

Bramham Parish Council

Minutes of the meeting held Wednesday 6 February 2013

Present: Cllr Whitbread (Chair), Cllrs: Batt, Blanchard, Halliday, Henderson, Innocent, Jones and Mackie**Others:** 5 residents plus PCSO Wales**In attendance:** M Lynch (Clerk)**Public Session**

A resident raised an incident which the Chair advised was not a matter for the PC but possibly the police. The Chair reassured a resident that the PC's due diligence of the proposed grant to the BSLA has not been 'watered down'. The resident expressed concern that £108k was a significant sum which was going to be given to an organisation from whom it was difficult to get a response. She also expressed concern about Cllr Procter's potential conflict of interest as Councillor and also as a director of the BSLA. The resident suggested that people needed more information than had been given via the Parish Magazine. The Chair shared her concerns that despite the assurances given by Cllr Procter, the option agreement had yet to be exercised by LCC. The Chair confirmed that the PC was planning to issue a statement to residents but that some of the questions being asked by residents were not for the PC to answer.

Apologies for absence – none

Not present: Cllr Rhodes

1. Disclosure of disclosable pecuniary interests or declaration of any other significant interests which may be in the public interest – Cllr Blanchard – item 23
2. **Resolved:** to exclude public and press due to confidential nature of agenda items 21 & 22 : moved Cllr Whitbread, seconded Cllr Halliday
3. Police matters: No crimes reported in Bramham in January. However PCSO Wales reported an increase in thefts from motor vehicles in the Wetherby area, particularly the theft of catalytic converters. Wetherby team now back to a full complement of 4 officers. Cllr Henderson asked for advice on reporting the gathering of large groups on the children's play area and suspicious activity of the occupants of cars parked late at night in the lay-by on Freely Lane. PCSO Wales recommended that residents **dial 101** to report any village issues. Cllr Batt raised a concern about the traveller's length of stay on Spen Common Lane. The Clerk advised that LCC were considering measures to prevent access.
4. Minutes of Council Meeting held on 2 January 2013 accepted as a true record: moved: Cllr Whitbread, seconded : Cllr Blanchard
5. Minutes of the EGM held 14 January accepted as a true record. Moved: Cllr Whitbread, seconded Cllr Innocent
6. Clerks Report: (i) Clerk advised that LCC had confirmed that as a result of the Government's new Council Tax benefit system being introduced, Bramham's tax base for 2013/14 has been reduced which will mean a BAND D precept charge of £28.09 – up from £27.32 in 2012/13. The PC will receive compensation of £1152 separate to and above the annual precept of £20k. As with the increase in 2012/13, this is **NOT** at the request of the PC but is the result of the Government's new Council Tax benefit system. (ii) The Clerk's delegated expenditure authority, the hazardous waste on the playing field had been removed and the fence repaired. (iii) LCC considering work to prevent unauthorised access to Spen Common Lane – subject to budget availability. (iv) Archive project awarded further £800 (nett) by the Community Fund (v) Correspondence : (a) Concerns about the speed of Tadcaster Grammar school buses and the suitability of using Aberford Rd raised by a resident (b) A resident had asked for details of any covenants put in place at the time of the conveyance of the playing field to the PC in 1974; the PC's powers in relation to

the disposal of the playing field/ option agreement strip; the legality of the lease granted to the BSLA in 2008; subject to agreed amendments draft letters approved. (c) Following advice from YLCA, an FOI request from a resident had been dealt with prior to the meeting. A copy of the response together with copies of the enclosures was made available to Cllrs.(vi) Cllr Innocent had noted that LCC's recent works on the highway included a major diversion via Bramham whilst road repairs in Clifford week commencing 20 Feb. Clerk was asked to contact LCC and ask why the PC had not received direct notification.

7. Planning matters
12/04855/LI - Internal alterations Bowcliffe Hall – approval noted
2/04747/FU - 2 storey side and first floor extension 8 Prospect Bank – approval noted .13/00257/FU - Detached garage to rear 15 Bradford Close – no objection, but concerns expressed about materials to be used.
8. Response to the consultation on Outer NE Leeds priorities 2013: There was general support for the proposed priorities, but Cllr Batt suggested that they should better reflect the needs of rural communities. Clerk asked to advise Outer NE Leeds Area Committee. Moved: Cllr Whitbread, seconded Cllr Henderson
9. Response to Metro Consultation on review of service 770: Draft letter expressing concern at the proposed cuts to service 770 and other services in the wider area approved. Moved: Cllr Whitbread, seconded Cllr Innocent
10. Update on the neighbourhood Plan. Cllr Innocent advised that LCC had approved a Community Infrastructure levy (CIL) of £90 per housing unit. The SHAA proposals were expected to be considered by the Development Plans Panel on 9 April. This should then be followed by a period of public consultation which would include the PC.
11. Update on proposal to reduce speed limit to 20mph vicinity Bramham School. The PC, with the support of Clifford PC and the police, has asked LCC to consider this speed reduction, together with the installation of a LED flashing speed warning sign. Because Bramham is not a priority school the speed reduction had been turned down, whilst the LED sign was still under consideration. It was agreed that the PC should maintain pressure for the reduction in the speed limit and that Ward Councillor Gerald Wilkinson (copied to Alec Shelbrooke MP) should be asked to support the PC's request.
12. Update on the option agreement – nothing to report.
13. BSLA update – none received
14. Play area matters: Cllr Blanchard advised that the play area committee had yet to meet. However, the annual safety inspection had highlighted 3 low risk items. - One to be addressed within 6 months. The rubber matting had not been identified as a risk and therefore it was agreed that the quote of £4608(ex vat) should be kept on file. Moved: Cllr Halliday, seconded Cllr Henderson
15. Request for financial contribution to Tockwith District Show: refused on the grounds that this would not be an appropriate use of PC funds. Moved Cllr Innocent, seconded Cllr Whitbread
16. Leeds Festival 2013 As part of a review of Festival arrangements, Cllr Henderson reported that she and the Clerk had met with members of the Thorner Community Fund Committee. The Thorner model appeared to offer a number of benefits and Harmony Blake (Festival Republic) had indicated that she would support the use of the Thorner model in Bramham. However, given the timescale required for any major change it was doubtful that it could be implemented for 2013. It was understood that 429 discounted resident tickets (number sold in 2012) plus up to 100 full price tickets would be available. Car parking passes would be limited and that Festival Republic would enforce the restrictions on alcohol in the guest areas. Harmony Blake had confirmed that she wished to see all villages charging the same price for discounted tickets. I.e. £38 plus £2 contribution towards transport costs. However, it was understood that Bramham Community Fund had indicated that the Bramham CF

contribution to the bus would be capped at £850 approx and that residents should be asked to make a contribution of up to £5, or the PC should consider making up any shortfall in the cost of the bus. Councillors were concerned that Bramham residents were being asked to make a bigger contribution than residents in other villages.

Following discussion it was **Resolved that**:

- The current system would be used for 2013 – arrangements for 2014 to be considered in September
- The PC should not be required to pick up any administrative costs nor make any contribution towards the cost of transport.
- The Clerk to write to Nick Lane Fox in order to clarify the transport contribution from the Bramham CF and also to confirm that the CF would cover expenses incurred by the PC
- Bramham Community Fund to be asked to provide a paying in book so that payments can be banked promptly.
- Clifford residents use the Bramham Bus, therefore Clifford PC should be asked to make a contribution
- Tickets would not be restricted to 4 per household
- Residents entitled to reduced priced tickets would be able to nominate their tickets for use by others (up to 2 tickets per household)
- Purchasers of the full price tickets to be charged the £2 bus contribution
- Festival Republic will enforce restriction on residents taking alcohol into the guest area – notice of this to be given to residents in the Parish Magazine ,the website and the ticket application form
- Festival committee: Clerk plus Cllrs: Henderson, Halliday, Blanchard, Jones and Innocent

Moved: Cllr Whitbread, seconded Cllr Henderson

17. To consider plans for the Tour de France 2014: Cllr Mackie advised that planning was under way for a Tour de France themed day in the village. The Brownlee brothers had indicated that they would be interested in starting such a day off. The focus would be families and would include bike riding and other activities. Standing orders suspended: Moved Cllr Henderson, seconded Cllr Batt. Mrs Trischler advised that the NSPCC was planning a French themed evening in the Village Hall and felt sure that the NSPCC would be happy to work with other village groups. Standing orders resumed
18. Arrangements for APM 10 April 2013: The Chair confirmed that the date of the APM is 10 April. It was agreed that notice of the meeting should be given in the March & April editions of the Parish Magazine and also on the website. Cllr Batt offered his apologies for the APM.
19. Chairs report on visit to Bramham School: Cllrs Whitbread had visited the school at the invitation of the Head teacher, Ms S Pyatt. After a number of difficult years the school was doing well and the number on roll increasing. Cllr Mackie confirmed that links were now in place between this is Bramham & the school's website. The Clerk was asked to send the school the contact details of Cllr Batt & Jones – the PC's school liaison representatives.
20. To receive the monthly financial report: noted
21. To receive an update on the draft proposed lease for the playing field
Resolved: that Ware & Kay be asked to pass their files in respect of the Option Agreement to h/w Keeble Hawson that LCC should be advised of the change and that any notice of the exercise of the option agreement should be served on h/w Keeble Hawson. Ware and Kay would remain the PC's retained solicitor in other matters. Moved: Cllr Whitbread seconded Cllr Batt.
22. To consider the response of the BSLA Directors to the proposal of payment of a grant and the issue of a statement to residents. Nick Lane Fox had advised the Clerk that figures were not yet available.

23. Financial matters: the following accounts were passed for payment;

Digley's	48.00
YLCA	35.00
Leeds City Council (Mole Clearance)	216.00
DSK Environmental Ltd	45.00
K & P Builders	90.00
Clerk's remuneration	199.90
Clerk's expenses	33.90
Caretaker	23.52
Cleaner	23.52
Gardener	23.32

24. Minor items and items for the next agenda

- Cllr Batt reported that the EA had agreed to install a handrail over the and also to install steps for access to the wildlife area. He asked that gardener trim and shape the bush overhanging the wall into the wildlife area
- LCC were in the process of clearing no 3 culvert which would go some way to addressing Mr Norgate's concerns whilst protecting plants & crayfish.
- Consultation on a possible new name for the OPS would come to an end 28 February – result to be an agenda item 6 March
- Cllr Henderson asked the Clerk to check whether the Festival committee could make decisions
- Cllr Mackie confirmed that she had completed the website checklist. The website has a new blogger.
- Cllr Blanchard tabled a petition from Low Way residents regarding the condition of the road. Cllr Innocent added his concerns regarding the overall condition of Bowcliffe Road. Clerk to contact Cllr Wilkinson
- The Clerk confirmed that Mrs M Brewer would attend the March meeting to brief Councillors on the lock project
- The Clerk reminded Cllrs that the risk assessment was due together with the regular inspection of the accounts.

25. Date, time and venue of next Meeting

Wednesday 6 March 2013, 7.30, Village Hall Supper Room