

MINUTES OF BRANSTON PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Held at Clays Lane Sports Pavilion, Tuesday, 23rd May 2023 at 6.30 p.m.

Present: Cllr A Riley (Chairman), Cllr J Pike, Cllr N Slater, Cllr J Riley,
Cllr R Faulkner

In attendance: Mrs K Lear (Clerk/Proper Officer)

Public participation : Two members of the public came to the meeting to raise local concerns.

1/012-2023 Apologies for absence
Cllr M Ackroyd, Cllr P Ackroyd and Cllr N Hussain

2/013-2023 Declaration of interest and dispensations
None submitted

3/014-2023 Chairmans report
No report received

4/015-2023 Minutes of the meeting 12th May 2023

It was resolved that the minutes were a true and accurate record and the Chairman signed them accordingly.

5/016-2023 Update on matters from the last meeting and discussion on how to proceed

Warm spaces drop in

There was a discussion as to the benefits of the warm spaces drop in facility. Some members felt that it was a good service but felt that it should be on hold until later on in the year.

The Chairman asked for a vote on whether to proceed. Cllr N Slater abstained. Cllr J Pike wished to vote against the drop in continuing during the summer.

It was resolved that the service would continue for another month. It was agreed that a rota needed to be drawn up.

War memorial works and costs

It was noted that costs were still being explored. The clerk had contacted the current grounds maintenance contractor and also a few others. Currently they are unable to quote for any more business for the current season.

Additional planters

Members requested that Cllr Slater proposed some locations at the next meeting. It was suggested that a site visit was also carried out to explore the proposals.

Co-option

A local resident attended the meeting as they were interested in being co-opted onto the parish council.

Welcome sign, Branston Road

A site visit had taken place. Clerk to obtain quotations. Clerk to establish from Staffordshire County Council how the parish council can proceed. It was noted that the sign was being introduced, as since the road structure had been changed with the introduction of the Rugby Club and John Taylor Free School, the Branston signage had disappeared and had not been replaced by Staffordshire County Council.

Pavilion hire charges

It was resolved that hire fees for the pavilion going forward would be 1st two hours, £15 an hour and £10 a hour thereafter.

Raising profile of the parish council

Members felt that the parish council needed to promote their services more.

CCTV enquiry update

Members agreed that Cllrs Faulkner and J Riley to complete a cost benefit analysis within the next 3 months to discuss with full council.

Parish room, Branston Locks

There was a discussion in relation to the parish room. It was resolved that the Clerk establishes with ESBC the S106 obligations for a parish room. Members felt that the room should be accepted. Members agreed that a room incorporated as part of Branston Locks Primary School would not work for the parish council nor the school.

6/017-2023 Events and Committees

Events and Communication Committee.

It was resolved that an Events and Communication Committee would be formed. The following members were appointed onto the committee: Cllrs A Riley, J Riley, R Faulkner and N Slater.

Terms of reference:-

The committee will have delegated authority to advertise events. The clerk will make all booking for parish council events and obtain the necessary risk assessments, public liability. The committee will where required work with outside bodies. The committee will work within the budget approved by full council for events.

The following events were approved by full council.

Wild play - 17 June 2023

Party in Park – August – date to be confirmed

Remembrance Service – 12 November 2023

Christmas event – date and activities to be confirmed

D-Day Beacon Ceremony (6 June 2024 – Beacon lighting)

Branston in Bloom Committee

It was resolved that a Branston in Bloom Committee would be appointed.

The following members were appointed onto the committee:- Cllrs J Pike, R Faulkner, A Riley, N Slater.

Terms of reference

The committee will have delegated powers to spend the budget approved by full council.

Clerk to contact Paul Steed to see if plants can be purchased from the potting shed.

7/018-2023 Third party reports note: no PCSO assigned to Branston

Members suggested that the clerk contacts Ben Adams to establish when a PCSO will be appointed for Branston.

8/019-2023 Financial matters

The insurance renewal was agreed. Council to proceed with the current supplier. Clerk to proceed.

Payments for approval

The following payments were approved:-

Recipient	Explanation	Amount	Power
Payroll	Payroll	1770.12	GPC/EP
Perennial Landscape	Grounds maintenance	680.40	GPC/EP
B Crane	Grounds works	60.00	GPC/EP
Utilities	Pavilion	528.85	GPC/EP
Source for business	Water - pavilion	54.96	GPC/EP
P Walton	Mural work - Underpass	500.00	GPC/EP
Zurich	Annual insurance	2431.58	GPC/EP
Water plus	Water -pavilion	7.81	GPC/EP
J Pike	Plants for planters	44.00	GPC/EP

The Chairman asked councils approval to reimburse a member for recent plant purchases for Sainsbury Local Planters. Members were happy to proceed as a one off.

The clerk reminded members that councillors did not have any delegated powers to purchase items on behalf of the council without prior approval.

A member asked for the clerk to confirm when the contract for broadband was to be renewed.

Accountancy system

Members agreed that the clerk proceeds with the system, budget up to £1K.

Upgrade of Chairman Regalia

Members agreed that the clerk proceeds with the regalia upgrade. Budget up to £1010.

Badge of office

Members approved for the clerk to proceed with the design presented. Budget up to £160.

9/020-2023 Correspondence

Planning applications

Whilst the outline planning application for Branston Locks Primary School was not discussed members again confirmed that the proposed parking was not adequate.

Clerk confirmed that County Cllr Julia Jessel was confirming which County Cllr was responsible for this development. No confirmation had been received yet.

The following correspondence had been received.

Blocked drains, Clays Lane, entrance to the park. Clerk was asked to bring the complaint to the attention of County Cllr Julia Jessel.

Introduction of double yellow lines, Harwood Avenue. Members wondered if there would be benefit. It was noted that members of the public do park on double yellow lines. Members felt that double yellow lines would not solve the problem

Opening of Clays Lane Sports Pavilion Car Park.

Members felt that this should be explored. Signage would need to be introduced by the 4 parking bays and also at the entrance of the pavilion car park confirming when the car park will be opened and closed. Members felt that if members of the public did not comply then the service would be revoked immediately. Council to confirm wording for 4 signs. It was suggested that the car park would close at 4pm during the winter months, and 8pm during the summer months.

The clerk was asked to explore the costs of some removable bollards and some fixed to protect the open green space.

Branston Friends – confirmation of planting in the village.

Members requested that the clerk writes to Branston Friends thanking them on behalf of the council. The clerk was also asked to establish if Branston Friends would like to submit a grant application to replace the planter stolen at the entrance of the underpass, Tatenhill Lane.

Branston Leas Event – 3rd June was noted.

Torrance Close ESBC playground refurbishment enquiry. Members requested that the clerk contacts the borough councillors for Branston to establish who maintains this pocket park.

Speeding Postern Road/SID not effective

A local resident was concerned that the SID on Postern Road was no longer effective. The clerk was asked to switch off the device for 3 weeks.

Cameron homes – Branston Community Events

Members requested that the Events Committee explored this further with Cameron Homes.

Big Wild Weekend – item already discussed.

Overgrown grass verges – No Mow May – Members requested that the clerk writes to County Cllr Julia Jessel to establish when the verges will be cut. Members were also concerned about the dog waste which was being left in the verges which had not been maintained for the month of May.

Invitation to presentation evening John Taylor High School – chairman confirmed that he will attend this event.

10/2021-2023 Clerks report

Play area refurbishment – Aviation Lane. Members asked the clerk to establish with the land owner if the 25 year lease will be offered for renewal in 2025. Members felt that this needed to be explored before new play equipment was introduced.

Complaints - Planters at Sainsbury. A member informed the council that she had received complaints about litter being dropped around Sainsbury Local. Litter was also being disposed of in the planters. Council requested the clerk to contact the local school for their assistance.

The Chairman thanked everyone for attending, and the meeting was closed.

Signed:

Date: