



Briercliffe with Extwistle Parish Council

Virtual meeting held over Zoom due to Government Restrictions

Tuesday, 20th April 2021

Present: Councillor Russell Hawkes (in the Chair), Councillors Adam Dack, Simon Dack, Ben Eastwood, Nik Higham, Duncan MacIver, John Stewart and Pam Vincent.

Others: County Councillor Cosima Towneley, Borough Councillor Gordon Lishman, Liam Kilbride (Gala Committee) and Steve Watson (Clerk).

Councillor Hawkes opened the Parish Council Meeting and welcomed everyone.

<u>Agenda</u>	<u>Actions by Clerk</u>	<u>Cllr Support</u>
<u>Parish Council Agenda</u>		
20/21/117 Apologies for absence		
Apologies were given by Councillors Roger Frost who wasn't able to access remote technologies.		
RESOLVED: That above apologies and reasons given are approved.		
20/21/118 Declarations of Interest / Code of Conduct		
There were no initial Declarations of Interest.		
20/21/119 Formally adjourn the meeting to allow for public participation		
RESOLVED: That the meeting is adjourned to allow for Public Participation.		
Liam Kilbride from the Briercliffe Gala Committee attended to provide an update on the planned event this year .He explained it was difficult this year to plan and negotiate with suppliers, though the Governments Road Map to end lockdown is on track so all systems are go. Previous events have been held on a temporary		

<p>events license, however this only permits 199 people to attend and number are expected to exceed this. A permanent Premises License is being applied for and once granted can be used for any events at the location with a variation. The strongman is confirmed. More will be confirmed after the 17th May if the Road Map moves to the next step. Everything is currently positive and, if the event does go ahead, there will be element of remembrance to all those lost during the pandemic. A professional company has been employed to complete all the risk assessments for the Council and the Committee is to liaise with the Football Club about joint working. The event is likely to be the first in Burnley following the lockdowns and is limited to 2,000 people with tickets being sold and security being used to check attendees on Queen Street. Queen Street Mill will be open for tours and could be approached to be involved. The next Mayor lives in Briercliffe and could be asked to attend. Liam agreed to attend future meetings to provide updates as required.</p>		
<p>(a) Police Report</p>		
<p>The written Police report is attached. It was noted that incidents had reduced and there had been an increased presence, including on Burnley Road for the Youth nuisance where residents are feeling intimidated.</p>		
<p>(b) Public Questions</p>		
<p>Several Public Questions were read out and responded to and are attached.</p>		
<p>(c) County Council Report</p>		
<p>The County Councillor reported that there had been complaints about the road repairs. The Police have been very active as is shown in their report later and anti-social behaviour is a Borough problem. Queen Street Mill is back in business, there have been changes in personnel and long term solutions for the upkeep are still being sought. There have been problem with rivets as modern rivets are different to those in the Mill. There may be problems with environmental concerns about running the steam engine which could render the Mill redundant, a campaign with railways is being considered. The Mill is the last working steam mill and heritage would be lost without it. It was suggested more could be done by other things to protect the environment and a couple of steams a week would have little impact on the environment. It was noted that there are more problems with plastics and littering especially around the Woodland Walk. Changes would need Parliamentary legislation and it was suggested the MP should be contacted. Cosima expressed that she had enjoyed being the County Councillor and if she should not be reelected she would be happy to help the area. Cosima was thanked for her report.</p>		
<p>(d) Borough Council Report</p>		
<p>Councillor Gordon Lishman's report had been partly covered by the County Councillor. The road and pavement repairs by the Spar had been problematic and the Talbot Street repairs were not good. Pot Holes outside the Spar were only filled if they met the depth criteria, otherwise they were left. Anti-Social Behaviour is still a problem, there used to be a multi-agency group that looked at the problem. The neighbourhood alerts from the police are working through increased reports and increased police presence. The police attended the fire on the woodland walk and fly-tipping is still a problem, though the Council acts quickly when reported direct to them. There are issues around dogs and larger bins have been installed, although litter bins can be used if the mess is properly bagged. There are to be additional dog warden visits. There are problems with the fencing of the footpath at Croasdale Avenue and other footpaths are to be checked. The</p>		

Practice Manager has left the Health Centre and a participation meeting has not been held for some time, any issue should be directed to Councillor Maggie Lishman. The reduced price for bulky waste has been extended as it has shown a reduction in trips to the recycling center and in fly-tipping and could actually be cost effective. The grit bins were kept full over winter and additional bins are being considered. It was noted that pot-hole and pavement repairs can now be reported via a phone App which allow photographs to be attached or via the 'reportit' webpage on the Counties website. The road patching is a temporary repair whilst a full repair can be carried out. The Borough Council were applauded for the reduced cost of bulky waste collections and Gordon was thanked for his report.		
20/21/120 Formally reconvene the Parish Council Meeting		
RESOLVED: That the meeting is formally reconvened for Parish Council Business		
20/21/121 Finance		
1. Accounts to be approved for payment. Additional bills included.		
1.1 Clerk Salary	£432.88	SO Paid
1.2 HMRC	£114.44	#001616
1.3 S. Watson Clerk Pay Rise	£24.94	#001617
1.4 G.S.A.	£707.00	#001618
1.5 Affordable Skips	£168.00	#001619
RESOLVED: The bills outlined above are paid.		
2. Income Received		
2.1 Council Owned garages		£515.72
3. Bank balances		
▪ Current a/c –		£ 6,616.42
▪ Deposit a/c –		£18,933.12
▪ Petty Cash -		£ -17.52
▪ Garages -		£ 5,128.21
Total		£30,660.23
RESOLVED: That the bank balances, budget monitoring report, petty cash report and bank reconciliations are noted and Petty Cash is returned to £100.00.		
Annual Governance Statement, Statement of Accounts and Annual Return were each considered.		
RESOLVED: That the Annual Governance Statement, Statement of Accounts and Annual Return are approved.		
20/21/122 Minutes of the last Parish Council meeting		
To approve, as a correct record the minutes of the virtual Parish Council meeting held on Tuesday, 22 nd March 2021.		
RESOLVED: That the minutes of the Briercliffe with Extwistle Parish Council meeting, on the 22nd March 2021 are approved as a correct record and will be signed as such once Government restrictions are lifted.		

20/21/123	Matters outstanding from the minutes		
	There were no matters outstanding.		
20/21/124	Clerk's Report including Administration – for information only		
	The correspondence was noted.		
20/21/125	Updates and Reports (for information only)		
	Members of the Council		
	The Chair's report was circulated and is attached.		
	The Landrover agreement has been sent to the other Councils and the only issue was an independent adjudicator for disputes. The Easter Eggs were very well received and updates to the list should be sent to Russell. A consultation on virtual meetings has been responded to and Councillor Simon Dack was thanked for providing an Allotment skip and Councillor Ben Eastwood and his family were thanked for ensuring the security of the skip. The Firmingers were thanked for organising the stewarding of the skips proper usage and all allotment holders entered into the spirit of the scheme with only one issue arising.		
	An updated asset register is to be provided following an inventory.		
	Community Centre Update		
	There was no update this month.		
20/21/126	To receive reports from Committees and consider the Recommendations		
	2. <i>Planning Committee</i>		
	The following applications were considered.		
	<p>1. COU/2021/0041 - Change of use from dwelling (Class C3) to children's care home for up to four young people (Class C2), 60 Church Street Briercliffe Lancashire</p> <p><i>There was little to comment apart from the increase in traffic and that there are 3 properties in the area so could be at saturation.</i></p> <p>2. FUL/2021/0151 - Proposed refurbishment and remodeling of existing home office building to form home office and home gym. Existing flat roof to be removed and replaced with dual pitch roof. 2no. proposed single storey extensions to the north east elevation with oak framed canopy.</p> <p>There were concerns that the building will be subject to a conversion to a residential building in the future and that there should not be businesses from residential properties.</p> <p>3. Installation of external timber cladding to the exterior of the existing building and associated external landscaping. Monk Hall Todmorden Road Briercliffe</p>		

<p>This is a long standing application, there has been water testing in the winter and comments have been previously submitted.</p> <p>4. PIP/2021/0131 - Construction of one dwelling Land Between Hill Farm And 67A Halifax Road Briercliffe Burnley</p> <p>5. PTEL/2021/0154 - Installation of various 15m street poles and fibre cables for the installation of high speed wireless internet Pole 7 - Saxifield Street Pole 11 - Briercliffe Road Pole 12 - Briercliffe Road</p> <p>6. COU/2021/0179 - Change of use from 6 Bed HMO (C4) to 7 Bed HMO (Sui Generis). 65 Burnley Road Briercliffe Lancashire</p> <p>7. FUL/2021/0124 - NEW AGRICULTURAL BUILDING FOR THE STORAGE OF MACHINERY AND ANIMAL FEEDS, Ingham House Farm Halifax Road Briercliffe</p> <p>It was noted this was not a working farm.</p> <p>8. PAR/2021/0184 - Conversion of existing agricultural building to two no dwellings Proctor Cote Farm Todmorden Road Briercliffe</p> <p>The application will be opposed due to the bad bend of the highway, that it is over development and that it is a modern building and does not lend itself to conversion.</p>		
<p>20/21/127 To receive reports from Working Groups – for information only</p>		
<p>1. Allotment Working group</p>		
<p>There were 5 new applications and the waiting list has been updated: There are now 24 for gardens, 14 for pens, 21 for garages and 7 for containers. Tenants are getting ready for the growing season and appreciated the donated skip, helping out to clear difficult plots. The taps have been fixed.</p>		
<p>The rent letter run has been done and 3 plots will receive letter about tidying and use following an inspection. 1 tenant has resigned and 1 plot had not been used for a long time. Containers are on-going</p>		
<p>A revised contractor contract was considered and agreed. Certificates are to be checked for relevance and the contract sent. Councillor Simon Dack safely met with 4 contractors for quotes and GSA were the cheapest and although it's been a difficult year a lot has been achieved.</p>		
<p>20/21/128 Matters identified for future consideration</p>		
<p>There were no matters identified.</p>		
<p>County Councillor Cosima Towneley was thanked for her report and she left the meeting.</p>		
<p>20/21/129 It was agreed that the next virtual meeting of the Parish Council will be held on Tuesday 18th May 2021.</p>		
<p>The Chair thanked everyone for attending.</p>		

Question	Answer
Why is the Council using taxpayer's money to provide skips that only allotment holders can use, all parishioners should be able to use them?	The Council does, at intervals, provide Allotment skips funded from rent money paid by tenants. However a number of large skips have been provided and paid for by Councillor Simon Dack and have not cost the Council, Allotment Tenants or Parishioners anything.
Why did you sack the Lengthsman?	Our Lengthsman contract runs for 3 years and was due for renewal in 2020. The position was advertised, as usual, but our previous Lengthsman took the decision not to tender for the contract, which left the Parish without a Lengthsman.
Why has it costs so much more for the grass cutting this year?	GSA & Son Gardening Services contacted the Council and, whilst they did not wish to take on the Lengthsman contract, they agreed to quote for and carry out all the gardening work required by the Council. They have done a fantastic job over a difficult year! The contractor costs in 2020 were £10,532 compared to an average of £10,630 over the last 6 years under the Lengthsman project.
<p>How can you justify putting the Precept up by 56% over 4 years, with an 11.2% increase this year when Burnley and Lancashire have only increased theirs 2%?</p> <p>The Precept and budget have to be agreed at a Council meeting to be legal, why were neither discussed at a meeting?</p>	<p>% figures do not reflect actual increases and the impact on parishioners. In real terms and since 2018 the Precept, which was an Agenda item at the January 2021 virtual Parish Council meeting, was considered and approved by the 7 Councillors present. The Precept is the Parish Councils element of the Council Tax Bill and allows the Council to do things in the Parish. A copy of the 2021 Budget approved is attached to the January minutes.</p>
How can you justify putting the Precept up?	<p>Since 2018 the precept has only increased by £2.74 in all that time. This year's increase equates to an extra £1.34 a year if you live in a Band A property, which is less than 3 pence a week.</p> <p>When you think what £1.34 can actually buy, it's a very small amount that we make go a long way. All of this money is spent on cyclical maintenance and identified projects benefiting all of us who live in Briercliffe.</p>
Why are meetings being held in secret without any agendas or minutes, is this allowed?	No it is not allowed, which is why it has not happened! No Committee Meetings have been held as all decisions are being taken at Full Council level. These meetings follow prior published agendas, and afterwards minutes (as well as a recording of the meeting) are available. Provision for Parishioners to join our remote meetings are in place at which we also regularly have

	County and Borough Councillor participation. Our Local Policing Inspector has also attended to discuss ongoing issues in Briercliffe and other rural concerns.
Why are you stopping the BAGs Hut from selling Hanging Baskets which brighten up the village?	Apart from last year, when plants were not available due to Covid-19 closures, the Council has run the Hanging Basket scheme for the last 7 years. It provided the baskets at cost and claimed the VAT back. This equates to £1,500 each year which (as a parish grant) paid towards the Briercliffe Community Centre insurance. Under the 1908 Allotment Act it is illegal to run a commercial venture from an allotment and legal advice received advised that hanging baskets and plants were a commercial venture. We are talking to them about how things could run moving forwards and ensuring it all stays within the law.

BRIERCLIFFE AREA 15 th March 2021 – 18 th April			
INCIDENTS REPORTED - 139			
NO	TYPE OF INCIDENT	LOCATION	DETAILS
2	Burglary	Lydgate Todmorden Rd, Briercliffe	Attempt garage break Offenders have gained access into the out buildings, not managed to take anything.
3	Criminal damage	Townley Street Hallam Street End of Queen Street/view point	Front downstairs and upstairs windows damaged, possible eggs. Historic damage to window, believed from stones being thrown. Damage caused to the fencing
3	Theft	Lydgate Lydgate Bancroft Road	Small garden gate (I revisited and the item had been misplaced not stolen) Lamp Taken from rear garden Isolated incident

4	Vehicle crime	Townley street Horning Crescent Lydgate Finsley View	Catalytic converter stolen Rear nearside window smashed Car left unlocked, person been inside Car broken into and wallet taken
40	Nuisance	Granville street Camp street Burnley Road Queen Street	Large group of youths heading towards the park. Reports of ASB, noise nuisance and breach of Covid Nuisance vehicles, parking on the keep clear signs and also the back street. ASB and fires at the end of Queens Street within the wooded area

Vehicle crime and attempt burglary have increased this month, please may I ask residents to remove valuable items from their vehicles and report any suspicious activity via 101 none emergency or 999 emergency.

ASB is still an ongoing issue within the Briercliffe area, Mark Hill and myself have visited a number of parents after the incident within the woodland walk area and the fire over Easter weekend.
The area will be patrolled by myself when working a late shift, details of youths causing issues will be obtained and acceptable behaviour contracts will be considered if the same youths continue to cause ASB.

A speeding operation was conducted this month in Briercliffe and this will be happening again within the next few weeks at different times of the day.

Camp Street is on our radar with PC 6805 Arif dealing with the concerns/issues.

Please may I ask that **“Lancashire talking”** is mentioned to residents. Lancashire talking is a great way for us to get messages and information to people about what’s currently going on in Briercliffe, the more information people have the better.

We currently have 317 people signed up within the Briercliffe area it would be fantastic if we could add to this, people can sign up themselves via www.stayintheknow.co.uk or contact me on the details below and I’ll be more than happy to do it for them.

Many thanks Jody Hudson PCSO 7738. Mobile number 07866781767 or email 7738@lancashire.pnn.police.uk

--	--	--	--

Briercliffe Parish Council
Borough Councillors' Report – April

As in several other areas of Burnley, there has been an increase again in the number of noisy and speeding motor bikes.

There is an increasing problem with gangs of youths congregating, sometimes outside the shops. In addition to continued liaison with the police, Maggie has ensured that the problem has been referred to the multi-agency team which collects information and is the background body which makes sure that all the organisations know about problems and can co-ordinate responses. That also applies to the vandalism and fire setting on the Queen Street Recreation Ground and the Woodland Walk. It was good to see that recent police action has identified some of the youths involved and they have followed up with visits to parents and warnings. The new Neighbourhood Alert system is working well. It is important to keep residents in touch with police work and the information is encouraging more people to report problems.

There continues to be a problem with dumping rubbish and fly-tipping which is reported to us directly and via Facebook. In most cases, it is swiftly removed, thanks to Streetscene, which is the relevant Council Department.

A number of dog litter bins have been replaced with larger ones and increased emptying requested. We have reminded people that, if waste is securely bagged, they can use the ordinary bins. We are getting increased patrols by the dog warden and there are new posters going up.

As a result of the snowfalls, requests have been made for grit bins at various sites. A review of the siting of the current ones is underway. It continues to be a challenge to ensure that they are re-filled.

We continue to report potholes and the need for road surface repairs to the County Council. Several of the worst have been filled with some degree of success. The hasty filling-in repairs to Talbot Street were not so good. There is no doubt that the whole street needed re-surfacing and we will keep up the pressure.

Following problems with the fencing at the bottom of Croasdale Avenue, the Council has been round and checked the fencing and entrances to footpaths in other parts of Briercliffe.

Some surface repairs have been done to the pavement outside the shops. Maggie got a response which said the Highways Department will only repair in those cases where the hole is a minimum depth! That means, of course, that the problem will keep recurring until a proper re-surfacing job is done.

We continue to have issues with the Medical Centre and the GP Practice, now run by Leeds-based Bramley Health. Maggie is talking directly with them. Please let Maggie know about any specific problems so that she can take them up with the management.

Burnley Council has continued the pilot scheme which has halved the cost of bulky waste removal for a further period of three months. If residents notify them via the website, it will be collected. The evidence is that it is being used by residents which reduces both dumping and Recycling Centre visits.

As usual, there are other problems referred to the councillors about more local and individual problems, which we deal with directly.

Councillors: Anne Kelly Gordon Lishman Maggie Lishman

Chair's Report List for March to April 2021

- Replied to Parishioner Questions on PC matters 20/04/21
- Asset List updated and email sent to BE & SW for further additions/ removals
- Prep for PC meeting/ invoice and other docs sent to SW 19, 20/04/21
- Email Solicitor on Draft Lease GC/ SW/PV 19/04/21
- Filled in "In The Know" (update to previous) survey request on local Policing. 16/04/21 and identified incident areas on map of the area 17/04/21
- Government consultation completed on virtual/ online meetings
- Email to Local Policing Team – damage to fence again on WW.
- Approved draft Agenda; Comms – All Councillors & Clerk
- Emails/calls with a Parishioner on a Planning issue
- Poster made and Website (12th)/ noticeboard update (13th)– Skips related (AD)
- Work on Rents Spreadsheet with DM and Planning discussions with PV
- Fb / Website update on Covid-19 roadmap changes 12/04/21
- Comms BE Allotment trailer problem – gate should be kept locked to avoid dumping/ AD Skips/ PV Planning & allotments/ DM Rents/Tenant – rent related enquiry/ SW contractor and separate solicitor related concern / BCllr. AK reply to water leak and 3rd party request skip info. 12/04/21
- Met up with AD/BE at water leak – temp solution...Met Contractor to point out 3 tap replacement jobs. 10,11/04/21 (Taps to be replaced 13/04/21)
- FB update – Prince Philip – flag half-mast (BE)
- Email RF/PV (Fiona Rides – Parishioner) – planning applications – action needed before next meeting/ contacted CCTV initiative on FB and relayed details to Inspector Pemberton /team.
- Facebook updated with information on changes to the Avian Flu Prevention Zone conditions as of March 31st/ Allotment Noticeboard updated too
- Easter Eggs delivered to octogenarian + Parishioners/ Website & FB updated with poster regarding Parish Council "Egg Drop." 29/03/2021
- Emails - Police/PCSO JH regarding dog complaint – background given/ Inspector Pemberton – harassment on Facebook issue/ AD – Fencing – Royal Court
- Website - Added updated/ approved Allotment Policy and information on changes to the Avian Flu Prevention Zone conditions as of March 31st
- Website/Facebook - Updated Covid19 information in-line with changes in March 29/03/21
- Worked on March Meeting video 26/03/21 and published online 26/03/2021
- Edited NH statement on precept- posted online -Website
- Comms BE Contractor- new allotments/Solicitor email and return phone ; SW Gala related; PV Various/ Local Policing – getting the message out there.
- Read through 2nd Draft lease and comments sent to Solicitor/ SW 25/03/21
- Draft Mins edited/approved for circulation, record of cheques used and Tenants family contacts sent to the Clerk 22,23/03/21
- Email/phone/ parishioner and BC AK Re: planning for children's home Church Street – no consultation sent to PC or Borough Councillors – AK to look into it. 20/03/21
- Allotment/ Turning Circle/ Stanbury Drive & (Com Centre) Notice Boards updated with local Police contact info and St James Church update. 19/03/21
- Cheques written and signatures obtained. Delivered local and posted to Clerk others for distribution (also included was a Standing Order/Direct Debit 3 signed letter/instruction PV, BE, RH) 19/03/21– updated record of cheques used and sent to Clerk. 23/03/21
- Worked on raw March Meeting video data 18/03/21
- Solicitor meeting SW/RH 18/03/2021

- Comms SW/AD - complaint by tenant against neighbouring tenant – resolution conveyed by AD in 1:1 conversation / also discussed Rent related needed actions AD 16,17/03/21