



Minutes of the Annual Elector's Meeting of Bradwell Parish Council held on Monday 23 May 2022 at 7.00pm at the Heelands Meeting Place on Glovers Lane, Heelands.

Councillors Present: Councillors Gilpin (in the Chair), Brant, Davy and Bradburn (M).

Staff: Philip Farquharson (Clerk)

Members of the public: 10

APM01/22 Welcome:

The Chair welcomed everyone to the Meeting.

APM02/22 Chair's Annual Report for the year 2021-2022:

The Chair provided his report verbally. In summary, the Chair stated it had been a tough year for the Parish Council, the Clerk had resigned soon after the Elector's Meeting last April, and recruitment for a replacement Clerk had been unsuccessful, for many months. Locum Clerks had filled the gap, but only on a very part-time basis. Councillors had invested their time and effort to help manage the business of the Parish Council in the absence of a Clerk. The Chair wished to express his thanks to those Councillors who had invested their time in the management of the business over the past twelve months, perusing policies and managing office staff. This showed dedication to the Parish Council.

The Chair considered it had been a tough year for the staff as well, and wished to express his thanks for their effort and patience over the past year, in the absence of a clear line manager. The Chair was happy that now a qualified and experienced Clerk had been hired, and wished him well in the role.

In terms of projects the Chair commented that the Parish Council was aiming to safeguard the Bradwell Common Community Centre, by taking it on a long lease from Milton Keynes Council, who were in process of devolving their assets.

The Chair continued; over the past year the Parish Council had created some biodiversity in the Parish by digging out a wildlife pond in Bradwell, and creating a wildflower meadow, and he hoped the pond would soon fill with rainwater. Many summer activities were sponsored by the Parish Council, including; working with Summerfield's School and planting flowers and Cllr Davy was thanked for her efforts in this. Grants had been given to eligible bodies, and the Chair brought to everyone's attention the availability of these grants to eligible parties. Grants had been provided to; the scouts group in Bradwell Abbey, for the installation of defibrillators, for farm trips for young children and to the Discovery Centre.

The Chair recalled the Bradwell Sports and Social Club planned works, and considered it was polarising but brought together members of the Parish Council and residents.

APM03/22 Update on Community Facility, off Lancliffe Drive:

The Chair summarised as follows: the project had stalled on account of a number of factors; covid had slowed it down, not having sufficient personnel in the office to work on it, and the cost of materials had risen sharply since the initial outline cost had been provided several years ago, making the current plans appear unfeasible. New costs for a more affordable building were in process of being sought and Councillors would consider them in a fortnight's time, at the next Full Council meeting on 06 June 2022.

APM04/22 Winners of the Community Award and John Newbury Photographic Competition:

The Community Award was presented to three people: Min Chun (who would receive £50), Brian Fisher (who would receive £25), and a representative from the family of Joe Downard (who would receive £25).

The John Newbury Photographic Award (and £50) was presented in absentia to Terry Smith.

FSC05/22 Electors' Questions and Comments:

Action: The following questions were asked:

Question: With the construction of a new hall at the Suffolk Punch site, what will happen to the existing one the Heelands Meeting Place?

Answer: The new hall will have different uses. With the HMP, as it is rented out in the daytime for the termtime, it is not very available for daytime interested parties.

Q: The rubbish bins around the cricket pitches, they do not have lids on them and the wildlife come and take it out and make a mess. Can the Parish Council consider replacing them with bins with lids?

A: The Parish Council will look into this.

Q: How often does the Parish Council meet?

A: Monthly, first Monday of the month usually.

APM06/22 Minutes of the Last Meeting held on Monday 19 April 2021:

These were approved as an accurate record.

The Meeting was declared closed at 7:40pm.