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Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting of **BRENTOR PARISH** held remotely due to the Covid-19 Pandemic On **MONDAY 26th April 2021** at **7.00pm**

Present: Cllr T Pearce (Chair), Cllr A Arnold, Cllr B Dawson, Cllr S Chitty

Apologies: Cllr D Percival, Cllr S Fraser

In Attendance: Mrs C Oxenham (Parish Clerk)

Members of the public - Mr Will Walker-Smith

Cllr Pearce opened the meeting giving a brief summary of achievements over the past year. Although there haven't been many things to report due to the ongoing pandemic, general day to day business has continued. The following items in particular were mentioned.

Cemetery - This has now been measured and marked out with a proper burial plan, making it much easier to manage and administer.

Brentor Inn – Cllr Pearce explained that there have been many staffing changes within WDBC which has led to major delays and lack of consistency. Cllr Pearce has met with Head of Planning who has confirmed that action would be taken against the owners.

Housing – This is still progressing and submission of the planning application to the DNPA is imminent.

Toilets – Although agreement has been reached with the Parish Council, WDBC and the PCC to keep the toilets running for the current financial year, there is no long- term plan going forward. Cllr Pearce will be calling a meeting with Helen Harris who has suggested to WDBC that the diocese will be taking them on longer term although nothing formal has been received. The Bill to abolish business rates on public toilets has now been passed through the House Of Commons, although Business Rates remain payable on the car park.

Water and flooding continue to be an issue, especially in the area between the War Memorial and the Church. A long- term solution needs to be found. It is believed to be a combination of excess water running off the fields and by- passing the drain which is inadequate and unable to cope with the volume of water; and the stones placed to protect the gulley being constantly dislodged by vehicles. It is hoped that an officer from DCC will come out and do a site visit soon.

Mr Walker-Smith thanked Councillors for all their hard work and was happy that the main issues (flooding and Broadband) were being addressed. Thanks were also expressed to him for his work on Bowden Common.

He left the meeting at 7.27pm and the APM concluded.

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Minutes of a Meeting of **BRENTOR PARISH COUNCIL** held virtually due to the Covid-19 pandemic
On **Monday 26th April 2021 at 7.30pm**

Present: Cllr T Pearce (Chair), Cllr B Dawson, Cllr A Arnold, Cllr S Fraser, Cllr S Chitty

Apologies: Cllr D Percival

In Attendance: Mrs C Oxenham (Parish Clerk), one member of the public (Mr Andy Stone – Brentor Inn)

PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

There were no questions

46-2021 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllr Percival – as previously stated will remain as Councillor to complete banking duties until the accounts have been transferred over but will not be attending meetings. Clerk to contact a potential new Councillor whose name has been suggested as showing an interest in joining.

47-2021 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr Pearce declared an interest in item 4 – Matters Arising - Church Car Park Toilets and also Housing due to his personal interest because of his position as West Devon Borough Council Ward Member.

48-2021 APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 15th March 2021

It was AGREED by all that the minutes of this meeting be adopted.

Proposed by Cllr S Fraser, seconded by Cllr B Dawson.

49-2021 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES NOT LISTED AS SEPARATE ITEMS ON THIS AGENDA

Members **NOTED** the action tracker circulated with the agenda.

a) Bank Account signatories update - Waiting for Dave W to sign the forms to remove his authority from the account. The new signatures (Cllrs Arnold and Dawson) can then be added. Cllr Arnold is organising. **AA**

b) Air Ambulance update – No update. Clerk to contact Toby and ask him if he has heard anything from Western Power. **CLERK**

c) Emergency Plan – This has now been printed and is ready for distribution. Home Emergency plan is now at the printers and should be ready to hand out at the beginning of June. **SF**

d) Church Car Park Toilets – The toilets are now open. Clerk to contact Helen Harris for an update of plans moving forward. Clerk has received official confirmation (and payment) from the PCC that they will contribute £2000 towards the running of the toilets this year. The Parish Council will pay the remainder of £1850. **CLERK**

e) Wheelwrights Stone – Further information has now been received which seems to clarify that Mr and Mrs Pancheri don't own the stone and the DNPA had no authority to, and didn't give permission for it to be moved many years ago. Cllr Dawson asked that we contact the Pancheris and ask them to agree to share the cost of moving the stone back to its original place and also seek a quote from someone who would be able to do this. Mr and Mrs Pancheri have previously refused to make any financial contributions. **AII/
CLERK**

Cllr Pearce proposed that we defer to the next meeting and in the meantime then come up with a proposal to put to the Pancheris. Clerk will also contact Lee Bray and ask for him to do a

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site visit.

f) Cemetery restoration – Cllrs Dawson and Arnold met the company who carried out the church wall repairs. They were very enthusiastic and are going to provide an estimate. They are currently waiting for a quote for the matching bricks. On inspection, it would appear that the centre of the pillars is solid and a repair and refurbishment should be possible, rather than complete rebuild. **BD/AA**

g) Brentor Engine Nameplate – No re opening date yet for Plym Valley Railway but they are ready to take the sign as soon as they do. **TP**

h) Housing – No further information. Application to the DNPA is imminent. **TP**

i) Devon Climate Emergency – Cllr Arnold attended the latest meeting and will circulate some notes when written. A particularly useful website was mentioned. [Impact | Community carbon calculator \(impact-tool.org.uk\)](https://www.impact-tool.org.uk) which gives a visual carbon footprint for each individual parish in England. Other meetings are up and coming but no further details yet. **AA**

j) Brentor Inn - No further updates. **TP**

The meeting was suspended at 20.12 and Mr Stone was invited to provide an update.

Things are currently on hold. Enforcement officers spoke to the family last summer but there has been no contact since. Mr Stone is aware of the issues surrounding the buildings and potential rising costs.

Councillors are disappointed that this matter has been ongoing for at least the last 16 years with little sign of anything substantial having taken place. Mr Stone disagreed with this as much money has previously been invested in obtaining various planning permissions, installing a waste water tank and building the bungalow so that renovation works could begin. There has been a lack of response and follow up meetings from planning enforcement and files lost due to many changes in staffing. Each time Mr Stone and family have begun renovating, complaints have been made to planning enforcement and works have had to be halted while the complaints have been investigated.

Mr Stone was thanked for attending the meeting and updating the Parish Council.

The meeting resumed at 20.19

k) First Aid course – Clerk will find out the current situation and get an update from Councillors who would be interested in attending a course. **CLERK**

l) Broadband Universal Service Obligation (USO) – West Blackdown in process of being connected. Conduit has now been laid. Connecting Devon and Somerset are trying to put a project together for the Lyd Valley (Liddaton, Coryton and part of Chillaton). A Fibre Officer has now been appointed by WDBC. Cllr Chitty will follow up. **SC**

m) Replacement of Village Sign – New sign now fitted.

n) Brentor Community Trust discussion – Although not ideal, rather than lose this valuable community group, it is possible that the Parish Council could consider taking over the trust. There has been no response yet from the Village Hall Committee although it is not known if this is because they have considered and dismissed the idea of being involved, or if they haven't discussed it yet. Clerk to invite Mike Whitfield to the next PC meeting to give further information **CLERK**

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of what would be involved.

o) Grit Bin purchase – This is currently on hold. It is hoped that DCC Highways will commit to buying a bin. If nothing is forthcoming by September, Clerk will suggest suitable bins for the PC to purchase.

CLERK

p) Liddaton/Lyd Valley flooding - Ongoing. Cllr Pearce will chase up Highways to see what they propose to do and ask for a site meeting.

TP

50 - 2021 REPORTS FROM COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES ATTENDING MEETINGS/EVENTS OF OTHER ORGANISATIONS

Cllr Fraser had attended the Brentor Commons Trust meeting. There had been lots of activity including - TavyTaskforce who have completed more work in the pond area and coppice. 200 trees have been planted on Bowden Down and lots of the area has been cleared of brambles and weed. Western Power have done some essential tree reductions and will donate more trees to supplement what they have removed. A small parking area has also been created.

51-2021 PLANNING MATTERS

none

52-2021 GENERAL FINANCE

a) The Clerk had previously circulated an up-to-date financial summary (as at 11th April 2021)

b) Receipts since the last meeting:

17/03/21	£300	BACS	WDBC funding (lengthsman)
31/03/21	£45	CQ	Plasterdown PC (contribution towards SLCC fee)
01/04/21	£2000	BACS	PCC contribution towards toilet running

c) It was **RESOLVED** to approve the following payments made since the last meeting:

04/03/21	£58.80	CQ	Clerks expenses and reimbursement
12/03/21	£343.95	CQ	D Percival (Emergency Fund Grant reimbursement)
17/03/21	£40	CQ	ICO Fee
29/03/21	£20	S/O	Clerks admin
29/03/21	£394.45	S/O	Clerks salary
01/04/21	£24.12	CQ	Clerks admin
08/04/21	£2936	BACS	WDBC - Toilets
08/04/21	£17.94	CQ	WDBC – Dog Bin emptying
08/04/21	£49.99	CQ	Dartprint (Emergency leaflet printing)
08/04/21	£300	CQ	D Elliott (Hedgecutting)

d) It was **RESOLVED** to approve the following payments:

26/04/21	£92.60	CQ	DALC Subs
26/04/21	£170	CQ	D Elliott (cemetery maintenance)
26/04/21	£150	CQ	CAB (Grant)
26/04/21	£750	CQ	VH&PF (1 st half grant)
26/04/21	£5.40	CQ	Clerks expenses

Proposed Cllr B Dawson, seconded Cllr S Fraser and AGREED by all.

53-2021 CORRESPONDENCE

None

54-2021 MINOR ITEMS/ANY OTHER BUSINESS

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Proposed railway line – The parish clerk has not received any formal notification that this is progressing. Information has been published in the Tavy Links and Western Morning News. This however has not come from strategic planning and is just from a group who have been making investigations.

55-2021 **DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING.**

Virtual meeting – AGM TUESDAY 4th May 2021 7.30pm.

56-2021 **CLOSE**

The meeting was closed at 8.55pm