##### LEIGH AND BRANSFORD PARISH COUNCIL

**Minutes of the meeting of Leigh and Bransford Parish Council held by Zoom at 7.00pm on Tuesday 23rd March 2021.**

Attended by Mr J Sharp (chairman), Mr D Fereday, Mr B Porter, Mr P Ralph, Mr G Jones, Mr M Hinchliffe, Mrs A Oliver, Mr R Husband, Mr N Cresswell, Mr P King

Cllr P Tuthill (WCC), Cllr S Rouse (MHDC), Cllr P Whatley (MHDC) (All part meeting), J Barker (clerk)

66/20 Apologies – Mr P Hawkins

67/20 a) Declarations of Disclosable Pecuniary Interests and any Other Disclosable Interests in items on the Agenda (personal and prejudicial - None

b) Notification of any changes to the Register of Interests – None

68/20 Minutes

The minutes of the conference call meeting held on 26 January 2021 had been circulated. Proposed by Mr Jones, seconded by Mr Husband, approved unanimously.

69/20 Reports from representatives of other bodies:

MHDC - Councillors Rouse and Whatley reported news from Malvern Hills District Council. The main focus is recovery after the impact of Covid-19. The success of the MHDC adopt-a-street volunteer litter picking scheme was noted.

WCC – Councillor Tuthill gave an update on county council matters, county health and fire services and the success of the vaccine programme. He noted he is awaiting a response from footpaths regarding the blocked footpath at Lambs Farm

70/20 Progress reports on ongoing issues

Road between Coles Green and Sandlin – The Lengthsman has carried out work and Cllr Tuthill has requested signage warning of the narrow road.

Grant for SIDS – The grant application has been submitted and the device is expected to be in place in early April.

Grit Bins – WCC will not replace the missing bin in Coles Green on the basis that there is insufficient land on which to site it, though Mrs Oliver said she would be happy for it to be located on her land. The broken bin in Bransford has still not been replaced.

Planning committee chairman Mr Fereday took the chair for item 71/20

71/20 Planning

a)

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| MHDC ref | Proposal details | Location | PCRecommendation |
| 21/00241/HP | Erection of single storey extensions | VicarshillBrockamin,Leigh, WR6 5LA | ApprovalProposed RHSeconded AOUnanimous |

b) Planning decisions received

21/00079/HP Bri Mar, Brockamin Lane, Leigh Single storey annex Approved

c) Neighbourhood Planning

 

Mr Sharp resumed the chair for the remainder of the meeting.

 72/20 To consider a parish council grant application from Leigh & Bransford PCC towards the cost of maintaining Leigh Churchyard, the land around Bransford Chapel and the burial ground opposite the chapel.

The chairman proposed a grant of £1500 (as per 2019/20), Mr Fereday seconded, approved unanimously.

73/20 To consider arrangements for future meetings

 The current coronavirus regulations which allow Parish and Town Councils to meet virtually end on 7th May, hence currently the last possible date for virtual meetings is 6th May. NALC strongly advises local councils to continue to meet remotely and is seeking confirmation from central government that regulations will be extended.

It was agreed that the parish council should retain the scheduled date of 25th May for our parish council and annual meeting but move these to Tuesday 4th May if the rules allowing virtual meetings are not extended.

74/20 To discuss drainage issues between Bransford and Leigh

The chairman presented a paper outlining the road safety issues caused by regular flooding of the road between Bransford and Leigh. The problem can be permanently resolved by re-instating a ditch and laying a pipe that will allow water on the road and land to drain away to the Teme rather than flooding the road. Our Lengthsman has provided a quote for a maximum cost of £995 (plus VAT).

Proposed by Mr King, seconded by Mr Husband, approved unanimously.

 75/20 Finance

a) To approve accounts paid

NEST Clerk pension £55.18

R Wilks Lengthsman – January £475.20

R Wilks Lengthsman – February £554.40

J Barker Clerk – February 2021 £752.79

Memorial Hall (grant to toddler group replaces cheque 101361 £250 11/19) £67.20

Approval proposed by Mr Husband, seconded by Mrs Oliver, approved unanimously.

 Bank Balance £30,023.75

76/20 Reports of committees and working groups – No further reports.

77/20 Reports and items for consideration at future meetings

Bransford play area has been inspected and the report is awaited.

There have been numerous complaints about mud and debris on the road and footway on the A4103 between Leigh Sinton and Bransford. The origin of the mud was discussed, and Mr Ralph noted it was not caused by any of the businesses on the Guinness Park Farm site. Cllr Rouse has reported the issue to MHDC and requested the road is swept. The matter to be monitored.

The footway from Dragons Cross to Leigh Sinton village is not wide enough for a usable continuous footway and anyone using a wheelchair or with a buggy is forced into the road. It has been reported to the county council and a response is awaited. Mrs Oliver has also reported the footpath and the Parish Lengthsman is looking at it.

Cllr Whatley noted that forthcoming major works on the A44 will mean heavier traffic on the A4103 through Leigh Sinton

78/20 Date and time of next meeting

 Provisional (dependant on the outcome of item 73/20) Parish Council and Annual Meetings – Tuesday 25 May 2021, 7.00pm, by Zoom

 Chairman............................................. Date...............................................