

## Brancepeth Parish Council

Minutes of a meeting of Brancepeth Parish Council held on **Monday 9<sup>th</sup> March 2020** in the Village Hall, Brancepeth commencing at 7.30 pm.

**Present:** Councillors D. Armstrong (Chair), J Brown, S. Chapman, C. Jones, M. Lowe and I Stoker

**Also Present:** M. Brown and D. Lamb (Residents), County Councillor O. Gunn, G. F. Smith (Clerk) and D. C. Rider.

**026/20 Apologies**  
Councillor J. Dalton (Business)

**027/20 Declaration of Interests – None**

**028/20 Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 10<sup>th</sup> February 2020**

Amendments:-

- Minute 011/20 Road Safety/Speedwatch  
Change Mike and Liz Lowe to read Mr Michael O' Connell
- Confidential Staffing Matters should be minute 025/20

Subject to the above amendments the minutes were agreed as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

**029/20 Matters Arising**  
Castle Parking Arrangements (Mr T. Hobbs) – The Chairman had circulated to all Councillors a copy of emails received from Mr T. Hobbs regarding parking arrangements around the castle when there is a future craft fare going on. This includes the pre-notice in the Parish Magazine, expand the parking area to accommodate more cars around the castle, continue to use straw when conditions deteriorate giving a better basis for traffic movement, seeking advice from highways regarding coning an area for parking along the woodland side of the village street. Members agreed for Mr. Hobbs to contact the safety advisory group (DCC) for further advice on traffic management and parking on the crossroads area and use of the A690 (Police presence at the event) and updates to be placed in the parish magazine.

**030/20 Recent Parking Issues**  
See minute 029/20

**031/20 Field Lease and Status**  
The Clerk has arranged a meeting with the Council's solicitor (Monday 16<sup>th</sup> March) due to no progress in this matter.

**032/20 Road Safety/Speedwatch**  
Councillor Jones to check the use of the "mobile speed detector van" in the village. She would also check with a member of the Speedwatch team regarding the "need" for lifting/carrying equipment.

- 033/20 Neighbourhood Planning**  
Clerk to obtain a copy of DCC service level agreement and sign and return to DCC, as soon as possible.
- 034/20 Street Lighting in the Village**  
The Chairman to check up with DCC to obtain an update on the proposed developments.
- 035/20 A690 Verge Improvement**  
Councillor Chapman had met with Martin Briscoe (DCC) and work is progressing (looking tidier), wild flower costs? Councillor Dalton to obtain names for the volunteer group.
- 036/20 Mobile Phone Signal Improvement**  
The electrical socket is now in place and an order for the equipment will go ahead (Councillor Dalton).
- 037/20 Points to Note/Action List**  
The list to be updated and circulated to all Councillors (Chairman).
- 038 /20 Representation by Residents**  
Mr Lamb raised concerns about speeding vehicles on Wolsingham Road. The Clerk to check files for the reports of the sub-group that produced a detailed report but had not been actioned (financial reasons?).
- 039/20 County Council and other County Committee Reports**
- A) County Councillor Gunn reported on the following:-
    - Budgets (precept 3.99% increase)
    - Childrens Care Service
    - Village Regeneration (AAP Funding)
    - Youth Council
    - Noticeboard Funding
  - B) AAP – Next meeting?
  - C) PCC – Councillor Brown updated the meeting on the following:-
    - Fly Tipping
    - CCTV Cameras
  - D) SCF – next meeting?
- 040/20 Village Reports**
- A) Parish/Clerk's Report  
The Clerk reported that he would circulate a copy of the grass cutting contract, prior to the next meeting
  - B) Members Reports
    - Proposal to improve pedestrian access to the Village Hall (Councillor J. Brown) making progress on costings. Lease details held at Nat West Bank had been viewed by Councillor Stoker, but it was not up to date. Check with Community Association what paperwork they have and request a copy from them.
    - Parish Council website (Councillor Chapman) the site needs updating, modernising, old files removed etc. It was agreed for the Clerk and Mr Rider to meet with Councillor Chapman to discuss and draw up a plan of action

- State of the village back lane (Councillor Armstrong) letter from Mr Jackson of 4 The Village regarding the village back lane (which is not an adopted road). The Council don't have the powers to carry out surface repairs. Chairman to respond accordingly to Mr Jackson
- Councillor Dalton (email) raised the scaffolding around the gates that has been up for weeks but with no sign of movement. Suggest the Council contact Castle Estates and ask for an update on progress. Other matters to consider, cleaning of road gullies (Martin Briscoe to chase up – Councillor Chapman).

**041/20 Financial Reports**

- A) Accounts – vouchers 1205 to 1208 to be approved for payment  
 B) Income/Expenditure report for 2019/20, Clerk to send details to all Councillors prior to the next Council meeting.

**042/20 Planning Matters**

DM/20/00591/LB Application by Mr I. Philipson for replacement of 5 single glazed windows with double glazed windows at Constable Meadows, The Village, Brancepeth.  
 Decision no objections.

**043/20 Allotments**

Tree Works

- Clerk to obtain a tree survey

Fencing Works

- Councillor Stoker to discuss with Allotment Association and report to next Parish Council meeting

Tenancy Agreements

- Further 16 Copies signed.

**044/20 Correspondence**

Clerks and Councils Direct magazine - March 2020

**045/20 Date and Time of next meeting**

Monday 6<sup>th</sup> April 2020 in the Village Hall, Brancepeth.

The meeting finished at **9.35 pm.**