

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF BRENT ELEIGH PARISH COUNCIL  
HELD ON 20 JULY 2017 IN THE VILLAGE HALL COMMENCING AT 7.30PM**

**Present:**

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

**Apologies:**

None

**In Attendance:**

County Councillor Robert Lindsay  
William Grosvenor (*Clerk to the Council*)

		<b>Action</b>
<b>17.66</b>	<b>CHAIRMAN'S WELCOME</b> Cllr Went welcomed all present to the meeting, and congratulated Robert Lindsay on being elected as the new County Councillor for the Cosford Division.	
<b>17.67</b>	<b>TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE</b> Apologies were received from District Councillor Clive Arthey.	
<b>17.68</b>	<b>DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST</b>	
<b>17.68.01</b>	<b>To Receive Amendments to the Register</b> There were no amendments to the Register.	
<b>17.68.02</b>	<b>To Receive Declarations of Pecuniary Interest in Respect of Items on the Agenda</b> There were none.	
<b>17.68.03</b>	<b>To Receive Declarations of Non Pecuniary Interest in Respect of Items on the Agenda</b> There were none.	
<b>17.68.04</b>	<b>To Receive Full / Partial Dispensations for Pecuniary Interests Declared</b> It was noted that there had been no requests for dispensations.	
<b>17.69</b>	<b>MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETINGS</b> Minutes of the Statutory Annual Parish Council Meeting held on 25 May 2017 and of the Special Meeting held on 22 June 2017 were approved and signed as a true and accurate record.	
<b>17.70</b>	<b>TO RECEIVE THE COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT</b> Cllr Lindsay reported as follows: <b>New look Council</b> – composition of Suffolk County Council is now 52 Conservatives, 11 Labour, 5 Liberal Democrats, 3 Green Party and 4 Independents. The greens, Liberals and Independents have formed a group to enable a representative to sit on every Council committee. Cllr Lindsay sits on the Pensions and Audit Committees. <b>Cabinet Committees</b> – change in the Council's constitution made to enable introduction of four Cabinet Committees; however these will not be open to the public.	

	<p><b>Allowances</b> – increases have been proposed in the allowances for the Leader, Deputy Leader and all Cabinet Members. These were opposed by Cllr Lindsay and most of his group.</p> <p><b>Council pension funds</b> – The SCC Pensions committee is preparing to place the bulk of its £2.6bn in assets into a “pooled pot” with other local authorities across Eastern and South eastern England. This will reduce the ability of the Fund to invest in the local economy. The Fund should also examine how it is exposed to a potential fall in the value of fossil fuel companies posed by Government legislation to cut CO2 emissions.</p> <p><b>Care beds for the dead</b> – SCC inadvertently paid £400k to private care homes for beds for people who had died, due to a combination of failures by the care homes themselves and of systems within SCC. This was picked up by Internal Audit, and improved reporting measures reduced overpayments to £40k. All overpayments have since been recovered.</p> <p>Cllr Went brought Cllr Lindsay up to date with the Parish Council’s request to SCC Highways for a “children crossing” warning sign on the A1141. Following discussion options considered were:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To impose a speed limit (Highways have not supported this)</li> <li>• To enable the bus to pick up on the village side of the road</li> <li>• Signage (the most practical approach).</li> </ul> <p>Cllr Lindsay said he would follow up on this with Highways, and requested any additional background information to be supplied.</p>	Cllr Went
17.71	<p><b>TO RECEIVE THE DISTRICT COUNCILLOR’S REPORT</b></p> <p>Cllr Arthey’s written report was read out by the Clerk. The main points may be summarised as follows:</p> <p><b>Public consultation on the Draft Local Plan</b> – this should be available in the next week or so online. Whilst there are no suggested sites or unusual surprises for Brent Eleigh, Councillors should take a look at the plan and in particular the defined built up area boundaries for the village.</p> <p><b>Babergh HQ move</b> – the move to Ipswich is on schedule for the end of August.</p> <p><b>The Boundary Review</b> – full details of this are on the Boundary Commission’s website. Babergh is only a consultee, as are individuals, parish councils and groups, who can all make submissions directly to the Boundary Commission if they wish. Babergh’s suggestions will be published on 2 August, confirmed at Council on 8 August and submitted to the Boundary Commission on 14 August. The Commission’s draft recommendations will be out to consultation from 3 October to 11 December. Cllr Arthey would be interested to know if the Parish Council feels that the village has a strong affiliation with any neighbouring village.</p> <p>In discussion, Members indicated that Brent Eleigh should be within the same grouping as Monks Eleigh.</p> <p><b>Grove House</b> – Cllr Arthey requested to know the outcome of any discussions on this.</p>	Clerk
17.72	<p><b>TO DISCUSS ANY VILLAGE MATTERS</b></p> <p>None were raised.</p>	
17.73	<p><b>TO RECEIVE A REPORT FROM THE VILLAGE NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH CO-ORDINATOR</b></p> <p>There was nothing to report.</p>	

<b>17.74</b>	<b>TO RECEIVE AND CONSIDER REPORTS ON FINANCIAL MATTERS</b>	
<b>17.74.01</b>	<b>Financial update</b> The Clerk reported that the balance in the Council's account with Lloyds Bank stood at £2,780.04.	
<b>17.74.02</b>	<b>To consider and approve payments</b> There were none to approve.	
<b>17.75</b>	<b>TO RECEIVE THE CHAIRMAN'S REPORT</b> Nothing to report.	
<b>17.76</b>	<b>TO RECEIVE REPORTS FROM COUNCILLORS</b> It was reported that the footpaths in the parish were in much better condition than before. Cllr Warner reported that the Brent Eleigh Country Hoedown held on 1 July raised £1,250.71. Also the rebuilding costs (for insurance purposes) of the village hall have been assessed at £501k. Dates were being set for a Harvest Supper this year and a Quiz Night in the autumn.	
<b>17.77</b>	<b>TO RECEIVE THE CLERK'S REPORT</b>	
<b>17.77.01</b>	<b>Beacons of Light 11 November 2018 – update</b> Nothing to report.	
<b>17.77.02</b>	<b>Restoration of Village Sign</b> Cllr Went informed the meeting that the sign would be removed from the post during the forthcoming weekend to enable the restorer to undertake the task.	Cllr Went
<b>17.77.03</b>	<b>Road Safety – installation of a mirror opposite Corner Farm</b> Cllr Shewring reported that a polycarbonate convex mirror would cost approximately £20.00, including fixtures and fittings. Following discussion <b>it was AGREED</b> that Cllr Shewring would research further details in respect of fitting options and purchase on behalf of the Parish Council. The best location for the mirror was also discussed and arrangements would need to be made to consult the owner of Brent Eleigh Hall before the mirror can be set up.	Cllr Shewring
<b>17.77.04</b>	<b>New Anglia Growth Hub</b> The Clerk reported receipt of information from the New Anglia Growth Hub, an organisation funded by Government via the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) to provide expert advice to support growing businesses in Norfolk and Suffolk. Grants are also available to enable growth and expansion. Further details are available. This information was <b>NOTED</b> .	
<b>17.77.05</b>	<b>Merchant Navy Day 2017</b> This will take place on 3 September and all local authorities with flagpoles are invited to fly the Red Ensign on that day.	
<b>17.78</b>	<b>PLANNING ISSUES</b>	
<b>17.78.01</b>	<b>To Consider Planning Applications Received</b> <b>(1) DC/17/03050 – Rye House, Hall Road – Demolition of existing ancillary building on existing plot. Change of use from D1 Nursery to C3 Residential</b> Following discussion Councillors felt they had no comments to make in respect of this application.	

17.78.02	<p><b>To Consider Updates on Planning Applications</b></p> <p><b>(2) B/16/01537/FUL – Farm Buildings, Hill Farm, Lavenham Road – Change of use of 2 no. existing barns to 2 no. dwellings and associated building works; erection of single-storey front / side extension and fenestration alterations to existing dwelling (the Coach house) and provision of access and amenity space</b></p> <p>The Parish Council's comments were sent to Babergh on 13 December 2016. No decision on the application has yet been advised, although there was a recommendation for refusal on 24 January 2017.</p> <p><b>(3) B/16/01538/LBC – Farm Buildings, Hill Farm, Lavenham Road – Application for listed building consent; repairs and alterations to 2 no. Barns in order to convert to 2 no. dwellings and demolition of existing “shed” element of Barn 1. Alterations and extensions to the Coach House</b></p> <p>The Parish Council's comments were sent to Babergh on 13 December 2016. No decision on the application has yet been advised, although there was a recommendation for refusal on 24 January 2017.</p>	
	<p><b>(4) B/16/01723/FUL – Brent Eleigh Hall, Hall Road, Brent Eleigh – Application for external and internal alterations to house and stable including partial demolition and conversion of part of stable from 1 to 2 no. flats.</b></p> <p>The Parish Council's comments were sent to Babergh on 2 February 2017. No decision on the application has yet been advised.</p>	
	<p><b>(5) B/16/01724/LBC – Brent Eleigh Hall, Hall Road, Brent Eleigh – Application for external and internal alterations to house and stable including partial demolition and conversion of part of stable from 1 to 2 no. flats.</b></p> <p>The Parish Council's comments were sent to Babergh on 2 February 2017. No decision on the application has yet been advised.</p>	
17.78.03	<p><b>To Receive Notification of Decisions of Planning Applications as Determined by Babergh DC</b></p> <p>None were received.</p>	
17.78.04	<p><b>Planning enforcement matter: Grove House, Lavenham Road, Brent Eleigh – Creation of entrances onto A1141 without planning consent</b></p> <p>The Clerk reported receipt of an email, just a few hours before the meeting, from a Babergh Planning Enforcement Officer, Carmel Driscoll, requesting any information held by the Parish Council in respect of the history of the land and access. <b>It was AGREED</b> that the Clerk would respond accordingly with the information already in the possession of the Parish Council.</p>	Clerk
17.78.05	<p><b>Local Plan consultation</b></p> <p>The Clerk reported receipt of a request from Babergh as to the dates of Parish Council meetings to be held in September and October. This was to avoid clashes with dates to be set for local consultation meetings to be arranged in respect of the development of the new Local Plan. The Clerk would respond accordingly once dates were set for the autumn</p>	

	meetings of Brent Eleigh Parish Council.	
<b>17.79</b>	<b>DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS</b> These were set as follows: <b>14 September 2017 Ordinary Parish Council Meeting 7.30pm</b> <b>16 November 2017 Ordinary Parish Council Meeting 7.30pm</b> <b>18 January 2018 Ordinary Parish Council Meeting 7.30pm</b>	
<b>17.80</b>	<b>CHAIRMAN'S CLOSING REMARKS</b> The Chairman thanked everyone for attending the meeting. There being no further business the meeting closed at 9pm.	