

BRINKLOW PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes of the Meeting of the Council
Held in the Community Hall on the 14th November 2024

Present: Councillor J Reid (Chairman) Councillor H Timms (RBC)
Councillor K Keene Councillor A Warwick (WCC)
Councillor S Brown J Boonham (Cemetery Agent)
Councillor I Currington D Lloyd (Clerk & RFO)
Councillor J Brickwood 5 Members of the public

1. Apologies.

Apologies were received and accepted from Councillor T Heenan and Councillor T Gillias (RBC)

2. Declarations of Interest.

There were no declarations of interest made.

- 3. Minutes of the last meeting. **RESOLVED** **That the minutes of the meeting held on the 10th October 2024 were approved, signed and initialled by the Chairman as a correct record of the proceedings.****

4. Comments, Questions or Suggestions made by Members of the Public.

Jeanette Lomas thanked the Parish Council for supporting Remembrance. Jeanette mentioned that not all of the green bins were emptied due to restricted access caused by the cabling works currently ongoing in the village. She tried reporting this on the RBC website as it was impossible to speak to anyone but was unable to as it had to be done within 48 hours of the issue. Councillor H Timms will look into this. The Cable company gave no information to residents but their repairs and traffic management appear good. The winners of the Hedgehog House competition were Lee McDonald and Vera McBay the prizes will be awarded at the next PC meeting.

The current planning application at the White Lion was raised by a resident mentioning that there are large bins stored on the land in question which are out permanently and are an eyesore being in the middle of the village. She asked the Parish Council to address this along with their response to the planning application. The Councillors mentioned that more information is needed with regards to the ownership of the land and a response to this effect, along with the residents comments, would be sent to RBC. Councillor H Timms stated that if it is Highways land then a planning application can not be agreed and said that she would ask for it to go to committee.

5. District and County Councillor Reports for Information.

Councillor Adrian Warwick (WCC) reported: The darker nights cause depression to set in especially in rural/farming communities and reminded that there is support available; Age UK at refuse sites are regenerate items which are sold for charity; The fire chief has decided to stay with Warwickshire and is no longer moving to West Mids which is considered very beneficial.

Councillor Heather Timms (RBC) reported that Warm Hub grants are available from Kind Communities – Kind Food Grant Fund; Act on Energy are a charity giving help and advice when needed.

6. Report by Cemetery Agent.

Jennie read out her report to all present; it has been another admin driven month with enquiries about new memorials and plot reservations; Payments have been received for new memorials and plot reservations and reserved posts were put in by the Lengthsmen when doing some maintenance work at the cemetery; further enquiries include an interment of ashes, additional inscription and installation of a new bench; thanks to the Lengthsmen for dealing with the slippery path and other maintenance work and for the additional work by Luke. Jennie asked how much it would cost to install a bench which would be £75 (or £200 if fitted into the bank) The Parish Council's work on the bothy is still ongoing and the new Lych Gate catch job has been commissioned.

7. An update on the Electricity streetlighting contract.

The current contract ended but SSE extended the contract by six months for the same price giving the Parish Council time to look into quotes from other suppliers if SSE stop unmetered supply contracts.

8. An update on the Budget Meeting.

The Councillors held a meeting to discuss the budget for 2025/2026, a few changes need making to the draft budget which will be presented for approval at the December meeting.

9. To discuss and approve the Government Payrise awarded to the Clerk and Cemetery Agent.

The Government payrise equated to 4.8%, to be backdated to 1st April 2024. Councillor S Brown also suggested reviewing the salaries paid in comparison to other Parish Councils - for discussion at another meeting. **APPROVED Proposed by J Reid, Seconded by S Brown**

10. To approve the monthly cost for the CCTV data card.

The CCTV is now operational and accessed via the Parish Council laptop with good quality pictures. Signs are to be put up around the village. The running cost was anticipated to be £15 - £20 per month but unlimited data was needed which costs £30 per month to be paid on receipt of an invoice from Secure21. **APPROVED Proposed by J Reid, Seconded by K Keene**

11. To note the change of date for the January 2025 PC Meeting.

Due to the clerks availability the January 2025 meeting will be held one week later than usual on Thursday 16th January.

12. An update on the meeting with Rugby MP John Slinger.

The Chairman and two of the councillors attended the meeting in Barnacle, attendance of approximately 60 people, to discuss the proposed Ansty development and new housing where it was noted that the MP is adopting the Government line. He stated that the new government are not enforcing RBC to increase the number of units to be built. The Ansty proposal is going to the planning committee on 28th November, anyone can go along to speak. Chairman J Reid and Councillor T Heenan will attend with written transcripts.

13. To discuss and agree a response to Planning Applications received.

- R24/0847 at 32 White Lion, Broad Street, Brinklow – this was already discussed in agenda item 4.

14. The response given to planning applications between meetings.

- R24/0741 at The Paddock, Newnham Lane, Brinklow for proposed garage conversion and rear extensions – NO objection was the response agreed but the clerk received this after the deadline to send a response.

15. To Approve the Accounts for Payment.

Date	Ch No /so	Details	Total Payments	Payment Particulars
13/11/24	EFT	J Boonham	117.09	salary
13/11/24	CHQ	D Lloyd	411.50	salary
13/11/24	EFT	J Reid	257.75	Expenses see breakdown
13/11/24	EFT	Luke Smith	116.00	cemetery work
13/11/24	EFT	Secure 21 Ltd	36.00	data card
13/11/24	EFT	Leicestershire Gardens	1665.94	final payment
13/11/24	EFT	Equals Money	98.79	pre pay card top up
13/11/24	EFT	Judith Brickwood	109.32	expenses
13/11/24	EFT	Colledge Tree & Landscapes	1,800.00	Tump and church fields

APPROVED Proposed: Councillor S Brown, Seconded: Councillor K Keene

The Cashbook, Bank reconciliation and bank statements were checked, initialled and balance agreed.

16. Progress Reports for Information.

- **Brinklow Castle** – A company with a specialist mower, as agreed at the last meeting, has cut the Tump and have also done Church Fields, the moat and the field behind - they have done a really good job it is looking very neat and tidy. The Lengthsmen have continued to cut back the bramble.
- **Playing Field** - Councillor I Currington mentioned that an agreement has been reached with Brinklow Football Club regarding the fees for the next 12 months due to the increasing mowing costs and additional cuts needed by the Football club. Extra cuts are being paid for by the PC to ensure the mowing of the field is continuing into winter to keep the grass height down so there are not the same issues as last year with the first cuts in spring. The contractor has been asked for a quote for the spiking to enable the drainage but it needed spiking annually and may not work now. The football club have a game arranged for the same day as the Christmas fair, we are currently in talks to get the game moved.

17. Correspondence received.

A request received from Jeanette Lomas for a cheque for £30.00 for the Royal British Legion for the poppy wreath

APPROVED Proposed by S Brown, Seconded by J Reid

18. To confirm the date of the next meeting.

The next meeting will be held on Thursday 12th December

The meeting closed at 8.15pm

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CHAIRMAN