BROAD CHALKE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the 1058th Meeting of the

Broad Chalke Parish Council

held at the Village Hall, Broad Chalke on

Wednesday 14 June 2023 at 7:00 p.m.

ATTENDANCE

Mr T Hitchings

Mr J Alison

Mr S Carter

Mr T Kimber

Mr M Pickford

The Clerk, Mr C Rothwell was also in attendance.

1. To receive apologies for absence. Cllr E Fry, Cllr S Dawes, Cllr E Richter and Cllr M Altham.
2. To record Declarations of Interest. There were none.
3. Chairman’s announcements. In view of the absence of 4 councillors, the meeting agreed to restrict business to essential, time limited matters and defer others to the July meeting.
4. To approve the Minutes of the meeting held on 10 May 2023 as a true and accurate record. Agreed
5. Matters Arising.

There were none.

1. To receive update on Low Lane Footpath Improvement Project.

The Clerk reported that the work had now been completed by Boswell Bros. Wiltshire Council have to undertake their drainage checks and works and this is expected next month.

There are payments of the retentions to the Contractor and costs pending confirmation of any additional works. There are also final Project Management Costs. It is anticipated that the total capital works will come in within budget but that some funding will be required for remedial works and first two years maintenance.

The Council also agreed that it would be appropriate to mark the project with a public information board. The Clerk to investigate this and report back.

1. To receive update on Playground Project and Friends Group Low Lane Project.

Cllr Altham had submitted an update confirming receipt of funds from (redacted) and that total funds including the £4,800 earmarked by the Parish Council was now c£45,000. The Friends Group intend to apply to the National Lottery.

The Clerk reminded the Council that there will be a requirement to follow Council Standing Orders on procurement as the playground is a Council asset.

1. To receive update on Neighbourhood Watch

The Clerk gave a brief update on progress.

1. To discuss feedback from the Annual Parish Meeting

The Chairman reported that he had received positive feedback on the format of the meeting and Councillors present endorsed this. There are lessons to learn but this approach is a sound one for future meetings.

1. To discuss Parish Council Priorities for the year and to allocate responsibilities.

Deferred.

1. To receive update on Valley Speeding initiative

The Clerk updated the meeting on the scheduled Valley Speeding Initiative meeting with Wiltshire Highways, the PCC’s representative and Cllr Najjar together with the Clerk of Bishopstone.

The Council discussed the key issues on highways for Broad Chalke and identified these as:

* Priority 1. The 60mph to 20mph on entry to the village centre from the east
* Priority 2. An overall reduction along the Valley Road in the speed limit where it is above 40mph from Coombe Bisset junction to Fyfield Bavant
* Priority 3. A reduction from 60mph to 30mph from Longbridge to the 30mph on Newtown.
* Priority 4. To revisit the criteria for 20mph areas to consider whether these could be extended to South Street providing no urbanizing physical works required.
* Priority 5. Signage upgrades.

1. To discuss approach to Knighton Road Parking and Knighton Road/Newtown junction. Deferred until outcome of the planning application.
2. To discuss Wiltshire Council’s Bus Review-Stakeholder engagement survey.

The Clerk briefed the meeting on this, the questionnaire having been circulated with the Agenda.

The Council felt that the following were key issues/considerations for Wiltshire in the review.

* That Rural bus services are essential for those without transport. It is an important Public Service
* That it recognises these services require a subsidy, but it should not necessarily be subsidised for all users.
* Public transport is an important factor in combating climate change but requires improvements if it is to replace car journeys.
* It is noted that many of the buses have low occupancy. Could not a smaller vehicle be used to reduce costs?
* It is noted that at least twice a day a bus travels through the village ‘NOT IN SERVICE’. This feels like a very inefficient programming of service.
* Better information on bus services is required, particularly since the Salisbury Bus station closed.

1. To receive Clerks Update

Bank Balance: £22,404.20

Cllr Pickford raised the issue of lack of progress on a number of issues that are reported through MyWiltsApp and it was agreed that a monthly Agenda item would be for Councillors to report on village issues for the Clerk to refer to Clkr Najjar. ACTION: ALL

There being no further business the Meeting ended at 8.20pm

Next Meeting; Wednesday 12 July 2023.