

# BRAUNSTON PARISH COUNCIL

**Minutes** of the Parish Council meeting held on **Thursday 14 November 2024 at 8pm** at Braunston Village Hall

Carole Brown, Clerk to the Parish Council

1. **Apologies for Absence:** Richard Beadman, Peter Allen, Emlyn Smith, Cllr Giles Clifton  
**Present:** Chris Bichard, Carole Brown, John Harry, Jim Attack, Jane Ellis, Cllr Andrew Johnson  
**Public Present:** Mike Hammond
2. **Declaration of Interest:** None
3. **Public Time:** None
4. **Approval of the Minutes of the Meeting held on Thursday 12 September 2024:** It was proposed by Jim Attack and seconded by Jane Ellis that the minutes of the meeting was a true record of that meeting and were signed off by the Chairman Chris Bichard
5. **CIL Payment:** £1072 has been received from the RCC for use on a project in the village, we have five years in which to spend it
6. **EV Charging Points:** After no consultation from the RCC a letter will be written to them requesting further information and a site visit to attempt to clarify the situation
7. **River Gwash Request to Remove Weir:** After a robust discussion with Mr. Hammond regarding the removal of the weir it was decided that taking it out may not make a difference to the flow of water and the flooding in the village, but we could make it look better. Jim Attack will work closely with Mr. Hammond to make a plan including getting expert advice
8. **RCC Request for More Trees to be Planted:** A letter is to be written to Stuart Kidd at the RCC to explain that Braunston Parish Council has no land to plant more trees, and to set out a plan to investigate the perimeters of the play area for further planting. Also to discuss tree planting with local landowners and residents
9. **Play Area: Broken Seat:** Chris Bichard will carry out an inspection of the seat and decide what to do next
10. **Footpaths:** After a recent review all the overgrown footpaths have now been cleared
11. **Reg 19 Local Plan Consultation & Meeting:** The consultation is underway and is open for those wishing to challenge the legality of what's being produced. The recent meeting was very helpful, and housing figures are covered in the 20 year plan
12. **Chattertons Files Held:** The LRALC has been contacted regarding the missing minutes, they say it's very serious and we should be referring the solicitor to the ombudsman
13. **Streetlights:** A new map and plan have been sent from the RCC, it will be checked and returned by Jim Attack
14. **Untidy Areas:** Letters to be written to residents with dwellings which have untidy curtilages
15. **Finance**
  - Accounts/Bank Reconciliation/Budget:** Were examined and discussed, it was proposed by Jim Attack and seconded by Chris Bichard that it was a true and correct reflection of the bank accounts, and they were initialled by Jane Ellis
  - Clerk & Internal Controls Councillor Bi Annual Review of the Account:** Has been carried out by Carole Brown (Responsible Finance Officer) and Richard Beadman (Internal Controls Officer) for the half of the financial year and all was found to be in good order
  - PC Budget Setting 2025-26:** The Clerk entered a draft budget for consideration the budget figure for this current year is £11,750 it is proposed that the precept is raised from that figure to £12,250 for the forthcoming year and this figure £12,250 will be the budget. Reclaimed VAT this year was budgeted at £600, next year it will be £1,356. The CIL payment which we didn't have last year next year will be £1500 the RCC mowing contribution last year was £763, proposed for the forthcoming year it will be £1150. The

village hall insurance refund last year was budgeted at £816 for next year it will be £850. In payments to be made next year the Clerks costs will rise from £3,360 to £3,500, admin will remain the same at £2,500 and general expenses will rise by £50 to £850, play area maintenance costs will remain the same at £500, the mowing contract will go up by £500 to £2,850, membership fees will be raised from £220 to £400, maintenance will remain the same at £2,000, capital will be raised by £1,000 to £2,000, the S137 budget will remain the same at £800 in conclusion the expected receipts for the years 2025-26 will be £17,106 and payments could reach £18,900. After a discussion it was proposed by Chris Bichard and seconded by Jane Ellis to accept the budget for the forthcoming year

**Precept Setting 2025-26:** It was proposed by Chris Bichard and seconded by Jim Atack to raise the precept for the forthcoming year to £12,250

**Clerk Wage Review:** The clerk left the room and a discussion was held, it was proposed by Chris Bichard and seconded by Jim Atack to raise the yearly wage of the clerk by 5% to £3,528 per year

**Mowing Quotation 2025-26:** Has raised by 20% for the forthcoming year as the contractor is now VAT registered. It was proposed by Chris Bichard and seconded by Jim Atack to accept the quotation

<b>Total funds in Bank Account No 1</b>	<b>£8,329.93</b>
<b>Total funds in Bank Account No 2</b>	<b>£24,590.00</b>

**Payments Received**

RCC CIL Payment	£1,072.26
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**Payments to be Made**

BDG Mowing Aug/Sept	£907.20
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Clerk Expenses	£13.50
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**Payments Already Made**

CPRE Subs	£36.00
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RBL Poppies	£39.00
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It was proposed by Jane Ellis and seconded Jim Atack to pay the outstanding invoices.

The cheques were signed off by the Chairman Chris Bichard and by Richard Beadman at a later date

## 16. Planning

**Applications Received**

2024/0940/FUL 24 Knossington Rd

2024/1236/CAT 2 High Street (Trees)

2024/1085/CAT 6 Oakham Rd (Tree)

2024/0972/CAT Land between 29 & 37 Knossington Rd (Tree)

**Applications Passed**

2024/1039/CAT 31a Church Street (Tree)

2024/1090/CAT 4a Cedar Street (Tree)

**Applications at Appeal**

2022/1286/MAO Brooke Rd

**17. Correspondence:** We have heard from the lawyers regarding the Brook Road Judicial review and the Parish Council has been granted permission to proceed on all three grounds in the High Court

**18. Items for next Agenda:** Gwash, E V Charging

**There being no other business the meeting closed at 21:30hrs**

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