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| **Bracon Ash and Hethel Parish Council**  **Minutes of the January 2020 Parish Council Meeting**  **At Bracon Ash & Hethel Village Hall,**  **On Monday 13th January 2020 at 7.30PM** | |
| **Present:**  Mr Colin Rudd – Chairman Mr David Biddle Cllr Nigel Legg  Mrs Anne Howlett Mrs Mary Gray Mr Steve Horton  Mr Neil Dyer  Cllrs Clifford-Jackson and Francis  Clerk Mrs Carole Jowett  2 members of the public attended | |
| **1** | **To consider apologies** **for absence**  Mr Roy Hayes and Cllr Clifford-Jackson had sent their apologies. |
| **2** | **To receive declaration of interests in items on agenda**  None |
| **3** | **To co-opt a new member to fill the vacancy following election**  There were no nominations. |
| **4** | **Resolution to adjourn the meeting for public participation, District and County Councillor reports**  **District Councillor report**  Cllr Legg reported that the Greater Norwich Local Plan had been published and there would be a presentation for parish councils on 23rd January 2020 at South Norfolk Council. The public consultation 2commenced on 29th January to 16th March 2020. Norwich Broadland and the major populated areas of South Norfolk were included but not the 88 smaller villages in South Norfolk, there was a proposal proposing to divide theses into clusters of 3 or 4 villages centred school. Bracon Ash, Mulbarton & Swardeston were likely to be a cluster. They were encouraging smaller developments between 15 and 25 houses. Total numbers would depend on demand from builders, but South Norfolk Council needed to meet affordable housing. They did not want to encourage large builders and developments would not be centred where people needed to use a car. The plan for the smaller villages was expected in approximately 1 month. It would be possible to get land removed from the existing plan; landowners would be contacted to ask if they still wished to develop land.  It was noted that there was a problem with people backfilling ditches which had led to flooding, it was not permitted to do this work without specific permission from the Environment Agency.  **Public participation**  An issue was raised with the layby on the B1113 opposite the village hall, it needed to be cleared. The clerk would report it to highways. The pavement along the street to Cuckoofield Lane needed to be cleared, this had been reported and chased.  Clearing at the common had been started, the ponds were full to overflowing.  A resident to the rear of the playing field said that the new climbing frame seemed higher than the previous one and was disappointed there had been no consultation. It was clarified it was the same height to the platform, but its roof was higher. The chairman said that the plans had been displayed prior to commencement. It was in a slightly different place but there was no suitable other place to put it.  Mr Rudd had spoken to the contractor who had confirmed that it was the same height, but the aspect had been changed. The fence was 6ft high, but it could still be seen however the cost to move it would be prohibitive. Mr Rudd promised that if any further work was planned, he would ensure direct contact would be made with the neighbour. A question was asked if an obscuration panel could be added, Mr Dyer suggested the parish councillors should visit the area and investigate the issue and respond with any suggested solutions in the next few weeks. |
| **5** | **To confirm minutes and review matters arising from the meeting on 25th November 2019**  The minutes of the meeting held on 25th November 2019were agreed and signed.  The overgrown shrub on the road had been cut back by the parish council’s contractor.  The potholes in School Road had been reported.  The work at the playing field was progressing well. The multi-play unit looked good quality, the roundabout and the witch’s hat were complete. The rope swing was underway but the contactor was confident it would be finished by the end of the week.  Mr Dyer suggested that all parish councillors should look at the playing field before it was paid for.  The finances were reviewed and the balance the parish council would need to find for the play equipment on top of the s106 funds was £2700.48  Mr Dyer suggested that somebody considered getting a RoSPA accredited person to inspect the equipment to give confidence of its quality and safety.  It was unanimously agreed the payment could be made once everything had been checked. |
| **6** | **To discuss and agree any comments on planning applications**   * 1. **2019/2558**   Location: Reserved matters relating to the construction of a dwelling on following outline planning permission  Proposal: Plot 9 11 Long Four Acres Avenue Bracon Ash NR14 8SY  The plans were reviewed and it was agreed to submit no comments.   * 1. **2019/2563**   Location: Land East of Lodge Bungalow, Cuckoofield Lane Bracon Ash  Proposal: Self build home  The plans are of a very poor quality and it was difficult to see exactly what the proposals were it had therefore been impossible to make an informed opinion. In the absence of legible plans, the parish council considered the application be refused. |
| **7** | **To discuss the car park at the playing field**  Mr Dyer explained that for any surface preparation would be the key to a successful solution, he showed samples of different materials. He said that providers usually offer an installation service. The cost would be less than £10 psqm for the product. Although installation could be more.  Mr Hayes had provided a sample of a product that would be easier to install and suitable for the area at Bonds Green.  There would be insufficient funds for the current year once the village hall car park had been done. Mr Horton would investigate Tenax GP flex as a preferred option. |
| **8** | **To consider and agree any action on the village hall car park**  3 quotes for the car park had been obtained  Simons landscaping - £5680.00 ex VAT  Causeway - £7486.00 ex VAT  NR Asphalt - £4419.00 ex VAT  NR Asphalt had provided the best specification, Cllr Legg said he would ask if there could be a discount. It was agreed to use CIL money to pay for this and the village hall would be asked to contribute £500.00. The neighbour would also be asked if they would make a contribution as they would benefit from this work. |
| **9** | **Finance**   * 1. **To receive statement of accounts to 13th January 2020**   The accounts were reviewed and agreed.   * 1. **To consider budget requirements and agree the precept for 2020/21**   The budget was agreed and after consideration it was proposed by Mr Biddle that the precept be increased by 3% in line with inflation, Mr Horton seconded this, and it was unanimously agreed. The clerk and the chairman signed the precept request form.   * 1. **To agree the insurance cover for the new play equipment**   To be agreed out of meeting once available from the insurer.   * 1. **To agree invoices for payment in accordance with budget**   DD £59.88 BT Community Hub  Chq no 927 £11.93 Anglian Water Water bill  Chq no 928 £128.16 South Norfolk Council Dog bin servicing  The payments were agreed and the cheques were signed. |
| **10** | **To consider correspondence received**  Information had been received about a settle in service appealing for volunteers to help people leaving hospital.  The clerks and councils newsletter had been received. |
| **11** | **To consider agenda items for the next meeting on 24th February 2020 and close**  **Future meeting dates**  24th February 2020 30th March 2020 18th May 2020 13th July 2020 14th September 2020 19th October 2020 30th November 2020  The chairman closed the meeting at 21:25 |
|  | Signed …………………………………………. Date ……………………  Colin Rudd  Chairman to Bracon Ash and Hethel Parish Council |