

**Draft Minutes of Meeting held on Wed 11 December 2024 at 19:30**

**Present:**

Cllr Jeremy James (Chair), Cllr Sara Reilly, Cllr Sarah Evans, Moira Pendlebury (Clerk & RFO)

- 144. Apologies and acceptance of reasons for absence** – Apologies from Cllr Helen Smith, Cllr Chris Eldred, Boro Cllr Tim Willis Boro Cllr Simon Ward, Boro Cllr Derek Poole, Cty Cllr Heather Timms were noted.
- 145. Declarations of Interest (existence and nature) on items on the agenda:** none
- 146. Public Participation:** none
- 147. Borough and County Councillors' Reports:** none
- 148. Minutes of the Parish Council** held on 13 Nov 24 were approved and signed
- 149. Brief matters arising, not on agenda**
- Brinklow Quarry traffic – no update; notification of a slurry tank has at south end of Coronation Rd (may already have been installed)
  - Offer of support from Murphy Group: some of the planned work has been completed - large goalposts removed, gates rehung, but other tasks not completed. JJ has written to express displeasure and is in ongoing discussions about the remaining works.
  - Warm Hub: fortunately the weather has remained mild and Church Warden has been running successful tea, coffee & cake sessions on Tuesday mornings.
- 150. Policy Document Review**  
Safeguarding Policy & Procedures agreed. Further policies to be reviewed ongoing  
**Action MP**
- 151. Planning**  
No new applications. Cemex application to be submitted shortly after a year long pre-application consultation

**152. Finance review – note and approve payments**

Date	Description	Amount	Notes
19/11/24	Clerk's salary November, (inc. pay increase backdated to April 24)	confidential	
20/11/24	New bolt for allotment gate	7.50	
	Rent for Village Hall (11 meetings)	110.00	
	New lights for oak tree on Green	114.00	JJ
	Baubles for Oak Tree	75.99	HS

To note receipts - none

Bank balances at 4 Dec 24: **Current £4,065.20 Deposit £11,092.07**

**153. Parish Precept 25 – 26**

24/25 raised £6,745.26. All agreed to an increase of 2%, which is less than inflation.

**MP to notify RBC**

**154. Play Area – arranging for repairs and maintenance is ongoing. MP has drafted letter to Playsource, JJ to approve.**

**MP & JJ to progress**

**155. Flood Action / Skew Bridge:**

No further progress. The gully is full again, with run off from the field, and water also coming from railway line. No grille in place to help prevent clogging up. All that can be done at present is to continue recording and implementing reporting system. MP had noted from a copy of their Parish magazine that Pailton PC are having similar problems with similar disappointing results from other agencies.

**156. Health and safety / safeguarding incidents**

None

**157. Welcome letter / card**

**HS** to progress when photo of new Welcome sign is available (Jan)

**158. Wildflower Verges on main road**

Agreed to mow hard and cover in March to suppress grass and weeds during 2025, and then wild flower seeds will be sown for 2026.

**159. Xmas preparations**

Thanks to all who helped erect and decorate the Xmas trees and oak tree. All looks very festive, with the lights turned on by Santa on Sun 8<sup>th</sup>. It was especially positive that everything survived Storm Darragh intact.

**JJ** to install music in the Phone Box.

- 160. Village Green Welcome Panel**  
Cllr Simon Ward, Mayor has agreed to unveil the panel in late Jan / early Feb when it's been installed. Agreed to follow with refreshments provided in the Old Smithy.  
**JJ** to liaise with Lesley-Ann French re installation.
- 161. Community and Village maintenance items**
- a) **Defibrillator** – all in order.
  - b) **Grass cutting** – looking into local alternatives (JJ)
  - c) **Dog poo bag dispensers**  
Continuing to be very well used
  - d) **Allotments**  
One vacant plot still remaining. When the request went out a willing allotmenteer stepped in immediately to repair the gate lock at minimal expense, thanks expressed.
- 162. Gift of Land for village**  
The Trustees (HSBC) are now not even returning phone calls and all concerns previously minuted, continue. **SR** has a possible contact with senior personnel at HSBC and will put our feelers via them in January.
- 163. Other Items not on Agenda:** a questionnaire regarding views on RBC sent to PC's by the Chair of Rugby Area Meeting, was completed.
- 164. Future Agenda Items:** none.
- 165. Date of Next Meeting**  
To confirm **Wednesday 8 January 2025** for the next regular meeting of the Parish Council at the Village Hall at **7:30 p.m.**
- If an interim meeting is required, an agenda will be sent to Councillors and may be put on the website and on the Parish Council noticeboard three clear days before the meeting is held.

The meeting closed at 20:55

Signed:

Date: