

Parish Council Minutes February 2021

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BRERETON AND RAVENHILL PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a Parish Council meeting held on line on Tuesday, 2nd February 2021.

Present

Councillors TA Jones [Chairman], K Ansell, Mrs P Ansell, Mrs DM Easton, Alderman R Easton, PA Fisher, Mrs W Fisher, D Johnson, Mrs L Johnson and GN Molineux.

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Ms IJ Brown, Mrs G Harvey and J Harvey.

Mr PG Davies, the Parish Clerk, was also in attendance.

1. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

No declarations were given at the commencement of the meeting.

2. **MINUTES**

RESOLVED

That the minutes of the meeting held on 5th January 2021, be approved and signed as a correct record.

3. **FORMER COUNCILLOR HAZEL SOUTHWELL**

Tributes were paid to former Councillor Hazel Southwell, one of the longest serving and most loyal Members of the Parish Council.

The Clerk undertook to ascertain the cost of providing a bench, to be situated in Ravenhill Park in memory of Hazel. The Chairman invited Members to come forward with any other suggestions for remembering Hazel for consideration at the next meeting.

4. **FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST – BRITISH TRANSPORT POLICE**

A copy of the initial response from the Information Commissioner had been circulated to Members.

The Chairman had undertaken to examine the contents of the letter prior to drafting a response to both the British Transport Police and the Information Commissioner.

5. **GATEWAY SCHEME**

The Clerk reported that Longdon Parish Council had obtained funding towards the cost of Gateway Signs from the County Council. The total cost of the scheme was £7,620.00 including VAT, the materials being purchased from Glasdon Blackpool Limited. The work was carried out by the County Council.

RESOLVED

That the Clerk write to County Councillor A Dudson to ascertain whether he could assist with the funding of similar signs in Brereton and Ravenhill during the next financial year.

6. **PRECEPT 2021 – 2022 – EFFECT OF LOCAL COUNCIL TAX EXPENDITURE**

The Parish Council noted that the District Council had checked the effect of increased expenditure of local council tax support of parish and town councils. In respect of Brereton and Ravenhill, it had decreased the tax base and, as a result, the District Council were making a one-off payment of £139.52 for the 2021-2022 financial year.

7. **BUS SERVICE [8] 24**

RESOLVED

That the Clerk write to the D and G Bus Company [copy to County Council] to enquire as to their intentions in respect of the [8] 24 which was such a vital service for many elderly and disabled people on the various estates in Brereton and Ravenhill.

8. **SPEED INDICATOR SIGNS – BOWER LANE**

The Parish Council noted that the County Council, a few years ago, had provided a battery operated speed sign on Bower Lane for a couple of weeks per year. The Authority had advised that the scheme was no longer in operation.

9. **REVISED TAXI AND PRIVATE HIRE POLICY 2021**

The Clerk reminded Members that the deadline for comments on this revised policy was

21st February 2021.

10. **COUNCILLOR J HARVEY**

RESOLVED

That in accordance with Section 85 of the Local Government Act 1972 [as amended], the absence of Councillor J Harvey be approved for a further period of six months.

11. **PLANNING COMMITTEE**

RESOLVED

That the minutes of the Planning Committee held on 5th January 2021, be approved.

12. PARISH HALL AND PROPERTY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

RESOLVED

That the minutes of the Parish Hall and Property Management Committee held on 6th January 2021, be approved.

13. FINANCE AND MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

RESOLVED

That the minutes of the Finance and Management Committee held on 6th January 2021, be approved.

14. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The Parish Council had previously agreed that the next meeting would be held on 2nd March 2021.

15. POLICE MATTERS

The Clerk undertook to contact the Police regarding the following:-

- 'scrambling' motor bikes speeding along Birch Lane, with the riders wearing no protective clothing whatsoever;
- to express concern at the continued breach of the Covid Regulations with people not social distancing.

16. ROAD SIGNS

RESOLVED

That the Parish Council place on record its thanks to Councillor G Molineux and Oliver [the grandson of Councillor PA Fisher] for cleaning several very dirty road signs in the parish.

17. POWER STATION

The Parish Council placed on record its thanks to Brown and Mason, the contractors responsible for the demolition and subsequent clearance of the tower. The work had been carried out in a very professional manner, with minimum disruption to the public.

18. COVID 19 VACCINATIONS

The Chairman expressed his thanks for the very impressive manner in which the vaccination programme process had been carried out locally. These sentiments were echoed by all those present at the meeting.

19. PUBLIC FORUM

No matters were raised by the member of the public present at the meeting.

20. ELECTIONS

RESOLVED

That in advance of the forthcoming elections, if Members become aware of any anti-democratic practices, the Chairman be given authority to raise the strongest possible objections on behalf of the Parish Council.

[Chairman]