**Brent Pelham and Meesden Parish Council**

**MINUTE OF**

**BRENT PELHAM & MEESDEN PARISH COUNCIL**

**Thursday 16th September 2021**

**VENUE: Meesden Village Hall**

**PRESENT:**

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

Ted Barclay (**TB**) Councillor and Vice Chairman

Steve Murphy (**SM**) Councillor

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

Kate Hinch (**KH**) Councillor

**In Attendance:** Ken Newstead (**KN**) - Clerk

**Minute Item Action**

**Year.Month.Item**

**21.09.01 Welcome and Apologies for Absence**

The Chairman welcomed the residents Beth Featherstone, Perter Sylvester, Tim Hinch, Mike West and Rob Dussek to this meeting. Apologies received from Councillors Wilf Dimsdale Jeff Jones and prior to the meeting.

**21.09.02 Minutes of Previous Meeting and election of Chairperson**

Minutes of the June 2021 meeting were presented and approved by all as a true representation of the meeting.

**21.09.03 Open Session for Residents**

There were no questions at this time.

**21.09.04 Planning Applications received or processed this period**

3/21/1499/FUL – Replace Stables - Rectory Farm Meesden – **Submitted**

3/21/0969/FUL – 50 MW Battery Storage System – Stocking Pelham – **Submitted**

3/21/0985/FUL - Agricultural building with Boiler – Beeches Manor BP – **Approved**

3/21/0778/HH - Dormer Window & Extn Staircase - Pump Hill Cottage BP – **Approved**

3/20/2316/OUT – 2 New Houses - Land Adjacent To 4 Pump Hill BP – **Refused**

3/21/1802/HH – New Pergola - Pump Hill Cottage Pump Hill BP – **Submitted**

3/21/2164/HH – Side extension – Southview BP - **Submitted**

**21.09.05 Highways**

There were a number of issues that Councillor Jeff Jones had agreed to investigate on our behalf with East Herts Highways team. These specifically included drainage problems throughout Brent Pelham, their use of road closures instead of traffic lights, failure to notify residents in advance of road closures and the lack of repair to any of our road verges that are damaged and a danger to traffic. KH advised the Council that she had been speaking to Ben Randall from the contractors Ringway and had been told that current repairs to the Culvert under Mill Lane Brent Pelham would not prevent future flooding as Ringway had discovered blockages in the drainage system that runs into Mill Lane. This additional work does not have a schedule of repair at this time.

Peter Sylvester told the Council that he had informed EHDC that their Road Closure signs had not been displayed in the correct sequence. As no action has been taken this will be chased up. **KN**

**20.09.05** It was noted that reported that the stolen Post Box on the junction of Mill Lane and Langley Road has been replaced by the Post Office.

**21.09.06 Finance**

**Accounts**

The Clerk presented the 2021 YTD income and expenditure. Acceptance of the accounts was proposed by SWR and seconded by SM with no objections.

**Proposals for Payment**

The Clerk requested authorisation of £10 for repairs to the light in BT kiosk Meesden. The Councillors approved the request.

**21.09.07 Defibrillator & VETS**

The Clerk confirmed that the amend message for our Parish VETS system has been notified to our registered helpers. As further work is needed to repair the kiosk light KH will ask an associate if he can assist. **KH**

**21.09.08 Repairs and Maintenance**

**20.01.08** – Refurbishment of BP Stocks. SWR confirmed that she has not been able to find alternate contractors for work previously in-hand with Giles Brackley. TH confirmed that he has sent a request to BBC’s Repair Shop and is awaiting their response. **TH**

Digging of the ditch opposite The Farthings is proposed for later in the year **SM**

The Clerk reported that following the removal of trees in front of 6 Rose Cottages there have been several requests from Meesden residents to replant new trees. The Council discussed this request at agreed that smaller trees such as Wild Cherry would be acceptable. **KN**

The Clerk reported that a number of residents had expressed their concerns regarding the burning of rubbish on Parish Land. The Council agreed that recent dumping of garden waste had got out of hand and residents need to be asked to limit this. **KN**

**21.09.09 AOB**

* Website – SM asked that unlike our other Councillors his photo is not shown on our website.
* The Council received a request from CPRE for our support. This was approved. **KN**
* The Clerk noted that EHC had applied a 2.1% increase to the Parish Tax Base. As the Council has not requested an increase this will be referred to Jeff Jones for his help. **KN**
* TH outlined a request from Berden PC for financial support for producing a booklet which is to be used in opposition to the development of any future Solar Farm. Following lengthy discussion with representation from those for and those against this particular development as our PC does not have a majority view of our residents in this matter, we are not able to approve this request. The Clerk was asked to contact Ed Perrin of Renewable Connections to ask when they can organise a video conference call for our residents to join. **KN**

**21.09.10 Date of Next Meetings**

The next Parish Council meetings are to be held on:

**Thursday 13th January 2022 – Venue Brent Pelham Village Hall**

**Thursday 14th April 2022 – Venue Meesden Village Hall**

**The meeting concluded at 9:15 pm**

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

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

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

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