**Brent Pelham and Meesden Parish Council**

**MINUTE OF**

**BRENT PELHAM & MEESDEN PARISH COUNCIL**

**Thursday 10th January 2019**

**VENUE: Meesden Village Hall**

**PRESENT:**

Trevor Hughes (**TH**) Councillor and Chairman

Wilf Dimsdale (**WD**) Councillor

Ted Barclay (**TB**) Councillor and Vice Chairman

Kate Hinch (**KH**) Councillor

Steve Murphy (**SM**) Councillor

Sarah Wotton-Ramsay (**SW)** Councillor

**In Attendance:**

Ken Newstead (**KN**) Clerk

**Minute Item Action**

**Year.Month.Item**

**18.09.01 Welcome and Apologies for Absence**

The Chairman welcomed Cllr Jeff Jones, County Councillor for Buntingford Division to this meeting.

**18.09.02 Minutes of Previous Meeting**

Approval of the minutes of the 20th September 2018 meeting was proposed by KH and seconded by WD with no objections. A copy of the minutes was signed by the Chairman.

**18.09.03 Review Previous Actions Not Covered Elsewhere**

There were none

**18.09.04 Planning (Applications)**

3/18/1997/HH – Lawyers, Meesden – Extension – Refused by EHDC

3/18/1597/LBC - The Bury Mill Lane, BP – Alterations to windows – Approved by EHDC

3/18/2113/FUL – Land adj to Rectory Farm – Agriculture building – Refused by EHDC

3/18/1815/HH - The Sticks, BP - Extension – Approved by EHDC

3/18/2617/HH – Lawyers, Meesden – Extension (amended) – Under consideration by EHDC

18/00077/REFUSE - Land to the South of Owlitts Cottages, BP – The Council had no objections

TB reminded the Council that there was no approach made to the PC regarding EHDD Conservation planning in BP village prior to the presentation in the Village Hall and Parish Councillors and land owners alike were therefore unaware of the proposals being put forward. Nor were we given the opportunity in a formal capacity to comment as the PC. Cllr Jeff Jones agreed to contact EHDC and ask why this was the case and notify the Parish Council as soon as possible. **KN**

**18.09.05 Highways**

KH reported that she had spoken to Ringways manager James Vine regarding the clearing of drain gullies in The Causeway BP, missing and damaged signs on the B1038 which were needed to alert motorists of a dangerous bend and a section of the B1038 BP where a large stone was protruding dangerously into the road. James informed us that the work was “on the list” but could not give a date for completion. Cllr Jeff Jones agreed to contact the Ringway team in the hope that this work could be prioritised. **KH**

Cllr Jeff Jones reminded the Council of EHDC’s offer of free Salt for use on our roads and pavements, but after further consideration the Parish Council felt that regardless of the legal liabilities it would very difficult to store and distribute the salt and therefore better to decline the offer.

**18.09.06 Finance**

**Accounts**

The Clerk presented the YTD finance report and acceptance was proposed by SM and seconded by SW with no objections. A copy of the report was signed by the Chair and retained by the Clerk.

**Proposals for Payment**

The Clerk confirmed that all previous proposals for payments had been made. No new proposals were made.

**18.09.07 Defibrillator & VETS**

The Chair agreed to source some booklets relating to our Defibrillators for distribution to our VETS helpers. A list of village residents asking for First Aid training was given to TH. KN agreed to send an email to Councillors detailing what is covered in this course and to find out if the training could be done in April this year. **TH & KN**

**18.09.08 Repairs and Maintenance**

KH reported that she had spoken to the Conservation team regarding BP stocks and needed to know who owned the land it occupies. TB confirmed that it is either Manorial Waste land or owned by him. In either respect TB is to email the Parish Councillors to give the Parish Council full ownership of the stocks for maintenance purposes. KH is to inform Mike Brown the Conservation Officer to get his permission to complete the work. **KH & TB**

KN to arrange contractors to jet the entire length of the drain in Meesden ASAP as part of the agreed annual maintenance. **KN**

KN reported that investigating options for damp proofing Meesden Village Hall had not been concluded due to contractors not sending us quotes. Investigation continues. **KN**

**18.09.09 AOB**

Cllr Jeff Jones advised KN to speak to EHDC Democratic services for advice and information regarding the forthcoming elections. An article will be put on the Village Newsletter. **KN**

Cllr Jeff Jones informed the Council of a scheme called Highways Together comprising of volunteers throughout the Buntingford area that are available to assist with Highway maintenance matters that the Parish might require help completing.

Cllr Jeff Jones informed the Council of his efforts regarding traffic schemes in Buntingford town centre and the Community Bus scheme that he encourages us all to use. KN agreed to place another notification in the Village Newsletter. **KN**

**18.09.10 Date of Next Meetings**

The next Parish Council meetings are to be held on:

**Thursday 4th April 2019, 7:30 pm at Brent Pelham Village Hall**

**Thursday 20th June 2019, 7:30pm at Meesden Village Hall**

**The meeting concluded at 9:00 pm**

Minutes approved by: .............................................................

PC Title: .....................................................................................

Signed: .......................................................................................

Date: ...........................................