

**MINUTES OF BRANSTON PARISH COUNCIL MEETING, 24TH
JANUARY 2023, AT CLAYS LANE SPORTS PAVILION, COMMENING
6.30 P.M.**

Present Cllr M Ackroyd (Chairman)
Cllr P Ackroyd
Cllr J Pike
Cllr N Slater
Cllr R Faulkner
Cllr A Riley

In attendance: Mrs K Lear (Clerk)

1/24-1-23 Apologies for absence

Apologies were accepted for Parish Cllrs M Hussain, N Hussain, S Murphy and County Cllr J Jessel.

2/24-1-23 Declaration of interest and dispensation requests

None submitted.

3/24-1-23 Minutes of the last meetings for approval

Cllr R Faulkner wished to abstain.

Res 184/23 Resolved: that the minutes of the 22nd November 2022 were an accurate and factual record.

Res 185/23 Resolved: that the minutes of the 14th December were an accurate and factual record.

4/24-1-23 Public participation

A resident attended to obtain an update on network rail crossing. Concern was raised in relation to Beans Covert and the work which is taking place.

5/24-1-23 Chairman's report

Civility and respect campaign – council members were very interested in any training around the Civility and respect campaign.

Annual parish meeting – some members wished to consider the event at a later date.

6/24-1-23 Planning applications and matters

Members have no issues with the recent planning applications submitted.

7/24-1-23 Highways/matters of concern

It was requested if County Councillor Julia Jessel would supply a schedule of gully cleaning.

8/24-1-23 Policy

Res 186/23 Resolved: that the financial regulations would be adopted.

9/24-1-23 Events

a) Events Working Party

Res 187/23 Resolved: that a working party be appointed.

Res 188/23 Resolved: that Cllrs P Ackroyd, A Riley, N Slater and S Murphy be appointed.

b) Proposed Events

Members agreed that there needed to be a formal opening of the play area.

10/24-1-23 Clays Lane Play Area

a) Play area refurbishment

The Chairman gave an update on the play area refurbishment.

b) Tender for painting of benches

Res 189/23 Resolved: that the existing benches be painted. Cost £2013.

c) Roundabout

An update was given in relation to the roundabout. It was agreed that a new roundabout would be installed.

Res 190/23 Resolved: that the new roundabout would be installed.

d) Pavilion Car park – to be open during school holidays.

There was a discussion in relation to the benefits and disadvantages for opening the main car park near to the pavilion in particular during school half terms. The proposal was defeated.

11/24-1-23 Finance

a) Payments

Recipient	Explanation	Amount
JRB Enterprise Ltd	Dog poo bags	35.82
DSK Engineering	Repair of play equipment	600.00
Halsalt Fire & Rescue	Annual light checks	108.00
SPCA	Cllr Training	36.00
Administration	Administration	1614.88
Utilities	Gas/Broadband	133.85
Waterplus	Water – pavilion	5.58
K Lear	Reimbursements	48.01

ESBC	Dog waste bin emptying	612.47
P Wildman	Fire extinguisher/PAT testing	181.00
Wicksteed	Removal of play equipment	29612.40

Res 191/23 **Resolved:** that the above payments would be processed.

b) Tenders for grass cutting contract 2023

Res 192/23 **Resolved:** that tender 1 would be awarded the contract.

c) Quarterly Budget review

Res 193/23 **Resolved:** that the budget review be accepted.

12/24-1-23 Clerks report

Underpass – works should be completed by March 2023. ESBC have confirmed that they will spray the affected after once works have been completed. A small grant to support these works had already been received.

Tree planting – members were happy with the additional trees to be planted.

Invitation from Health and Social Care Partners – Members requested that they be invited to a parish council meeting.

Room hire enquiries – members wished to continue reviewing all room hire requests in light of increased utility costs.

Guidance on costs were discussed. Members agreed that £100 refundable deposit must be given by all hirers going forward.

13/24-1-23 Borough, County and Staffordshire Police Third Party Reports

It was noted that there are currently no PCSO's assigned to Branston Parish.

ESBC are continuing to support residents with debt advice, food scheme, energy efficiency support.

County Cllr Julia Jessels report was noted. Note: Branston parish council as the corporate body wished to remain impartial in relation to the bridge update.

UNDER THE PUBLIC (ADMISSION TO MEETINGS) ACT 1960 IN VIEW OF THE SPECIAL NATURE OF THE BUSINESS ABOUT TO BE TRANSACTED, IT IS ADVISABLE IN THE PUBLIC INTEREST THAT THE PUBLIC BE TEMPORARILY EXCLUDED AND THEY ARE INSTRUCTED TO WITHDRAW

14/24-1-23 Grounds works

Small repair of path - Members agreed that this was not required.

Equipment

Members agreed that a formal letter needed to be sent.

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15/24-1-23 Staffing matter

Members supported the recommendations submitted by the staffing committee. It was noted that no review had taken place since 2014.

**CLLR MIKE ACKROYD
CHAIRMAN – BRANSTON PARISH COUNCIL**