

BUNNY PARISH COUNCIL

**Minutes of a meeting of the Parish Council held in the
Village Hall on Thursday 14th December 2023**

Chair Cllr. Featherstone, Vice Chair Cllr .Beckford,
Cllr.Berridge,

Clerk Linda Price

1.Apologies for Absences Received

Cllr. Edyvean, Cllr Cannon,Cllr. Stubbs, Cllr Cannon,Cllr Webb

2.Declarations of Interest

None

3.Acceptance of Minutes from November Meeting

Previously circulated on email and accepted by all councillors. Duly signed.

4. Public Comments

Comments from the BIG group requesting a St Georges Flag is flown next year on St Georges Day. A written email is to be sent to the clerk for discussion at the Parish meeting in line with the Flag Policy.

The council was asked what development was happening at the Blue Bridge site, and the public were told that it was an active case to be discussed under planning, and that members of the public should make comments on the Rushcliffe Planning Site, and that they council are unable to speculate on any future intentions.

The crossing refuge development on Loughborough Road near the garage was mentioned and again the council commented that they hadn,t been given any formal notice regarding this. Cllr Adair said nothing could happen due to flood issues at the moment however to please be aware that members of the public had been campaigning for it for at least 10 years.

The two members of the public that are now doing the cleaning and admin work at the Village Hall have asked for a new hoover as the one in place is not working and that the community would love a new floor as the one present is not suitable for dancing and is well worn. T|his will be discussed at the end of the financial year.

5. County and Borough Report

Cllr Adair told us that resources are stretched in Nottinghamshire due to the flooding. 900 plus houses were flooded alone in Nottinghamshire last month. Flooding is to be discussed later in the minutes.

Balancing the budget will be a struggle for all councils in the next few years. The government figures for funds are not received until Christmas Eve.

6. Correspondence

Village Hall Doors- The council has heard from the trustees and they have reported that the doors can be changed without planning. The clerk is to follow up

Tree survey- the clerk has sent the report to Aart de Grout and the quote will be discussed under finance. A lot of work is required at the allotments.

RCAN and East Midlands funding- the email was sent to all councillors last week. Nothing further was discussed.

Flooding pictures were received from members of the public and will be discussed under environment.

Pictures were also received showing work down Fairham Brook Lane . To be discussed under planning.

The trustees of the village hall advised that a drainage issue in the toilet block of the Village Hall will be looked at and they will also repoint and fix new guttering.

7. Matters arising and clerks report

The council would like to thank Megan Bennett for her work as the Village Hall administrator and wish her well in her future.

The clerk reported that the local solicitor was hoping to complete the work on the land where the substation is situated in the next couple of weeks

8. Finance

Firstly the council discussed a confidential matter regarding the clerks remuneration and employment scale.

The accounts payable sheet was circulated along with bank statements and all approved.

The Following were approved in full

Stella Alldred Cleaning Products	£23.43
Time Assured Church clock service	£168.00
Philip Brown Xmas lights	£15.50
Glasdon UK Picnic Bench	£1080.00
Via Trees survey	£792.00
Gas Boiler Service	£84.00

Discussed were the following

Aart de Grout Tea work re tree survey £1080 . As it was over £500 another two quotes are required by the clerk

Three quotes for ovens were provided and it was agreed to accept the one for Rangemaster from Bunny Appliance

Broadband quotes were discussed and agreed to leave until the end of the year.

Quote from DT Williams electrical of £235 was approved for sensor lights and ovens connection.

It was also agreed that two new door mats could be purchased, a new Henry Hoover and inside windows clean next visit of the window cleaner.

The forms for next years precept and budget had been prepared by the clerk and Cllr. Stubbs.

These were distributed to all councillors so they could take the time to look and decided at Januarys Meeting.

9. Village Hall

The lease agreement has been forwarded to us by the Trustees and it was noted that the council are unable to rent out the small room long term to a member of the public.

It was agreed that the council would look at subsidising the community for cheaper rents of the village hall.

The new role of Admin/Caretaker was discussed and the council wanted to say how well it was working and how clean the hall is. They will look at it again after 3 months in February.

10. Community

The council wanted to give thanks to Cllr. Featherstone for organising the Christmas light switch on and also to Mr Snell for switching on the lights. A specially adapted switch will be made for next year to make it easier.

It was also agreed that new Christmas lights and a new Christmas Star could be purchased for the church next year. The budget for these two items would be approx £250.00

The Rancliffe Arms were also thanked for providing mince pies and mulled wine.

11. Rushcliffe Planning Applications

Application 23/02098/AGRIC

This was discussed (hard standing and track Fairham Brook Lane) OBJECT on the grounds as the land is only for agricultural use, there was no existing track, and the local area is not being respected

12. Highways/Environment

Flooding has been a big issue in the village particularly on Moor Lane with sewerage syphoning up the manhole covers on numerous occasions over the past few weeks. Residents are struggling to get off their drives and it is a hazard for wheelchair users and children as well. The clerk has been in touch with STWA again and the Parish Council must continue to keep the pressure on STWA. Cllr Adair has said that the local farmers could help by keeping the ditches clear and the parish council agreed to monitor this. Cllr Beckford mentioned that the refuse lorry couldn't empty the bins, but however came back the next day to complete the task. Thanks should be given to them.

The clerk is to contact STWA and ask to see the report that STWA/ Notts County Council did on the drains a year ago. Cllr. Adair also wants to be kept informed.

13. Bunny Energy Group Update

As a result of a meeting with Edward Leddy-Owen at the Working Group meeting on 08.11.23. It was agreed to hold a public meeting for Bunny residents in the new year. Rushcliffe B.C. has calculated that 44% of carbon emissions in Rushcliffe come from households. Information, support and guidance to householders has therefore become a priority in order to enable R.B.C. to make a contribution to decarbonisation and they are obliged therefore to enable villages to take advantage of developing technology to reduce carbon emissions. Bunny has taken steps, through the work of the Parish Council's sub committee Bunny Energy Solutions Working Group and RBC are keen to support us.

This work has resulted in setting up a seminar and demonstration on Saturday 20th January in St Mary's Church to which all residents of Bunny are invited. The seminar has been organised and will be run by the Home Energy Advice Team supported and funded by Nottingham Energy Partnership. The objective is to help householders navigate the difficulties of decarbonisation by providing support to become a green home, use clean heat and power and contribute to heritage and conservation. This may mean assessing heat loss and insulation and installing renewable energy systems.

The event is being publicised through articles about B.E.S.W.G. and the Seminar in the Bunny Bulletin and on Bunny Facebook and a leaflet letterbox drop in January to remind people. Following the seminar support for up to 10 households from the H.E.A.T. team to deal with the challenges of decarbonisation. It may be possible, depending on householder support to develop these first steps into a wider Bunny Energy Project. Should we be able to do this we would be looking to apply for Government grants to assess the feasibility of further networked developments.

John Berridge on behalf of B.E.S.W.G.

It was agreed by the council in full that printing costs of approx £30 would be covered by the council

14. Next Agenda Items

Precept

Village Hall rental costs

Next Meeting will take place Thursday 18th January 2024 at 7pm in the Village Hall
clerk@bunny.parish.email

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