

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF BRENT ELEIGH PARISH COUNCIL
HELD ON 19 SEPTEMBER 2019 IN THE VILLAGE HALL COMMENCING AT 7.30PM**

Present:

Cllr Kevin Went (Chairman)
Cllr Martin Austin
Cllr Karen Marshall
Cllr Francesca Scoones
Cllr Natalie Shewring

Apologies:

None

In Attendance:

County Councillor Robert Lindsay
District Councillor Bryn Hurren
One member of the public
William Grosvenor (*Clerk to the Council*)

		Action
19.66	CHAIRMAN'S WELCOME Cllr Went welcomed all present to the meeting.	
19.67	TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE There were no apologies.	
19.68	DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST	
19.68.01	To Receive Amendments to the Register There were no amendments to the Register.	
19.68.02	To Receive Declarations of Pecuniary Interest in Respect of Items on the Agenda There were none.	
19.68.03	To Receive Declarations of Non Pecuniary Interest in Respect of Items on the Agenda There were none.	
19.68.04	To Receive Full / Partial Dispensations for Pecuniary Interests Declared It was noted that there had been no requests for dispensations.	
19.69	MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 18 July 2019 were approved and signed as a true and accurate record.	
19.70	TO RECEIVE THE COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT Cllr Lindsay reported as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The recent changes to school transport arrangements have resulted in a chaotic situation for families. • He summarised the current position with the 112 bus route. Cllr Marshall reported a meeting on 16 September of representatives from most of the parishes covered by the route, at which it was suggested that each of the towns / parishes (including Sudbury) should each contribute £500.00 to support the continuation of the service. Councillors discussed this proposal, and felt that a flat rate of £500.00 was unfair to small councils and should be reconsidered. Another meeting will be 	

	<p>convened on 10 October. It was also suggested that Norse should be asked to make available their accounts in respect of the 112 service, to see the extent to which a volunteer driver would make a difference to costs. Cllr Lindsay said that pressure should be put on the Cabinet Member for Highways in respect of both the 112 service, as well as the route from Hadleigh to Stowmarket which is also under threat. Meanwhile the petition should be signed by as many people as possible.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Boundary Commission is reviewing County Council Wards. Public consultation runs until 2 December. Draft recommendations will be published in March 2020. The number of Councillors and Ward boundaries may well change. 	Cllr Marshall
19.71	<p>TO RECEIVE THE DISTRICT COUNCILLOR'S REPORT Cllr Hurren reported as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The new Babergh / Mid-Suffolk Joint Local Plan Preferred Options document is out to consultation. This closes on 30 September 2019. Brent Eleigh is classed as a Hamlet Village which will only accommodate small scale development (Hamlets are proposed to accommodate 3% of growth throughout the Plan period). • Babergh has now published a new 5 year land supply position statement demonstrating a 5.67 year supply. • Cllr Hurren supported Cllr Lindsay's statement about the chaos caused by the school transport changes. • Babergh is proposing to drop its name and change it to "South Suffolk", as being better understood and more readily located geographically. • Cllr Hurren repeated his arguments that having a unitary authority would make significant savings. 	
19.72	<p>TO DISCUSS ANY VILLAGE MATTERS The 112 bus route was fully discussed under the County Councillor's report (Item 19.79 above).</p>	
19.73	<p>TO RECEIVE A REPORT FROM THE VILLAGE NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH CO-ORDINATOR It was reported that persons were observed looking through the windows of Abbots Hall, and details of their motor vehicle would be passed to the police.</p>	Cllr Went
19.74	<p>TO RECEIVE AND CONSIDER REPORTS ON FINANCIAL AND GOVERNANCE MATTERS</p>	
19.74.01	<p>To receive the financial update report The Clerk distributed copies of the updated cashbook and reported that the balance in the Council's account with Lloyds Bank, as at the date of the meeting, allowing for unpresented cheques and an additional credit since the last Bank Statement, stood at £5,320.93. The payments made include the sum of £101.78 paid by cheque number 000256 to Babergh DC in relation to election expenses. Babergh has apparently not received this payment and the Clerk is liaising with their Finance people to resolve the matter.</p>	Clerk
19.74.02	<p>To consider and approve payments It was AGREED to make the following payments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • £179.60 as remuneration to the Clerk 	Clerk

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> £119.20 to HMRC for Tax. <p>Additionally the Clerk reported that confirmation has been received from the Information Commissioner's Office of payment of the renewal subscription, and a Certificate has been received which confirms the Council's compliance until 27 July 2020.</p>	
19.74.03	<p>To consider update on grant to Village Hall</p> <p>Estimates for the flooring renewal have been received as follows:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> £1,691.47 £1,780.00 £2,949.00. <p>Cllr Marshall reported that Estimate 1 would be accepted, and following advice as to the satisfactory completion of the work, the Council would pay the £1k grant to the Village Hall Committee from the Earmarked Reserve.</p>	Cllr Marshall
19.74.04	<p>Grant for the upkeep of St Mary's churchyard</p> <p>The Clerk passed on to Councillors a note of thanks received from the Chair of the PCC in response to the payment of £250.00 by way of grant as a contribution to the upkeep of the village churchyard.</p>	
19.74.05	<p>New Draft Financial Regulations</p> <p>The Clerk reported that an updated set of Model Financial Regulations was published in the summer of 2019 and would need adapting, approval and adoption by the Council. He will bring proposals to a meeting as soon as is practicable for discussion.</p>	Clerk
19.74.06	<p>Community infrastructure Levy (CIL) – update</p> <p>The Clerk updated Members in respect of the new CIL Regulations which came into force on 1 September 2019, and also the abolition of the CIL 123 Lists which govern the current arrangements for expending CIL monies in Babergh. Additionally a new (no. 4) Bid Round opens on 1 October 2019.</p>	
19.74.07	<p>Pensions Regulator – re-declaration of compliance</p> <p>The Clerk reported that a re-declaration of compliance will be required from the Council as an employer <i>after</i> 1 October 2019 and <i>before</i> 1 June 2020.</p>	Clerk
19.75	<p>TO RECEIVE REPORTS FROM COUNCILLORS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> It was reported that the Hill Farm barns have been sold, so movement on the development for which planning consent has been obtained might follow. Lottery grant funding is being obtained for the defibrillator. In terms of the Milden Road grit bin, reinstatement is still awaiting agreement from all the neighbours. 	Cllr Went
19.76	<p>TO RECEIVE THE CLERK'S REPORT</p>	
19.76.01	<p>Suffolk Highways grit bin guidance</p> <p>The Clerk reported receipt of a new "Grit Bin Guidance and Application Procedure" and took Councillors through the key points.</p> <p>It was AGREED to position the council's grit bins as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> At the triangle opposite Corner Farm In Hall Road opposite Bridge Cottage / Snapes Lane In Milden Road opposite Red Brick Cottages. <p>A third bin will therefore be required and it was AGREED that one shall be purchased immediately.</p>	Clerk

19.76.02	<p>Former BT Telephone Kiosk Cllr Marshall reported receipt of quotations for the refurbishment works as follows: 1. £450.00 2. £450.00 3. £1,000.00.</p> <p>It was AGREED to proceed with one of the quotes @ £450.00. Cllr Went will cut back the foliage from around the kiosk to permit full access. The Clerk reminded Councillors that only genuine spares and the approved paint colour should be used. These can be obtained via www.x2connect.com</p>	Cllr Marshall / Cllr Went
19.76.03	<p>Bulb planting It was AGREED to plant additional bulbs on the triangle around the village sign and allocate the sum of £30.00 for their purchase.</p>	Cllr Scoones
19.76.04	<p>Parish Engagement Workshop The Clerk reported that a workshop will be held on 15 October – 9.00am to 12.30pm at The Mix in Stowmarket – to explore options for an engagement protocol on planning matters.</p>	
19.76.05	<p>Public meeting with the Police and Crime Commissioner and Chief Constable A public meeting for the West policing command area will take place on 24 September at the St Edmunds Rugby Club, Bury St Edmunds, starting at 7pm.</p>	
19.76.06	<p>Roadside Nature Reserve Project Review There is a Roadside Nature Reserve (No. 67) maintained by Suffolk CC along the road (U8127) which runs from Hall Road to Monks Eleigh Tye. The Factsheet, previously distributed to Councillors, refers to it being a site where the rare Yellow Vetchling and Sulphur Clover are to be found. This was NOTED.</p>	
19.77	<p>PLANNING ISSUES</p>	
19.77.01	<p>Babergh / Mid-Suffolk Local Plan Please see Minute 19.71 above.</p>	
19.77.02	<p>Babergh’s housing land supply statement Please see Minute 19.71 above.</p>	
19.77.03	<p>To consider Planning Applications received (1) DC/19/04306 – Land rear of Ridgewood House, Brent Mill Drive – TPO application and notification of works to trees in a conservation area. Following discussion it was AGREED to make no comments on this application. (2) DC/19/04315 – Serendipity, Brent Mill Drive - Notification of works to trees in a conservation area. Following discussion it was AGREED to make no comments on this application.</p>	
19.77.04	<p>To receive notifications on Planning Applications as determined by Babergh DC There were none.</p>	

19.78	DATES OF FUTURE ORDINARY MEETINGS OF THE COUNCIL <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 21 November 2019• 16 January 2020 <i>All meetings are held at Brent Eleigh Village Hall and start at 7.30pm.</i>	
19.79	CHAIRMAN'S CLOSING REMARKS <p>The Chairman thanked everyone for attending the meeting. There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.15pm.</p>	