

BRADWELL PARISH COUNCIL

28th January, 2020

A Meeting of the Amenities & Highways Committee at 7.30p.m.

PRESENT: Councillors Carrier (Chairman), Shaw, Steggles, Watson and Wells.

IN ATTENDANCE: J Caborn, Parish Clerk, S French, Deputy Clerk; Councillor Hamilton.

1 **APOLOGIES** – Councillors Comer, Macdonald, Thurtle and Wainwright.

2 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST** – None.

3 **MINUTES OF MEETING – 26.11.19**

Matters Arising

Minute 6 – Further to the council's proposal that a link to its CCTV system could be provided to Norfolk Constabulary via Police smart phones, it has been explained that most Police officers do not carry Smartphones. It was reported to last week's F&GP committee meeting that 'TV Gorleston' provides CCTV cover for Gorleston retail premises, but it was pointed out that a link to that organisation would be of limited value, as it does not offer a '24/7' service. **It was resolved that Councillor Carrier will make representations to the Police at the next S.N.A.P. meeting to request that the Police inform this Council each time a complaint about incidents on Parish Council property is received.**

Minute 9 – Possible provision of 'SAM2' (flashing speed limit signs). The Council's bid to Norfolk County Council for 'Parish Partnership' 50/50 funding 2020-21 was submitted in time for the deadline date, and a decision will be notified in March 2020.

4 **SUSPENSION OF MEETING** – no members of the public were present.

5 **GARDEN GUARDIAN LTD. – EXTENSION OF CONTRACT TO MARCH 2023**

Consideration was given to whether the current one-year grounds maintenance trial contract with the above should be extended to the normal four years from April 2019 to March 2023. It was reported that Mr Rice and his staff have worked to satisfactory standards, are amenable, and have worked beyond their remit on occasions. They have dealt with the unexpected problem of 'Chafer Grubs' very well, and they work in a clean and tidy way. **It was resolved to extend the contract by a further three years, to March 2023.**

6 **PROPOSED PUBLIC MEETING – GIPSIES GREEN COMMON LAND**

Further to a letter that was sent to neighbours of the above site in May 2018 to ask them to prove the basis of their use of the above land (re vehicle parking or vehicle access), it was suggested that a date for the proposed meeting with relevant neighbours, and the wording for the letter which will invite them to attend, need to be agreed. Councillor Howlett, who is not a member of this committee, has submitted the following questions:-

- a) Who will give permission?
- b) How will residents obtain permission?
- c) Will application confirm that they are covered for third party claims, and number of vehicles?
- d) Will residents be informed that vehicles cannot be stored on the common, and that vehicles must be moved at least every 28 days? This prevents vehicles being parked and a later land use ownership being claimed.
- e) Requirements in respect of short term visitors to residents?
- f) Question of ban of commercial vehicles.

Further to works carried out to improve the surface of the area in question last year, photographic evidence taken earlier today showed that its condition has once again deteriorated, due to frequent vehicular use. The area must be maintained so that it is safe for pedestrians, who have a 'right to roam', and repairs should be carried out utilising 'natural materials'.

It was felt that there is no point in holding a meeting while the condition of the area in question is poor, and that the approach to the problem should be that no action is taken until the land becomes unsafe for pedestrians, at which point minor repairs will be carried out, and if neighbours request improvements, they should be asked to contribute towards the cost. The area should be inspected again in the spring, and a decision taken then as to whether any minor repairs should be undertaken. No order has yet been placed for the proposed signs, and it was suggested that there seemed little point in going ahead with the order until a way forward is agreed.

7 WAR MEMORIAL SITE AND OPEN SPACE AREA, CHURCH WALK

Further to the possibility of this Council taking ownership of land adjacent to Church Walk, a draft 99-year lease, which has now been interpreted and reported by nplaw, was circulated - it was noted that, although nplaw is acting for both the Borough Council and this Council, there should be no danger of partiality as caseload is separated and managed by different staff. It was also noted in the report from nplaw that a covenant in the original documentation exists that prevents any building work on this site under 'Matters Burdening the Property'. Item 4.1.2 states, '*The land coloured yellow on the plan in this conveyance shall be retained as a park and no building shall be erected upon this land.*' It was suggested that it would be better for the council not to enter into such an arrangement, as it would thereby incur considerable costs in terms of regular footpath and tree maintenance, but that it would be necessary first to clarify whether the provisions of item 4.1.2 could ever be overturned. It was resolved to **seek nplaw's advice as to whether the present 'covenant', which prevents building on the land in question, could ever be overturned, and what the 'pros' and 'cons', from this council's point of view, of taking on or not taking on the lease would therefore be.**

8 BRADWELL BOWLING CLUB – REQUEST TO ERECT A SHED

A request from Bradwell Bowling Club to erect a larger shed with shelves to replace a damaged one adjacent to Golden Jubilee Pavilion, has been received. It was **resolved to approve the request.**

9 USE OF BRADWELL SECTION 106 MONIES

A report from the working party was submitted, and it was noted that of the 10% of residents included in the questionnaire catchment area, relatively few returns had been received. One school, for example, received 200 forms, but only 17 were returned. Some very good responses have been received in the small batches that were submitted. A short-list of suggestions will be made in the near future, and could be included in the next edition of The Bradwellian. It was noted that Louise Tully, GYBC, is due to go on maternity leave for a year, and there will then be no defined contact point between this council and the Borough Council regarding this project. A proportion of the monies should be allocated by Spring 2021.

10 CORRESPONDENCE – none.

11 COMMITTEE MEMBERS' REPORTS

It was reported that the Clerk's official leaving date is 31.5.20 and that, following recent interviews, a new Parish Clerk has now been selected, subject to references.

The 'Badger Builders' submission to build 600 houses between Beccles Road and New Road has been rejected, on the grounds of inadequate highway access/egress.

A footpath between Willow Avenue and Mill Lane Recreation Ground, and the 'Pightle' pathway adjacent to Green Lane Playing Field, both of which are parts of 'public rights of way', have been found to be in a muddy state. It was noted that Norse cuts back the hedging on the site of the latter once a year. **A date for a future 'footpath walk' will be an agenda item for the next meeting of this committee.**

There being no other business, the meeting closed at 8.28 p.m.

Signed: Date :