



BOURNHEATH ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

The minutes of Bournheath Annual Parish Meeting Via zoom 28/04/2021, 7.00pm

Present: Parish Councillors: A Hewston (Chairman), K May, M Guest
2 Members of the public as per attendance list

In attendance: Angela Barnes, Clerk to the Council

Apologies: County Councillor S Webb, L Colley, S Ffoukes, P Trueman and S Westwood

1. Chairman's Welcome:

The Parish Council Chairman Cllr Andrew Hewston welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2. Minutes:

The minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held 22/05/2019 were approved and signed (no APM in 2020 due to Covid19)

3. Chairman's Annual Report for the previous year

Cllr Hewston presented the Annual Report. He thanked the councillors for the work and commitment that they had shown to the Parish.

Plans for the future include progressing the purchase of the BVCC lease. Volunteers are needed for the Community Speed Watch and the position of Footpaths Officer is still vacant. Members of the public were then given the opportunity to ask questions and make comments. One resident thanked the Chairman for the excellent eggs and charitable donations. He also wanted to make the Councillors aware of the issues caused by HGVs, Yarnold Lane had been blocked again that day by one lorry. The other resident asked for more information on the Perryfields housing development. District Cllr May confirmed that 1300 homes were to be built by Taylor Wimpey. The Planning Committee had turned down the Whitford application but the Inspectorate had allowed the appeal. There would be increased investment for hospitals and education. Restrictions on the use of Fockbury Lane imposed.

4. Reports from District Council representatives.

Cllr K May reported on the latest Covid19 figures; and was pleased to see that the converted Artrix Centre was very well utilised. Government had decided that face to face meetings should resume, the appeal to continue with zoom calls failed. Bulk waste collection had resumed 1st April. Asylum Seekers had left the Hilton hotel 6 weeks ago, none now in Bromsgrove. BDC had achieved an excellent Audit Report.

5. Reports from community support, including:

Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinator for Bournheath - Matthew Guest reported that there had been few incidents, probably because of residents being around more due to "home working".

Parish Footpaths Warden: vacant

6. Reports from parish-based community groups

Bournheath Village Community Centre (BVCC) - The following report had been submitted by the Chairman of BVCC, Louise Colley, who was on holiday so unable to attend:

Over the past year, income has been significantly reduced because of Covid, and, along with all other similar venues, we have been supported by government grants. We have taken measures to ensure that the hall is Covid-safe, creating new Risk Assessments, conditions of hire, signage, cleaning routines etc.

The lockdowns did give us the opportunity to carry out some improvements to the hall without disrupting hirers' activities. In the summer of 2020, the building was rewired and the main hall redecorated. This year the toilets have been reconfigured and refurbished, and we now have much

more modern and hygienic facilities. There is one large room which is a fully-equipped disabled facility and also contains a baby-change unit, and two separate self-contained gender-neutral cubicles (each with own sink/hand-drier to ensure privacy). It is hoped that the new facilities will make the building much more attractive to hirers, especially to people in the local community. Some repairs to the brickwork above the windows are needed – a builder has promised to complete this work.

Hirers can begin to book the hall again now for children's groups and education. Adult groups can begin again after May 17th. We are looking forward to getting activities running again, always ensuring that hirers can comply with the Covid-safe terms and conditions.

In terms of using the building for the community, we are hoping to re-open the hall for coffee mornings on 2nd June. We also intend to hold a Photographic competition in September, a Quiz in October, and a Christmas Fair in November if Covid-restrictions allow.

7. Open Forum

Question "Had the Council considered doing anything to recognise the contribution to the village made by Bryan Hewett?"

Response "Yes, a memorial bench has already been discussed and the Clerk is obtaining quotes."

Question "would the Council consider planting more trees?"

Response "permission would be needed from Bromsgrove District Council."

Issues:

Parking; Builders Noise, Good Neighbour!

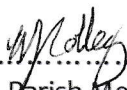
Response: The Council as a Consultee could recommend to BDC Planning Dept. that conditions are applied to ensure that workers are considerate to residents

Litter picking, Keep Bromsgrove Beautiful

Response: Residents should be encouraged to adopt the frontage to their property

The Chairman thanked all for attending.

The meeting closed at 7:45pm

Signed:..........
Chairman, Parish Meeting

Date: 11/05/22.....