

Minutes of the Broadwoodwidge Parish Council meeting.

Tuesday 5th March 2024 7:30pm at Broadwoodwidge Community Hub

Those in attendance: Cllr J Worden (Chairman), Cllrs Gibson, Wonnacott, Hosken, Fry, Clerk, County Cllr James Morrish.

Members of the public present: 0

5879. Apologies for absence

Cllr L Worden, Cllr Beazley, District Councillor Philip Hackett.

5880. Declaration of Interests

The Chairman declared that all interests be raised as they arise.

5881. Public Open Question Time

None.

5882. Police Report

The Clerk advised that the police website was still not working correctly, and she had not received any response since writing to the Police and Crime Commissioner expressing concerns regarding the website and lack of policing. Cllrs asked the Clerk to follow this up expressing disappointment with the lack of response.

5883. County Councillor Report

Cllr Morrish reported that budget day at County Hall was held last week and resulted in a 4.99% increase. He reported that redundancies will take place and/or roles will not be filled when staff members leave council. Cllr Morrish advised that his budget remains at £8,000 for the next year. Cllr Morrish recently chaired the Pensions and Investments meeting and reported that £51 billion had been invested via Brunel which is owned by 10 county councils. Cllr Morrish stated that he had received several enquiries from residents of Broadwoodwidge most of which were in relation to the condition of roads, particularly at Fernhill. Cllr Morrish said that an extra £6 million had been received from government for potholes however none of it had been spent this side of the dual carriageway. Cllr Morrish will be meeting with Donna Maskell the new Chief Executive on March 18th and welcomes any matters that we may wish to raise. Cllr Morrish advised that DCC has £92 million in reserves however £60 million of that is set aside for child and adult services. Finally, Cllr Morrish advised that the council farms sector at DCC is the only sector turning a profit.

5884. District Councillor Report

Cllr Gibson reported that he has found some aspects of the district councillor role frustrating commenting that there are lots of meetings, with lots of independent views which make it difficult to reach decisions and make progress. Cllr Gibson raised awareness of the roads petition by Sir Geoffrey Cox MP. He had recently met the Prime Minister in Plymouth and found it very positive. Finally, Cllr Gibson mentioned devolution which is in discussion and will allow districts to have more say on where money is spent within the county.

5885. Council Meeting Minutes

Minutes of the meeting held 16th January 2024 were previously circulated. No adjustments needed, proposed by Cllr Gibson, seconded by Cllr Fry, all agreed.

5886. Matters Arising

None.

5887. Planning

1/0115/2024/FUL - Demolition of existing barn and erection of 1no. dwelling in lieu of Class Q approval 1/0331/2023/AGMB and associated operational development - Frankaborough Farm Broadwoodwidge – Cllrs agreed to make no comment.

5888. Community CPR/Defibrillator courses

The Clerk reported that 5 people had signed up for the course on Saturday April 20th 10am-12pm and 1 person had signed up for the course on Monday 13th May 6-8pm. Cllrs will try to share the poster further to increase participant numbers. Places can be booked by contacting the Clerk.

5889. The Old Blacksmith Shop

A quote had been obtained to erect a fence around The Old Blacksmith Shop as a safety measure due to concerns over the condition of the building. The Clerk will obtain a second quote for comparison before a decision is made. The Clerk will apply to the County Cllr for a contribution towards the cost.

5890. Accounts due for payment

Mihi Digital – website updates - £70+VAT

Accounts proposed by Cllr Fry and seconded by Cllr Wonnacott, all agreed.

5891. To Receive Correspondence

An email was received from a resident with regards to a property and planning dispute. Cllrs asked the Clerk to respond to advise that as the issue appears to be a civil matter the Parish Council can not intervene however District Cllr Stephen Gibson will provide support where possible. The Clerk will advise that any criminal damage should be reported to the Police.

5892. Any other Business

The Chairman raised the overgrown vegetation between Roadford Lake and Rose Cottage. The Clerk was asked to write to SWW to ask that it is cut back to prevent issues with visibility splays.

St Nicholas Church, Broadwoodwidge will hold a family service on Mothering Sunday at 9:30am. Refreshments included, all welcome.

5893. Next Meeting

Proposed meeting date -Thursday 11 April 2024 at 7:30pm.

5894. Close

The meeting was closed at 20:45pm.