

# BROAD TOWN PARISH COUNCIL

**Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> March 2021 at 6.30pm  
Online via zoom**

**Present:** Councillor J E Jordan – Chairman  
Councillor S G Hartley  
Councillor M A Holland  
Councillor B Joyce  
Councillor R Pearce  
Councillor C J Rendell

**Officers:** Mrs E Diamant – Parish Clerk

## **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

There were 5 members of the public present. Councillors Sue Hughes and David Bowler of Royal Wootton Bassett were in attendance.

In reference to the Planning Appeal Hearing documentation for 19/03874/OUT, a resident noted the heritage aspects of the village and the surrounding listed buildings would benefit from full consideration during the appeal hearing.

## **122/20 APOLOGIES**

Apologies were received from Councillor Hartley who was absent for the first 30 minutes of the meeting.

## **123/20 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Councillor Pearce declared an interest in agenda item 4.2, planning decision 20/10051/DOC. He remained in the meeting but did not participate in the discussion.

Councillor Holland declared an interest in agenda item 7.2. He remained in the meeting but did not participate in the discussion.

## **124/20 MINUTES**

The minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> February 2021, having been previously circulated were agreed as a correct record. They will be signed by the Chairman in due course.

**125/20 PLANNING**

**125/20.1 PLANNING APPLICATIONS RECEIVED**

<b>Application Number</b>	<b>Applicant</b>	<b>Location of Development</b>	<b>Description of Development</b>
20/10518/FUL	Mr Rupert Bastin	Chapel Orchard Chapel Lane Broad Town SN4 7RT	Erection of detached single-storey garage of timber construction/concrete base for storage of car, tractor/garden machinery and agricultural supplies.  Comments invited until: 9 <sup>th</sup> March 2021  <b>No objections were noted.</b>

**125/20.2 PLANNING APPLICATIONS DETERMINED**

<b>Application Number</b>	<b>Location of development</b>	<b>Description of development</b>	<b>Decision</b>
20/10051/DOC	Pantywick 101 Broadtown Hill Broad Town SN4 7RU	Discharge of conditions 3 and 4 of 20/01549/LBC	Approve. Details provided on the windows and rainwater.  <b>The decision was noted.</b>
20/09825/PNCOU	Merlins Gate Broad Town Road Broad Town SN4 7RB	Application to determine if prior approval is required for a proposed change of use of agricultural building to a dwelling (Class C3) and for building operations reasonably necessary for the conversion.	Refuse.  <b>The decision was noted.</b>

**125/20.3 PLANNING APPEAL HEARING – LAND SOUTH OF BROAD TOWN SCHOOL  
19/03874/OUT**

Councillors Joyce, Hartley and Rendell will be attending the hearing on the 11<sup>th</sup> March. Councillor Joyce reviewed the main appeal documents and has summarised the objections to the development and the appellant planning appeal statements on behalf of the Parish Council.

The Chairman, Councillor Jordan has been in contact with Catherine Blow, Wiltshire Council Planning Officer. Wiltshire Council has advised that at the planning appeal they will be defending their decision to refuse the application for the development and their view that their housing allocation needs can be met elsewhere. Catherine Blow has also confirmed that on the granting of planning permission, the appellant will now be offering some land to the Parish Council for a nominal fee as a car park and a village green but without funds for either the construction of these items or their maintenance. Wiltshire Council are clear that the funding for these and their maintenance should be covered upfront.. The additional financial burden and costs for the community would not be positively viewed by local residents.

The Parish Council will be attending the appeal hearing to give the local view of the proposed development. In summary:

- Broad Town is defined as a ‘Small Village’ therefore this proposal runs counter to core policy 2/19.
- There is no defined need for this type of development in Broad Town, as evidenced by freedom of information request ENQ09118-REQ001 in May 2018.
- Broad Town has very limited public transport services. The proposal does not adequately consider traffic road safety and environmental issues in Broad Town.
- The proposal will have a significant and irreversible negative impact on the landscape and heritage assets of Broad Town.
- The appellant continues to use data from the 2011 Parish Plan for the justification for additional housing, a car park and an additional village green. The Parish Council do not agree with the way the appellant has used the data to justify the original development and also in the support of the appeal.
- The Parish Council does not have the budget or scope to provide a car park and additional village green should land be offered for this purpose in the overall planning application. The current precept is under £10K for a tax base of 272.58. The Parish Council would be unable to either justify or implement the scale of precept increase that could provide these facilities. It also removes the obligation of the appellant to provide additional security for the car park which was a stated objection of Wiltshire Police to the proposed development.

Thanks were given to Councillor Joyce for his work on reviewing the appeal documents.

Councillor Bowler noted that the proposed development appears to be against the local plan and development plan. Councillor Hughes also noted that it is not an appropriate development for the village in terms of the landscape and heritage assets. The car park is neither desired by residents nor in keeping with the setting of the village.

**All planning documents and decisions can be viewed at:**

<https://planning.wiltshire.gov.uk/Northgate/PlanningExplorer/Home.aspx>

## **126/20            BANK BALANCES AND BANK RECONCILIATION at 28.02.21**

### **Balances:**

Treasurers Account	£5123.11
Capital Projects Account	£5467.05
Community Fund	£7277.51

### **Bank reconciliation:**

Treasurers Account	£5123.11
Less unpresented cheques	£Nil
Cashbook Balance	£5123.11

The cashbook and bank balances were noted.

## **127/20            PAYMENT FOR APPROVAL – SUPREME CONTRACT SERVICES**

It was proposed by Councillor Jordan, seconded by Councillor Pearce and

**UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED** to approve payment of £390.60 (Inc. VAT) for grounds maintenance services to November 2020.

It was noted that the final cuts to Redhills play area were in addition to those expected at the end of the year. The Clerk will contact the contractor to advise that incremental cuts need prior approval from the Parish Council.

## **128/20            APPLICATIONS TO THE GOOD ENERGY COMMUNITY FUND**

The Community Fund Advisory Group has recommended that the following grants are awarded by the Parish Council. They note that they recommend the awards to Broad Town School, Broad Town Pre-School and Christ Church PCC in acknowledgment of the difficulties that local organisations have had in carrying out normal operations and fundraising activities during the pandemic. Good Energy has advised that they are happy to support communities with their needs during the challenges of the Covid-19 pandemic.

### **128/20.1        BROAD TOWN VILLAGE SCHOOL – FOREST SCHOOL PROJECT**

It was proposed by Councillor Joyce, seconded by Councillor Hartley and

**UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED** to approve a grant of £1500.00 to Broad Town School towards the forest school project.

The inability of the Forest School to conduct its normal fundraising activity due to Covid-19 was noted.

**128/20.2      BROAD TOWN FOOTPATHS GROUP – CIRCULAR WALK PROJECT**

It was proposed by Councillor Pearce, seconded by Councillor Hartley and

**UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED** to approve a grant of £1842.00 to the Broad Town Footpaths Group

The positive feedback from the community on the footpath works completed so far was noted.

**128/20.3      BROAD TOWN PRE-SCHOOL – LAPTOP REPLACEMENT**

It was proposed by Councillor Hartley, seconded by Councillor Joyce and

**UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED** to approve a grant of £720.00 to Broad Town Pre-school towards the costs of a replacement laptop.

The need for equipment to support virtual schooling and good communication with parents and other organisations at this time was noted.

**128/20.4      CHRIST CHURCH PCC BROAD TOWN – GROUNDS MAINTENANCE PROJECT**

It was proposed by Councillor Pearce, seconded by Councillor Joyce and

**UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED** to approve a grant of £720.00 to Christ Church Broad Town PCC towards the costs of the churchyard grounds maintenance.

It was noted that the costs are towards the contracted grass cutting at the churchyard and that other regular maintenance is carried out by volunteers.

**129/20      GIGACLEAR – INSTALLATION OF CABLING AT HORNS LANE**

It was noted that cabling works have not been completed in Horns Lane. Gigaclear has confirmed that these will be scheduled for June 2021 with road closures at Horns Lane planned.

**130/20      VACANCY FOR CLERK**

It was noted that Mrs Emna Diamant has resigned from the post of Parish Clerk and will be able to support the Parish Council until the end of April 2021. Recruitment of a new Clerk is in process. The vacancy notice has been placed on the Wiltshire Association of Local Council's website with a closing date of 31<sup>st</sup> March 2021. The Clerk will post the vacancy on the Broad Town Parish Council website and look for ways to promote the vacancy locally.

**131/20 RISK ASSESSMENT REVIEW – MARCH 2021**

The updated risk assessment was reviewed. The risk level for emergency access at Redhills was discussed. It was agreed that the risk level be adjusted from High to Medium; it was noted that there is good access to the adjacent roads and field and that notices for key holders are in place.

**132/20 BRIEFING NOTE - 21-03 UPDATE ON COVID-19 TESTING**

The correspondence from Wiltshire Council is noted and the update will be placed in the newsletter. The success of Wiltshire Council in their efforts to deliver Covid-19 testing and vaccinations was noted.

**133/20 EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION**

**Please note no decisions can be made on these items. Anything raised which requires a decision of the council will be included as an agenda item at the next Parish Council meeting.**

Councillor Joyce noted that on footpath BHIN6 at the intersection with BTOW 38 at the top of the ridge access is difficult and queried whether there should be a stile going over the barbed wire fence. The Clerk will get in touch with Broad Hinton Parish Council.

Councillor Holland noted that he is not planning to stand as a Parish Councillor at the May elections. Councillor Holland is able to continue being a link between the footpaths group and the Parish Council for the time being. Following the May elections, a councillor would need to be a link with the footpaths group so that it remains under the umbrella of the Parish Council and their insurance arrangements. It was noted that other models for the footpaths group could be considered but this may require separate insurance arrangements.

The forthcoming elections on 6<sup>th</sup> May 2021 were noted; there is a need for new Parish Councillors to stand in Broad Town with an allocation of 7 seats for the parish. Ideas for publicity to encourage new people to stand were discussed. Nomination packs are available from Wiltshire Council from Thursday.

**Next Meeting Monday 12<sup>th</sup> April 2021**

**Meeting closed at: 19.51**

**Signed: ..... Dated:**