**Brent Pelham and Meesden Parish Council**

**MINUTE OF**

**BRENT PELHAM & MEESDEN PARISH COUNCIL**

**Thursday 11th January 2018**

**VENUE: Meesden Village Hall**

**PRESENT:**

Trevor Hughes (**TH**) Councillor and Chairman

Steve Murphy (**SM**) Councillor

Wilf Dimsdale (**WD**) Councillor

Sarah Wotton-Ramsay (**SW**) Councillor

Kate Hinch (**KH**) Councillor

**In Attendance:**

Ken Newstead (**KN**) Clerk

**Minute Item Action**

**Year.Month.Item**

**17.10.01 Welcome and Apologies for Absence**

Apologies received from Ted Barclay were approved by the Council.

The Chair welcomed Mike Young of the Hundred Parishes Society to this meeting. Mike Young outlined to purpose of his charity which was to promote the regions rich and diverse heritage. Mike Young encouraged the Council and individuals to become members and explore the website. He then left the meeting.

**17.10.02 Minutes of Previous Meeting**

Approval of the minutes of the 11th October 2017 meeting was proposed by SM and seconded by WD with no objections. A copy of the minutes was signed by the Chairman.

**17.10.03 Review Actions Arising from Previous Meeting**

SM & KN – CCTV inspection on Meesden drain (17.01.08) - Ongoing

KH – contacting Ringway to resolve a foul water smell (17.07.05) – Ringway confirmed that this the responsibility of individual homeowners and not Highways. – Issue Closed

TH - contacting Ringway re the poor state of Mill Lane (17.07.05) - Ringway confirmed that this was not something that should have been completed by the last resurfacing work. – Issue Closed

KN - East of England Ambulance Service may not be supporting VETS (17.07.07) - Ongoing

KN & TB – Way Markers for BP footpath 30 (17.10.05) - Ongoing

KN – Replacement of damaged Meesden signs (17.10.05) - Ongoing

KN – Additional payment of £50 to Good Neighbours Scheme (17.10.06) - Completed

TB - Planting of wild flowers, bulbs, trees & hedging in BP (17.10.08) - Ongoing

TH - Check with EHC on their efforts to prosecute fly tippers (17.10.08) – TH reported evidence that this is happening. Issue Closed

SM – Repair of Meesden Drain inspection chamber (17.10.08) - Completed

**17.10.04 Planning (Applications)**

3/17/1905/LBC – Air Source Heat pump at Puddles Barn BP. – No objections, approved and work completed

3/17/2340/HH – Single Storey rear extension at Rose Cottage Meesden. – No objections and approved

3/18/0008/LBC - Rooflights at The Bury BP – No objections

3/18/0012/HH – Solar Panels at Hunters Lodge BP. – No objections

TH raised the matter of the 6 New houses proposed for The Causeway (3/17/0658/FUL). Whilst he wasn't aware of any new application since the original application was refused, he said that if the application was resubmitted, provided the drainage and flooding issue could be resolved to the Councils satisfaction and that any application met with the Councils approval in every other respect, then he saw no reason to object again. TH asked if Councillors agreed with this view and all agreed.

**17.10.05 Highways**

No new issues

**17.10.06 Finance**

**Accounts**

The Clerk presented the YTD finance report and acceptance was proposed by KH and seconded by SW with no objections. A copy of the report was signed by the Chair and retained by the Clerk.

**2018/19 Precept**

The Council debated and agreed that the precept should increase by £75 per annum to meet the ever-increasing cost of repairs and instructed East Herts Council to increase the precept from £2,450 to £2,525 per annum

**Proposals for Payment**

The Council discussed the option of subscribing £10 per annum to the Hundred Parishes Society and KH proposed payment, WD seconded the proposal with no objections. **KN**

KN expressed concern that the New Homes Bonus had not yet been spent and the proposals for new stocks in BP needs to be discussed at the next meeting. **TB**

**17.10.07 Defibrillator & VETS**

Both Meesden and Brent Pelham Defibrillators and VETS are fully operational and being monitored on a regular basis.

**17.10.08 Repairs and Maintenance**

TB had previously agreed to discuss the planting of wild flowers, bulbs and trees with James Claque and give feedback to the Councillors for financial approval. The Council have not had any feedback on this matter, so the item is carried forward to the next meeting. **TB**

The Council discussed recent problems with Meesden Drain, all known solutions and estimated repair costs. SM proposed that EEG Drainage Contractors are instructed to jet the entire length of the drain per a recent quotation of £800 + vat, but that their quote of £850 + vat for CCTV of the entire drain was not needed and that a new estimate should be sought for the lower section only where the current problem appears to be. KN to contact EEG and instruct the work. TH seconded the proposal with no objections. **KN**

**17.10.09 Items for Next Meeting**

Planting schedule for BP, new Stocks for BP.

**17.10.10 Date of Next Meetings**

The next Parish Council meetings are to be held on:

**Thursday 19th April 2018, 7:30 pm at Brent Pelham Village Hall**

**Thursday 21st June 2018, 7:30 pm at Meesden Village Hall**

**The meeting concluded at 9:00pm**

Minutes approved by: .............................................................

PC Title: .....................................................................................

Signed: .......................................................................................

Date: ...........................................