

# BROOKTHORPE WITH WHADDON PARISH COUNCIL

## MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 6<sup>th</sup> MARCH 2018

### PRESENT

Messrs, Gordon Simpson [Chairman], David Kaspar, John Hendry, Mrs Linda King, Mr K Rippington [County Councillor], Dave Mossman [District Councillor], Mrs Anne Szabo [Parish Clerk] and 1 member of the public.

### 18/016 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllr Steve Betts.

There were no other apologies given for absence.

### 18/017 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

The minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 6<sup>th</sup> February were agreed and signed as a true record.

### 18/018 MATTERS ARISING

**Highways** – The Clerk confirmed that she had checked the gateways and that they were as agreed. There is still a bush to be cut back as it is obstructing one of the new 30mph signs. Gullies were cleared in February but repair work is needed to three gullies, and this has been passed on to the highways work team. Following written correspondence with regard to mud being left on the road, Martin Thomas Herring stated that it was unlikely to have been one of his drivers, but he would investigate. If there were to be any more problems not to hesitate in contacting him with times, place, and if possible the tractor registration number. There had been no contact from the other farmer involved. Councillors expressed their concern with regard to the disruption to local businesses during the resurfacing of the A1473 which is due to take place between 10<sup>th</sup> April and 22<sup>nd</sup> May on a rolling program.

**Defibrillators** – Payment is on the agenda for agreement. Once payment has been received the defibrillators will be delivered to Mr Eric Hibbert who will arrange installation.

**Parking at Whaddon Garage** – Mr Eric Hibbert reported that the work had been put out to tender and a contractor had been approved. The paperwork is now ready to go to Gloucestershire Highways for their approval.

**Phone box refurbishment** – Mr Eric Hibbert reported that this is still ongoing.

**Planning Enforcement** – Following concerns raised in respect of works being started without permission in relation to application S.17/2544/FUL, an email had been received from Ian Mallinson [Enforcement Officer] stating that only works by a third party are being carried out at the site.

### 18/019 MEMBERS' DECLARATION TO PECUNIARY INTERESTS TO ITEMS ON THE AGENDA

There were no declarations of interest to items on the agenda.

### 18/020 FINANCE

	a) Cheques for agreement and signature	
£	Mrs A Szabo	Clerks wages plus £12 home office allowance plus £41.70 expenses
£150.00	HMRC	PAYE (February and March 2018)
£3360.00	South Western Ambulance Service	Defibrillators

Powers used for Council's spending  
General Power of Competence – Power of first resort

### 18/021 PLANNING

a) New applications for discussion.

There were no new plans for discussion

b) Decisions received from Stroud District Council

There were no decisions received

**18/022 COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT**

Cllr Keith Rippington reported that the budget for 2018/19 was set on 14<sup>th</sup> February. As a result, his allowance to spend on highway matters in the parishes has been increased to £20,000.

**18/023 DISTRICT COUNCILLOR'S REPORT**

Cllr Dave Mossman reported that District Council has set its budget for 2018/19 at a 4.58% increase. He outlined plans for the redevelopment of Merrywalks in Stroud and at junction 12 of the M5. It was also reported that a meeting to discuss 125 houses at Hunts Grove would take place on Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> March.

**18/024 REVIEW OF COUNCIL'S STANDING ORDERS**

The Council's Standing Orders were reviewed and changes adopted by the Council.

**18/025 REVIEW OF COUNCIL'S FINANCIAL REGULATIONS**

The council's Financial Regulations were reviewed and changes adopted by the Council.

**18/026 NEW DATA PROTECTION REGULATIONS**

The Clerk reported that this legislation is still going through Parliament therefore it is still unclear as to how this will affect Parish Councils. However, it appears that we will be required to complete a Personal Data Questionnaire and ensure that we have written permission to keep personal data on file.

**18/027 OPTING OUT OF THE COUNTY COUNCIL'S GRASS CUTTING CONTRACT**

The Clerk reported that the initial information from Daniel Tiffney [Gloucestershire Highways] is that if the Parish Council opts out of the County Council Contract, then Gloucestershire County Council will pay us £550, index linked, to provide this service ourselves. An initial quote from a local contractor provides two cuts at £425 per cut. The County Council only provides one cut, and at the moment we pay £360 for a second cut. It was agreed to pursue this further and hopefully have contracts to sign at the next meeting.

**18/028 VILLAGE HALL BROADBAND**

It was agreed to donate £193 towards the broadband and television licence in line with minutes 17/029 and 17/006 (e). It was also agreed that the Parish Council would contribute an extra £5 per month towards an upgraded broadband speed.

**18/029 PARISH SPRING CLEAN**

It was decided not to formally arrange a Parish Spring Clean this year.

**18/030 ASSET MAINTENANCE CHECKS**

Cllr Gordon Simpson reported that due to the recent adverse weather conditions he had been unable to carry out the checks but hoped that this would be complete by the next meeting.

**18/031 ANNUAL PARISH MEETING**

It was agreed to set 22<sup>nd</sup> May at 7pm for the Annual Parish Meeting.

**18/032 BID FOR COUNTY COUNCILLORS' HIGHWAYS FUND**

It was agreed to request a contribution towards two vehicle-activated speed warning signs to be placed at the village boundary on Horsepool Hill and just east of the M5 motorway bridge. Cllr John Hendy agreed to look into specifications and costings.

**18/033 COUNCILLORS' INFORMATION**

Cllr John Hendy referred to circulated emails from Gloucester Constabulary regarding recent break-ins and a suspicious white van seen in the vicinity.

Concerns were raised with regard to a vulnerable person who is felt to be at risk. The Clerk stated that she would inform the Neighbourhood Warden and Village Agent.

There was no further information to pass on to Councillors.

**18/034 QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC**

There were no other questions or comments from the public.

**18/035 DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING**

Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> April 2018.

There being no other business the meeting closed at 10.10 pm.