

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, November 14th 2022 at 7pm.

Present:

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

Also Present:

Paul Widdowson (Clerk); District Cllr. N. Brooks (left 7-19pm):

1) **Apologies:**

County Cllr. R. Smith: Councillors accepted the apologies from Cllr. F. Ryder:

Cllr. A. Thomas was not present.

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

Cllr. A. Rozkalns (Vice-Chairman) and Cllr. M. Bond all declared a personal interest in the Village Hall.

3) **Requests for dispensations:**

There were no requests for dispensations.

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

District Cllr. N. Brooks reported that it was very quiet currently at East Suffolk Council. He said that the Budget had been balanced with a little help from the reserves with the precept looking to be OK. He said that inflation had been the bad news but the good news was that the District Council's savings were now attracting higher interest rates. District Cllr. N. Brooks also reported that the Pension Fund had been overpaid for several years so spending had been reduced this year further helping to keep the precept down.

District Cllr. N. Brooks said that the new Gull Road Bridge in Lowestoft was well on track with the section over the railway line completed. He said that if there had been a strike on the day this was planned to be lifted into place, this section of bridge over the railway line would have been delayed by six months owing to the organisation needed to complete the job. He said that the flood barriers were progressing but the costs were higher as the port has to stay open 24 hours a day.

District Cllr. N. Brooks finally said that he did not know if the Refuse Collectors had accepted an offer from the District Council to end their dispute.

There were no questions from the Parish Councillors.

5) **Public Session: Members of the public have fifteen minutes to ask questions on topics on the agenda:**

There were no members of the public at the Parish Council Meeting.

6) **To confirm the Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting on October 17th 2022:**

The Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting on October 17th 2022 were agreed.

Proposer: Cllr. A. Rozkalns: Seconder: Cllr. M. Bond:

7) **Traffic Report:**

Cllr. A. Niven said that the data had been analysed from the Sign Indicator Device (SID) for its time in Bridge Street. He said that around 5% of all traffic was over the 30mph speed limit. Cllr. A. Niven said that he would contact the parishioner with the results.

Cllr. D. Hughes said that she would approach Suffolk Highways regarding road signs which she said could not be seen and needed cleaning. She also said that she and Cllr. A. Niven would ask Bramfield Primary School to write to the parents and complete lessons on road safety for the pupils.

Finally Cllr. A. Niven said that the pole for the SID needed to be moved.

8) **Village Hall:**

Cllr. A. Rozkalns reported that the Christmas Fayre would be taking place on December 3rd. He said that Bramfield Primary School would be performing their show at the Village Hall.

Cllr. A. Niven asked if the Village School had any other bookings? Cllr. A. Rozkalns said that more bookings were needed.

9) **Jubilee Field:**

Cllr. A. Rozkalns said that there was nothing to report currently.

10) **Internet Banking:**

Cllr. D. Hughes reported that she had spoken to Barclays on three occasions in order to become a signatory. Cllr. W. Shoote was now involved and it was ongoing.

The Clerk said that the authorisation Sheet for any expenditure should be signed by two councillors before two councillors would complete an Internet Transfer.

11) **Footpaths:**

Cllr. D. Hughes said that she had the name of the officer at Suffolk County Council who is the Footpath Warden and will investigate any problem with footpaths.

12) **Cost of Living:**

Cllr. D. Hughes reported that she went to an East Suffolk Council Event on the Cost-of-Living Crisis who were asking how Parish Councils were supporting local people. Cllr. D. Hughes said that she had reported that parishioners tended to go to Halesworth for their utilities and social life as Bramfield did not have the facilities.

Cllr. M. Bond suggested that the Rural Caravan came to Bramfield Village Hall Car Park. It was agreed that Cllr. D. Hughes would contact County Cllr. A. Dunning asking if the Coffee Van could visit Bramfield.

13) **Planning Matters:**

The Clerk said that there were no planning applications to be considered at this Parish Council Meeting as the one below was too late to be included in the agenda.

The Clerk said that the details of the Planning Application were as follows:
Ref: DC 22 4371 FUL – Alterations and Extension at Carpenters Cottage, Stonehouse Farm, Thorington Road, Thorington.

It was agreed to look at this planning application at the next Parish Council Meeting.

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

The Clerk reported that he had received from East Suffolk Council their estimate of Election Costs 2023-2027. He said that he had also received details about the Financial Services Compensation Scheme and Suffolk View which was the newsletter from the Suffolk Preservation Society Magazine.

15) **Donations:**

Councillors decided not to give a donation currently but to give a substantial donation to one charity which they would consider at a future Parish Council Meeting.

16) **Queen Elizabeth II Passing:**

A parishioner had bought flowers from the Halesworth Florist costing £22-40 and a Condolence Book from the Halesworth Stationers costing £15-99. The Parishioner therefore was owed £38-39. It was clarified that the following expenditure would be funded by the Chairman's Fund.

Proposer: Cllr. M. Bond:

Seconder: Cllr. A. Hughes:

17) **Financial Report:**

a) **Balances at the Bank on October 31st 2022:**

Business Community Account
Business Savings Account

£5 655-64
£6 633-50

