

**DRAFT MINUTES OF THE MEETING
OF BULKELEY AND RIDLEY PARISH COUNCIL
HELD ON TUESDAY 8TH DECEMBER 2020
AT 7.30 PM IN BICKERTON VILLAGE HALL**

Present: - Councillors Idina Hastings, Peter Groves, Mike Hassall, Jonathan Knight, Jane McRae, James Weddell.

CEC Cllr Stan Davies. Mrs Ruth Shackleton (Clerk).

No members of the public attended the meeting.

1. APOLOGIES

Councillor. Linda Gaden, Nadine Hunter.

2. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

Councillors were invited to declare pecuniary or non-pecuniary interests arising from matters on the agenda. None were declared.

3. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

Resolved:- That the Council approve the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 9th September 2020 as a true and proper record.

Proposed by Cllr Knight and seconded by Cllr Hastings.

4. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

4.1 The Laurels:- ongoing issue with level of noise associated with works at the site.

4.2 Overhead Lines:- The overhead lines at the Marl Pitt are telephone lines; it is the responsibility of the landowner to cut back any trees affecting the lines.

4.3 Layby:- The Clerk is to contact Laura Crane to follow up the enquiry regarding the layby.

5. OPEN FORUM

There was no consideration of this item.

6. FINANCIAL REPORT

6.1 To accept and approve the following payments:-

The Council approved the following payments:-

Chq No	Date	Reason	Amount
275	08/12/20	Running Costs	£ 22.20
276	08/12/20	Bickerton Village Hall (Room Hire)	£ 27.50
277	08/12/20	Replace missing cheque to CHALC (Chq No 264)	£ 115.92

The Clerk was paid by Standing Order.

Receipts:-

Precept:- None received

Reconciled balance at bank as at 02/11/20:- £4,667.64

Resolved:- The above payments were approved.

Proposed by Cllr Groves and seconded by Cllr Hassall.

6.2 To consider any donation(s) to charity:-

Resolved:- The Council agreed to donate £100.00 to North West Ambulance and to donate £100.00 to First Responders.

Proposed by Cllr Groves and seconded by Cllr Knight.

- 6.3 To agree and set precept for 2021 - 22 financial year (see attachment B):-
Resolved:- The Council agreed to set the precept at £4,258.00 for the 2021 – 2022 financial year.
Proposed by Cllr Knight and seconded by Cllr Hastings.
- 6.4 To consider membership of CHALC:-
Resolved:- The Council agreed to renew its CHALC membership in the 2021 – 2022 financial year.
Proposed by Cllr Hastings and seconded by Cllr Groves.

7. **PLANNING UPDATE**

Planning Register

- See the Planning Applications register for details of all applications received.
- 20/4947N and 20/4946N Bulkeley Methodist Church:- The Clerk is to write to Planning to enquire why there have been further two planning applications submitted for the Church.
- Land Off Mill Lane:- Reserved matters have been approved, Planning at CEC have not taken into consideration drainage issues and the right of way.

8. **HIGHWAYS**

Cllr Hastings updated the meeting:-

- Speedwatch has resumed.
- A resident's concerns regarding parking and speeding traffic near Bulkeley Hall have been forwarded to Bickerton Parish Council as it falls in their parish.
- Visibility at the junction on Mill Lane and the A534:- The Council expressed concerns regarding the visibility at the end of Mill Lane. The Clerk is to contact Highways at CEC for further advice regarding what can be done.

9. **VILLAGE MAINTENANCE**

Nothing to report.

10. **WEBSITE**

Cllr Weddell made a presentation to the Council about the new website accessibility legislation and what is required by the Council to ensure that the Council's website complies (see attached for full report).

Cllr Weddell is to carry out a Basic Accessibility Check of the website.

There are approximately 200 parish and town councils in Cheshire. Many do not have a website, and most that do have a site do not comply with the accessibility standards.

Cllr Weddell suggested that the Council contact ChaLC and request that they approach commercial operators with a view to negotiate a reduced package price which can then be offered to its members. This will likely result in lower overall precept claims and increase the prevalence of compliant websites.

A commercial partner could assist parish councils by:

- Reducing the technical burden on parish councils to establish and maintain websites.
- Reducing the cost of setting up and hosting a website.
- Where old sites are being replaced offer to move over the core content into the new platform.
- Ensure current and future standards compliance is delivered by the commercial partner rather than by individual clerks and councillors who have neither the skills nor the time.
- Allow councillors to focus on adding useful content to their websites rather than worrying about the technicalities.

- Increase transparency and resident engagement in civic life.
11. **TOASTING THE OAK**
Due to current restrictions the Council agreed to postpone the event.
 12. **BICKERTON VILLAGE HALL**
Cllr Hastings updated the meeting about the recent works at BVH.
 13. **BRASSEY MEMORIAL**
The Council agreed to shelf the project.
 14. **CLERKS REPORT**
Nothing further to report.
 15. **CORRESPONDENCE**
The list of correspondence received has been distributed to councillors.
 16. **NEXT MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL**
The date of next meeting is Tuesday 9TH February 2021

PART 2

Resolved:- The Council agreed to exclude press and members of the public to consider employment contacts. Proposed by Cllr Groves and seconded by Cllr McRae.

1. REVIEW CLERKS SALARY FOR THE 2021 – 2022 FINANCIAL YEAR

Resolved:- The Clerk is currently on SCP 21 of the NALC National Salary Award. The Council agreed to for the Clerk to progress to scale SCP 22 at a rate of £14.05 per hour with effect from 1st April 2021. Proposed by Cllr Groves and seconded by Cllr McRae.

Website:- www.bulkeleyandridley.org.uk