



Bothenhampton & Walditch
Parish Council since 1886

**MINUTES OF BOTHENHAMPTON & WALDITCH PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
held REMOTELY at 7pm on 12TH OCTOBER 2020**

Initials	Present	Initials	Present
JB	Cllr Jim Basker (Chair)	CA	Cllr Chris Addis
AL	Cllr Ann Langridge	GS	Cllr Gill Smith
GSt	Cllr G Styles	MW	Cllr Martin Warne
Also Invited		TC	Tan Cox (Clerk)
Cllr Sarah Williams / Cllr Kelvin Clayton / Cllr Dave Bolwell			


Ref	Agenda Item	Action
	Declaration of Pecuniary Interests and Eligibility: No Declarations were received	
	Apologies: Cllr Dave Bolwell, Cllr Sarah Williams	
1	<p>Report from Colin Baker Regarding BANP Budget:</p> <p>The Chair of Bradpole Parish Council attended the meeting to explain the BANP operational budget and provided some background information on how the BANP came about. He explained the financial aspects of the Plan and talked about the operational budget that had been drawn up (these were forwarded to councillors prior to the meeting). He also talked about the 20 projects in the Plan and said that these are optional and link in with various policies in the Plan and that the projects require separate funding. He confirmed that projects are funded by a combination of CIL monies and national funding, he said that if there is no funding, the projects will not progress.</p> <p>Reports from Dorset Council Councillors:</p> <p>Cllr KC referred to Dorset Council's Climate and Ecological Emergency Action Plan was approved by the Council and this, together with the Strategy document, will go out for public consultation at the end of the month. Cllr KC urged the PC to read the document and send their comments to Dorset Council.</p>	All

Minutes agreed on 9th November 2020

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	<p>Cllr KC referred to the 'Planning for the Future' White Paper and urged the PC to make their views known on the content of the consultation document. There was discussion on the subject and reference was made to the government link where views on the White Paper could be uploaded.</p> <p>Cllr KC referred to the various flooding issues experienced in both villages in the last week and asked whether these issues had been resolved. There was some discussion around the work which is still to be completed.</p>	All
2	<p>Democratic Half Hour:</p> <p>There were no items for discussion.</p>	
3	<p>Minutes of Parish Council Meeting – Monday 14th September 2020:</p> <p>The Minutes of 14th September were approved, and a copy will be posted to the website.</p> <p>Councillors were asked to comment on the Summary of Actions on page 10. As follows:</p> <p>Regarding death of Cllr Chris Dobbs – all councillors thanked Cllr GSt for writing the obituary.</p> <p>Regarding Broadband in Walditch – Cllr JB confirmed that he had spoken to the Committee Secretary of Walditch Village Hall who said that the Committee would consider signing up to the Broadband scheme in due course.</p> <p>A letter was to be written to Mr Ailward and Chris Loder MP. However, the next day a message was received from Mr Ailward confirming that a Scheme had already been set up and BT Openreach had contacted local residents about signing up to it.</p> <p>Update from Cllr CA – confirmed that as of 12th October, 7 people had signed up to the Scheme and one business. Funding is standing at £33k which is only 37% of what is needed. It was agreed that a lot more residents would need to sign up for the Scheme to become financially viable.</p> <p>Regarding Homestead Farm – a letter was written to Dorset Council prior to their planning meeting on 8th October 2020.</p> <p>Update from Cllr GSt the result of the meeting was that Dorset Council will not take enforcement action immediately but set a deadline of 15th November for receipt of an appeal. If an appeal is not forthcoming the matter will be reviewed again at the Dorset Council Planning Committee on 3rd December and enforcement action considered at that time.</p> <p>Regarding 'Planning for the Future' white paper – councillors have read the White Paper (Executive Summary) and 3 responses from councillors have been received by Cllr JB. He confirmed that the views expressed were all similar in that the White Paper cuts the contribution of parish councils out of the planning process and reduces the voice of the parish council and residents to voice an opinion to Dorset Council on planning applications in the parish.</p>	

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	<p>Cllr JB referred to an 'algorithm' that will be used to determine areas within the country that should be available for housing. It will be easy for applicants to submit applications for planning, without the opportunity for comment by external bodies.</p> <p>Cllr AL said that the algorithm will double the number of houses that will be built in Dorset without any opportunity for the people of Dorset to comment. Also referred to the Neighbourhood Plan, which would be defunct if the White Paper passes into law.</p> <p>Cllr JB asked councillors to respond to the White Paper document, both personally and jointly as a parish council.</p> <p>Cllr JB referred to the number of houses that remained to be built (15,000) in Dorset and said developers have got the permission to build but are sitting on the land.</p> <p>Cllr JB to finalise the joint document and send to the Clerk for uploading to the various government websites.</p> <p>Cllr AL said that individual councillors should respond as well expressing their concern with the content of the White Paper, as the volume of responses may be significant. She referred to the link for uploading responses at the end of the White Paper.</p> <p>Cllr GS reminded all that the deadline for responses is the 29th October 2020.</p> <p>Regarding New Highways Officer (David Carey) a meeting was arranged between the new highways officer and Cllrs JB, GSt, MW and GS. There was discussion around the work still to be completed in the villages.</p> <p>Cllr GSt referred to a couple of outstanding issues; the weight restriction along Main Street, Bothenhampton, and that he had passed on the comments of the Highways Officer to the complainant, and also the Burton Road issues and the options to slow down traffic. He said that both of these issues need to be looked at again. Councillors asked the Clerk to ensure these two issues are placed onto the Agenda for the next T, T & F sub-committee meeting.</p>	<p>All</p> <p>Cllr JB</p>
4	<p>Reports from External Organisations:</p> <p>WATAG – there has been no WATAG meeting due to COVID-19.</p> <p>BLAP – A meeting of BLAP took place on 30th September 2020 and Cllr AL brought councillors up to date with matters arising. She referred to a talk by the Dorset Council's enforcement officer, including background in relation to (legal) and (discretionary) enforcement (a building can exist without planning permission – this is a discretionary matter). Enforcement can only legally take place when the Council issues a 'stop' Notice. They will not issue an Enforcement Order until such time as an Appeal has been received and determined.</p> <p>Cllr AL referred also to Broadband, all the parish councils that attended were interested in getting broadband for their parishes. She referred to initiatives that are currently underway.</p>	

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	<p>Cllr AL referred also to the structure of the Bridport Local Area Partnership (BLAP) and said that after looking into this it appears there is a Liaison Group, a Steering Group and a Management Group.</p> <p>She confirmed that she is a member of the lower level Liaison Group and said it may be possible to get councillors onto the Steering Group, however the Management Group is a 'closed' group and more information about this needs to be obtained (who is on it and what they do).</p> <p>BANP/JCC – A meeting of BANP/JCC took place on 24th September 2020. Cllrs JB and GS attended and said that the budget was discussed and who the members of the BANP Steering Group were going to be.</p> <p>Councillors then discussed the implications surrounding the BANP operational budget and it was agreed that the Clerk should set up a follow-up meeting for councillors so that future decisions can be made. Cllr AL said that during the follow up meeting she would like to discuss the role of community volunteers to sit on the BANP to ensure it is truly representative of the community.</p> <p>BRIDPORT YOUTH FORUM WORKING PARTY – A meeting of this group was attended by Cllr GS, she said that this was the inaugural meeting of the Youth Forum and that she was the only representative from a parish council. She confirmed that the main issues concentrated on the needs of young people living in Bridport and surrounding areas. The meeting was attended by pupils at Colfox School who were keen to explore possibilities for improving the lives of children and young people including facilities and activities, including engaging with young people who are excluded due to disability and/or home tutored.</p> <p>Cllr GS said that our parish does not have a school and has very few young people and didn't know what the parish council could contribute.</p> <p>There was agreement that the parish council would support the Youth Forum as far as possible. For example, the play areas and nature reserves are open to young people however, there is very little for teenagers within the community.</p> <p>There was some confusion about what exactly the parish council could offer, and more information would be needed, which Cllr GS said she would obtain. Cllr AL said that once the needs of the Youth Forum were known the parish council could advertise these within the local area (including using the council's website).</p> <p>Cllr CA referred to the Real Tennis Court in Walditch (recently bought from the Sports Trust by the Club), and it may be a good time to approach them with a view to offering a course of free lessons.</p> <p>Cllr GS said that she would continue to attend the Youth Forum and feed back to the parish council.</p>	TC

Ref	Agenda Item	Action
5	<p>Planning:</p> <p>Planning Consultations</p> <p>The planning consultation and decision notices specified on the Agenda were noted.</p> <p>ASSISTANCE WITH PLANNING MATTERS</p> <p>Cllr GS provided information on an offer made by a member of the public who has offered planning advice (informally) to the parish council. This was discussed and it was agreed that the informal (voluntary) advice would be useful, and his details will be passed to the Clerk for her to get in touch.</p>	TC
6	<p>Finance and Budget</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Payments for Approval – 15th September - 12th October 2020 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Derek Smith (Grass Cutting) ● Footprints ● Playdale (John Gundry Additional items) ● Dorset Council ● Clerk Salary and Expenses ● Above and Below Tree Services ● Post Office ● Lengthsman ● PKF Littlejohn (External Auditor) <div style="text-align: right; margin-right: 100px;">  Approved </div> <p>The Clerk said that the payments listed had already been paid and had been authorised via email. The invoice cover sheet was signed by the Chairman and scanned back to the Clerk.</p> <p>The Clerk's salary for October 2020 was approved as were any expenses.</p> <p>The Bank Balance as of 30th September 2020 was provided to councillors for their perusal – the Statement was signed by the Chairman and scanned back to the Clerk.</p> <p>The Clerk confirmed that the External Audit Closure Letter had been received and the letter together with the completed AGAR is now on the website and accessible by members of the public.</p> <p>The Clerk had forgotten to forward the Cash Flow Forecast to Councillors and promised to do this after the meeting.</p>	

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7	<p>Parish Council Sub-Groups:</p> <p>No sub-groups have met in the period.</p> <p>The Clerk reminded councillors of the dates of future sub-group meetings.</p>	
8	<p>Other Parish Matters:</p> <p>Walditch and Bothenhampton Flooding – matter already discussed with Cllr KC.</p>	
9	<p>Correspondence:</p> <p>The following correspondence was sent during the period and can be found on the council's website www.bothenhamptonwalditchparishcouncil.com</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Emails to residents regarding rewilding of Howard Road Amenity Area. ● Letter to D Walsh (Dorset Council) regarding Homestead Farm ● Emails to S Arscott, BT and X2 Connect regarding Telephone / Book Box in Bothenhampton. ● Emails regarding footpath (Hollow Way to Lake Lane) aka Tony's Track. ● Emails to VH Committee and Dorset Council regarding S106 and CIL monies for Walditch Village Hall. ● Emails to Edward Berry (potential new councillor). ● Emails to V Newman regarding Bothenhampton Old Church. ● Emails to Robin Carter regarding availability of allotments. ● Emails regarding amended planning application 1 The Paddocks. ● Emails regarding BANP Budgets. ● Letter to Chris Loder MP regarding Broadband in Walditch. ● Letter to Dorset Council regarding Flooding in Walditch. ● Letter to Dorset Council regarding tree planting in villages. ● Email to S Hyde regarding flooding in Bothenhampton. ● Email to Bridport Town Council regarding Lengthsman's hours and invoice. ● Email to Dorset Council / Mrs Golds (and DC Portal), regarding dead / dying tree on bank at Hollow Way. ● Letter to Chris Wellman-Herold regarding grant. 	
10	<p>Miscellaneous:</p> <p>Parish Council Plan – Cllr JB said that he is still analyzing the questionnaires that were returned and once completed, he will pass to Cllr AL to check and then call a further meeting to discuss the issues arising.</p> <p>Cllr GS asked what the response rate was in terms of completed questionnaires that had been returned. Cllr JB confirmed that the response rate had been approximately 10%.</p>	

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	<p>Cllr JB thanked councillors for their help in delivering the leaflets and for providing drop-off points for completed questionnaires.</p> <p>John Gundry Play Area (Playdale) & Lower Walditch Play Area (PlayQuest). Cllr JB confirmed that both play areas had been completed and were being used by children in the community. He said he had received messages of thanks from villagers.</p>	
11	<p>AOB</p> <p>There was no AOB</p>	
	The meeting ended at 9.10pm	

Date of the next Parish Council Meeting: 9th November 2020 @ via Zoom

Previous council agenda and minutes can be found on www.bothenhamptonwalditchparishcouncil.com

SUMMARY OF AGREED ACTIONS – 12th October 2020

Action	Owner	Page
Regarding Dorset Council's Climate and Ecological Emergency Action Plan – councillors to read the document and send comments to Dorset Council.	All Cllrs	1
Regarding 'Planning for the Future' White Paper – all councillors asked to make their views known both individually and jointly as a council.	All Cllrs	2 / 3
Finalise the joint document and send to the Clerk for uploading to the various government websites.	Cllr JB	3
Regarding BANP – arrange follow up meeting	Clerk	4
Regarding Assistance with Planning Matters – pass contact details to clerk. Clerk to contact.	Cllr GS Clerk	5

ROLLED OVER ITEMS – 12th October 2020

Action	Owner	Page
None		

ITEMS REFERRED TO OSPA SUB-COMMITTEE – 26th OCTOBER 2020

Item	Page
None	-

ITEMS REFERRED TO TT&F SUB-COMMITTEE – 30th OCTOBER 2020

Item	Page
Regarding Weight Restrictions – Main Street, Bothenhampton	3
Regarding Burton Road – traffic speed	3

ITEMS REFERRED TO F&F SUB-COMMITTEE – 30th OCTOBER 2020

Item	Page
None	-

External Organisations - Acronyms:

WATAG – West Dorset – Western Area Transport Action Group

BLAP – Bridport Area Local Partnership

BANP JCC – Bridport Area Neighbourhood Plan, Joint Councils Committee

DAPTC – Dorset Association of Town and Parish Councils

NALC – National Association of Local Councils

External Organisations - Councillor representatives:

WATAG – Cllr Chris Addis (Deputy - Cllr Martin Warne)

BLAP – Cllr Ann Langridge (Deputy – Cllr Graham Styles)

BANP – Cllr Jim Basker (Deputy Cllr Gill Smith)

Misc

VFO - Volunteer Footpath Officer