



# Brean Parish Council

Mrs J Manning (Clerk) 1 Hillside, Puriton, Bridgwater TA7 8AW

## Minutes of the Brean Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> April 2017

### Present

Cllr J Harris	Chairman
Cllr T Hicks	Vice-Chairman
Councillors	Mrs J Smith, Mr D Scott, Mr M Chatterton and Mr D Holland

In attendance:-

Cllr T Grimes	Sedgemoor District Council
Cllr B Filmer	Sedgemoor District Council

One member of the public

Jacqueline Manning Clerk to the Council

### 56/17 Apologies

No apologies had been received.

### 57/17 Declaration of Interests

Cllr Harris informed the meeting that where members consider they may have a potential interest in any topic for discussion and decision they should declare an interest and withdraw from the discussion and decision making process.

### 58/17 Approval of draft minutes

The draft minutes of the meeting dated Monday 6 March 2017 were approved without amendment and signed by the Chairman.

### 59/17 To respond to members of the public

Members noted comments from Mr Nash:

Mr Nash stated that councillors who had holiday businesses in the village had voted for the expansion of caravan sites. He believed that this represented a conflict of interests and wished to take the matter further. Councillor Harris explained that no policy had been put forward by the Parish Council. Members had been discussing strategies contained in the Sedgemoor District Council Local Development Framework consultation and had been

agreeing their response to the consultation. However, Cllr Harris would provide Mr Nash with contact details for the monitoring officer at Sedgemoor.

#### 60/17 **Discussion of matters arising from previous minutes**

Invitation to James Heapey to attend a parish meeting to discuss village issues – Mr Heapey's PA had sent through some dates. Members agreed that Thursday 11 May 2017 would be the most suitable date.

**Action:** Clerk to arrange.

Winter bus service to Brean – the Clerk had written again to First Group setting out members' concerns and requesting a meeting with a local representative. Awaiting response.

Maintenance of road signs and markings – Cllr Harris would discuss with Liam Gill. We were awaiting a date for Liam to meet with Cllr Harris.

Traffic congestion and lack of pedestrian crossings in Brean – a request for a new crossing would need to be put on the Small Improvements Scheme. The Clerk had written to Cllr Denbee who had advised that we would now need to wait until after the Somerset County Council elections on 4 May 2017.

Signage for beach – dogs to be kept on lead at busy times. Cllr Scott reported that he had contacted Woodspring District Council, to find out how they were dealing with dog attacks on the beach. He had drafted a set of guidelines for dog walkers, and a copy was circulated to members. To be carried forward to the next meeting in May 2017.

RLT2 funds – The Clerk had contacted Sedgemoor District Council to ask if the funds could be used for items such as beach signage. SDC had advised that the funds were intended for equipped play areas only. Cllr Grimes agreed to investigate further.

Bus shelters – Tom Main at SCC had queried if members wanted to move the bus-stop, or to install an additional stop near to Animal Farm. Members agreed to request an extra stop.

**Action:** Clerk to contact Tom Main and to send him a map of the locations.

Fencing at The Old Rectory. No further verbal complaints had been received. An engineer from Highways would be visiting to inspect the position of the fence and his report was awaited.

Somerset Coast Advice Partnership – a letter requesting support had been circulated for members' consideration. Members discussed the request and agreed that, although they were supportive of the charity's work, the Council would be unable to make a financial contribution.

#### 61/17 **Current Planning Applications**

There were no current planning applications.

#### 62/17 **New Planning Applications for consideration by the Parish Council**

There were no new planning applications this month.

#### 63/17 **Beach Management**

Weston Angling Club event in October 2017 – we were still awaiting a date from the Club.  
**Action:** Clerk to chase up.

Beach clean – Cllr Harris informed the meeting that a beach clean had taken place on 30 March 2017.

#### **64/17 Reports from Councillors on village issues**

- Footpath to Weston – Cllr Hicks reported that work was going ahead on the pavement by the side of Warren Farm and that tarmac and kerbs would be put down next week. The next stage would be to put up fencing. Members noted that cars were being parked opposite the houses at the top of Weston Road and a discussion took place about use of the footpath. The path was intended for pedestrians and cyclists only, and would not be a bridle path for horses.
- Village Hall management committee – Cllr Harris reported that the committee met only a few times a year, and he had asked Derek Petrie to contact Cllr Smith next time a meeting was planned. No further action – to remove from agenda.
- Blocked drains – Cllr Harris was due to meet with Liam Gill, and was awaiting a date for the meeting.
- Cllr Harris reported that the meeting with the police on Thursday 9 March 2017 at The Tavern had been mainly for businesses, and there was therefore little to report for the Parish.

#### **65/17 Approval of cheques for the current month's expenditure**

A schedule of cheques and direct debit expenditure for March 2017 is included at Annex 1 to the minutes.

#### **66/17 Financial matters**

Councillors received schedules of payments and receipts for the period 01/02/2017 to 28/02/2017.

The Chairman received and signed the bank reconciliation statements for 28 February 2017, together with schedules of payments and receipts for February 2017.

A report on income and expenditure for the period April 2016 to February 2017 was circulated to all members for information.

Draft financial regulations – members agreed that the Chairman would review the document with the Clerk and circulate an amended document for Councillors to consider.

Bus shelter advertisement charges. The annual invoices for bus shelter advertisements were due to be sent out this month. Cllr Harris would send a list of approved charges to the Clerk.

#### **67/17 To approve the Council's annual governance statement for the 2016-2017 Annual Return**

All members received a copy of the annual governance statement, which was Section 1 of the annual return for 2016-2017. It was agreed that Cllr Hicks would review the statement, in conjunction with the accounting records, and report back at the next meeting.

#### **68/17 Report on the Council's Risk Management Assessments**

Cllr Harris reported that he reviewed the risk management assessments on a yearly basis, and that there were no changes. All members agreed that no updates were required. However, a risk assessment would be added when the signage for dog-walkers was complete.

## 69/17 Quarterly Crime Statistics for Brean Parish

The Clerk circulated crime statistics for the quarter October to December 2016. These were taken from the <https://www.police.uk> website, which currently had data up to January 2017. Members noted the following statistics:

October 2016 – 25 crimes

November 2016 – 7 crimes

December 2016 – 1 crime

There were no recorded crimes for January 2017.

17/25 crimes in October were categorised as violence, or crimes against the person

5/7 crimes in November were categorised as violence or crimes against the person.

## 70/17 Staffing matters – Clerk

A candidate with suitable experience had applied, and an interview would be arranged.

## 71/17 Correspondence for review and circulation

- SDC – initial consultation document for the introduction of Public Space Protection Orders. Members noted that the Public Space Protection Orders would replace the current Designated Public Place Orders (DPPO), which were in place to address anti-social behaviour. Members noted that all roads and public places within the boundary of Brean Parish were currently designated as DPPO areas. Comments for the consultation were:
  - Would current signage need to be replaced?
  - Who would police the new orders?
  - The timeframe for consultation did not give enough time for members to fully consider the information.**Action:** Clerk to submit comments to SDC
- Speed Indicator Device reports for 20/02/17 to 03/03/17  
Members noted that the results showed that 85% of drivers were travelling through the village at 37 miles per hour or less in February and 38 mph or less in March. 15% of drivers were travelling at a higher speed. The median speed recorded for both months was 32 mph.
- Online survey from the Rural Services Network – Growing a Rural Community  
This organisation was trying to get as many parishes as possible communicating by e-mail so that rural issues could be recorded and action taken where possible, for example, by lobbying Parliament. They had requested completion of an on-line survey by 30 April 2017.  
**Action:** Clerk to complete survey.
- Avon and Somerset Constabulary – new text number to combat rural crime  
Members noted that the new number to contact the Rural Crime Team was 07492 888109.
- SDC – notice of Council Tax Scammers  
Members noted information from SDC about a scam carried out by a company called “claimers”, who were promising to lower Council tax bandings for a fee of £95.00.
- SDC – Sedgemoor Crime and ASB Survey 2017  
Members noted that a random selection of surveys had been sent to residents in March, but SDC welcomed comments from as many residents as possible. Survey forms were available at Bridgwater House, libraries and police stations, or could be accessed online at [www.sedgemoor.gov.uk/safetysurvey](http://www.sedgemoor.gov.uk/safetysurvey)

#### 72/17 **To note the following correspondence on the circulation list**

- Somerset Prepared Newsletter – helping Somerset prepare, respond to and recover from emergencies
- Avon and Somerset Police and Crime Commissioner newsletter Spring 2017
- Hinkley Point C Look Ahead March 2017
- SDC – next steps for Bridgwater Tidal Barrier
- SDC – Boundary Commission for England starts second public consultation<sup>[BH1]</sup>
- SDC – Community Grants from Sedgemoor

#### 73/17 **Members' comments on previously circulated correspondence**

No comments had been raised for discussion at the meeting.

#### 74/17 **Other matters raised by Councillors for discussion at the next meeting in May 2017**

Cllr Smith gave apologies for the next meeting in May as she would be on holiday.

Cllr Scott raised the following points:

Beach safety leaflet – should there be a paragraph requesting that anglers clear all equipment such as fishing hooks from the beach?

Two residents from Pinewood had expressed thanks for the spring bulbs that had been planted in the village.

Cllr Chatterton asked if there was any mention of noise in the beach safety leaflet, as beach users had been heard playing loud music in their cars, with the doors open.

Cllr Harris reported that the following items had been received after the agenda had been circulated and were on circulation for members' comments at the May meeting:

- A quote from Zurich Municipal insurance (contract due to end on 27 June 2017).
- An e-mail from Morag Wood, Church Council Secretary from Brean Methodist Church, explaining that the company who service the clock would require scaffolding to reach it and this would affect the price.
- An e-mail from Greenways and Cyclerooutes Ltd expressing thanks for the letter of support the Parish Council had sent in support of the footpath to Weston.
- Burnham and Highbridge Draft Neighbourhood Plan for comment, as Brean Parish Council was a statutory consultee.

#### 75/17 **Date of next meeting**

It was agreed that the next meeting would take place on Monday 8 May 2017. The Annual Parish Meeting would start at 7 pm and would be followed by the Annual Parish Council meeting.