

BRENZETT PARISH COUNCIL

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MINUTES 64

Minutes of the Ordinary Parish Council Meeting held at The Village Hall, Brenzett on Tuesday 29 January 2019 at 7.00 pm

PRESENT: Mrs J Webb (Chair), Mrs A Beeching and Mrs J Thompson

PARISH CLERK: Mrs J Batt

BOROUGH COUNCILLOR:

COUNTY COUNCILLOR: Mr A Hills

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC: There were 3 Members of the Public present for part of the meeting.

A letter was hand delivered to Mr Fisher in December informing him that he no longer qualified as a Parish Councillor as he had not attended a meeting for 6 months and we have declared a Casual Vacancy. The notice advising residents of the vacancy is on the notice board.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

There were no Apologies for Absence.

2. APPROVAL OF REASONS FOR ABSENCE

There were no Apologies for Absence.

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Declarations of Pecuniary Interest

There were no Declarations of Pecuniary Interest.

Declarations of Significant Interest

Councillors Beeching and Webb declared a Significant Interest in matters associated with the Village Hall.

i) To note the granting of any requests for Dispensations and the decision

There were no requests for Dispensations at this meeting

ii) Updating of Declarations of Interest for the Code of Conduct

The Clerk reminded Councillors that they should update their Declarations of Interest with the Monitoring Officer if necessary.

4. ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES

Minutes 63 of the meeting held on 14 December 2018 were accepted and it was unanimously agreed that Mrs Webb should sign them.

Proposed Mrs Beeching

Seconded Mrs Thompson

5. MATTERS FOR REPORT ARISING FROM THE PREVIOUS MINUTES

There were no Matters Arising which were not covered on the agenda.

6. MEETING ADJOURNED FOR 30 MINUTES FOR PUBLIC PARTICIPATION AND RECONVENED

The meeting was opened to the Members of the Public present from 7.06 – 7.33 during which time Councillors were asked whether it was possible to have a defibrillator in Brenzett. The Chairman explained the history of the defibrillator purchased in 2015 to those present.

A resident asked for the Parish Council's assistance in helping her to take over the tenancy of a property in Brenzett. County Councillor Hills advised the lady to contact District Councillor Goddard and she reported that she had already done so. He said he would contact Councillor Goddard to re-inforce the request. The Clerk will send a letter of support from the Parish Council to Councillor Hills.

7. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Members of the Parish Council were asked over the Christmas period about the possibility a planning application regarding houses to be built between the Brenzett Nursery and Snargate. After the Clerk investigated this with the Planning Officer I can report this was a rumour and not fact. If you have concerns regarding planning applications you are welcome to contact the Parish Council, or you can find the latest applications on the Folkestone and Hythe Planning website.

I have a disturbing report to share with everyone in Brenzett which is, over the last few weeks someone has cut down a tree in the Village Hall grounds. The tree in question was planted in memory of the father of Lynn Bartelt. This latest news regarding the Village Hall grounds is in short nothing less than a despicable, disgraceful and disrespectful act of mindless vandalism. The Police have been informed as this is classified by the Village Hall Committee as Criminal Damage. The very worrying concern is that someone was wandering around King Street at night with a chainsaw, intent on causing damage.

The Parish Council was very pleased to welcome the member of the public who attended the last meeting and hope to greet others at future meetings. More information regarding the work of the Parish Council can be found on the notice board and website.

8. VILLAGE RESPONSIBILITIES

Nothing to report.

9. CORRESPONDENCE, FINANCE AND OTHER COUNCIL BUSINESS**Correspondence**

No Correspondence received.

Email Correspondence – all forwarded to Councillors

Councillors did not bring any emails to the attention of Councillors. They no longer want The Clerk to forward emails regarding street closures or crime statistics unless they are relevant to Brenzett or the surrounding area.

Confirmation of Receipt of Precept by Folkestone and Hythe DC

Confirmation of our Precept request was received from Folkestone and Hythe District Council on 17 December 2018.

Requests for Financial Assistance/Donations to Charities etc

Councillors agreed to donate £10 to Brenzett Primary School to enable them to purchase a copy of Lost Words

Finance**Bank Reconciliation as at last Bank Statement received**

Opening Balance	13920.10	Treasurers Account	11913.58
Add Receipts	<u>5136.65</u>	Less Uncleared Cheques	<u>136.80</u>
	19056.75		11776.78
Less Payments	<u>7279.97</u>	Less Earmarked Funds	<u>7218.00</u>
	11776.78		4558.78
Less Earmarked	<u>7218.00</u>		
	4558.78		

Accounts to be Paid

PAYEE	CHQ NO	DESCRIPTION	NET £	VAT £	GROSS £
Parish Clerk	373	Salary	169.00		
		General Admin	18.88		
		Clerk's Expenses	1.00		188.88
Brenzett CE Primary School	374	Lost Words	10.00		10.00

Resolution: Councillors unanimously agreed to pay the above accounts and noted the monthly payment by Direct Debit of £14.09 to IT Outcomes for Computer Maintenance.

Proposed Mrs Webb

Seconded Mrs Thompson

Earmarked Funds

	Balance 14.12.18	+/- Jan	Balance 29.01.19
Village Projects	1460.00		1460.00
Election Expenses	1214.00		1214.00
General Reserves/Contingency	4044.00		4044.00
Village Handyman	NIL		NIL
Donations	500.00		
Brenzett Primary School for Lost Words		10.00	490.00
TOTAL	7218.00	-10.00	7208.00

Mid-Year Audit

The Clerk read out the report from the Internal Auditor. The Auditor brought the following to the Council's attention.

The Council has scheduled six ordinary meetings for 2018-19. There have also been additional (Extraordinary) meetings to discuss planning applications. At these additional meetings normal council business such as payment approval is also carried out. The regulations governing Extraordinary meetings limit the matters that can be considered (and then decisions taken) solely to those specified when the meeting was called. The recommended solution is either to programme more frequent normal meetings – some of which can be cancelled if there is nothing to decide or to delegate authority to the Clerk under urgency procedures. A third possibility would be to delegate routine financial decision making between council meetings to a small group of councillors constituted as a committee. At present this option is not feasible for the Council as the minimum size and quorum for such a committee would be three councillors which, at the time of writing is the current number on the whole Council.

Data Protection

An end of year update was received from Satswana and forwarded to Councillors.

Insurance

We are in a 3 year Long-Term Agreement until 2021.

Website

Nothing to report.

NALC Legal Briefing L09-18 Public Sector Bodies Regulations 2018

The Clerk is in the process of seeking advice from KCC on this matter.

Risk Assessment

All is in order with the sign.

Donation of Defibrillator to Brookland School

Mr Hills will contact the School again as they have not filled in the relevant forms.

We will ask KCC to email the form and Mrs Beeching and Mrs Webb will print it off and deliver it to the school for them to complete.

Request for Water Supply in Brenzett Churchyard

The Clerk emailed Folkestone and Hythe District Council on 19 December and asked for a notice to be posted in the Cemetery informing people that there is no water available on the site. Our request has been passed on to the Property Team and we are waiting to hear from them.

Marsh Forum Feedback

The KCC Senior Resilience Officer attended and gave an interesting presentation on the Evacuation Plan for Romney Marsh. In the event of a major incident there is only one way off the Marsh for the 30,000 residents and the road is not fit for purpose.

County Councillor Hills expanded on this and explained that the problems on the Marsh are not straightforward.

Councillors present at the Marsh Forum put forward suggestions as to ideas about a possible one way system that could be used in the event of a major incident and listed the lanes not suitable for lorries.

Mr Hills is going to purchase a Speed Indicator Device for use amongst parishes on the Marsh. Members from one parish will police drivers travelling through a different parish in an attempt to educate drivers

The members of the Marsh Forum agreed to the production of a newsletter to promote the activities of the Group.

A presentation on the possible designation of the Marsh to National Park Status will be given by a member at the next meeting. It was suggested that he could also be invited to present it to local Parish Councils.

Mr Hills counselled caution as National Park status would have a significant impact on agriculture and planning rules and regulations on the Marsh.

The item on a Dementia Friendly Romney Marsh was discussed and Mrs Webb said that she was unsure as to how the Parish Council could promote this.

Mr Hills reported that he had had a meeting regarding the best way to combat loneliness and social isolation in the area. There are some very good organisations on the Marsh. CARM do an excellent job and a Dementia Café is held in Lydd Methodist Church.

Proposal to apply for National Park Status for Romney Marsh

Mrs Webb informed the Marsh Forum that Brenzett Parish Council is interested in finding out more about this proposal.

Mrs Thompson approached the NFU and is waiting for feedback from them.

Request to visit Brenzett by the Fifth Continent Project Manager

Councillors agreed to invite the Project Manager to the March meeting.

10. PLANNING

No applications received.

Development in Brenzett

Nothing to report.

11. HIGHWAY ISSUES

Butler's Lane is being repaired and will be resurfaced in the Spring.

12. ITEMS FOR INCLUSION ON THE NEXT AGENDA

No items were put forward for inclusion.

13. **FORUM FOR EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION BETWEEN COUNCILLORS**

The Village Hall Committee met with the owners of the Vintage Fair and is looking at the possibility of holding a Fair in August.

The Parish Council would like to take part in the Great British Spring Clean. Details will be advertised on the notice board.

The Clerk will forward updated Parish Council information to Mrs Webb for publication on the notice board.

The next meeting is due to be held on 19 March 2019.

There being no other business the meeting closed at 8.50 pm.

Signed Dated
Chairperson