

BRITWELL PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF BRITWELL PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON WEDNESDAY 18th JANUARY 2017 AT 7.00 P.M. IN THE PARISH COMMUNITY CENTRE

Present Cllr. J Finn (in the chair);
Cllrs. R. Anderson, M. Carter, Mrs J Finn, O. Isernia (part only), P. Murphy,
S. Wright

In Attendance : Mr. J. Holder (Locum Clerk)

Paul Stimpson, Slough B.C. Planning (part only)

17/1 /PC Apologies

Apologies for partial attendance was given by Cllr. Isernia.

17/2/PC Minutes of the meeting held on 16th November 2016

The minutes of the Full Council meeting were **approved** as an accurate record of the meeting and signed by the Chairman.

17/3/PC Matters Arising (not covered elsewhere on the agenda)

3.1 *Energy Audit* (item 16.114.1) – The Premises Working Group to undertake this audit, taking account of the Bar re-opening. **Action: Cllrs. Isernia, Wright and John Finn**

3.2 *Telecoms* (item 16.104.1) – Cllr Murphy said that Geoff had undertaken the work.

3.3 *CCTV* (item 16.105.2 a) – The Premises Working Group to review the CCTV system, with consideration of additional cameras at the rear to cover both rear and Memorial Garden, taking account of the Bar re-opening.

Action: Premises Working Group- Cllrs. Isernia, Wright and John Finn

3.4 *Risk Assessment* (items 16.105 d-e) - The Locum Clerk to review the Fire risk and to consider acquiring a replacement safe for documents/deeds storage. **Action: Locum Clerk**

3.5 *Ms Woodley* (item 16.106.1) - The Locum Clerk noted that despite assurances, Ms Woodley had failed to resume regular repayment of the debt. It was **agreed** that the debt should be passed to a Debt Collection agent. **Action: Locum Clerk**

3.6 *Power Station site, Seagrove* – The Locum Clerk confirmed he had written to Slough BC.

17/4/PC NET & Neighbourhood Police Team

There was nothing to report.

17/5/PC Slough BC Local Plan

5.1 Paul Stimpson, Lead Planning Policy Officer for Slough B.C gave a presentation on the Slough Local Plan 2013 -2036. The key issue was population growth and the consequent impact on housing and amenities. Whereas the previous Plan provided for 315 new houses yearly, the new Plan was for 927 houses per year which was a real challenge. There would also be an additional 15,000 jobs locally in the period. Other challenges included congestion and the Town Centre although the recent sale to the Abu Dhabi Investment Fund gave potential for a major new development.

5.2 The Plan also provided for a number of strategic Options which would need to be considered. These included release of green belt to the north into South Bucks, providing for a garden suburb, relating to the Farnham Lane area, by Wexham and by Langley. He noted that South Bucks itself was not looking to build in this area but to its own north near Aylesbury. The Plan considered all potential sites including the Seagrove contaminated land by Kennedy Park.

(Cllr Isernia joined the meeting).

5.3 Council members generally expressed concern at potential development in the Farnham Lane area. Cllr John Finn expressed concern that Slough BC seemed to be going back on previous assurances over Kennedy Park area. Mr Stimpson said that in order for Slough BC better control its own future development, it needed to consider various options and thereby evaluate their respective suitability. The purpose of this public consultation was to allow local people to comment and he encouraged the Parish Council to express their views before 27 February. Cllr Andrews said the response should express concern with the Farnham Lane development and indeed that at Wexham but support that near Langley, with its better transport links to London. It was **agreed** that a) members should give individual written comments to the Locum Clerk; b) review this at the February meeting and c) the Locum Clerk then to respond to Slough BC by 27 February. **Action: ALL/ Locum Clerk**

17/6/PC Outside Bodies

6.1 Cllr Murphy said the Youth Club was becoming increasingly busy with 47 attending the previous night and also noting that 24 youth club members and 5 staff would be attending PGL in Swindon in February. The Club would be open between 11 am – 3.00 pm during Half Term (13 – 17 February), with a music performance planned for the end of March.

17/7/PC Chicken Ranch Bar

7.1 The Chicken Ranch bar opened just before Christmas, following completion of the Lease on 21 December with Ms Mary Knight and Mr Paul Jagger. In addition to the approvals provided for at the last Council meeting (see items 16/ 129.1 – 129.4), the Council further **ratified and agreed** actions and approvals taken following that meeting, including review and approval of :- the tenants' Business Plan; the Tenants' references; the Council's Risk Assessment of the proposed lease; the approved terms of business and fee for solicitors Aston Bond; the Council's Response to Enquiries; the Fixtures and Fittings List; the plan of the building; setting up a new deposit Bank account with Unity Trust Bank to hold the rent deposit; the terms of both the Lease and the Rent Deposit Deed together with authorisation for Cllr Murphy and the Locum Clerk to sign the Lease and the Rent Deposit Deed on behalf of the Council.

7.2 The Council **approved** the emergency plumbing works in the Bar toilets undertaken by John Finn over the Christmas period, which had been authorised by the chairman, Cllr Isernia.

7.3 The Council discussed the issue of alcohol at Hall functions following the re-opening of the Bar. Cllr Murphy said that when the Bar had been previously open, soft drinks had been allowed at children's parties and a champagne/arrival drink at wedding receptions but otherwise people were not allowed to bring their own drinks. The Council **agreed** to reinstate this policy and the Locum Clerk was requested to amend the current Hall hire terms accordingly. **Action: Locum Clerk**

7.4 The Locum Clerk noted that Ms Knight had earlier that day sent him a quote for two water coolers for £5,400 plus VAT. Members understood that the brewery were to bear this cost and the Locum Clerk was asked to query. **Action: Locum Clerk**

7.5 Cllr Isernia noted that the previous week he had accessed the pool table cash boxes with Ms Knight and Mr Jagger. It was **agreed** that going forward, this should be undertaken by two Council persons on a monthly basis.

7.6 The Council noted and confirmed the fee from Aston Bond, which was £1,461 including VAT and disbursements, together with the Completion Statement. Taking account of the £750 previously paid by the Council on account to Aston Bond together with the rent and rental deposit paid by the Tenants, a balance of £3093.80 was received by the Council of which £2,500 comprised the deposit.

17/8/PC Community Centre and Sports Ground

8.1 *Grounds Maintenance Agreement : Tender* - Cllrs Wright and Murphy declared an interest in respect of this. The Council **agreed** that the Tender should be based on the services currently provided and be for a period of two years from 1 April 2017; the Clerk was requested to action, subject to any additional terms requested. **Action: ALL/ Locum Clerk**

8.2 Cllr Murphy said that the heating for both ends of the building now work independently with a new thermostat in the kitchen for the bar end. In the Hall, this could be turned up or down but not off.

17/9/PC Finance

9.1 *Income & Expenditure* - The income and expenditure and bank reconciliation for November and December 2016 was **approved**.

9.2 In addition to the direct debits, it was **agreed** to approve the following cheques:-
- £337.20 to Active Electrical Services , for the annual fire alarm maintenance ;
- £72 to Economic Hygiene Solutions for sanitary bins;
- £31.78 to Cllr Murphy – reimbursement for cleaning products;
- £195 to Video Coin – various routing/telecoms work
- £2,850.00 inc. VAT) to Manorcott Legal & Business Services for Locum Clerk's services;
- £390 to Cllr John Finn – for plumbing services (see item 7.2 above);
- £1,925.00 to Cllr S Wright – grounds maintenance services (June – December 2016)

9.3 *Pensions* - The Locum Clerk reported that further to item 16/136/3, he had written to both employees prior to Christmas but had received no response to date that either wished to enrol.

9.4 *Bank Signatories* – In respect of the three Unity Trust Bank accounts , being a current and deposit account together with the recent deposit account to hold the Rent Deposit, the Council **confirmed** the four signatories held by Unity Trust bank as being Cllrs. Isernia, Murphy, Wright and Janice Finn.

17/10/PC 2017 /18 Budget and Precept

10.1 The Locum Clerk noted that Slough BC Finance had advised that as the council tax base had increased within the Parish area, then with no increase to the council tax element the precept paid would equal £64,531 in 2017/18. It was **agreed** that the 2017/18 Precept should be set at the said £64,531 and that revision made to the Budget Forecast for 2017 -18 otherwise agreed at the last meeting. **Action: Locum Clerk**

17/11/PC Any Other Business

11.1 *Buckingham Palace Garden party* – It was **agreed** that former Cllr Bill Thorpe should be invited by Cllr Murphy to attend but if he declined, then Cllr Isernia to attend. Cllr Isernia was given the necessary paperwork **Action: Cllrs. Isernia, Murphy**

11.2 *Trial* – Cllr Murphy noted that the trial of Lynne Booker and Chris Faulkner, had now been fixed to start at Reading Crown Court on 26 June.

17/12/PC Next Meeting

It was noted that the next Council Meeting will be at 7.00 pm on Wednesday 15 February 2017.

The meeting closed at 9.12 pm.

Signed as a true record of the meeting

.....Chairman

Dated.....