

BRERETON AND RAVENHILL PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of the **Parish Council** held at the Parish Hall, Ravenhill Park, Brereton, on Thursday 2 March 2023.

Present

Councillors TA Jones [Chairman], Alderman R Easton, Alderwoman Mrs P Ansell, Councillors K Ansell, Mrs DM Easton, Mrs J Brown, Clare Mr Paul Lee, Mrs Lilian Thompson

Also present: Mr J Smith (Administrator and Caretaker) Ms A Oldbury (Clerk to the Parish)

1. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations were given at the commencement of the meeting.

2. APOLOGIES

Councillor Mrs L Johnson, Mr D Johnson

3. POLICE MATTERS

PCSO Chad Carrington in attendance, he talked about a Police Report dated February 2023 - Antisocial behaviour reports are down, it is not known if it is due to the weather but they do know there is still a knock on from Covid.

They have lost another PCSO Hannah Fearnall to Cannock, 3 now remaining.

Brief outline – things are not too bad, the Arches in Etchington has a problem with taking of car keys.

Alderman Easton asked if we could see the Police more often and thanked him for coming. PCSO Carrington advised if he could not attend he would ask a colleague to in his absence, he has already reported he is not on shift for our meeting dates for the remainder of this year.

Alderman Easton advised we treat burglary seriously but need to know if it is dwelling or commercial property.

Bus shelter damage reported to the Police along with a bus shelter that has been stolen.

Cllr Mrs Easton asked for an update on the Police Station - Police station has not been sold but is also not open to the public, now only used for Police office space.

We thanked PCSO Carrington for attending and look forward to seeing a Police presence going forward.

4. CO-OPTION OF NEW MEMBERS

Mrs Lilian Thompson and Mr Paul Lee were Co-opted by the Chair and Alderman R Easton seconded. It was voted and accepted and the following paperwork is now being completed.

5. **MINUTES**

RESOLVED

That the minutes of the meeting held on 5 February 2023, be approved and signed as a correct record.

6. **MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**

Extra Car parking fund – no correspondence received, to be put on agenda and sent to District Council asking why this situation has gone so quiet and why Officers shelving this when we need urgent help. We have quotes but not getting any satisfaction from District Council.

7. **CORRESPONDENCE**

A reply has been received from Amanda Millington advising she has forwarded our email to a Minister and awaits their response.

Road Sweeper - This has not been used for over 2 yrs and voluntary drivers have not been able to carry on due to illness. The electronic brain was not working and because of high cost of repairs it was beyond financial repair. We also had problems getting rid of the sweepings and the cost of free diesel being provided, enough was enough. It was sold for spares or repairs as not a running machine. Sold to a company in Lichfield.

The District Council were responsible for the cleaning outside St Michaels church.

Alderwomen Mrs P Ansell thanked Alderman R Easton for keeping the road sweeper going at his cost at times, and whole heartedly supports all he has done.

The Chair – thank you Alderman Easton for all you've done on the road sweeper.

Sewage – The Chair to write to MP about the slow rate in time scales.

8. **CO-OPTION OF NEW MEMBERS TO FILL PARISH COUNCIL VACANCIES**

Still 2 vacancies – not worth starting a new process now until the May elections.

9. **BUS SERVICES AND BUS SHELTERS**

£2,000 has been given to us by Brereton Million and we need to say what has happened to it.

The agreement was when we took over management of the bus shelters were we would not take over the maintenance unless they paid us £4,000 - £2,000 up front and remainder when needed.

Maintenance so far has been repairs with no charge or disbursements. Money has been kept back after program of coating with Sadlin £1-2,000 currently on programme of works. People take away wooden slats without permission, one repaired outside the park on voluntary basis. One taken away in Settlefield Way via vandalism.

No discussion, agreement or debate about items being varnished. This will be done in better weather – estimate approx. £1,500 in which case we will be asking for the next instalment.

Mr Mann was taking missing slats to avoid further vandalism. Letter should be written to Mr Mann advising this has been reported to the Police as being stolen.

All bus shelters belong to Brereton and Ravenhill BC. The Chair to draft a letter.

Following incorrect information on Facebook Alderman R Easton would like to invite Mrs Karen Mann to a committee meeting.

10. BUS SERVICES INCLUDING FREEDOM OF INFORMATION

The Chair has been in touch with MP to improve buses it is Local Council's responsibility. D&G problem is viability - they have a right to appeal if their amount is too low for bus pass users. Settlefield Way is suffering due to loss of buses, it was agreed the Chair is to write a letter.

Alderman R Easton - advised Birch Lane was blocked off today, he asked workmen how long it would be closed as no one had been notified. He was advised 3 days. He advised he was going to take up with Parish Council tonight and was then advised it was an emergency – no water supply to one house!

11. PLANNING COMMITTEE

RESOLVED

That the minutes of the Planning Committee held on 5 January and 5 February 2023, be approved.

APPROVED

12. PARISH HALL AND PROPERTY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

RESOLVED

That the minutes of the meeting of the Parish Hall and Property Management Committee held on 3 February 2023, be approved.

APPROVED

13. FINANCE AND MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

RESOLVED

That the minutes of the meeting of the Finance and Management Committee held on 3 February 2023, be approved.

APPROVED

14. DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

RESOLVED

That the next meeting would be held on **Thursday 6 April 2023, at 7.30 pm.**

[Chairman]