

Bradwell Parish Council



09 February 2021

A meeting of the Amenities and Highways Committee at 7.00pm
This meeting was held online via the Zoom Conferencing Platform

PRESENT: Cllrs, Carrier (Chairman), Comer, Goodchild, Hamilton, Hirst, Macdonald, Steggles, Watson

IN ATTENDANCE: Parish Clerk, C Bacon, two members of the public

2102-A13) ELECTION OF CLLR GOODCHILD TO THE AMENITIES AND HIGHWAYS COMMITTEE
Councillor Goodchild was elected and welcomed to the Amenities and Highways Committee.

2102-A14) TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE: Cllrs Shaw, Thurtle and Wainwright

2102-A15) TO CONSIDER A MOTION TO SUSPEND THE MEETING TO ALLOW MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC TO INFORM THE MEETING. Two members of the public attended the meeting with a view to joining the Parish Council in March.

2102-A16) TO RECEIVE DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST: None

2102-A17) MINUTES OF LAST MEETING: The minutes were noted

2102-A18) CLERK'S REPORT

a) Minutes of 29th September 2020 have been adopted by the Parish Council. A copy is enclosed with this agenda for information only.

b) Minutes of 29th September 2020 item 5a) Those allotment holders residing outside of Bradwell were written to on 13th October to advise the rents would increase by 50% from 1st April 2021. There have been no queries received.

c) Minutes 29th September 2020 - Item 5b) One Notice to Quit letter was issued, the other tenant rescinded their plot.

d) Minutes 29th September 2020 - Item 6) The Borough Councillors were contacted about Bradwell's bus service, specifically why no direct route to Great Yarmouth or the Hospital and why the service stops so early. The following responses were received:

'Thank you for your email concerning buses through Bradwell, this has been a contentious issue for many years. The bus company will need to ensure the service is profitable, that is their first concern, and having had temporarily provided buses in the past they quickly withdrew them after 3 months suffering considerable losses.

One of the elements they constantly bring up is the narrows on the Gapton Hall road which protects the village from HGV's and has done this admirably for many years, I have even campaigned for its retention when HGV operators wanted it removed.

Should this be changed to a rising bollard arrangement, the bus company doesn't want to sit in the queue to Gapton roundabout and wants a dedicated lane, unfortunately not possible as this would still need to be a financially viable route, which cannot be guaranteed.

I am happy for you to talk to the bus companies, it will be interesting to hear their response.'

Cllr Graham Plant

'Yes, I have campaigned on this issue before as John Shaw will know. I met with Chris Speed at First Bus to discuss this issue but didn't get anywhere, as he stated that there just isn't the demand. Completely support your action and let me know if you need anything. However, I would be very surprised if they agreed to any changes at present, under the circumstances, as they are currently running on 50% capacity. This means due to economic loss, they are cutting their least used routes.'

Cllr Daniel Candon

The Clerk contacted First Busses and received the below response:

'Thank you for your letter of the 16th October to our managing director, Steve Wickers, which he has asked me to respond to as the network manager.

Our service from Bradwell is primarily service 6, which runs to Great Yarmouth via Gorleston High Street every half hour on Monday to Saturday during the day and then hourly on Sundays. This had been reduced to hourly every day during the lockdown period, but has now been restored to its' normal timetable. Incidentally, this is the same level of service that Belton receives. In the evening the 6B provides the service for both Bradwell and Belton, with the last journey leaving Great Yarmouth at 2230. This does seem to be broadly in line with demand, although I appreciate that the circular nature of the 6 may not make it very attractive to potential users – unfortunately the geographical spread and road layout of Bradwell do not make it easy to serve straightforwardly. However, we are always happy to consider comments and suggestions for improvements.

In respect of access to James Paget Hospital, services have been provided in the past at various times, generally supported by local authority funding eg service 214 supported by Norfolk CC and service 607 supported by Suffolk. While we have investigated ways of providing a direct link from Bradwell to the Hospital, the most straightforward options involve adding extra resource to the existing service, but unfortunately, as a commercially run company, this would not be viable for us to provide without financial support. As you will know, currently the only option is to take service 6 to Gorleston and change there onto a service to the Hospital, but I appreciate this is inconvenient. The service from Belton into the Hospital has been a direct result of the new link road between the A143 and the A47 opening, which meant that a reasonably direct route from Belton, via the JPH and Gorleston to Yarmouth could be provided. The position and geography of Bradwell mean that the same would not apply.

The you for getting in touch with us and I am sorry that this is probably not the answer you were looking for. Once things return to some sort of 'normal' after Covid, I am sure that we will be examining service provision across the network, but, as I said, unfortunately I do not think that a Bradwell to James Paget Hospital link is something that would be sustainable for us to provide without some form of financial support.

Network Manager, First Eastern Counties'

e) Minutes 29th September 2020 - Item 7). A 50/50 funding application was submitted on 1st December 2020. It was made very clear that this Parish Council does not own the land in question, and should no further progress be made as to ownership, then this application cannot go forward.

The piece of land in question is not registered at Land Registry. It is not owned by Great Yarmouth Borough Council, nor Persimmon, who built the neighbouring houses and whose records do not go back far enough to show who they purchased the land from. The owners of the former nurseries have been contacted by Cllr Carrier and further enquiries are being made.

UK Power Networks and Northumbria Water both have an interest in the land, but having applied for the underground service maps of the area, both of these services do not cross directly under the parcel of land in question.

f) Minutes 29th September 2020 - Item 10). The stonemason amended the incorrect name on the War Memorial on 17th October 2020 free of charge. A photograph of the amendment has been sent to the relative who raised the query, and he is happy with the rectification work. A thank you gift was sent to the stonemason in October 2020.

g) Minutes 29th September 2020 - Item 11). The SAM 2 was installed on Green Lane on 13th October 2020. Cllr Comer and the Clerk showed the representative of Westcotec the proposed sites around Bradwell who agreed that the SAM2 can be positioned at the following places:

No	Location		Direction
1	Green Lane	Corner of St Nicholas Gardens	Pointing towards traffic from Beccles Road
2	Lords Lane	By footpath to school	Pointing towards traffic from Burgh Castle
3	Homefield Ave	Just after the junction to Briar Ave	Pointing towards traffic from Mill Lane
4	Beaufort Way	The Bradwell end	Pointing towards traffic from Gorleston
5	Beaufort Way	The Bradwell end	Pointing towards traffic from Belton
6	Laurel Drive	Prior to corner with Willow Ave	Pointing towards traffic from Lords Lane
7	Willow Avenue	Prior to corner with Laurel Drive	Pointing towards traffic from Mill Lane
8	Mill Lane	Opposite junction to Mill Lane CC	Pointing towards traffic from South
9	Mill Lane	Opposite junction to Mill Lane CC	Pointing towards traffic from North
10	Primrose Way	South side of playing field	Pointing towards traffic from South
11	Primrose Way	South side of playing field	Pointing towards traffic from North

The Clerk obtained written confirmation from Highways for permission to use their lamp posts in the above locations. Permission was also granted from Highways to put the SAM2 opposite Tesco on Beccles Road. Unfortunately, the lamp posts there are too large for our brackets to attach to. Permission to put the SAM2 on Burgh Rd by the roundabout has now been granted.

The Caretaker has a schedule of when to change the battery (on a 2-weekly basis) and when to move the SAM2 to its next location (on a 4-weekly basis).

h) Football

Football has been sporadic since the start of the season. Prior to January, some games were cancelled due to players having COVID. Since January no games have been played. Payments received this season are:

Gorleston Spitfires: 100%

Prostars FC 50%

Hopton FC 50%

Part repayment may need to be considered.

i) CCTV.

a) The Camera overlooking the play area was vandalised in December. A quote to repair is awaited along with a cage to surround the camera to mitigate any future vandalism.

b) Police & Gorleston CCTV hub

PC Lay Flurrie is chasing up the quote to connect the Council's CCTV system to Gorleston's main CCTV hub.

j) New Footpath between Belton and Bradwell on New Road

The footpath has been finished to a very high standard, but there is no edging between the hedge and the path, which may cause problems in the near future. Cllr Andy Grant has contacted Highways about the situation and received the below answer:

'Norpath' was used for the surface for the cycle path, this is a relatively new product which has the benefit of being laid in a single layer (binder and surface courses are combined) rather than the standard two layers. This product is generally machine laid, and as such, creates a solid edge which replaces the need for edgings, hence edgings have been omitted. We have utilised this product at various sites around the County, most recently on the Wymondham to Hethersett cycle way which was completed last year and received positive feedback from both the construction team and members of the public.

Cllr Grant will monitor the situation.

k) Crime

Incidents reports since last Amenities & Highways Committee meeting:

Date	Who Reported	Reported Activity	Action
30-Sep-20 to 14-Jan-20	Resident	15 * Antisocial behaviour reports at Green Lane car park	Sent CCTV clips to police where possible
19-Oct-20	Caretaker	Two trees - criminal damage in Gipsies Green.	Reported to police 19/10. Police said there is nothing they can do unless CCTV footage found, or somebody confesses. Crime no. 36/73772/90
15-Jan-21	Caretaker	Graffiti in bus shelter opp. Sun Inn	Reported to police 15/1 via website, crime number 36/2964/21. Sent photo.

With regard to the possibility of a barrier at the entrance to Green Lane car park three quotes are in the process of being obtained for the following three different scenarios:

1. Costs to erect a manual barrier
2. Costs for company to open and close manual barrier 7 days a week
3. Costs to erect an electronic barrier

Three companies visited site last year but the Covid-19 lockdowns have delayed progress.

Councillors stressed the importance of residents dialling 999 at the time the ASB is taking place.

The monthly crime figures sent by the police never show the ASB at Green Lane car park and differ from the Police UK website figures. When queried, the below response was received:

'The Newsletters are meant to be a Snap shot, there are actually 43 Crime Categories; the 16 Categories in the Newsletters were selected by the Senior Management Team as the most useful to parishes for their crime statistics.'

When queried why Bradwell South figures are included in Southern Villages, not Bradwell as a whole, the below response was received:

'The reason why it falls in Southern Villages in the Parish Newsletters is because across Norfolk each district is made up of Safer Neighbourhood Areas (SNTs) and Bradwell South falls under this SNT area. The Parish Newsletters are formed on the basis of these areas.'

l) Litter

Regular complaints are received about litter, especially in the area between The Sun Inn up to and along Beaufort Way as there are no litter bins on that route. GYBC were due to undertake a litterbin audit (re-positioning non-used bins into other more frequently used areas), but lockdown has postponed this project.

m) Trees on Beccles Road

In June 2020 a resident reported that two trees were destroyed during routine grass cutting between Burton's Farm and the roundabout on Beccles Road. These were replaced by the County Council in January 2021.

2102-A19) ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION AND RESOLUTION

a) The land at Church Walk

Great Yarmouth Borough Council has confirmed this land is not available for a Community Asset Transfer. Should this Council take on the lease, there would be expense to maintain the land and legally the covenants may still be overturned. Given the Borough Council have very recently planted four trees on this area and it is always kept tidy, it was **resolved that this Council does not take up the offer of leasing this land, on the basis that the extra maintenance with no additional financial resource would be an additional burden that is not sustainable by this Council.**

b) Football at Green Lane playing field

The COVID-19 pandemic has meant many football matches have not been able to take place this season. It was **resolved to offer a pro-rata discount on next season's fees. If the team are not going to use these facilities next year a pro-rata refund will be offered.**

c) Proposal to fit guard frame on CCTV camera overlooking playground

This particular camera has been damaged twice in the last 6 months. It was **resolved to fit a guard frame around this CCTV camera provided it is at a 'reasonable cost'.**

d) Formal system of waste disposal

A discussion took place regarding the current informal process for disposing of green waste generated by footpath and hedge maintenance. Three firms were invited to quote for a 1100 ltr lockable wheelie bin into which the caretaker could put green waste, general waste and recyclables. The best option for this council's circumstances would be to hire a 1100ltr wheelie bin at £78 per annum, plus £21.85 per lift on an adhoc basis. There would be no minimum lifts in the year, so having three lifts per year, would cost £144 per annum.

The waste firm would remove anything recyclable and the remainder of the waste would be used to produce bales used as RDF (Refuse Derived Fuel) for an incineration facility which produces energy from waste. It was **resolved to recommend the expenditure of a formal system of waste disposal to the Finance Committee.**

e) Asbestos at Beccles Road Allotments

Advice received from this Council's insurers and lawyers was sent to all committee members with this meeting's agenda, detailing this Council's legal responsibilities and obligations. A sample has proved the material in question is Chrysotile (white) asbestos.

The legal advice was summarised as:

- 1) An allotment tenant is responsible for any asbestos on their plot, regardless if they brought the material to site originally;
- 2) This Council cannot let an empty plot if it contains asbestos;
- 3) This Council must put a plan in place to find a way forward to make the asbestos safe.

All councillors present understood the legal position. A lengthy discussion took place regarding the best way to move this issue forward.

It was resolved that if any plot become available, it needs to be inspected for asbestos before it can be re-let to a tenant. This can take place by a member of this Committee or a member of the Allotment Advisory Committee. A plot cannot legally be re-let which contains any asbestos material.

It was resolved to amend the current Tenancy Agreement with a codicil to incorporate a clarification on the use/re-use and transfer of exiting asbestos on the allotments for new tenants.

It was resolved that Cllrs Carrier, Hirst and Macdonald will meet the Beccles Road Allotment Advisory Committee members, once restrictions allow, to draw up a plan of the site, marking up the areas where this asbestos material is situated.

f) Beccles Road allotments road way

The roadway on the allotments near the entrance is currently muddy and slippery. A quotation to make good has been received for 6 tonnes of Type 1 granite at £221.40. It is impossible to park on Beccles Road, so cars need to park on site. As owners of the land, this Council is responsible for maintaining safety. It was **resolved to accept the quote of £221.40 for 6T on Type 1 granite. The allotment holders will organise the delivery and lay the material.** The legal power is the Small Holding and Allotments Act 1908, s23.

2102-A20) ITEMS FOR CORRESPONDENCE AND INFORMATION ONLY

1) The trees on Gipsies Green have not been coppiced for a couple of years. A resident has asked when this will next take place. Cllr Howlett has explained to the Clerk that 1/3 of the trees are usually coppiced each year, so the whole area is coppiced on a three-yearly cycle. This did not take place in 2020 due to COVID-19 complications and restrictions. Once restrictions are lifted Cllr Howlett will meet the Clerk on site to move this forward.

There being no other business, the meeting closed at 8.18pm

Signed: Date: