

BRANDESTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a Meeting of the Council held at the Village Hall on Tuesday 08 November 2011

Present

Councillors D Risk (Chairman) (DR), H Saxton (HR), J Fielder (JF), P Summers (PS) and W Elson (WE)
Cty Cllr P Bellfield
PCSO C Hassler
Parish Clerk and RFO, A M Hounsell

1-1112/5 – Open Discussion with Members of the Public

There was no discussion under this heading

2-1112/5 – Reports from Cty Cllr P Bellfield, Dist Cllr B Snell and PCSO C Hassler

Cty Cllr Bellfield had forwarded his apologies but advised the clerk as follows :-
SCC has appointed a new Chief Executive at a salary of £155K with no bonuses or other add-ons.
Stage 1 of the SCC budget consultation has been completed.
Cllr Bellfield had advised that he could likely help with the costs for a speed camera from his locality budget but probably not until the next financial year starting on 01 April 2012. He also reiterated that he was not aware of any aggressive behaviour towards members of the public operating speed guns.

Dist Cllr Snell had forwarded his apologies but reported to the clerk as follows :-

1. Local Development Framework

Situation as reported at the last meeting in September:

Jan 2012: Consultation responses reported to Cabinet and Council

March/April 2012: Core Strategy formally submitted to the independent Inspector - pre-hearing probably in April

May 2012: Inspector's formal Hearing in May

Sept 2012: Inspector's report

End 2012: Core Strategy adopted by Council

2013: of Site Specific Allocations process

2. National Planning Policy Framework

This new draft policy document has significant implications for rural communities, with its general "presumption in favour of sustainable development" as part of the government's growth agenda and it has provoked strong opposition from a number of national bodies and newspapers. There was a briefing for parish councils in the north of the district on 28 September. The government's consultation on the draft ended on 17 October and we have been promised many amendments.

3. The Olympic torch

In a boost for the two districts and its communities, 12 of the 16 Suffolk towns and villages which will welcome the Olympic flame next year are in Waveney and Suffolk Coastal. On 5 July 2012, the torch will leave Norwich and pass through Great Yarmouth, Lowestoft, Wrentham, Reydon and Southwold in Waveney. From there it will go to Kelsale, Saxmundham, Aldeburgh, Wickham Market, Ufford, Melton, Woodbridge and Felixstowe in Suffolk Coastal before staying overnight in Ipswich.

4. Cllr John Klaschka

With much sadness, I have to report that Councillor John Klaschka died suddenly last week – his dedicated and significant contribution to both District and County Councils, as well as the people of Kesgrave East whom he represented, has been universally recognised.

PCSO Hassler reported as follows:-

PCSO Hassler advised there have been two reported crimes since the last council meeting - burglary at Red House Barn and drunk driving in Brandeston (not a Brandeston resident).

PCSO Hassler also advised that there is now a new phone no. for non-emergency calls to police – 101
With regard to the Community Speed Watch, PCSO Hassler reported that a speed gun costs £2116 including initial calibration. Renewal of calibration is required after one year at a cost £135. There is a cheaper alternative gun available at an approximate cost of £1500. However, evidence from the more expensive gun can be used in Court, but this is not the case for the cheaper version. In addition to these costs, signs and fluorescent jackets are required.

WE stated that he believes there is strong support in the village for an initiative of this sort and that the village would support it – they expect something to be done about the continuing problem.. JF suggested that contact be made with other nearby villages. The meeting noted that there had been no response from Brandeston Hall School to the council's suggestion that children at the school be involved in attempts to reduce speeding. PS and WE stated that they do not wish to operate the gun. DR asked whether the council wished to proceed to the next stage.

It was agreed in principle to proceed further and to invite neighbouring villages to become involved. The clerk was instructed to contact Kettleburgh, Cretingham, Easton, Earl Soham, Charsfield and Letheringham to establish if they wished to participate a Neighbourhood Speed Watch Scheme. PCSO Hassler requested that he be advised of the responses of other councils. The clerk was also requested to contact Mr Peter Thurlow about an item for "the Brandeston" newsletter.

3-1112/5 - Chairman's Welcome, Formal Meeting Opening and Acceptance of Apologies for Absence

The Chairman formally opened the meeting and welcomed Councillors and others. He advised of apologies from Cllrs. S Thurlow and K Churchill, Dist Cllr Snell, Cty Cllr P Bellfield and Mrs W Woodland (Parish Historical Recorder)

4-1112/5 - To Receive Councillors' Declaration of Interest in Agenda Items

There were no declarations of interest

5-1112/5 - Minutes of Previous Meeting

The minutes of the meeting of 27 September 2011 were signed as a true record.

6-1112/5 - Matters arising from previous minutes

- (i) Speeding (previous minute 1-1112/4)
Minuted under item 1 (Report of PCSO Hassler), above.
- (ii) Fascia at the Bus Shelter (previous minute 6-1112/4 (ii))
The clerk advised that Mr Hogan had provided a quotation for repairs at the bus shelter amounting to £240. The council agreed to ask him to proceed (clerk to arrange)
- (iii) Legal Charge on Brandeston Village Hall (previous minute 7-1112/4)
The clerk confirmed that he had written to the council's solicitor setting out the council's position as indicated in the minutes of the last meeting. The solicitor had passed these statements to the Big Lottery and their response is awaited.
- (iv) Establishment of a Good Neighbour Scheme (previous minute 8-1112/4)
In the absence of ST this is to be carried forward to next meeting.

7-1112/5 - Planning

- (i) The clerk advised of application C11/2402 (Windows to rear of Bramble Cottage, The Street).
The council agreed to support/approve this application.
- (ii) Applications C11/2461 & 2462 (Solar panels, The Broadhurst, The Street)
The council recorded their strong view that The Street scene should be vigorously defended but this application does not affect the view and therefore the council supports it.

There were no other planning matters to consider.

8-1112/5 – Report from Responsible Finance Officer (The Clerk)

The RFO reported the current financial position with the main account holding £5,860.89 and the 100+ account £2,069.19 (both after accruals for approved expenditure and income).

9-1112/5 - Financial Matters

- (i) The Council agreed payment of £10.50 to Brandeston VH&RG for room hire for the next meeting (see agenda item 13).

10-1112/5 - Review the Council's Financial Risk Assessment in Respect of the Current Financial Position of the Council

The council agreed that the current financial position was satisfactory

11-1112/5 - Correspondence

There was no correspondence requiring attention.

12-1112/5 - Any other business as may be raised and accepted as appropriate by the Chairman under Standing Order 16

There were no matters discussed under this heading

13-1112/5 – Date of Next Meeting

The date of the next meeting was agreed as 17 January 2012

The meeting closed at 9.30 pm