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MINUTES OF BROWN EDGE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING  
HELD ON WEDNESDAY 6<sup>TH</sup> MARCH 2024  
BROWN EDGE VILLAGE HALL AT 7PM

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**Present:**

Chairman Cllr. Felton, Vice-Chairman Cllr. Bedson, Cllr. Berrisford, Cllr. Hunt, Cllr. Oberholster, Cllr Woodward, Cllr. Porter (Parish & District), Cllr. Jebb (District), Cllr. Flunder (District and County)

No members of the public     Minutes recorded by Mrs. D (Finance) and Mrs H. Harrison (Clerk)

**1. Chairman's Welcome and Announcements:**

Chairman Cllr. Felton welcomed everyone to the meeting.

**2. Apologies for Absence:** Cllr Wright, Cllr Hargreaves

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**3. Parishioners Concerns:** None

**4. PCSO Report:** No officers were present.

**5. County Council Report:** Cllr Flunder had apologised and was arriving late.

**6. District Councillor Reports:**

**a) Cllr. Christina Jebb:**

- Cost of living: A new leaflet will be circulated to Councillors to help anyone in the area that may need advice.
- Midlands today report filmed in Ipstones: At the Parish Assembly the debate over West Midlands Ambulance service continues, the issue isn't the ambulance staff its the management. 10,000 signatures are needed for a petition by SMDC.

**b) Cllr. Joe Porter:**

- Local Food production: Cllr Porter been promoting the backing of local farmers and to protect agricultural land in the area.
- Budget: SMDC budget has been set with an increase of 2.99% to the precept.
- Missed bin collections: Following on from the reports, Cllr Porter has been liaising with the refuse team to establish how they operate and will now be able to keep residents better informed.
- Police and Fire event: Cllr Porter attended an event with the Police and Fire Commissioner. He spoke about the decline of PCSO presence and that the Parish Council want PCSOs to be more visible.
- Community Speedwatch: A double session was carried out last week with a positive response. Speedwatch signs are to be put up in the area, to be agreed by Cllr Flunder.

- Planning: Battery storage planning application was rejected, good news for the area and keeping our green spaces.

**7. Declaration of Interests:**

Cllr. Porter: Staffordshire Police Civil servant/NHS and Carnival committee  
 Cllr. Berrisford: Hollybush  
 Cllr. Hunt: Carnival committee  
 Cllr Bedson: Carnival committee

**8. Approval of the Minutes** of the Meeting held on 7th February 2024 were approved and signed by the Chairman.

***Proposed Cllr. Porter – Secoded Cllr. Berrisford.***

**9. Matters Arising from previous meetings:**

- To revisit the death of a senior figure policy: Cllr Felton will obtain a copy of the current policy and bring to the next meeting. Cllr Felton would like to look at the current policy before making any amendments.
- First Responders: Cllr Bedson is arranging a meeting with the current first responders when possible to discuss how to help. Cllr. Hunts daughter will produce flyers for the First Responder recruitment drive.
- Action log: Cllr Felton to send information to all Cllrs and Clerk.

**10. Planning Applications:**

<b>SMD/2024/0085</b>	Tongue Lane Farm Tongue Lane Brown Edge	No objection
<b>SMD/2023/0555</b>	The Grange Clay Lake Endon ST9 9DD	The application will be called into the Planning Committee at SMDC Residents have expressed their views online A Public meeting was held in Endon with good attendance.

**11. Items on Notice:**

- New Cemetery Field:** Letter to residents at Lingfield Avenue to be sent out asap, to clearly state that the hedgerow will be covered under the maintenance contract. The hedge will be cut neatly and maintained. Cllr Berrisford to purchase membrane for the hedgerow, to enable the planting to start.

***Proposed – Cllr Bedson Secoded – Cllr Oberholster***

- Hollybush car park:**

i. Cllr Felton visited the site and advised that the old buildings need to be cleared and the fence taken down. Cllr Berrisford to co-ordinate a date for the work to start.

***Proposed – Cllr. Felton - Secoded – Cllr. Berrisford.***

ii. Generating income from the carpark was discussed. Research needed for resident permits and agreements with the garage owners.

***Proposed: Cllr. Felton – Secoded Cllr. Bedson.***

**19:45PM Cllr Flunder arrived.**

iii) Cllr Bedson has requested a letter of authority for DNO. Haven spoken with OCU Group, they are keen to install EV chargers in the area as there are no others around Brown Edge. Cllr Bedson

proposed to move forward with the letter of authority and to advise on a date for extraordinary meeting if needed.

**Proposed Cllr Bedson – Seconded Cllr Felton.**

- c) Cllr Woodward's proposal was agreed earlier in the meeting to clear the old buildings and fence from the carpark area.

**Permission was granted by the Chairman for Cllr. Flunder to give his County Report:**

**County Report: Cllr. Keith Flunder**

- Planning: Bemmersley Road Battery storage site was rejected by the Planning Committee.
- HAF funding – School holiday clubs and free meals will be available for children that qualify.
- County Precept increase of 4.99%. In the budget the biggest cost is Social Care services and Children's services.
- Cllr Flunder will be visiting hospitals and local schools on the health Committee.
- Storm Henk: Any businesses affected by storm damage can apply for flood funding.
- Highways: There are some upcoming road closures in the area in May, Willfield Lane and Clay Lake.
- Holehouse Lane: Repairs are scheduled to be carried out on the road.

**12. Finance and Governance:**

- a) New Cemetery field manhole cover quote. Cllr. Berrisford has obtained a quote for £460 +vat. It was resolved to contact Seven Trent first.

**Proposed - Cllr Felton – Seconded Cllr Bedson.**

- b) Authorisation of payments:

1. Mrs D Wheat Clerk/RFO Salary including back pay (NALC)	£696.93		
Paper (Ryman) 5 reams	£ 25.19		
Mileage (Feb 2024)	£ 27.00	TOTAL	Chq
		£749.12	1235
2. Mrs H Harrison Clerk Salary		£580.78	1236
3. HMRC PAYE (All Staff)		£128.78	1237
4. N&J Tree Services Ltd.Invoice 11th Maintenance Visit		£924.00	1238
5. E-on Highways Lighting		£856.52	1239
6. JSB Mr Jason Boulton Pest Control		£100.00	1240
7. SPCA Councillor Training		£72.00	1241
8. SPCA Clerk Induction Training		£48.00	1242
9. British Gas – Playing Field Electricity		£35.70	DD
10. British Gas – Cemetery Electricity		£21.99	DD
11. Water Plus – Cemetery Water (Jan)		£14.13	DD
12. Water Plus – (Feb)		£8.49	DD
13. Water Plus – (Mar)		£14.60	DD
TOTAL PAYMENTS (February) 2024		<b><u>£3,531.02</u></b>	

**Cllr Felton proposed and signed – Seconded Cllr Porter.**

- c) **Cemetery Recorder's Report for February 2024 Income received:**

Purchase of Grave & Interment (@Double Fees).	£870.00
Headstone Fee.	£135.00
Interment Fee.	£170.00
Headstone Fee.	£135.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b><u>£1,310.00</u></b>

- d) **Clerks Report income Jan/February 2024**  
Neighbourhood Plan Grant £867.00

**13. Reports and actions:**

- a) Neighbourhood plan progress report: Cllr Beresford has received a draft plan and will report this at the next meeting.
- b) Kings Coronation project by the Carnival committee, report on progress: Cllr Hunt suggested we need to arrange a day to start planting the trees. A new bench has arrived but needs painting. Marques and tents have been ordered. Cllr. Porter to organise a tree planting day and circulate.
- c) Playing field consultation: Cllr Porter will arrange a visit to the school.

**14. Correspondence:**

- a) High Lane playing field land registry and litter bin: No response from the developer. Cllr Felton the land needs to be registered properly. Clerk to email monthly until we receive a response.
- b) Requests for memorial plaques for cemetery benches: Denise has been to look at the current benches and they all need varnishing. The Chairman suggested reviewing the current bench policy at the Annual meeting. It was agreed for the Cemetery recorder to organise bench plaque applications going forward follow the policy.
- c) Parish Council postal address: No success with locating a suitable place for the Parish Council post box. Clerk to enquire at Local post office about the cost of a PO box.

**15. Items for the Attention of other authorities:**

- a) Matter for the District Council: Cllr Woodward - Footpath at Bank End needs attention.
- b) Matters for the County Council: Cllr Porter - Church Road potholes.  
Cllr Flunder - HGV signs have increased in price. Finance officer is liaising with the County officer to get the work authorised.

**15. Matters Pertaining to issues in the Parish for the next Agenda:**

- a) Cllr Felton: Resident correspondence regarding car parking facility at the cemetery. Formally apologised and anything going forward will be open to public consultation.
- b) Cllr Woodward: Suggested that the council now advertise to fill the two vacant Councillor roles.
- c) Cllr Bedson: Horses have been in the cemetery. Signage may be needed to deter this before damage occurs.

**Meeting ended 21:19pm.**

**Dates of the Next Brown Edge Parish Council Meetings:**

**Full Council Meeting – Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> April 2024 at 7pm, Brown Edge Village Hall**

<b>I hereby state this is a correct account of the monthly meeting held by Brown Edge Parish Council.</b>		
<b>Signed: (Chair)</b>	<b>Councillor Cllr. A. Felton</b>	<b>Date:</b>