

The Jubilee Room Braywood Memorial Hall Fifield Road Fifield SL6 2NX

Tel: 01628 777997

Web: www.brayparishcouncil.gov.uk

Twitter: @parishbray

Minutes of the Meeting held at 7.30pm on Monday 28th February 2022 at Braywood Memorial Hall

Present:

Bray Ward: Cllr S Cross, Cllr K Elvin (Chairman), Cllr C Graham, Cllr B Millin,

Cllr M Pierce,

Fisheries Ward: No Councillor present

Holyport Ward: Cllr L Kneen, Cllr L Walters, Cllr D Wilson

Dedworth Ward: Cllr N Pellew
Oakley Green and Fifield Ward: Cllr N Marsh
Clerk: Mrs. S Cook
Deputy Clerk: Ms. E Cope

Member of the public 1

095/2021 Chairman's request

The Chairman requested all mobile devices be switched off for the duration of the meeting and reminded all in attendance of the fire safety regulations for the venue.

096/2021 Apologies for absence, declarations of Interest and Dispensations

Apologies were received from Cllr J Glover and Cllr J Phillips.

No declarations of interest or dispensation were received.

097/2021 Health and Safety

The Clerk reported that following review of the ARD Playground Ltd, monthly inspection report, the swing on Aysgarth park play area had been removed as deemed unsafe. Cllrs to discuss options for replacement at the next Land Management meeting.

098/2021 Minutes from previous meeting

The minutes of the meeting held on 17th January 2022 were declared to be a true and accurate record.

099/2021 Co-Option Interviews

Mr Tariq introduced himself to the Council, explaining his reasons for applying. Councillors were then invited to ask questions regarding his application. Cllr Elvin proposed to co-opt Mr Tariq, Cllr Graham seconded. 7 Cllrs approved and 3 abstained.

The Clerk to provide the necessary documents and training information to Mr Tariq following the meeting. 100/2021 Public Question Time

There were no questions from the public, the meeting continued without adjournment.

101/2021 Clerks Briefing

The Clerk detailed upcoming RBWM training opportunities for Cllrs, noting regular training ensures their knowledge base is current. Particularly important re: recent approval of the Borough Local Plan. RBWM CIL online system is now fully functioning, although the promised A308 study scheduled for release on Tuesday 1st March, has yet to be received. The online report-it system still fails to be fully efficient.

102/2021 Ratification of Decisions delegated to the Clerk

Cllr Elvin proposed the Council ratify the following decisions delegated to the Clerk, seconded Cllr Graham, vote unanimous.

Payment of the January payments list at a total of £13,554.07 which included VAT of £610.32.

The sharing of the Air Quality report as requested by the Traffic and Highways Committee on 31st January.

The Clerk provided details of some of the responses received from the release of the Air Quality report.

103/2021 Strategy Committee

Councillors received a report of the meeting held on 8th December 2021.

Cllr Kneen noted that she was unable to access the meeting on time, so missed some items.

103.1 Approval of polices

Cllrs were requested to review the following policies prior to the meeting.

- Hire of Village greens
- General Data Protection Policy
- Training and Development Policy
- Community Engagement Strategy

Cllr Graham noted he was unable to view on Sharepoint some information, requesting assistance from the Clerk to resolve the issue. Cllr Pierce requested an amendment to the Hire of Village Green policy, a change of wording from Bray Road to High Street, all agreed. A request to include planning with the Training and Development policy within Code of Conduct was agreed.

Cllr Elvin proposed to approve the polices with the exception of Community Engagement, which would be returned to the Strategy Committee for further consideration prior to approval. Vote unanimous.

104/2021 Parish Finance

Councillors received a report of the meeting held on 15th December 2021.

The Clerk noted the requirement to publicly display the meeting agendas on the Parish noticeboards and website. The office will provide and display a poster advising residents of their right to access the information and directing them to the website and/or office.

104.1 Approval of policy

Councillors considered the recommendation of the Finance Committee to approve the Investment Strategy.

Cllr Elvin proposed to approve, Cllr Wilson seconded. Vote 9 for, 0 against, 1 abstained.

104.2 Accounts to December 2021

The Clerk circulated a copy of the accounts to December 2021 to all Cllrs prior to the meeting. There were no comments.

104.3 Expenditure requests

The Clerk advised the Cllrs that tree safety works at Holyport Green, Springfield Park and Lonsdale Gardens were required to remove diseased trees, particularly Ash.

Cllr Wilson proposed to approve the expenditure, Cllr Kneen seconded. Vote unanimous.

105/2021 HR Committee

105.1 Office staffing

Cllr Elvin confirmed the appointment of Ms Esther Cope as replacement Clerk and the resignation of Mrs J Bailey. The Cllrs thanked Mrs Bailey for her service.

105.2 Approval of Policy

Councillors considered the recommendation of the HR Committee to approve the Sickness Policy. Cllr Elvin proposed, Cllr Walters seconded, vote unanimous.

106/2021 Land Management Committee

A report of the meeting held on 24th January 2022 was received.

107/2021 Traffic and Highways Committee

A report of the meeting held on 31st January 2022 was received.

107.1 Air Quality Monitoring Report

The Clerk has received several responses to the recently released report and noted that Bray Parish Council has offered to work RBWM by continuing to monitor and report findings. Cllrs were requested to submit their thoughts for new monitoring sites to the office.

108/2021 Flood Working Group

A report of the meetings held on 10th January 2022 and 21st February 2022 was provided. Cllr Kneen is actively attending RBWM Flood Meetings, in an effort to raise the profile of Bray parish concerns.

109/2021 General Matters

109.1 Annual Electors Meeting

Councillors considered topics for the Annual Electors Meeting. It was suggested a June date, which would be decided and circulated to all by the office. Cllrs agreed that air quality and flooding would be the lead topics, with the opportunity to invite prominent speakers.

109.2 Remote/Hybrid Meetings

It was agreed that Bray Parish Council would support the petition launched by ADSO and LLG on 5th January with regard to remote and hybrid meetings. A letter would be written to the Secretary of State for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities calling on the Government to change the law to allow councils the flexibility to hold such meetings when they deem appropriate within agreed rules and procedures.

109.3 Return to face-to-face committee meetings

The Clerk detailed the requirement for the Council to return to face-to-face meetings with effect 1st April 2022. Committees would be assessed on a case-by-case basis. All agreed.

109.4 The Queen's Platinum Jubilee

Councillors considered projects to celebrate the Queens' Platinum Jubilee. The Clerk requested Cllrs contact schools and care homes within their Ward to establish requirement for celebratorily mugs. It was agreed to plant rose beds and order a limited number of Royal British Legion signs for display.

110/2021 Bray and the Fisheries

Nothing to report.

110.1 Bray Cut – Maidenhead to the Thames

Cllr Graham gave a short Power Point presentation, detailing plans proposed by Friends of Maidenhead Waterways. The next meeting will be on 2nd March. Cllrs were reminded of the need to consider Bray Parish Councils' riparian ownership within the boundary of Jubilee Field.

110.2 Applications to use Bray Green

Approval was unanimous for use of Bray Green for parking by attendees of the Littleme pre-school Carnival on 22nd May 2022.

Cllr Cross detailed a series of events planned to celebrate the Queens' Platinum Jubilee beginning on Thursday 2nd June. They included a request to light a beacon on Bray Green, which would be gas lit and a temporary structure. Cllr Cross was advised to contact the RBWM conservation officer to obtain necessary permission. Cllr Kneen offered to email the contact details for the relevant officer.

111/2021 Holyport

Cllr Wilson provided dates for a series of events, including a Cinema evening 11th March, Race Night 1st April along with plans for Jubilee celebrations.

111.1 Applications to use Holyport Green

Cllrs considered approval for the use of Holyport Green (Pebblescourt area only) for overflow parking on Saturday 4th June between 11:30am and 18:00pm during an event to be held at Holyport Community Trust. Cllr Wilson proposed, Cllr Kneen seconded, vote unanimous.

The approval for the use of Holyport Green for a picnic on Friday 3rd June 2022 was agreed in principle by Cllrs. With 1 Cllr abstaining from voting. The Chairman requested the Holyport Cllrs request further information on timings and nature of the event and report at the next meeting.

112/2021 Fifield and Oakley Green

Cllr Pellew reported a recently advertised 'drop in' event for Oakley Green Mushroom Farm on Saturday 5th March. Plans are being presented for between 20-25 dwellings.

113/2021 Chairman's Business

The Chairman, Clerk and Deputy Clerk recently attended the RBWM Chairs and Clerks meeting. To date the resulting presentation has not been shared by RBWM.

114/2021 DALC Update

There being no recent meeting of DALC, Cllr Graham requested Cllrs provide topics for discussion at the next Main Council meeting.

115/2021 RBWM Update

Cllr Walters provided a report in his capacity as RBWM Ward Councillor. The RBWM budget and BLP have recently been approved. Borough Taxpayers' will see their council tax bill rise by nearly three per cent this year as part of the 2022/23 budget. Cllr Kneen expressed the feeling that Parish Councils are a valuable resource, yet appear to be ignored and undervalued by the Borough.

116/2021 Correspondence

The Clerk informed Cllrs of correspondence received.

117/2021 Local Government Act 1972 Exclusion of the public

The Chairman moved that under Section 100(A)(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the public be excluded from the remainder of the meeting.

120/2021 Date of next meeting

The date of the next meeting will be Monday 11th April 2022.

The meeting was closed at 9:20pm.