

Minutes of the Meeting held at 7:02pm Monday 14th August 2023 held at the Braywood Memorial Hall

Present:

Bray Ward:	Cllr S Cross, Cllr K Elvin (Chairman), Cllr J Filipczak-Korczak, Cllr C Graham, Cllr M Pierce
Fisheries Ward:	Cllr J Phillips
Holyport Ward:	Cllr B Tavinor, Cllr D Wilson
Dedworth Ward:	No Councillor present
Oakley Green and Fifield Ward:	Vacant Seat
Clerk:	Ms. E Cope

051/2023 Chairman's request

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

052/2023 Apologies for absence, declarations of Interest and Dispensations

Apologies were received from Cllr Glover and Cllr Walters.

Cllr Wilson declared an interest in item 059.001 as a current trustee of Holyport Community Trust.

Cllr Graham declared an interest in item 064/2023 as a current tenant of Bray Allotment.

053/2023 Health and Safety

The Clerk reported no accidents.

The ARD Playground report for July was circulated prior to the meeting.

054/2023 Minutes from previous meeting

The minutes of the meeting held on 3rd July 2023 were approved as a true and accurate record.

055/2023 Public Question Time

There being no members of the public present, the meeting continued without adjournment.

056/2023 Co-Option

The Clerk advised no new applications for co-option.

Councillors discussed options for encouraging new members. The Clerk advised that photographs of Councillors taken by Bob Simpson, Maidenhead Camera Club on the 7th August were now ready for addition to the parish website and along with a short write up would be added to the 6 parish noticeboards over the next few weeks.

Meeting locations were discussed, with a suggestion from Cllr Tavinor to rotate the venue in an attempt to encourage more residents to attend. Clerk to investigate and report at the next meeting.

057/2023 Clerks Briefing

Nationwide Building Society have launched an online business banking system, which the Clerk is now using.

Deputy Clerk Brian Inglis will soon be completing online planning training and Clerks' Assistant Dawn Hampshire is due to attend a two-day online cemetery management training course. The Clerk continues with CiLCA training, but due to the office workload progress is slow and an extension will be requested.

The Clerk requested a representative to attend the RBWM webinar on Wednesday 20th September, where speakers will advise on the new Berkshire local nature recovery strategy. Cllr Cross kindly offered to attend and will report at the next meeting.

The tennis court is currently undergoing refurbishment with hedge cutting, weeding, a new net and supporting posts due to be fitted during August.

The Clerk advised that tennis bookings had significantly increased since the launch of the online booking system, which incurs a transaction fee of £0.29 per booking, a significant reduction in staffing costs from the previous manual system.

The Clerk would like to thank Guy Chalis for completing the refurbishment of 9 benches throughout the parish.

No update to the Local Government Pay Claim 2023-24, further information to be provided at the next meeting.

058/2023 Traffic and Highways Committee

Cllr Cross provided a report from the Traffic and Highways Committee meeting 24th July 2023, noting that the community speed watch scheme is now gathering pace, with the first official meeting held at the Bray village hall.

Several other local speedwatch groups are being encouraged to join the group, to ensure knowledge is shared along with available equipment. Thames Valley Police are working in conjunction with the group, which is positive.

The BPC funded Automatic Speed Watch Camera and Speed Indicator Devices are now ready for use, Simone Surveys will be instructed on locations and movement requirements during the next week. Clerk to Action.

Cllr Cross reported that several residents of Coningsby Lane attended the meeting to discuss issues with ongoing planning applications and HGV traffic, which are damaging verges and the road surface, along with causing a danger to walkers, cyclists, and horse riders. BPC continue to liaise with RBWM to try and find a solution.

059/2023 Finance Committee

In the absence of the Finance Chairman, the Clerk provided a report from the Finance Committee Meeting 26th July 2023.

Q1 April to June 2023 finance reports and bank statements were approved, along with consideration of ongoing and future budget requirements. The committee approved to complete a full review at the end of Q2, with any request for revision of expenditure to be presented to Main Council at the first available meeting thereafter.

Cllr Wilson left the meeting prior to the consideration of the grant application from Holyport Community Trust.

059.001 To consider grant request for £2,000 from Holyport Community Trust

Councillors considered and approved a grant of £1,000.00

Proposed Cllr Elvin Seconded Cllr Graham Vote All

Cllr Wilson returned to the meeting.

059.002 To consider grant request for £2,500 from Braywood Memorial Hall

Councillors considered and approved a grant of £2,500.00

Proposed Cllr Elvin Seconded Cllr Wilson Vote All

060/2023 BALC and DALC update

Cllr Wilson confirmed no update from BALC.

Cllr Elvin as elected Vice-Chairman of DALC noted that he intends to call a meeting of during September, the Clerk is currently drawing up a list of parish representatives.

061/2023 Bray and the Fisheries

Cllr Graham reported that the updated Bray, Holyport Village and Maidenhead Riverside Conservation Area leaflet had been recently circulated throughout Bray village. An electronic copy of the leaflet will be made available via the parish website and social media, with paper copies available from the parish office.

Cllr Pierce advised that well-known Bray resident Mr Robert Howes had recently passed away. Mr Howes was not only a long-term resident of Bray but for many years a parish councillor.

Cllr Elvin and the Clerk agreed to attend the funeral at St Michale's church, Bray on the 24th August.

Cllr Cross reported on the Bray village hall AGM, passing on thanks from the hall trustees for the grant provided. Several events are being planned, including Halloween details of which will be available in due course.

062/2023 Holyport

Cllr Tavinor noted that the children's fair on Holyport green was well run with the area left clean and free of litter.

The Clerk advised that RBWM have given permission to remove the two diseased trees on the main green, with the proviso that replacements are in position prior to the end of February 2024. Quotes have been requested from John Train Nursery, with delivery for November.

Cllr Tavinor requested the Traffic and Highways Committee discuss concerns regarding the slip road from the Ascot road A330 to Holyport Street. Vehicles often use this narrow side road as a cut through putting pedestrians, cyclists, and horse riders at risk. Deputy Clerk to Action.

062.001 Report from Clerk, lease Gays Lane Recreation Ground

The Clerk advised that the current owner of Camusfearna had removed the hedge from behind the boundary fence, between Gays Lane Recreation Ground and their property, which was subject to planning application 23/00104 dated 13th January 2023.

At the request of the property owner, Cllr Elvin and the Clerk visited the site to check the condition of the fence, which spans around 40 meters in length. Overall, the condition is relatively good, however some posts require replacement. Clerk to arrange contractor to visit the site to quote and to update the resident.

063/2023 Fifield, Oakley Green and Dedworth

No Councillor present.

The Clerk advised a successful Fifield Fun Day, despite regular showers.

064/2023 Chairman's Business

The Chairman announced the creation of 5 new allotment plots at Gays Lane, also an area with hard standing to be created for lorry and skip access. Action Clerks' Assistant to contact those on the waiting list.

Cllr Graham requested a full-size skip for each allotment site, for 2024. Clerk to include the request at the next meeting of the Land Management Committee.

065/2023 RBWM Update

Cllr Cross reported that the new administration is taking positive steps to improve communication and resources, however noting that funds are extremely limited for new projects.

Cllr Cross was pleased to report judging alongside the Mayor, Borough in Bloom for Bray Parish. Results to be posted in due course.

066/2023 Correspondence and General Matters

The owner of Londis, Stroud Farm has reported to the Parish office rough sleeping within the vicinity of the shop, along with several incidences of antisocial behaviour. The Clerk has reported these to RBWM Wardens office and Thames Valley Police, advising the owner to do the same.

067/2023 Date of next meeting Monday 25th September 2023 at 7:00pm