**BRAFIELD ON THE GREEN PARISH COUNCIL**

Mrs V. Hartley, Clerk to the Council,

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Gill Morgan, Chair to the Council,

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**Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting
Sargeant Memorial Hall 21st November 2018 at 7:30pm**

**Present:** Cllr G Morgan (GM)

Cllr T Barnell (TB)

Cllr H Barnell (HB)

Cllr D Allingham (DA)

Cllr K Ward (KW)

Cllr Francoise Copsey (FC)

2 members of the public

1. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Cllr M Clarke (NCC), Cllr C Clarke & Cllr S Hollowell (SNC), Cllr S Dorey,

Clerk V Hartley

1. **MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR**

The last month has proven difficult for the Parish Council as its clerk, Viv Hartley was diagnosed with an illness mid October, and then was immediately hospitalised for emergency brain surgery. Chair Morgen has liaised with NCALC’s D. Mooney to define correct processes and procedures during this time. For this meeting the PC nominate deputy chair, Cllr Allingham will act as unpaid Clerk and proper officer of the PC. Clerk VH is at home and although she is not able to come to the meeting she has been able to complete any council related administrative tasks relating to the meeting .

Cllr GM brings into the meeting a request under FOI. As the clerk is not available to take action, Cllr KW will support this task with Clerk VH or Chair GM.

Cllr GM introduces Francoise Copsey as the candidate to be co-opted onto the council. Cllr KW proposes and Cllr HB seconds to co-opt FC onto the council. FC to complete paperwork tomorrow as Chair omitted to bring it to the meeting

1. **MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING** – These were corrected and signed as a true record of the meeting.
2. **DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS** – To receive declarations made under the Council’s Code of Conduct related to business on the agenda. (Members should disclose any interests in the business to be discussed and are reminded that the disclosure of a pecuniary interest will require that the member withdraws from the meeting room during the transaction of that item of business).

None was declared.

2 members of the public join the meeting.

1. **PUBLIC** - Members of the public are invited to address the Parish Council on issues on this agenda, or raise issues for future consideration at the discretion of

the Chairman. The session will last for a maximum of 15 minutes, each member of the public may speak for a maximum of 3 minutes. Discussion may take place, decisions can only be made on items already included on the agenda. Members of the public may not take part in any other part of the Parish Council meeting.
The 2 members of the public expressed no desire to address the Parish Council on any matters.

1. **MATTERS FOR REPORT – NOT COVERED BY AGENDA** – Cllr HB enquired after the planned autumn litter pick. Cllr DA informed the PC that this did not take place due to time limitations however she will now plan for a spring village litter pick.

The new Village Hopper timetable is now available in the town tourist information centre and Cllr HB has dropped the timetable off at village shops. Passengers on the bus are also been given new timetables. Cllr HB said the bus passengers had been approached for feed-back and most are happy with the new timetable with shortened intervals. The new bus will be coloured red which will be more recognisable. A new clause will be added that abusive passengers will be removed from the vehicle and declined further entrance.

Councillors are not sure, so Cllr HB will check if there is an up to date timetable in the bus shelter.

Cllr TB questions if the new bus shelter cleaner is working satisfactory – Cllr GM answers affirmative.

Cllr HB informs the councillors that she now has the new stickers for the litter bins that the parish council have adopted. Cllr GM to make out cheque to Addison Print £30 +VAT for printing. Invoice is still outstanding, Cllr HB to contact supplier.

Cllr GM informs meeting that the remainder of the 2018 Parish Council Precept has gone into the new Lloyds bank account which we will now be using for future business.

1. **DISTRICT AND COUNTY COUNCIL MATTERS AND REPORTS IF AVAILABLE -** Reports from Cllr Clarke & Cllr Hollowell attached at end of these minutes.

Cllr GM to forward reports to Cllr HB for possible items of interest for the Village Newsletter.

1. **PLANNING MATTERS** – Strategic AND Local

Local – planning matters occurring between meetings dealt with and ratified at this meeting:

S/2018/2393/FUL – commented with no Objections

S/2018/2416/FUL – comments attached to the minutes – PC Objected on many of the same grounds as the previous application.

S/2018/2429/HPD – withdrawn, no requirement to comment,

Strategic

The consultation on the new homes’ bonus – NCALC Danny Moody email 21/11/2018, describes that there is an intention to redefine the bonus gratuity structure from each council having their own bonus amount to spend to a cumulative amount for an area. This would result in a ‘first come, first serve’ situation. The councillors agree that they don’t believe this to be fair and that there is a probability that the larger councils will very soon exhaust the bonus for their large projects.

Cllr GM to complete consultation to reflect the opinion of the councillors.

CllrKW – local plan 2A raised awareness of elements of revised designated green space we may need to consider this in future.

Cllr HB wondered what could be done to encourage SNC to send out the Housing Needs Survey. It is now 9 months since the council stated that they would be sending out their questionnaire and Cllr HB would like to know the current status. Cllr GM agreed that the council is taking far too long and will approach Cllr Carole Clarke to see if she can get a response from Paul Brunige & Gillian Spencer from SNC as a matter of urgency.

1. **ESTATE MATTERS**

Footpaths: Cllr HB said that Richard Sheward & Jeff Marlow, have asked for a piece to be put into the village newsletter to thank the village residents who help to cut back hedges, clear weeds and litter and check the signages of our footpaths. Also, to ask dog-owners to be considerate and avoid dogs littering on paths and ask equestrians to take due care whilst riding on the footpaths. In addition, Cllr HB would like to express thanks of the PC for the good work that the Footpath Wardens do for the village. Cllr TB asked if horses were allowed on footpaths, Cllr KW answered that this is permitted with the landowners permission.

Green & Pond: As per Cllr HB’s email of 15/10, the Conservation volunteers (6 volunteers & a supervisor) came to clear out the pond. The Parish Council would like to thank Mark Arrowsmith for providing the trailer again and removing the pond spoils. Cllr HB has written to thank the TGV for their work.

Cllr KW will check the status of Anglia Water work upgrading the drains, with neighbouring residents who will know if this has solved any issues.

Cllr HB asks if there is any news regarding the duck laying boxes. Cllr GM said that the resident who had offered to do them has not forgotten them but had not had time to install them yet.

Play Area: Cllr DA informs that she has sent Mick Price, Remedial Co-ordinator on behalf of Wicksteed the list of items of the fort that need replacing. In October the 3 new picnic tables have been placed in the play area. Cllr HB asked how they have been secured. Cllr DA replied that the tables were built on site and that the supplier had stated that the tables are so heavy that it would be virtually impossible to lift them off site. The 2 village residents and the Church & Poors Land Trust will be thanks for their donations in the village newsletter.

For 2019 she would like to find grants to replace the swings and the bench. She has discussed with JS Landscapes that he could create a more attractive seating area if the bench was brought forward away from the fence and was placed on a small patio area. The councillors suggest that the village new homes bonus grant could be used for this. Cllr DA to request Jason Smith for a quote to replace the bench and improve the seating area.

General Estate Matters:

* War Memorial: An email has been received asking if it would be possible to have the lettering on the memorial improved. The council agree that the lettering could be improved, and Cllr DA will contact the Churchwarden to check whether the council would need a faculty for any work performed on the memorial as it is in the churchyard.

The council commented on the painted rocks that a young village resident had placed on the memorial for Remembrance Day which were very well thought of and received well by local residents. A picture of the stones has also been put on the Village Facebook page and have been received very well.

* Cllr HB mentions that the Ofcom rules have changed regarding nuisance calls and that she shall place a piece about this in the village newsletter.
1. **SOCIAL & COMMUNITY MATTERS**

Highways: Cllr TB informs that potholes have been repaired in Church Lane and on the Bedford Road in front of the village shop’s parking and on the opposite side of the road.

Cllr GM informed the PC that 2 mature trees have been removed from Furze Road. Unofficial reason given was that the roots were pushing out kerb stones and one of the trees had trunk fungus.

1. **COMMUNICATIONS**
2. CORRESPONDENCE - OUTGOING / INCOMING
	* 1. NCALC – Updates – circ
		2. South Northamptonshire Part 2 Local Plan- Invitation to Parish Council and Member Briefing Sessions taken place - circ
		3. NCALC - Friday mini e-Update - 02/11/18 - circ
		4. SNC Community Grants Consultation and New Authority Name Consultation - circ
		5. Northants CALC Training Opportunities – circ
		6. URGENT: Rough Sleeper Estimate 2018 for South Northamptonshire Council - Response Reminder –circ
		7. Northants Fire and Rescue - Safety messages and posters for local communities
		8. Northants CALC AGM - Streetscape Products and Services Limited

Nene Valley Help Sceme has sent a letter to inform the parish council that they currently have sufficient funds however they would welcome more drivers. Council suggest that they add a piece in the village newsletter.

1. NEWSLETTER – items for inclusion

Village Hopper Bus Service, Housing Needs Survey, Introduction of new parish councillor, New Ofcom rules, Cancelled Autumn litter pick, Alley Lane Play Area picnic tables, Nene Valley Help Scheme, Message from the Village Footpath wardens, War Memorial poppy stones and Denton School Christmas Fayre.

Cllr FC to email personal details to Cllr HB.

Cllr DA to send date & times of Denton School Christmas Fayre to Cllr HB

1. WEBSITE

The new Parish Council website has gone live and is now awaiting VH to return from sick leave to publish the historic data. There is still ongoing work required to complete the website such as photos and links. Cllrs HB, TB and KW will meet to work on the new website such as scanning material from the village website and historic documents.

Cllr GM requested that all councillors complete their bio on the new website using the log in details supplied by email asap.

With regard to the village website, Cllr TB informs that the Northampton School for Boys computer server has only been working sporadically so it has not been possible to download all data and update onto the new server. However it appears the old website has not been deleted completely. PC were not informed of this decision – Luckily Cllr TB had recently taken a full back up of it.

1. **FINANCES**

Cllr KW has received the cheque sent from Clerk VH and has signed it and reposted. The cheque is for the clerk’s new computer for Brafield on the Green parish work exclusively. The cost of the computer is £565.53 and should be included to this meeting’s list of financial transactions.

Payment Approvals:

NCLAC to act as GDPR Officer for parish council at a cost of £10, proposed Cllr KW and seconded Cllr HB.

Third share of Charles Arnold Baker manual full cost £103.99, proposed Cllr KW and seconded Cllr TB. Clerk VH to order.

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| **Payee**  | **Detail** | **Chq No** | **Total** | **Net**  | **Vat** | **A/C****Lloyds** |
| Green Leaf Garden Services Ltd | Play Area & hedgeInvs 1226, 1280 | 002 | 300.00 |  |  | Lloyds |
| B Osborne | Payroll services inv5654 jul-sep | 003 | 84.00 |  |  | Lloyds |
| PCC Northants | Newsletter printing | 004 | 20.99 |  |  | Lloyds |
| Brown and Barden | Village green grassInvs 4419,4435,4451 | 005 | 468.00 | 390.00 | 78.00 | Lloyds |
| Litter pick | Litter pick ofPlay area Jun - sept | 006 | 113.00 |  |  | Lloyds |
| Clerk | Salary June – Sept | 007 | 685.90 |  |  | Lloyds |
| Bus shelter cleaner | Salary sep/oct/nov | 008 | 234.00 |  |  | Lloyds |
| TCV | Pond maintenance | 009 | 300.00 | 250.00 | 50.00 | Lloyds |
| Clerk  | Salary Oct-Nov | 010 | 265.90 |  |  | lloyds |
| Addison Print | Labels for Grit bins | 011 | 36.00 | 30.00 | 6.00 | Lloyds |

Overall payment list above agreed for payment, proposed Cllr KW and seconded Cllr HB.

Cllr KW to sign transfer request for £7898.44 to be moved from NatWest’s Business Reserve Account to the Parish Council’s NW current account and then a cheque will be drawn to pay the balance in to Lloyds to close the NW account.

There is now the possibility to pay on-line with Lloyds however the council shall wait until Clerk VH has returned to work.

Cllr GM will sort out any outstanding banking issues with Clerk VH. With regard to NatWest, the council will be issuing a GDPR complaint because the bank has lost their personal details (on 2 occasions).

New dates for Parish Council Meeting, 2019

21/01/2019

18/03/2019

20/05/2019 – AGM & PC start 7 pm

15/07/2019

16/09/2019

18/11/2019

Cllr HB to contact Clerk VH to ensure dates are ok. If not new dates to be emailed round to Parish Cllrs

Cllr HB thanks Cllr GM on behalf of the council for all her hard work sorting out the transfer to the new website and the new bank account.

Cllr GM closes the meeting stating that the council is relieved that Clerk VH is now recuperating after being diagnosed with her medical issue and the subsequent emergency brain surgery.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 21.05hrs.