

# LITTLE BROMLEY PARISH COUNCIL

## MINUTES

Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held at The Haywain, Little Bromley, on Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> January 2015 7.30pm

In attendance: Councillor R Knott [Chairman]  
Councillor K Hatch [Vice Chairman]  
Councillor A Spall  
Councillor D Newton  
Councillor N Stock  
Karen Tarling – Clerk

Approximately 7 members of the public.

### **1/15. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

None received.

### **2/15. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING**

Minutes of meeting on 18<sup>th</sup> December 2014 accepted as accurate.

### **3/15. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS**

No interests declared.

### **4/15. PUBLIC FORUM**

Issues of urinating in a public place and the 30mph speed limit between Chequers Road and Lawford were discussed.

### **5/15 2015/2016 PRECEPT**

Councillor Stock moved that the precept be set at £2400 for 2015/2016 being a notional decrease of 4% and sends a signal that the Parish Council are seeking to reduce costs where possible. Seconded by Councillor Spall and unanimous decision of all Councillors. Item resolved.

## **6/15. REPORTS**

### **(a) COUNTY COUNCILLORS**

Apologies received from Councillor Guglielmi but report submitted and summarised by Councillor Knott. A number of cabinet changes were made at ECC to enable the Council to respond to challenges of the health and social care agenda and the Care Act. ECC will lose £49 million in government funding next year to support services and the Council could face a cut of around 15% on its funding from last year. A motion was passed at Full Council on 9<sup>th</sup> December calling for Essex and other counties to be treated as equals to the metropolitan cities of England in terms of devolution. The department of transport has announced a significant investment in road infrastructure in the county which includes the M11, A12 and the A14. DEFRA have announced a £2.3 billion investment plan to cover 1400 flood defences up to 2021. An LED streetlight pilot scheme is to be rolled out in 2015 by ECC. Councillor Bass announced on 12<sup>th</sup> December that ECC would put up £5 million to kick start the consultation design work for dualling the A120 between Marks Tey and Braintree.

### **(b) DISTRICT COUNCILLORS**

Councillor Stock reported that a decision has been made by Tesco not to proceed with the development in Manningtree and the land is likely to be sold.

### **(c) PARISH COUNCILLORS**

Councillor Spall reported that the bank mandate for Councillor Stock to be a signatory for cheques has been completed and the Parish Council will remain with Barclays bank for the time being.

## **7/15. MAINS SEWERAGE CONNECTION**

Councillor Stock requested that this item be deferred to March Parish Council meeting. Seconded by Councillor Spall. Item resolved.

## **8/15. LOCAL HIGHWAYS PANEL**

Councillor Stock reported that the Local Highways Panel had written to ask for proposals for schemes to go into the programme of highway improvement works. It was discussed that the village has a number of pedestrian safety issues including the safety of school children walking home after being dropped off by the school bus; the 30 mph speed limit being extended; VAS and entrance gates to the village. Councillor Stock moved that he respond to the Local Highways Panel – seconded by Councillor Spall. Item resolved.

## **9/15. UPDATE ON SPEED ACTIVATION SIGN**

Councillor Stock to obtain an update. Item deferred to March Parish Council meeting. Seconded by Councillor Knott. Item resolved.

#### **10/15.UPDATE ON DITCH ON TABOR LAND**

Councillor Knott wrote to ECC on 4<sup>th</sup> November 2014 and received an automated acknowledgement but no formal response. Councillor Knott chased this on 20<sup>th</sup> January 2015 and is still awaiting a response. Councillor Stock moved that the item be referred to the County Councillor for him to pursue the matter. Seconded by Councillor Spall. Item resolved.

#### **11/15. UPDATE FROM FOOTPATH WARDEN**

The footpath Warden reported that all footpath signs reported to ECC/TDC as damaged have been repaired. There is a facility on the website to report footpaths that have not been reinstated.

#### **12/15. UPDATE FROM TREE WARDEN**

Councillor Spall reported that the aim is to plant trees at end February/March. Land is still being sought for this purpose. Permission has been granted to plant on land behind Little Bromley Hall. Councillor Stock moved that the owner be thanked for donating the land. Seconded by Councillor Spall. Item resolved.

#### **13/15. UPDATE ON NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH SCHEME**

Councillor Knott reported that he had met with Paul Teague and he will be invited to attend the March Parish Council meeting to do a presentation. Seconded by Councillor Spall. Item resolved.

#### **14/15. UPDATE ON A120**

Councillor Stock reported that the speed limit is now in force. Item resolved.

#### **15/15. UPDATE ON BROADBAND**

Councillor Stock reported that he e mailed the Deputy leader of ECC on 19<sup>th</sup> December 2014 but has not received a response. Councillor Stock moved that he chase the matter by letter – seconded by Councillor Hatch. Item resolved.

#### **16/15. STREET LIGHT**

Councillor Spall reported that UK power have sought clarification of the location of the street light. Councillor Spall moved that she make enquiries as to ownership of the light – seconded by Councillor Stock. Item resolved.

#### **17/15. STANDING ORDERS**

Councillor Stock moved that the standing orders be adopted subject to an amendment as follows:- *“Public participation is welcomed and encouraged at all meetings of Little Bromley Parish Council. To ensure the business of the meeting is conducted in an orderly and efficient manner the Chairman will use his discretion to allow public participation at such convenient times during the meeting as he sees fit”*. Seconded by Councillor Hatch and unanimous decision of all Councillors. Item resolved.

#### **18/15. DATA PROTECTION ACT**

Councillor Knott reported that the Clerk has recommended – having researched the matter and spoken directly to ICO - that the Parish Council be registered under the Data Protection Act. Councillors Knott and Hatch moved to accept Clerks advice. Reasons given for not wishing to accept the Clerks advice were that having been on the ICO website the self assessment test indicated that the Parish Council did not have to register; that the Parish Council did not hold enough information on their records; grounds of cost; situation unclear and no other Parish Councils have been prosecuted. On the basis of a vote, 2 against 3, the decision was that the Parish Council would not be registered under the Data Protection Act. Item resolved.

A member of the public asked if setting up the Neighbourhood Watch Scheme and obtaining information from residents relating to that would impact on the above decision.

#### **19/15 SHARES**

Councillor Spall advised that she had written to Computershare and the cost of selling the shares would be a minimum of £12.50. Councillor Stock voted to sell the shares; Councillors Knott; Hatch; Spall and Newton voted to retain the shares. On the basis of a vote, 1 against 4, the shares to be retained. Item resolved.

#### **20/15 CLERKS ALLOWANCE**

Councillor Knott proposed that the Clerk be provided with an allowance of £300 per annum for home working. Seconded by Councillor Stock and unanimous decision of all Councillors. Item resolved.

#### **21/15. CORRESPONDENCE TO NOTE**

- Report from Police 11<sup>th</sup> December 2014
- Correspondence from UK Power Networks 9<sup>th</sup> January 2015 [Item 16/15 above]

**22/15. INFORMATION EXCHANGE/NEXT AGENDA ITEMS**

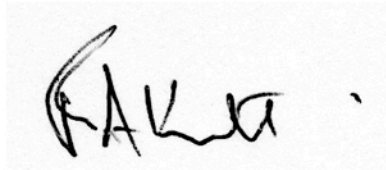
It was suggested that the Parish Council obtain a copy of the Traffic Regulation Orders. The Rights of Way Officer could be contacted for issues relating to public footpaths. S106 money to be included on March Parish Council agenda.

**23/15. MEETING DATES 2015**

22<sup>nd</sup> January; 19<sup>th</sup> March; 28<sup>th</sup> May; 23<sup>rd</sup> July; 24<sup>th</sup> September; 17<sup>th</sup> December

**CLOSE OF MEETING**

Signed

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'R. A. K. A.', is written on a light-colored rectangular background.

Date 19 March 2015