

# LITTLE BROMLEY PARISH COUNCIL

## MINUTES

Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held at The Haywain, Little Bromley, on Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> March 2015 at 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 6 members of the public.

### **29/15. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

No apologies received.

### **30/15. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING**

To approve and sign as a correct record the minutes of:

- Extraordinary Meeting 9<sup>th</sup> October 2014
- Extraordinary Meeting 14<sup>th</sup> October 2014
- Parish Council Meeting 22<sup>nd</sup> January 2015
- Extraordinary Meeting 4<sup>th</sup> March 2015

Councillor Stock moved to agree all of the above minutes as an accurate record of the meeting. Seconded by Councillor Spall and unanimous agreement of all Councillors. Item resolved.

### **31/15. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS**

Councillor Stock declared a non pecuniary interest in item 33/15 as a next door neighbour of the property in question. Councillor Spall declared a other pecuniary interest in item 35/15 as a member of the Friends of Little Bromley Church Committee.

### **32/15. PRESENTATION ON NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH SCHEME – PAUL TEAGUE**

A 15 minute presentation by Paul Teague on how to set up a Neighbourhood Watch Scheme followed by a question and answer session. Councillor Stock moved to thank Paul and his colleague for the presentation. Seconded by Councillor Knott and unanimous agreement of all Councillors.

### **33/15. PLANNING APPLICATION – NEWHOUSE FARM, SHOP ROAD – 15/00275/LBC**

To consider an application to create and install new shower room and partition to second floor. Create and install new shower room to first floor rear wing. Remove modern sash window to second floor and replace with conservation replacement window. Install new casement window to first floor shower room. Install new sash window to first floor bedroom rear wing. Install 2 roof windows. Remove section of internal partition to landing on first floor.

Councillor Stock moved to support this application – seconded by Councillor Hatch and unanimous decision of all Councillors. Item resolved.

### **34/15. BUDGET 2015/16**

Before next years budget was discussed, Councillors Knott and Stock explained that despite setting a 4% reduction in the Parish Council precept for 2015/16, the council tax invoices that have now been received by residents indicate an 18.5% increase. Enquiries have been made of Head of Finance at TDC who has explained that the percentage had been based on the 1<sup>st</sup> precept request the Parish Council made last year of £2000 but in fact the precept last year was eventually £2500 and although the perception is that there has been an 18.5% increase, the amount the Parish Council has asked for this year has actually decreased by 4%. The Head of Finance has indicated his willingness to attend a meeting to explain the situation personally. Councillor Spall clarified that the precept last year had been reduced by 45.7% and residents will still be paying a lower amount this year than they were in 2013/14.

Councillor Hatch moved to accept the proposed budget for 2015/16. Seconded by Councillor Stock and unanimous agreement of all Councillors. Item resolved.

### **35/15. APPLICATION FOR A GRANT PURSUANT TO SECTION 137 LGA 1972**

To consider an application dated 2<sup>nd</sup> February 2015 for a grant on behalf of the Parochial Church Council of The Bromleys towards the cost of grass cutting.

Councillor Spall moved to agree the application for a grant in the sum of £300 towards the cost of grass cutting. Seconded by Councillor Hatch and unanimous agreement of all Councillors. Item resolved.

**36/15. APPLICATION FOR A GRANT PURSUANT TO SECTION 137 LGA 1972**

To consider an application for a donation on behalf of the Parochial church Council for Great Bromley Flower festival 2015.

Councillors considered that they were not able to agree to this application. Moved by Councillor Knott and seconded by Councillor Hatch with unanimous agreement of all Councillors.

Councillor Stock indicated he would be willing to make a donation in his personal capacity as a business owner. Item resolved.

**37/15. REPORTS (a) COUNTY COUNCILLORS (b) DISTRICT COUNCILLORS (c) PARISH COUNCILLORS (d) POLICE**

- (a) No apologies or report was received from Councillor Guglielmi.
- (b) Councillor Stock reported that he will stand for re-election in May. He has particular concern regarding the expansion of housing in the district.
- (c) Councillor Hatch reported that he attended the Local Community Resilience workshop and there will be a Women's Cycle Tour on Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> June 2015 from Braintree to Clacton. A new Community Project to assist the elderly has been launched and will deal with issues such as form filling and mobility - the project is funded by ECC over 5 years. A Bill is currently going through Parliament to allow car rallies. If the Bill is approved, TDC are proposing to stage a rally in the Tendring area. An exercise will take place in Harwich on 30<sup>th</sup> September at the Command Centre and a major live Maritime exercise involving land and sea personnel is planned for 2016.
- (d) Councillor Knott reported that he attended an EALC meeting and it was useful to network with other Councils. An article has been placed in this months Bromley Messenger seeking views on what residents would like in the Parish, now and 10 or 20 years in the future. What changes and challenges will we face. Feedback from residents is welcome either to a Councillor or to the Clerk
- (e) No apologies or report received from the Police. Mention was made of the Local Community Meetings held at Manningtree High School where residents can raise issues with the Police and attendance at these meetings is encouraged. Residents may sign up for crime reports/statistics on ECC Police website and Police reports are now being added to the Village website.

Mention was made of fly tipping in the area and anyone can report these issues on the TDC website.

#### **38/15. MAINS SEWERAGE CONNECTION**

Councillor Stock reported that he had drafted a letter which will be sent out to residents outlining the pros and cons of mains sewerage connection. Proposed by Councillor Spall, seconded by Councillor Hatch and unanimous decision of all Councillors. Item resolved.

#### **39/14. UPDATE ON SPEED ACTIVATION SIGN**

Councillor Stock reported that he had heard nothing further. Councillor Spall proposed that she contacts Councillor Guglielmi for an update. Seconded by Councillor Stock and unanimous decision of all Councillors. Item resolved.

#### **40/15. STREET LIGHT**

Councillor Spall reported that she has received the signed agreement from EON confirming that the Parish had entered into a contract with them for supply of electricity. The cost to disconnect the light from UK Power Network is £565.20. Enquiries are being made as to the cost of a replacement light bulb. Councillor Spall proposed that the Clerk serve one months notice – pursuant to the contract – to terminate the power supply with EON. Seconded by Councillor Stock and unanimous decision of all Councillors. Item resolved.

#### **41/15. UPDATE FROM TREE WARDEN**

Councillor Spall reported that 30 trees had been planted at Bromley hall at the back of Shop Road. A new tree had been planted in the Church yard. A few potted trees are available if any residents are interested. Item resolved.

#### **42/15. UPDATE FROM FOOTPATH WARDEN**

Apologies received from the Footpath Warden and a report was read out. The Footpath Warden has made contact with the Public Rights of Way Officer who is taking responsibility for all footpaths needing attention. He has 7 incidents of footpath signage that are damaged or missing and he hopes these will be resolved soon. Item resolved.

#### **43/15. BROADBAND**

Councillor Knott reported that he attended a meeting in Chelmsford and has been informed phase 1 finishes in September 2015. Phase 2 is just about to start. We are unsure at the moment whether the Village will be included in

phase 2. All broadband users across the country have been guaranteed a speed of 2.0 minimum by December 2016. Item resolved.

#### **44/15. FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000**

Councillor Knott moved to adopt the updated model Publication Scheme as a result of changes to the Freedom of Information Act 2000 by the Protection of Freedoms Act 2012. Seconded by Councillor Newton and unanimous agreement of all Councillors. Item resolved.

#### **45/15. STANDING ORDERS**

To consider and adopt the following amendments.

*1. Minutes of the meeting shall be written in draft form and circulated to all members of the Parish Council for approval. With the agreement of all members the draft minutes will be published within 2 weeks of the Council meeting. If an item(s) does not have full agreement, draft minutes will be published within one month, in accordance with the Transparency Code, with a note that the item without full agreement is subject to further consideration. Items that do not have full Councillor approval will be discussed at the next full Parish Council meeting.*

##### *Meetings*

*e. Two sections of Public Participation will be included on the Agenda and 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 other times during the meeting.*

*l. Unless standing orders provide otherwise, voting on an item shall be by acclamation or a show of hands. At the request of a Councillor, the voting on any item shall be recorded so as to show whether each Councillor (present and voting) gave his vote for or against that item. Such a request shall be made preferably before moving on to the next item but before closure of the meeting.*

Amendments proposed by Councillor Spall, seconded by Councillor Stock and unanimous agreement of all Councillors.

#### **46/15. TRANSPARENCY CODE**

Councillor Stock moved to adopt the Transparency code pursuant to The Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014. Seconded by Councillor Hatch and unanimous decision of all Councillors.

#### **47/15. PUBLIC ADMISSION ACT 1960 [AS AMENDED]**

Item deferred to the next meeting. Proposed by Councillor Knott, seconded by Councillor Stock and unanimous decision of all Councillors.

**48/15 SECTION 106 MONEY**

Councillor Stock reported that he was awaiting a response from TDC.

**49/15 ENTRANCE GATES TO VILLAGE**

Councillor Spall proposed that she contact Councillor Guglielmi to move the project forward. Seconded by Councillor Stock and unanimous decision of all Councillors.

**50/15. CORRESPONDENCE TO NOTE**

- Summary of Police reports. These are now on our website

**51/15. INFORMATION EXCHANGE/ AGENDA ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING**

- Councillor Knott invited two sets of public participation during the meeting since there was no Public Forum. Mention was made of a Scarecrow Festival in June. Also a suggestion that the Parish Council obtain the Traffic Regulation Order to check the placement of speed signs.
- Acknowledgement that the numbering of this item on the agenda was incorrect and should be 51/15.
- Next meeting date Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> May 2015

Meeting closed at 9.15pm.

Signed.....

Dated.....

Roly Knott, Chairman

