 5.1

#### 3. POLICE REPORT

PCSO Sharon Baker's report for October indicated three incidents for Bradford on Tone. She was asked to give the Clerk details of road traffic accidents in the parish which are reported to the police, and which occur particularly in the vicinity of Heatherton Grange and also the A38.

#### 4. MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 26 SEPTEMBER 2018

The minutes, having been circulated, were taken as read and signed as correct, subject to the addition of minute 8.1.5 – payment of £100.90 for printer cartridges. The proposer was Mrs Sidhu, seconded by Mr Pearse.

#### 5. UPDATE ON ITEMS IN THE MINUTES

##### 5.1 Land outside Threeways, Bradford on Tone

Further to previous minutes, the Clerk said the Parish Council had written to the owner of Threeways asking that if the land outside his property was not in his ownership would he please remove the low chain-link fence.

##### 5.2 Pedestrian Signs – Tone Green - Bradford on Tone village

The Clerk referred to previous email correspondence with residents of Tone Green and the County Council. He reminded Councillors that the County Council had said "All signage must conform to policy, which means that parish councils are unable to offer funding to pay for signs or road markings such as 'No footway for 260 metres' or 'Beware pedestrians.' Without clear evidence of significant problems or incidents in Bradford on Tone this matter cannot be given any more time."

Discussion took place and Mr Haines pointed out that the Parish Council had spent a

considerable amount of time investigating various options. Nothing appeared to meet with the approval of Somerset County Council in the absence of a history of accidents involving personal injury. The Parish Council had been advised that additional signage might cause minor and temporary reduction in speed, but at the same time could be a distraction from the other signs already in place.

Councillors discussed the suggestion by a resident that '20 is plenty' signs be placed in people's gardens through the village. They decided that in the long term they would have minimal effect and agreed not to pursue the proposal.

Councillors agreed that without the support of the local authority they could take no further action.

### 5.3 Bradford Bridge

Councillors were concerned about the continuing damage to this Listed bridge and wooden posts set at each corner to protect it. The primary culprits were agricultural machinery being driven too fast down over the bridge. The Clerk reminded Councillors that in 2012 the County Council suggested leaving the Exemptions List as it was, and in reality it had reduced. However, there are one or two landowners who have land on both sides of the bridge and who are not on the Exemptions List. In 2012 the County Council did not have the resources to process a new Exemptions List for these Traffic Regulation Orders. It was unlikely the situation had changed, but the Parish Council awaited confirmation.

After discussion, Councillors agreed that if the County Council was unable to update the Exemptions List there was little option other than to ask them to rescind it.

[Note: February 2002 – Width Order was made permanent at 2.50 metres. The Weight Order was updated to show 7.5 tonnes gross vehicle weight. In addition, in February 2002 the County Council said "... The original 1980 Order provided for this list to be updated by the Council from time to time." Councillors decided not to consider provision of CCTV at this time.]

### 5.4 Play and outdoor recreation area for Bradford on Tone

[Mr Venn declared an interest and left the room for this item. The Vice Chairman, Mr Haines, took the Chair.]

Mr Haines said that since any lease for Mr and Mrs Venn's land would not start until 31 October 2020 the project group wished to explore any other sites within the village. It was agreed that an article should be put in the Village Newsletter asking if anyone was prepared to put forward a piece of land for consideration as a play area. The project group would await any responses before meeting again with a view to holding a public consultation in the new year.

[Mr Venn returned and took the Chair.]

5.5 Public Footpaths WG 3/4 and 14/1 Bradford on Tone to Nynehead

Mr Venn reported that he had spoken with Mr Dalgren's family and that he would email Mr Hobley at Somerset County Council to see what progress had been made with regards to reopening the public footpath.

5.6 Hedge cutting – Worlds End A38 into village

Fox's Farm Services had carried out a second cut which was now satisfactory. Details of the cost for two cuts (the same as for one cut last year) can be found at minute 11.1.4). Mr Underhill was thanked for his assistance with this work.

5.7 The Future of Local Government in Somerset

The Leaders and Chief Executives of the six Councils had been discussing the changes in demand. Pressures on resources meant that changes to the way they worked would be necessary if local government were to meet the needs of all Somerset communities.

5.8 Highway Winter Service

The Clerk reported that in the light of some extra funding for roads, which Somerset County Council was to receive under the recent budget, the filling of salt bins and dumpy bags had been reinstated by them. The money was a one-off for this year only.

Councillors discussed the allocation of small bags of salt and they decided to collect the ten 20 kg bags to supplement the existing bags by the Village Hall.

6. MOBILE TEMPORARY SPEED INDICATOR DEVICES (SIDS) PROGRAMME

Somerset County Council no longer provided this programme. All parish councils in the county had been asked if they wanted to purchase and operate their own SID programme or wanted to share the purchase cost and operation with an adjoining parish. The cost of a SID was between £2,500 and £3,500 plus training and repairs to the device. After discussion Councillors agreed to take no action.

7. GRASS CUTTING

Councillors were happy to ask Mr Stanworth to carry on cutting areas of grass around the village. The Clerk was asked to write to him and ask for an invoice for the work he has already carried out.

8. REPAIRS TO PARISH COUNCIL NOTICEBOARD, BRADFORD ON TONE

The bottom of the door needed repairing in the new year. Depending on the cost of repairs it might be prudent to replace the whole noticeboard. Councillors asked the Clerk to take the necessary action.

9. TEMPORARY ROAD CLOSURE, EAST NYNEHEAD ROAD, BRADFORD ON TONE

The road would be closed from 26 November 2018 for five days to enable drainage works to be carried out.

10. PLANNING

10.1 Minutes

10.1.1 Minutes of meeting held on 22 September 2018 [07/18/0018 – erection of agricultural building for storage at Mill House, Hele Road, Bradford on Tone and referred to under minute 7.2.4 of meeting 26 September 2018]

10.1.2 Minutes of meeting held on 27 September 2018 (attached)

10.2 Applications

10.2.1 07/18/0019 and 0020/A – works to exterior of building and display of two externally illuminated painted signs to west and south elevations, the Worlds End, West Buckland (parish of Bradford on Tone) – no objection

10.3 Decisions

10.3.1 See 10.2.1 above – conditional approval 8 November 2018

10.4 Other planning matters

10.4.1 07/16/0017 – appeal against decision of TDBC to refuse planning permission at Hawksbit Farm, Langs Farm, Oake road, Bradford on Tone. Parish Council made a site visit on 19 February 2017 and objected. Wrote to Planning Inspectorate 9.11.18 – no change in original decision.

11. FINANCE

11.1	To consider approval of the following accounts for payment	£
11.1.1	Clerk's salary October/November	832.83
11.1.2	Clerk's expenses October/November	38.04
11.1.3	Bradford on Tone Village Hall – hire of Chant Room 26 September 2018	16.00
11.1.4	Fox's Farm Service – hedge cutting – 2 cuts	114.00 (inc VAT £19.00)

On the proposal of Mr Brodie, seconded by Mrs Sidhu, it was unanimously agreed to approve these accounts for payment.

## 11.2 Income

11.2.1 Interest 0.36

## 11.3 Bank balance and reconciliation statement

After the above transactions had been taken into account, the Parish Councils bank balanced totalled £9410.76.

## 11.4 Half year internal audit results

Mr Pearse was thanked for carrying out a satisfactory audit of the Parish Council's accounts.

## 11.5 Draft Budget and Precept for 2019/2020

The Clerk presented his draft budget which had been emailed early to councillors so they could fully consider the reasons for the increase. Initially the Clerk had suggested the precept be increased by £5000 to £12,000. However, after considerable discussion Councillors voted to reduce the increase to £3,000. On the proposal of Mr Haines, seconded by Mr Brodie, it was unanimously agreed to ask for a precept of £10,000 for the 2019/2020 financial year.

If the Parish Council find themselves with an estimated large surplus when the 2020/2021 budget is prepared, then they could decide to freeze or reduce the precept for the following year.

## 12. CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED SINCE LAST MEETING

12.1 Somerset County Council – Countywide Parking Review

12.2 Somerset Libraries Service Redesign

12.3 Somerset County Council – proposals to change the support it provides to some children and families

12.4 NHS health checks – no further action

## 13. CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED SINCE CIRCULATION OF AGENDA

13.1 Wiveliscombe Area Partnership – request for donation – refused

13.2 Taunton Citizens Advice Bureau – request for donation - refused

13.3 Parish Paths Consultation – Somerset County Council – passed to Mrs Sidhu

## 14. MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

None

15. ITEMS OF CONCERN

None

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be held on Wednesday 16 January 2019 at 7.30 pm in the Chant Room, Village Hall, Bradford on Tone.

The meeting closed at 9.35 pm

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