

**MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING OF BRENT ELEIGH  
HELD ON 26 MAY 2016 IN THE VILLAGE HALL COMMENCING AT 8:00PM**

**Present:**

Cllr Kevin Went (Chairman)  
Cllr Michael Warner  
Cllr Karen Marshall  
Cllr Natalie Shewring

**In Attendance:**

District Cllr Clive Arthey  
County Cllr Jenny Antill  
William Grosvenor (*Clerk to the Council*)  
12 Members of the Public

		<b>Action</b>
<b>16.01.00</b>	<p><b>CHAIRMAN'S WELCOME</b> Cllr Went welcomed all present to the meeting.</p>	
<b>16.02.00</b>	<p><b>TO RECEIVE THE COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT</b> Cllr Antill gave her report.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The 2016/17 budget as passed by Full Council reflects the 2% social care levy.</li> <li>• Cllr Antill reported on the current position relating to the East Anglian devolution proposals.</li> <li>• She was pleased to report that the County Council's services for Looked after Children have been rated "Good" by OFSTED. Overall education standards continue to improve. Cllr Antill is a Member of the Schools Improvement Board.</li> <li>• She outlined the changes brought about by Community Transport reorganisation.</li> <li>• Emergency callouts for the Fire Service have fallen, in line with the trends identified in the reorganisation proposals.</li> <li>• County Council elections would take place in 2017.</li> <li>• In relation to Brent Eleigh parish issues, Cllr Antill reported her perspective and actions relating to the roads and signage issues. She also offered financial support to help fund the repairs and improvements to the Village Hall.</li> </ul> <p>Cllr Warner asked the position relating to a possible extension to Lavenham Primary School. Cllr Antill responded that Council officers have advised an extension is not possible on what is a sensitive site, due to planning issues. Hopefully the move by the playgroup into the Village Hall in the near future will help alleviate space problems. It is also hoped that use of s106 monies will help to make short term improvements. A new school would cost £3m and there is no shortage of spaces in the area as a whole.</p>	

16.03.00	<p><b>TO RECEIVE THE DISTRICT COUNCILLOR'S REPORT</b></p> <p>Cllr Arthey gave an update on recycling issues.</p> <p>There was a discussion on issues around Babergh's practice on planning notifications in the context of a recent application in the parish. He explained that writing to neighbours was not a legal requirement, and done only as a matter of courtesy. Resource limitations meant that there were inevitably tight limitations in terms of the neighbouring owners who could be notified.</p>	
16.04.00	<p><b>TO RECEIVE A REPORT RE NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH FROM THE VILLAGE CO-ORDINATOR</b></p> <p>Cllr Went gave his report as Neighbourhood Watch Coordinator. He expressed concerns about police restructuring and its impact on community policing. The PCSO assigned to Brent Eleigh only works 9am to 6pm. He is trying to arrange a meeting with her. Limitations on the police website mean that information to communities on crime patterns remains patchy.</p>	
16.05.00	<p><b>TO RECEIVE A REPORT FROM THE ALMSHOUSES AND ASSOCIATED CHARITIES</b></p> <p>Mr James Davis, who will continue to represent the Parish Council as an Almshouse Trustee, reported on the recent installation of a new sewage treatment plant, and explained that further major works will need to be undertaken in 2017. However overall the Charities are in a good financial position.</p>	
16.06.00	<p><b>TO RECEIVE A REPORT FROM THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL</b></p> <p>Mrs Jacqui Gosnall gave a report.</p> <p>Currently there are 31 on the electoral roll, with eight regular communicants. Outreach encompasses the local nursing home which supports the PCC. Events held in the church help to finance its maintenance; the results of the last quinquennial survey show c£17k worth of work required to be done. Also the recent vandalism will make it increasingly difficult to ensure the church can remain open at all times.</p>	
16.07.00	<p><b>TO RECEIVE A REPORT FROM THE VILLAGE HALL COMMITTEE</b></p> <p>The Village Hall Committee supplied a report which the Clerk read out.</p> <p>The village hall receives income from hiring the hall and equipment, but income mostly comes from fund-raising events. In the last year there have been several successful fund raising events:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fete on the Farm</li> <li>• October 2015 and March 2016 Quiz Nights</li> <li>• "Christmas Cheer" drinks party</li> <li>• The Queen's 90<sup>th</sup> birthday celebration.</li> </ul> <p>The next fund-raising event will be "Down by the Riverside" on Saturday 2 July, held on The street and river bank outside Street Farm.</p> <p>Further information can be found on the village website:  <a href="http://brenteleigh.onesuffolk.net">http://brenteleigh.onesuffolk.net</a>  and an email address for enquiries:  <a href="mailto:brenteleighvillagehall@gmail.com">brenteleighvillagehall@gmail.com</a></p> <p>Over the last winter the two main rooms and entrance hall have been decorated, and a hot water heater fitted in the ladies toilet. There are plans in 2016 to sand the wooden floors, bark the garden, repair / renew window frames and replace the demolished wall with oak posts and chain.</p> <p>Cllr Warner added that a road closure order has been applied for in relation to the 2 July; beyond Brook Cottages The Street will be closed for the duration of the event.</p>	

<b>16.08.00</b>	<b>VILLAGE MATTERS</b> There were no further matters raised.	
<b>16.09.00</b>	<b>CHAIRMAN'S CLOSING REMARKS</b> There being no further business the Chairman thanked everyone for attending the annual Parish Meeting.	