

# **Bramfield and Thorington Parish Council**

**Members are summoned to a Meeting of the Parish Council which will be held at the Village Hall on Monday, February 13th 2023 at 7pm.**

## **Present:**

Cllr. D. Hughes (Chairman); Cllr. A. Rozkalns (Vice-Chairman); Cllr. M. Bond; Cllr. A. Niven; Cllr. F. Ryder, Cllr. W. Shoote and Cllr. A. Thomas:

## **Also Present:**

Paul Widdowson (Clerk); District Cllr. N. Brooks and County Cllr. R. Smith (Left 7-31pm):

### 1) **Apologies:**

There were no apologies.

### 2) **To receive Declarations of Interest:**

Cllr. A. Rozkalns (Vice-Chairman); Cllr. M. Bond and Cllr. F. Ryder all declared a personal interest in the Village Hall, Village Green and the Jubilee Meadow

### 3) **Requests for dispensations:**

There were no requests for dispensations.

### 4) **To receive a report from the County Councillor and the District Councillor:**

County Cllr. R. Smith said that after much hard work, the Suffolk County Council Budget had been set and balanced with a 3.99% rise in the Council Tax. He said that a further 2% rise was for social care. County Cllr. R. Smith said that it was a tight budget but more money had come from the government than had been anticipated which had greatly helped set the budget.

County Cllr. R. Smith said that he had a meeting with EDF as there will be a Judicial Review in March 2023. He said that he believed that the Judicial Review would probably not succeed. He said that the cost of building Sizewell C was budgeted to be £20 billion but County Cllr. R. Smith thought that it would cost £40 billion in the end. He said that the government was funding 20% of the cost with EDF being given around twelve to eighteen months to find the other investors to fund the building of Sizewell C. County Cllr. R. Smith said that he thought that Sizewell C would go ahead and works would start soon.

County Cllr. R. Smith said that he had some money left to spend but it had to be spent by March 22<sup>nd</sup>. District Cllr. N. Brooks said that his money had to be spent by February 28<sup>th</sup>. Both Councillors agreed to give £1000 to the cost of the Jubilee Field.

District Cllr. N. Brooks said that East Suffolk Council had set a budget which was to be voted on next Wednesday. He said that the proposed rise in council tax was 2.9% and the rise was able to be reduced by money coming from the reserves and



11) **Council Bio-Diversity Action Plan:**

Cllr. D. Hughes said that an Action Plan was usually part of the Village Plan. She said that a Bio-Diversity Action Plan should be created as it could be used to help determine future planning applications. Cllr. D. Hughes said that currently there was no map of ponds in the two parishes. She said that she could write one using a checklist. Cllr. W. Shoote said that it would be useful to gather information but it would need much work. Cllr. F. Ryder asked if it could be a strategy but the answer was that it could not be used in this way.

12) **Planning Matters:**

There were no planning applications to discuss. However there was some discussion over a planning application that does not seem to be coming to the Parish Council.

13) **Clerk's Report and Correspondence:**

There was an update on the Grit Bins and the Clerk said that the Parish Council's Website Supplier had emailed to inform the Parish Council that the Google Analytics were changing. The Parish Council decided to stay on the old website as the Parish Council does not use the data. The Clerk went through the introductory information regarding the Parish Elections on May 4<sup>th</sup> 2023.

14) **Donations:**

It was agreed to discuss Donations at the May Parish Council Meeting.

15) **Financial Report:**

a) **Balances at the Bank on January 31st 2023:**

|                            |           |
|----------------------------|-----------|
| Business Community Account | £4 423-05 |
| Business Savings Account   | £6 637-20 |

b) **Payments and Receipts:**

The Clerk said that cheques cannot be stopped after six months. The Parish Council decided to ask the clerk to write off the uncashed cheque.

16) **Policies:**

It was agreed to discuss policies at a future Parish Council Meeting.

17) **Clerk's Resignation:**

Cllr. D. Hughes said that she had written an advertisement based on other Parish council's examples and asked the Clerk to send to Suffolk Association of Local Councils (SALC) in order to be advertised.

18) **To receive information and agenda items for the Parish Council Meeting to be held on Monday, March 13th 2023:**

It was agreed that donations would be discussed at the May Parish Council Meeting.

**The Meeting ended at 8-52pm.**