

BRAFIELD ON THE GREEN PARISH COUNCIL

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Gerald Couldrake, Chair to the Council

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting

Sargeant Memorial Hall 17th July 2024 at 7:30pm

Present: Mr G Couldrake Chairman
Mrs D Allingham Vice Chairman
Mrs C Nelson
Mrs G Morgan
Mr M Andrews
Mrs S Dorey
Cllr Andrew Grant, WNS
5 members of the public

1. **Apologies for Absence and Quorum** – Cllr Copsey
2. **Review of and Approval and signature of previous meeting's minutes** (22.5.24). – Minutes agreed and signed by the Chairman.
3. **Members Declarations of Interest on any Agenda items – Cllr Allingham** – re planning application – see below
4. **Questions from Parishioners in attendance (note 3 minutes per parishioner) – 4 parishioners had concerns about mowing in the village:**
 - 1. Thank you to Cllr Clarke for reporting to Fix my street for repairs, however concern that large amount of overgrowth on footpaths hits her in the face on mobility scooter and impedes safe access. Noted that Bridlepath has been trimmed by volunteer..
 - 2. Footpaths across private land, in particular the one across the pub field is impassable – this has been recently reported to Fix my Street and has been cleared.
 - 3. Green land at top of Billing Road leading to Bridle Close , hinders visibility in both directions, the Village sign is lost.
 - 4. Dog walker has same issues, offered to mow the areas of concern
 - Answer from Chairman was that PC has not budgeted to mow round the village. Monies have been spent on traffic calming – VAS device and dragons teeth and village gates as this was the biggest concern in the village. **Cllr Allingham** also said she could try for grant funding for maintenance of open community spaces. One of those present offered, if others wanted, to create a maintenance group for mowing etc. **Clerk** and **Chairman** will check insurance position of the Council owning a mower and public liability of the voluntary operator.
 - Cllr Grant suggested a walk around the village with the Highway Officers with residents to ascertain the areas which are particularly bad. Will fix a

Signed-----

Date-----

date. This will be followed up and some of those at the meeting may well attend.

- The Chairman pointed out that the PC has only one Footpath Warden so further wardens would be very helpful in keeping on top of the issues concerning Rights of Way.

5. West Northamptonshire Council Report – Cllr Grant

- New Bus route going to Tesco which is being well served.
- Market square due to open in September, Peacock Arcade to become night time attraction. Demolition of M and S and BHS due to take place.
- Childrens' services remain a large part of the expenses of the Council.
- Libraries are being well used.
- Cllr Morgan asked whether WNC was proposing to reduce car parking fees, stating that small businesses would benefit in a reduction so that people are attracted to the town centre.

6. Planning Applications for comment – see register below

7. Estate Matters:

- Footpaths – any issues for report
- Street lighting – any issues for report, Cllr Dorey to report any issues
- Pond – Chairman updated the meeting on flooding issue and ownership of land. Trust is going to apply to register land, as they now admit it is probably theirs. Frustration as this is the time to work to carry out the work.

8. Play Area – update - Any health and safety concerns, Annual inspection requested. **Clerk** to order finger grip from Wicksteed.

9. Highways

- Updates on Fix my Street reports – Pub field footpath now cut back
- Bin next to noticeboard requires repair - **Clerk** to report to Recycling Dept.
- Billing Road – traffic calming – installation of VAS device, now purchased, update on arrangements. **Clerk** to Chase both the VAS device and the WNC gates and Dragons teeth.

10. Finance

- Payments and Bank Reconciliation agreed (see annexed list) –

11. Website Enhancement – Council review - Cllrs Dorey and Allingham agreed to tidy website up, Clerk to send login details

12. Items for Village Newsletter – Chairman said he would send an update to Cllr Copsey. However Cllr Dorey agreed to produce this newsletter – 307 copies

13. Any other items for future meetings

Website enhancement/update

Possible new Chairman!

14. Summary of Action points for each Councillor.

Signed-----

Date-----

Chairman – Insurance position regarding voluntary mowing

SD / DA – website review

SD – will produce newsletter while Cllr Copsey is off. Cllr Nelson will forward delivery people

DA - mower grant and sort installation of Bins

CN – volunteer to attend walk round village re mowing

15. Date and time of next meeting - 18th September

Payments to be agreed at meeting on 17th July 2024

Payee	Detail	Total	Net	Vat	Ref
NetWise UK	Hosting, support and Maintenance of website	396.00	330.00	66.00	17
Morelock Signs (Paid 19.6.24)	New VAS	3825.60	3188.00	637.60	16
Green Leaf Gardening Services	Invs 2361 & 2392 – play area grass & hedge of play area	320.00	320.00	-	18
Brown and Barden	Invs 5407+5429 Green maintenance May and June	432.00	360.00	72.00	19
N Power	Supplies Apr – Jun	960.99	915.23	45.76	20
HMRC	Tax Apr - Jun	7.40			Chq 209/21
CPRE		36.00			22

Total £2152.39

Bank Reconciliation

- Balance current A/C at 10.7.24- £10097.11

Signed-----

Date-----

- Balance at 17.7.24 Less above payments £7944.72
- Balance on Deposit Account at 10.7.24 - £ 10209.01
- VAT claim to HMRC for year end 31.3.24 of £808.54 has been received
- £74.90 received from Jubilee Fund for Beacon plaque

Planning Applications since 22.5.24 –

<u>2024/3326/TCA</u>	6 Church Lane Brafield On The Green NN7 1BA	Height reduction to 1 x Hedge and removal of branches overhanging neighbouring property back to the boundary line. Council noted this is actually the Green	08/07/2024	Pending
<u>2024/3178/FULL</u>	28 Bridle Path Brafield The Green NN7 1BP	On New double garage with store	28/06/2024	Pending

Council had no issues with either application.

Signed-----

Date-----