

Broadwoodkelly Parish Council

Minutes of the Broadwoodkelly Parish Council meeting held on Tuesday 26th September 2023 at 7.30pm in the village hall.

Present: Councillors R. Heggadon (Chairman), D. Mendus-Edwards, D. Reed and A.Hawkey.

There was one member of the public present.

1. To receive apologies for absence and consider if the reason for the absence should be approved by the council.

Councillors Mrs B. Cook and Mrs. S. Walters had sent their apologies as they were feeling unwell.

The clerk hadn't heard anything from Councillor R Gant, but when she got home from the meeting she saw that he had sent his apologies as he was unwell. These apologies were accepted.

The Borough Councillors Louise Watts and Mike Casbolt were both away and had sent their apologies. There are no updates from WDBC and they have a full WDBC meeting in a few weeks' time. If anything arises from the meeting for them to pursue then please let them know.

2. Declaration of Interest from Members:

Councillors are reminded to declare any personal or prejudicial interest they may have in any agenda items.

There were no declarations of interest and there were no requests for a dispensation.

2.1 The parish council has delegated the power of granting dispensations to the clerk

2.2 To receive written requests for dispensations for disclosable pecuniary interests (if any).

2.3 To grant any requests for dispensations as appropriate.

3. To receive and approve the Minutes of the meeting held on July 25th 2023

It was proposed by Councillor Hawkey that the minutes of the last meeting be signed as a correct record. This was seconded by Councillor Mendus-Edwards. The chairman signed the minutes.

4. Public Participation - the member of the public did not wish to raise anything.

5. Report by Borough Councillor – there was no report as neither Borough Councillor was present.

6. Past Subject Matters for further discussion:

a. [6.a] Parish Website

i. Discuss ownership of website and whether parish council takes it on.

Councillor Mrs Cook had spoken to the chairman and asked if this item could be moved to the next meeting as she was unable to attend. This was agreed.

Councillor Mendus-Edwards raised the question that if Councillor Gant and Councillor Mrs Cook, as members of the Broadwoodkelly Website Group, own the parish website then should it be on their Register of Interests?

b. [6.b] Improvement to webpages – this is still ongoing. Councillor Mendus-Edwards states some of the links are not there and he has spoken with the web designer, who has put in some temporary ones.

c. [6.c] Areas of highways requiring work to utilise TAP fund money

The clerk wondered if it was worth asking Josh at Devon County Council to see if there are any contractors that would carry out some gully cleaning/ditch cleaning etc. The council were happy that she does that. Councillor Mendus-Edwards commented on the state of the Broadwoodkelly signs on the entrance to the village.

They are fading. The chairman stated he had tried cleaning them, but couldn't get the dirt off them. Could consider acquiring new signs.

The clerk to contact Josh at Devon County Council and ask if we can have some 'Twenty's Plenty' signs.

- d. [6.f] Broadband – the village hall was considering getting Broadband for the hall, but Councillor Mendus-Edwards informed the council that they can get it by linking it to a mobile phone and then linking the phone to a laptop. That works fine.

- e. [6.g] Discuss arrangements for Neighbourhood Plan Surgery and results of Housing Needs Survey (how best to advertise etc.)

Graham Swiss has offered either November 8th or November 15th (both Wednesday evenings). Councillor Walters is happy to lead it and Councillor Mendus-Edwards is happy to liaise with her about it. The clerk informed the council that there were 117 properties in the parish. It was decided to print flyers to distribute to households in the parish so as many people as possible know about it. The clerk stated there is a printer in North Tawton who could print them. Councillor Hawkey also offered his printer to print them off. Offer refreshments to encourage people to come (tea/coffee and biscuits – wine also suggested as the village hall now has a license)

- f. [4] Dog Fouling – put up more stickers?

The clerk will check with Councillor Gant to see if he has any stickers left. If he hasn't then she will contact the dog warden at WDBC and see if she can get some stickers or posters from him.

7. Clerk's report and correspondence received:

The following correspondence is contained within the Councillors folder:

- a. *Snow Warden – the clerk asked the council if they wished to ask Jon Clark if he would consider remaining as Snow Warden for the parish. All in agreement. The clerk will word up a letter and liaise with the chairman.*
- b. *Request from Okehampton District Community Transport Group for donation – this was discussed. It was decided to defer a decision until the next meeting. Possibly speak to a Borough Councillor and ask about the WDBC funding.*
- c. *Clerks and Councils Direct*
- d. *Hedgehog Highway – a letter has been received about a project offering 50 hedgehog highway surrounds for £150. All in favour of not participating in this scheme. Broadwoodkelly has a very healthy hedgehog population and it was felt this project more appropriate for a more urban environment.*
- e. *Road Closure at Corstone Cross to Cadditon Cross – this road will be closed on 28th and 29th September. It is being closed for patching works. The councillors commented that there were worse roads in the parish requiring patching than this road.*

8. Planning:

- a. Application No. 1862/23/FUL Oak Meadow Barn, Broadwoodkelly – Application to modify design of barn conversion. Discuss at meeting.

The clerk apologised as this application was discussed at the last meeting. It has now been granted Conditional approval.

- b. Appeal at Holbrook. The appeal has been upheld.

9. Finance

- a. Invoice from clerk for wages/expenses - £212.39
Councillor Hawkey proposed that this invoice be paid. This was seconded by Councillor Reed and agreed by all. A cheque was signed.
- b. Interest on Business Reserve Account (Jul/Aug) - £15.84
- c. Balance at Bank - as at 10th August 2023 the balance in the Current Account was £7513.07 (does not include the cheque signed this evening). As at 31st August 2023 the balance in the Business Reserve Account was £6850.76.

Councillor Mendus-Edwards stated it might be worth asking NatWest about their Community Account. The clerk will look into this and suggested online banking be looked at. The clerk will also look into that.

10. Matters for further reporting:

Councillor Mendus-Edwards gave a brief update on the village hall. They have now been granted a license to sell alcohol. They are currently applying for a grant to install hot water in the toilets. They have also obtained other grants. There may be a time when the hall cannot be used whilst some work is carried out, but this will be for a limited time. The Hog Roast and Dog Show were very popular. The village hall committee is working with the Friends of All Hallow's to raise funds. Rehearsals for the pantomime have begun.

11. Confidential discussion:

16.1 Enforcement cases – there are currently none.

12. Date of next meeting:

November 28th 2023 (Neighbourhood Plan meeting on November 8th)

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.20pm.