

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF BRENT ELEIGH PARISH COUNCIL
HELD ON 21 NOVEMBER 2019 IN THE VILLAGE HALL COMMENCING AT 7.30PM**

Present:

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

Apologies:

Cllr Karen Marshall

In Attendance:

District Councillor Bryn Hurren
Two members of the public
William Grosvenor (*Clerk to the Council*)

		Action
19.80	CHAIRMAN'S WELCOME Cllr Went welcomed all present to the meeting.	
19.81	TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE Apologies were received from County Councillor Robert Lindsay.	
19.82	DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST	
19.82.01	To Receive Amendments to the Register There were no amendments to the Register.	
19.82.02	To Receive Declarations of Pecuniary Interest in Respect of Items on the Agenda There were none.	
19.82.03	To Receive Declarations of Non Pecuniary Interest in Respect of Items on the Agenda There were none.	
19.82.04	To Receive Full / Partial Dispensations for Pecuniary Interests Declared It was noted that there had been no requests for dispensations.	
19.83	MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 19 September 2019 were approved and signed as a true and accurate record.	
19.84	TO RECEIVE THE COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT There was no report in the absence of Cllr Lindsay due to ill-health.	
19.85	TO RECEIVE THE DISTRICT COUNCILLOR'S REPORT Cllr Hurren reported as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • He is Babergh DC's representative on CAB. If any residents receiving winter Fuel Allowance do not need it then they can donate it and CAB will redistribute to those in real need. • As part of Babergh's Health and Green agenda there will be free swims during the Christmas school holidays for under 16s. • Babergh DC is donating a free tree from 1 January 2019 to 1 January 2020 to commemorate the birth of a child – it can be put in a public place if no garden. This is being funded by money from central Government. Concerns were expressed by Cllr Scoones over provenance of tree stocks for this initiative 	

	<p>due to the risk of diseases being imported.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There has been a successful prosecution following the dumping of a boiler and plumbing equipment at Semer. • The proposed name change for Babergh has been delayed to give Councillors more time to look at the issues. • Because of the need to use village halls for the forthcoming General Election, there are funds to compensate users of the halls who are displaced for election reasons. • Responsibility for civil parking enforcement has now been passed to District Councils. Likely assumption of responsibility will be in the spring of 2020. • Likely CIL receipts from barn conversion plans in Brent Eleigh to be up to £12k. • The planning application for the Land off Highlands Road, Monks Eleigh (DC/19/04923 – see below) is likely to be determined by Committee. 	
19.86	<p>TO DISCUSS ANY VILLAGE MATTERS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 112 bus service - It was reported that the situation regarding the 112 bus service continues to gain publicity. The timetable is published on the village notice boards and on the village website. There is a pot of money being made available by Suffolk CC for public transport in rural areas, and it might be possible to tap into that resource. • Dangerous tree in Cock lane – The tree drawn to the Council’s attention was identified as an ash tree with ash dieback, which also has bats nesting in it. It is likely to be the landowner’s responsibility and the position was NOTED. • Street lighting in the village – A request for this to be considered was received from a resident and was NOTED. Given the severe lack of funding available to Highways at present such a request would not be progressed. 	
19.87	<p>TO RECEIVE A REPORT FROM THE VILLAGE NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH CO-ORDINATOR</p> <p>On this occasion there was nothing to report other than a shed break in at Bildeston.</p>	
19.88	<p>TO RECEIVE AND CONSIDER REPORTS ON FINANCIAL AND GOVERNANCE MATTERS</p>	
19.88.01	<p>To receive the financial update report</p> <p>The Clerk distributed copies of the updated cashbook and reported that the balance in the Council’s account with Lloyds Bank, as at 1 November, allowing for unrepresented cheques, stood at £4,881.19. The payments represented by the unrepresented cheques were (1) £119.34 paid by cheque number 000260 to Glasdon for the new grit bin and (2) £21.60 paid to SALC for payroll costs in the first 6 months of 2019/20 paid by cheque number 000261.</p>	
19.88.02	<p>To consider and approve payments</p> <p>It was AGREED to make the following payments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • £1,000.00 to Capricorn Carpets in respect of new vinyl flooring for the Village Hall • £29.60 to Cllr Scoones for spring bulbs to be planted around the Village Sign. 	Clerk

19.88.03	To consider Budget and Precept for 2020/21 The Clerk reported that the Precept demand for 2020/21 has to be with Babergh Financial Services by 31 January 2020. The tax base for 2020/21 has reduced slightly from 2019/20 – down from £83.12 to £81.95 – so if the same Band D equivalent amount is sought for 2020/21 as in 2019/20, household contributions will increase slightly. The Budget and Precept setting will need to be done at the January meeting.	Clerk
19.88.04	Grant for improvements to the Village Hall Please see Minute 19.88.02 above where a grant of £1,000 was made to the Village Hall from the Earmarked Reserve set aside for the purpose.	
19.88.05	Request for grant from Headway Suffolk This was NOTED .	
19.88.06	Pensions Regulator – re-declaration of compliance The Clerk reported that a re-declaration of compliance was made on 12 October 2019 and acknowledgement of such declaration has been received from the Pensions Regulator. No further action will be required for 3 years.	
19.89	TO RECEIVE REPORTS FROM COUNCILLORS <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It was reported that the application form to access charitable funding for a defibrillator has been completed. It was AGREED following discussion that any top up required would be considered by the Parish Council. • Milden Road grit bin – Cllr Went reported that the bin would be sited during the next weekend. • Bulb planting – Cllr Scoones reported this was completed. 	Cllr Went
19.90	TO RECEIVE THE CLERK'S REPORT	
19.90.01	Suffolk Highways grit bin guidance The Clerk reminded Councillors that the new guidance required him to supply Highways with a sketch map showing the locations of the grit bins in the parish, and he will do that as soon as the Milden Road grit bin is put in place.	Clerk
19.90.02	Former BT Telephone Kiosk Repainting of the kiosk was underway. The Clerk reminded Councillors that only genuine spares and the approved paint colour should be used. These can be obtained via www.x2connect.com and he circulated a hard copy showing all the spare parts and paint supplies that are available.	
19.91	PLANNING ISSUES	
19.91.01	Babergh / Mid-Suffolk Joint Local Plan: Preferred Options Consultation on this document closed 30 September 2019.	

19.91.02	<p>To consider Planning Applications received</p> <p>(1) DC/19/04923 – Land north of Second Pits, Highlands Road, Monks Eleigh – Application for change of use to Traveller pitch.</p> <p>Following discussion it was AGREED to recommend refusal in respect of this application on the grounds that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The proposed location is neither in conformance with the guidelines contained in the National Planning for Traveller Sites document published in 2015 nor the new Babergh draft Local Plan. • Para. 190 of the National Planning Policy Framework requires local planning authorities to identify and assess the particular significance of any heritage asset that may be affected by the proposal. The Grade II listed Wagger Farm is located immediately to the north of the site and in considering this application the authority must have special regard to the preservation of the setting of this listed building which would be adversely affected by this proposal. <p>The Clerk to advise Babergh DC accordingly.</p> <p>(2) DC/19/04844 Laxfield House, Cundys Lane – Proposed erection of external passenger lift.</p> <p>Following discussion it was AGREED to make no comments on this application.</p>	Clerk
19.91.03	<p>To receive notifications on Planning Applications as determined by Babergh DC</p> <p>(3) DC/19/04306 – Land rear of Ridgewood House, Brent Mill Drive – TPO application and notification of works to trees in a conservation area.</p> <p>Planning consent was granted by letter dated 10 October.</p> <p>(4) DC/19/04315 – Serendipity, Brent Mill Drive - Notification of works to trees in a conservation area.</p> <p>Planning consent was granted by letter dated 10 October.</p>	
19.92	<p>DATES OF FUTURE ORDINARY MEETINGS OF THE COUNCIL</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 16 January 2020 • 19 March 2020 <p><i>All meetings are held at Brent Eleigh Village Hall and start at 7.30pm.</i></p>	
19.93	<p>CHAIRMAN’S CLOSING REMARKS</p> <p>The Chairman thanked everyone for attending the meeting. There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.45pm.</p>	