

BRIZLINCOTE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING AND AGM

Minutes of Brizlincote Parish Council Meeting and AGM held via Zoom Conferencing on
Thursday 21st May 2020

Present

Chairman, Councillor Lynne Champion, Vice Chairman, Councillor Adrian Cowan, Councillors, Bob Bidgood, Karen Hyde, Brian Judd, Robin Ludford-Brooks, Barry Marsden, Peter Marston, Sarah Moss, Rita Page and Walid Qneibi.

Public

County Councillor Conor Wileman (part), Borough Councillor Bernard Peters (part)

Councillor Cowan proposed that we should record a change in standing orders for the meeting to end by 8pm as we are starting at 6pm. Unanimous vote in favour.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Outgoing Chair Robin Ludford Brooks welcomed everybody to the first full meeting by Zoom.

1. **Election of Chair** – Councillor Lynne Champion was proposed by Councillor Qneibi, seconded by Councillor Moss and agreed by all. No other nominations.
2. **Election of Vice Chair** – Councillor Cowan was proposed by Councillor Marston, seconded by Councillor Hyde and agreed by all. No other nominations.
3. **Election of other posts – working parties** – Proposed by Councillor Ludford-Brooks and seconded by Councillor Cowan that, due to the changed circumstances, the working parties be reviewed and councillors to advise the Chair of any changes prior to the next meeting when they would be agreed.

Councillor P. Marston stood down from all working parties apart from speed related
Councillor Champion stood down from the Facebook page.

Councillor Hyde said that to clarify, she had not stepped down from the Parish plan working party.

4. **Agree meeting dates for the next twelve months** – Proposed by Councillor Cowan, seconded by Councillor Judd that meetings would be held on the third Thursday of every month unless cancelled if as there was nothing pressing on the agenda. Agreed by all.

Meeting closed before moving on to the May Parish meeting.

MAY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Public Session

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No members of the public were in attendance.

1/20 Apologies

No apologies were received.

2/20 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

3/20 Minutes of previous Council Meeting (20th February 2020)

Approval of the Minutes (20th February 2020) was proposed by Councillor Ludford-Brooks, seconded by Councillor Cowan, and approved by all except Councillor Hyde who abstained as she was not present at that meeting.

4/20 Chair's Address

The Chair, Councillor Lynne Champion thanked everyone for her election and summarised the work done last year before saying that it would be good to encourage more community involvement from within the Parish. Councillor Champion expects a busy and challenging year as also experienced during the previous year.

5/20 Report by the County Councillor

Councillor Conor Wileman reported that the pedestrian crossing across Stapenhill Road at the Hollows was now fully operational.

He also explained the problems of getting the remedial work on the flood control systems in the Grafton Road area done during this period of pandemic.

Councillor Wileman also advised that letters had been sent to residents about overhanging branches/hedges. He thanked Councillor Marston for his assistance with this.

He also briefed the council on other matters in the parish and county and agreed to provide a written copy of his report which also covered Covid 19, support and volunteer groups etc.

Action: Councillor Conor Wileman.

6/20 Report by the Borough Councillors

As Councillor Colin Wileman was not present, Councillor Peters gave a report for both. Following on from a conference call between councillors and their MPs', it was advised that a letter will be sent to ask for feedback and reports on issues and complaints not being acted on in timely manner.

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He reported that councillors are working alongside charities like BACT making sure vulnerable access food and medication, and mental health support for those isolated. Councillor Peters commented that North Stapenhill allotments are looking wonderful. He agreed to submit a written summary.

Action: Councillor Peters.

7/20 Temporary Clerk

Councillor Ludford-Brooks reported that following discussions with the Chair of Stapenhill Parish Council, Bill Turton, and with the agreement of Stapenhill Council, it had been established that their clerk, David Briggs could be approached to cover for The Clerk.

This approach had been made and David Briggs was willing to cover up to four or five hours per week. This would be at a similar cost to our absent Clerk (Barbara Roe) who is unwell.

After some discussion it was unanimously agreed that David Briggs, the Clerk to the Stapenhill Parish Council, be invited to act in lieu of Barbara whilst she recovers from her illness.

Proposed: Councillor Ludford-Brooks, Seconded: Councillor Judd. Approved by all.

To keep David's workload as low as possible, routine duties (such as minutes, agendas, reports and payments) will be distributed amongst the parish councillors so that a clear remit can be agreed with David.

It is anticipated that the remit for the temporary clerk will include sifting official e-mails (such as NALC) in order to advise any actions required, preparation of accounts for audits and accountants- this will be discussed between David Briggs and Councillor Ludford - Brooks.

Action: Councillor Ludford- Brooks and Councillor Campion

8/20 Grant Aid Application from Edge Hill School

Proposed by Councillor Cowan, seconded by Councillor Judd, it was unanimously agreed to make a grant of £440 for the provision of two hen houses.

Action: Councillor Ludford- Brooks and Councillor Cowan

9/20 Replacement of the Bench Outside of the Post Office

It was agreed unanimously to defer replacement whilst further investigations be made as to refurbishment and repair of the existing bench.

Proposed Councillor Cowan and seconded by Councillor Marston.

Action: Councillor Campion and Councillor Cowan

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10/20 Facebook Page

Councillor Moss updated the Council on the Facebook page development and councillors were asked to share the page to increase awareness.

Action: All councillors.

11/20 New Parish Website

Councillor Moss updated the Council on the new website development and appealed for more photos of the parish for inclusion. Stafford will complete and a draft will be forwarded to councillors for comment in June.

12/20 Planning

Councillor Page advised that all the latest Planning Applications/Approvals had been circulated prior to the meeting and no comments were received.

The application to develop the farm site on Stanton road to residential use whilst welcomed, councillors stressed the need for them to be involved in the naming of the roadways in the development and disbursement of any S106 funding.

Councillor Cowan suggested that a member of the Planning department be invited to give a presentation on S106 grants and street naming. All councillors agreed with this action.

Action: Councillor Campion

13/20 Finance

Proposed by Councillor Judd, seconded by Councillor Page that the expenditure and income for March and April be accepted; this was agreed by all.

Proposed by Councillor Marsden, seconded by Councillor Marston that the expenditure of £71.50 on the Easter Egg Hunt and flowers for the clerk incurred by Councillor Campion be refunded, was agreed by all.

Action: Councillor Ludford-Brooks and Councillor Cowan

14/20 Nature Walk

Councillor Ludford-Brooks reported that the Grafton Road section of the walk was now open but the work to mitigate the flooding in the area was held up due to the Covid-19 restrictions. Also, the bridge at the other end of the section was in urgent need of repair or replacement. Warning notices as to its condition needed to be placed.

15/20 Clerks and Members Report

Brizlincote in Bloom Competition can go ahead as social distancing can be observed. Entries for last years' event were very few and the event needed to be promoted. Also,

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the Art Competition would be over the school Summer Holidays this year assuming that schools support this.

Councillor Cowan reminded Councillors that we didn't have the usual Annual Parish meeting and requested that the outgoing chair prepare a summary of the year, the last set of accounts and publish on the Facebook page and website with apologies that due to Covid-19 this had not occurred. We should then invite feedback from parishioners. Councillor Hyde seconded Councillor Cowan's proposal.

Action: Councillor Ludford-Brookes.

16/20 Date of Next Meeting

The next Parish Council meeting would be on Thursday 18th June 2020. The meeting closed at 19.50.

Distribution

All members of Brizlincote Parish Council, Borough and County Councillors as appropriate and the Burton Mail.

Action: Temporary clerk