

## **BRAUNTON PARISH COUNCIL**



### **Minutes of the Braunton Parish Council meeting held on Monday 9<sup>th</sup> November 2020 at 7:00 pm by video conference call.**

- Present** Cllrs: E Spear in the Chair, D Spear, M Shapland, R Shapland, E Wood, A Bryant, V Cann and D Relph.
- Officers: T Lovell, Parish Clerk & RFO.
- 4 members of the public.
- The Chair welcomed those in attendance and thanked everyone for joining the meeting. Technical checks were undertaken, the Chair read out the procedures for virtual meetings.
- 149/2020/21 **Apologies** Received from Cllrs B Bunyard, G Bell, A Bradford and J Chesters.
- 150/2020/21 **Declarations of Interest** Cllr R Shapland declared a non Pecuniary interest in Minute Ref: 156/2020/21, as he is the Council's representative on the Men's Shed Committee.
- 151/2020/21 **Receive items for information not on the agenda, which in the opinion of the Chairman should be brought to the attention of the Council.** The Royal British Legion Braunton Branch held a small Service on Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> November in the grounds of St. Brannock's Church. Due to Covid-19 restrictions they were only allowed to have 30 people attend. The Chair and Vice Chair were invited to attend on behalf of the Parish Council and Chair laid a Wreath at the War Memorial.
- To help local businesses survive the second lockdown in England the Council is providing free parking from 4 pm to 6 pm, to enable people to use click and collect services in Braunton
- 152/2020/21 **Public Participation** There was no public participation.
- 153/2020/21 **Minutes** RESOLVED: That the
- Minutes of the Council meeting held on 12<sup>th</sup> October 2020 be approved and signed by the Chair as a correct record.
  - Minutes of the Council meeting held on 26<sup>th</sup> October 2020 be approved and signed by the Chair as a correct

record.

(NC)

c. Minutes of the Finance and Administration Committee meeting held on the 26<sup>th</sup> October 2020 be ratified and adopted by Council.

(4.0.4abs)

d. Minutes of the Property Committee meeting held on the 12<sup>th</sup> October 2020 be ratified and adopted by Council.

(6.0.2abs)

154/2020/21

**Action Sheet**

RESOLVED: That the updated Action Sheet attached to these minutes be noted

(NC)

155/2020/21

**Police Report**

No report received.

156/2020/21

**Braunton Men's Shed**

The Chair welcomed Sophie Heaton, Community Connector for Live Well in Braunton (LWIB) and members of the LWIB Committee to the meeting.

Sophie Heaton explained that due to Covid-19 and social distancing restrictions it was no longer possible to use the Committee Room at the Parish Hall. An alternative site at the Stoney Bridge Depot in Knowle had been identified as a suitable site for the Men's Shed. The Parish Council purchased the site from Devon County Council in 2015 as it needed storage and a work area for its grounds team. The site is only partially used at present so there would be room for a men's shed to be erected. It would involve installing infrastructure such as electricity, water etc. but this would also benefit the Council's grounds team who would continue to use the Depot.

There are still matters that need to be discussed such as planning permission and access/tenancy arrangements to the site.

RESOLVED: That

- a. the Council agrees in principle for the Men's Shed to use the Stoney Bridge Depot subject to consultation with the neighbouring properties.
- b. the Clerk be authorised under delegated powers to continue negotiations with LWIB and the Men's Shed Committee regarding planning permission and tenancy agreement.

(NC)

157/2020/21

**Caen Primary School – All Weather Pitch**

The Chair welcomed Sam Page, Head Teacher and Laura Martin to the meeting.

Laura Martin explained that the Caen Field which the School rents from the Parish Council can only be used for 40% of the year. This is due to the wet ground conditions during the year especially in the Autumn and Winter months. This is the only green space that the school have

access to and with it being out of use for the majority of the year it restricts the type of sporting activities the children can take part in. The School have approached three companies to obtain quotations to install an all weather pitch which are in excess of £100,000. It is confident that it can secure the level of funding required and would request the Parish Council's permission as the landowner prior to progressing the project further.

Members raised concerns regarding flooding, plans to sub-let the Field and the impact this might have on neighbouring properties regarding light and noise disturbance.

The School are in the process of doing a pre planning enquiry. It has plans to mitigate flooding by using permeable materials where possible. It will not sub-let the Field which will remove the need for flood lights as it will only be used during school hours. This will also remove possible noise disturbance to neighbours during the evenings or weekends.

The Council sympathised with the School and the lack of outside space due to the School being land locked. It was concerned however that removing the natural environment i.e grassed open space and trees and replacing with manmade materials might not be the best way to obtain greater use of the land. Councillors requested if the School had looked into improving the existing drainage

Laura Martin explained that the School had explored improved drainage but this was very expensive and there was no guarantee that the site would not become waterlogged. In recent years, possibly to due to climate change, the UK has experienced much higher levels and prolonged rainfall. If an all weather pitch is installed the School plan to offset the loss of biodiversity by planting trees in other suitable locations within the School grounds and create a bee garden. Laura also confirmed that there are no plans to remove any of the existing trees on the site these will all be retained.

RESOLVED: That

- a. The Clerk to request Richard Slaney, North Devon Council Leisure and Sports Officer to advise the School regarding their plans.
- b. Councillors to visit the site to obtain a better understanding of the existing ground conditions. The School would be happy to show councillors around if they would like to arrange to meet on site.
- c. The School to further explore the possibility of improved drainage on the site.
- d. The Council to defer its decision until it has further information regarding the above.

(NC)

158/2020/21

**Braunton  
Neighbourhood  
Plan**

The Chair welcomed Sue Propser, Secretary on the Braunton Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group to the meeting.

Members considered a report which had been circulated prior to the meeting.

Sue Prosper explained that with the relaunch of the Braunton Parish Neighbourhood Plan there is an opportunity to rethink the approach to the formal monthly meetings of the Steering Group which is required under the Constitution. The Steering Group's proposal is to have a standing item on the Council's monthly Additional Council meeting the benefits are, as follows:

- Evidence of Parish Council active support and involvement in development of the Braunton Parish Neighbourhood Plan.
- Provides an opportunity for members of the community to hear progress of the Plan's development as required by the Steering Group Constitution.
- Maintains the momentum to develop the Braunton Neighbourhood Plan.

RESOLVED: That

- a. the Council agrees to have a standing item on its Additional Council meeting to receive a monthly update report from the Braunton Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group.
- b. non Council members on the Steering Group to participate in any discussions regarding the Neighbourhood Plan.

(NC)

159/2020/21

**Reports from  
the Devon  
County  
Councillor**

There was no report received from the County Councillor.

160/2020/21

**Reports from  
the North Devon  
Councillors**

Cllr E Spear informed members that the North Devon Council Public Spaces Protection Order (PSPO) had not been formally adopted. Following the public consultation North Devon Council are re-evaluating the PSPO.

161/2020/21

**Planning**

Cllrs E Spear and D Spear in their capacity as North Devon Councillors, stated that any opinions expressed during discussions on the following planning applications represent a preliminary view and that they will naturally reconsider the application fresh when presented all the facts at principal level.

- (a) 72280  
Proposal: Extension to dwelling.  
Location: 3 Beech Grove, Braunton, Devon EX33 1BR

Applicant: Mr Adam Ansell

It was moved by Cllr D Spear, seconded by Cllr V Cann to recommend approval.

RESOLVED: That the Council recommends approval.

(NC)

(b) 72302

Proposal: Erection of a new build portacabin to be used for offices and storage.

Location: Fire Station, Chaloners Road, Braunton, Devon EX33 2ES

Applicant: Derek Saunders

It was moved by Cllr D Spear, seconded by Cllr E Spear to recommend approval.

RESOLVED: That the Council recommends approval but would like to reiterate its previous concerns, as follows.

- Will the portacabin with acoustically appropriate for the Devon and Cornwall Police to carry out its work.
- There appears to be no disabled access.
- Out of keeping with the surrounding area which is a designated Conservation Area.

(NC)

(c) 72335

Proposal: Single storey extension to front of property and internal alterations.

Location: 1 Velator Close, Braunton, Devon EX33 2DT

Applicant: Mr & Mrs Strobels

It was moved by Cllr E Spear, seconded by Cllr D Spear to recommend approval.

RESOLVED: That the Council recommends approval.

(NC)

(d) 72333

Proposal: Change of use of dwelling house to holiday accommodation together with erection of garden fence.

Location: 21 West Meadow Road, Braunton, Devon EX33 1EB

Applicant: Mr & Mrs Tamlyn

It was moved by Cllr D Spear, seconded by Cllr M Shapland to defer this application.

RESOLVED: That the application be deferred to

obtain clarity from the Local Planning Authority regarding the proposed change of use.

(NC)

162/2020/21

**North Devon Council – Planning Decisions**

North Devon Council, the determining Authority, has APPROVED the following applications with conditions as filed:

72211 Proposal: Extension to dwelling.  
Location: 21 Silvan Drive, Braunton, Devon, EX33 2EQ  
Applicant: Mr and Mrs Stuart Broadbent  
Decision: APPROVED  
Decision Date: 28/10/2020

163/2020/21

**Accounts due for Payment for the period 27<sup>th</sup> October to 9<sup>th</sup> November 2020.**

RESOLVED: That the

- a. Payments totalling £2721.58 be approved and paid as detailed on the attached list.
- b. PAYE, NI and Pensions for November 2020 be approved as detailed on the attached list.

(NC)

164/2020/21

**Braunton Parish Council Christmas Tree**

RESOLVED: That

- a. the tree be purchased from MRN Stevens at a cost of £600.
- b. Bluewave be appointed to install the lights at a cost of £467.50.

The meeting closed at 8:52 pm.

Signed by the Chair: .....  
(Cllr E Spear)

Date: .....