

BUDBROOKE PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF MEETING
Wednesday 6 November 2024 at 20h00
in the Budbrooke Community Centre

Present: Cllrs: Mike Dutton (Chair), Andy Thomas, Rhonda Treacy-Hales, Maggie Treacy-Hales, Jan Matecki (WCC & WDC), and 8 members of the public.

Apologies: Cllrs: Ian McCloskey, Michelle Nutt, Peter Phillips (WDC)

Abbreviations: Please see below under final Item

1. Public Participation

1.1 A member of the public expressed concern at the dead trees on Sykes Road that did not appear to have received any attention other than him watering one that had flourished. He referred to the landscape management plan in the planning application that referred to items that had not been seen and asked who manages the estate. Cllr Matecki said that the WDC will adopt the land only after performing checks and he was asked to determine who was responsible. **Clerk to liaise with Cllr Matecki** thereon.

1.2 A member of the public referred to an overgrown path at Mayne Close that had become dangerous. Cllr M Treacy-Hales added that this had been reported six months ago and **the clerk** was asked to write again. Cllr Matecki offered to refer the matter to the WCC Highways who would take the matter up with the resident if the BPC letter did not result in a resolution.

1.3 A member of the public enquired about the inability of a wide mobility scooter to pass at Mayne Close and **Cllr Matecki confirmed** that this matter was in progress.

1.4 Chicane at HotH Church – A member of the public had issued a paper that had been provided to all councillors prior to the meeting. He noted that he had raised the issue of speeding in HotH two meetings ago. Years ago, HotH was quiet and a 20 foot wide road (compared to Cherry Lane-25 foot wide) had seen significantly increased traffic volumes. 20 years ago he and another resident who accompanied him to the meeting, had tried to motivate speed bumps but chicanes were installed. He believed that these had been ineffective and had caused an obstruction from queues of cars, with many drivers not observing the chicanes. The one at the church was the worst, being on a bend that was frightening and dangerous, did not control speeding and needed removal with a 20 mph speed limit as a replacement. During the Commonwealth Games the chicanes had been removed but then reinstated and were unfit for purpose.

The accompanying resident noted that a speed watch gun had been tried and needs 600 m but one can only see 120 m at this chicane. He referred to Chadwick End using a radar gun and issuing warning letters thanking Cllr Matecki for writing to the police to have those warnings issued, mentioning earlier HotH visits by Chris White MP and Matt Weston MP. A letter written to the WDC Chair had resulted in confirmation of the need for local parish council support. He noted a recent installation of speed bumps in Hartshill at a cost of £37,500.

The Chair added that the CC had recommended chicanes being installed as speed bumps would be unsafe being too close to properties that were very old and the CC did not wish to be liable for damage. Locations were set after two consultations that changed some details e.g. on School Lane. Circumstances had changed since and there had been three speed assessments since. He referred to a similar non observance of the right of way at the chicane on Old Budbrooke Road and the BPC would support further identification of evidence.

Cllr Thomas referred to the surveys conducted for the sightings of the chicanes that had to take account of the access to nearby roads. In response, the accompanying resident noted that there were ten possible speed restriction options at the time and asked if speed bumps were fine in Hartshill, could they not be used to control speeding in HotH?

Cllr Matecki confirmed that it was correct that speed bumps were advised as not suitable for the older buildings. In response to the suggestion that he could use his funds for the speed bumps, he noted that he had funded the bollards in HotH as well as the signs warning of pedestrians at the top of Old Budbrooke Road. He utilises his funding allocations in year compared to the councillor at Hartshill who had spent little over years and was now spending her money built up over time. He had written to the crime commissioner about the use of radar guns that will now be supported. He also referred to numerous emails received supporting the reinstatement of the chicanes after the Commonwealth Games. He had also funded the HotH speed survey early this year where the average speed at the allotments was 30.1 mph and only 25 mph at Hampton Croft with a majority travelling that speed or lower compared to before the chicanes, showing that the chicanes were working in reducing speed.

The accompanying resident said that he believed that the tests were located at the wrong places and that he had made representations on speeding for 20 years but nothing had happened. The Chair confirmed that the views of residents would continue to be listened to.

2. Register, Apologies & Declaration of Interest & Dispensations - The register was signed by all present. There were no Dispensations or Declarations of Interest

3. Approve previous minutes - The Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting of 2 October 2024 were approved. **Clerk to file.**

4. Matters Arising

4.1 Red phone box – Hampton on the Hill – **The clerk** reported that the company that had refurbished the box had arranged for the haulier to return it on 21 November and Cllr R Treacy-Hales had kindly offered to attend for the return.

4.2 Seat for zip wire in play area at Styles Close and basket and chains – The clerk reported that the parts had now been ordered and would be installed as soon as they were received.

4.3 Allotments Update from the 23/10/24 meeting – The clerk reported that the meeting was well attended with a key discussion point being the limited number of plots that were probably too small to divide. All but one attendee were happy to allocate plots by ballot, both initially and in the future. There was a possibility to apply for a plot at HotH and a member of the public added that there were currently three open plots but that there was no provision of water. Next steps were to update interested residents on progress regarding the handover, whilst the **clerk will** prepare a draft plot holder agreement and privacy notice as well as governance between the BPC and the allotment committee. Cllr M Treacy-Hales added that this was a fair summary of the meeting and she was not aware of plots being shown on the plans but rather just the area in total. Going forward plans must be specific on allotment size. The clerk reported correspondence from a resident requesting that consideration be given to using some of the carpark for allotments. A member of the public noted that paths would reduce the plot size even further and asked if the plots were held in perpetuity. In response, the Chair confirmed that the rules would determine how long plots were held and deal with waiting procedures.

4.4 Flooding at Montgomery Avenue Park – The clerk reported that the BPC were seeking quotes from an arborist and a drainage specialist having explained to the resident that this process would take time.

4.5 20 mph speed limit – This had been covered above but Cllr Matecki added that reduced speed limits were self-enforcing and so supported the use of chicanes. He was questioning the 24 mph average speed limit requirement and reinforced the need to work within existing parameters. Cllr Thomas confirmed that a 20 mph zone would need to be self-enforcing, as were most other restrictions.

4.6 Landscaping commitments by developers - **The clerk** will consult other councillors on the information provided previously by Cllr Stanton. It had been reported that the ponds may contain barbed wire and not landscaped as planned.

4.7 Hatton Development – The clerk reported correspondence received noting concerns about water supply to the proposed development that **the clerk would note** in a BPC response. There was a recent report from Keep Hatton Station Rural that was available on their website. A meeting with the BPC was being arranged with Turley and we await them confirming a date.

4.8 Matters that Councillors wish to clarify / discuss from the PC Action List - The Clerk noted that the list contained numerous items that had been actioned/completed and were shown as being “to close” and these were confirmed, including those from the last meeting list. Cllr Thomas noted two corrections: the 11a Hatton Terrace application had been rejected, whilst the report regarding Stanks Island was that it was ugly and there was no BPC issue.

5. Community Infrastructure Levy (CiL) Projects Update

5.1 Community Centre – Nothing to report

5.2 Play Grounds – It was noted that there was an open consultation event next Sunday at 3.30 pm with a similar event at the Open Door tomorrow evening

5.3 Benches – The clerk reported consulting with the WDC and awaiting supplier quotes to the BPC

6. Planning

6.1.1 405 Birmingham Road (W/24/1121) - No objections

6.1.2 Land East of Birmingham Road and Haywood Road Junction (W/24/1346) – Cllr Thomas had kindly drafted an objection that had received a majority approval from councillors and so **the clerk would submit**

7. Correspondence - nil other than as referred to above

8. Parish Maintenance/Playgrounds

8.1 The October 2024 Playground Report was noted. **Cllr M Treacy-Hales** suggested that the equipment needed a good clean and would put out a call for volunteers in the form of a December newsletter notice for a date in December

8.2 Review of maintenance work – nil to report

9. Community Centre / Village Hall items – the following events were noted: 9.1 Village Hall 20/12/24 film - Elf 19h15 free tea / coffee with ice cream @ £1 9.2 Village Hall Sunday 15/12/24 Free tea - 15h00 to 18h00 9.3 Community Centre - 24/11/24 Bingo Night 7 pm

10. Newsletter / Website / Facebook – Nil to report

11. Finance

11.1 Approval of payments - The payments on the list provided to councillors in advance of the meeting (plus one small late item) were noted and cheques were signed for these.

11.2 September 2024 Accounts – This had been distributed prior to the meeting and was considered and approved.

11.3 Bank reconciliation at 30 September 2024 – This had been distributed prior to the meeting and was considered and approved and signed

11.4 Move funds – The move of £250,000 to accounts earning improved interest rates was approved. **Clerk to** arrange with the Chair.

12. Any Other Business

12.1.1 Draft Emergency Plan v2 – The draft distributed before the previous meeting was deferred as Cllr McCloskey had given his apology.

12.1.2 Flooding Notice – A WDC request to inform residents of information available regarding flooding led to a draft notice for the newsletter, website and Facebook was approved. **Clerk to action**

12.2 Traffic Speed – Meeting Participation Continued – Might signs notifying hidden cameras reduce speeding, as used in some places for fly tipping? Cllr Matecki gave a reminder that using such signs was not possible if there were no cameras in use. Cllr Thomas asked if temporary cameras might be used whilst Cllr M Treacy-Hales asked if there were other signs that could be used? Cllr Matecki mentioned the possibility of a mini roundabout at the top of Old School Lane but that this would be costly as it was a wide junction and does also need volume from all directions to slow traffic down. Cllr M Treacy-Hales asked if there were any better places to have calming measures? Cllr Matecki confirmed that he and the CC were looking at alternatives as they are supportive of reducing speeding. Cllr M Treacy-Hales and a member of the public suggested that the issue was really non-observance of the right of way. Cllr Thomas added that the queues of cars implies that the chicanes were working. The clerk noted that Speed Watch was being followed up as the police do issue warning notices that appear to help, as mentioned earlier by the member of the public, in Chadwick End. The Chair added that Speed Watch only assisted when they are on location and so were there any other ways to reduce speeding? Do the police have solutions for enforcement? Cllr M Treacy-Hales wondered if safety would appeal to offenders? Cllr Matecki mentioned that measures had been considered two years ago resulting in the yellow background 30 mph signs and a “Slow” sign. The last survey averages had reduced from 31.8 mph to 30.1 mph and following several meetings with the WDC expert who also works on designs, an offer had been made to meet with the member of the public to discuss the matters of line of vision and vibrations.

13. Next Meeting - The next meeting will be held on Wednesday 4 December 2024 at 20h00 in the Budbrooke Community Centre.

The meeting ended at 21h10

Abbreviations: BCA – Budbrooke Community Association / HOTH – Hampton on the Hill / HOTHRA – Hampton on the Hill Residents’ Association / NALC – National Association of Local Councils / NW - Neighbourhood Watch / PC – Parish Council / PCSO – Police Community Support Officer / WALC – Warwickshire Association of Local Councils / WRCC – Warwickshire Rural Community Council / WCC – Warwickshire County Council / WDC – Warwick District Council / NP - Neighbourhood Plan / FB - Facebook / BVH - Budbrooke Village Hall / BBCC - Budbrooke Community Centre / CIL - Community Infrastructure Levy / DPI - Disclosable Pecuniary Interests / HM – Hampton Magna