**Brent Pelham and Meesden Parish Council**

**MINUTE OF**

**BRENT PELHAM & MEESDEN PARISH COUNCIL**

**Thursday 9th January 2020**

**VENUE: Meesden Village Hall**

**PRESENT:**

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

Wilf Dimsdale (**WD**) Councillor

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

Steve Murphy (**SM**) Councillor

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

Kate Hinch (**KH**) Councillor

**In Attendance:** Ken Newstead (**KN**) - Clerk

**Minute Item Action**

**Year.Month.Item**

**20.01.01 Welcome and Apologies for Absence**

The Chairman welcomed the Parish Councillors and District Councillor **Jeff Jones** to this meeting and informed that apologies had been received from District Councillor **Peter Boylan**.

**20.01.02 Minutes of Previous Meeting**

Approval of the minutes of the 10th October 2019 meeting had been received by email prior to this meeting. A copy of the minutes was signed by the Chairman.

**20.01.03 Review Previous Actions Not Covered Elsewhere**

KH confirmed that the resident of Pump Hill Cottage had been asked to fit a diffuser to the lights on their drive so that they cannot be seen by oncoming traffic.

**20.01.04 Planning (Applications)**

3/19/2234/HH – Lawyers Meesden - Extension - Permission granted

33/19/2146/HH – Weasel Cottage BP – Swimming Pool – Permission granted

3/19/2502/HH – Meesden Bury Cottages – Side Extension - No objections

3/19/1769/LBC – Bridge Cottage BP – Internal Alterations - Permission granted

3/19/1441/HH – Bonnymead Cottage BP – Extension – Permission granted

3/19/2364/LBC – Meesden Hall – Internal alterations - No objections

3/19/1997/HH – 4 The Causeway BP – Rear extension – Permission granted

3/19/1907/LBC – Meesden Hall - Internal Alterations - Permission granted

3/19/1819/HH – Beehive Meesden – Rear Extension - Permission granted

3/19/1768/HH – Bridge Cottage BP – Summerhouse – Permission granted

3/19/1760/FUL – Land adjacent to Rectory Farm – Agricultural Building – Permission refused

TH reminded everyone present that if they objected to an application, they must do so via the on-line application received from EHDC.

**20.01.05 Highways**

KH confirmed that after discussion with BP residents a LED Speed sign is not wanted in BP, and subsequently the PC do not need to make any application in this respect.

Following a meeting with KH and the Highways Safety Oﬃcer concerning issues with HGV’s using unauthorised roads and damaging the verges on our lanes, KH confirmed that Highways will not be providing any additional signage for the road outside Church Cottage, but the use of Bell shaped restrictors is approved, provided they are fitted on private property. Whilst many carriers are believed to observe the license restrictions imposed by Highways on HGV traffic, it was suggested that Councillors are free to contact carriers to check their license restrictions if they believe this is being abused. Furthermore, Cllr Jeff Jones confirmed that drains in Laundry Hill BP had not yet be cleared as this work required full road closure. The Parish Councillors objected to the need for full road closure citing a recent notification that the road from Meesden to Brent Pelham would be closed for the replacement of a water Stop Cock and the inevitable destruction of even more of our verges. The impact of unnecessary road closures is unacceptable and damaging to residents, businesses and our countryside. Cllr Jeff Jones was asked to insist that the Highways team use traffic lights wherever possible for all future work. **Jeff Jones**

**20.01.06 Finance**

**Accounts**

The Clerk presented the YTD finance report by email prior to the meeting acceptance was proposed by SWR and seconded by TB with no objections. A copy of the report was signed by the Chair and returned to the Clerk.

**Proposals for Payment**

Renewal of HATPC subscription. Proposed TH, seconded SM.

**20.01.07 Defibrillator & VETS**

SWR confirmed that the BT Guardian System used by some residents does pose a problem as it stopped the smooth passage from one person to the next. KN to check with VETS helpers. **KN**

**20.01.08 Repairs and Maintenance**

The Councillors considered a request by a Meesden resident to reduce the height of trees on the Village Green. The Councillors felt it was not necessary at this time as qualified tree surgeons that provided quotations for the work had all verbally confirmed the trees were neither Dead, Dying, Diseased or Dangerous and in no danger of falling. It was agreed at the meeting that we should get a written report on their condition as well as their recommendations for any future work. **KN**

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

 TB confirmed that refurbishment of BP Stocks was in-hand. **TB**

 SM confirmed that the Meesden flood-water Drain is scheduled for jetting in September this year.

**20.01.09 AOB**

None

**20.01.10 Date of Next Meetings**

The next Parish Council meetings are to be held on:

**Thursday 16th April 2020, 7:30 pm at Brent Pelham Village Hall**

**Thursday 9th July 2020, 7:30pm at Meesden Village Hall**

**The meeting concluded at 8:20 pm**

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

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

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

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