

ST STEPHEN PARISH COUNCIL

Bricket Wood, Chiswell Green and Park Street

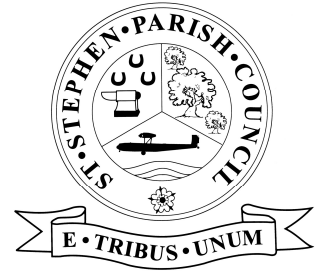
THE PARISH CENTRE STATION ROAD BRICKET WOOD

ST ALBANS HERTS AL2 3PJ

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Full Council Meeting

held on **Thursday 16 November 2023 at 7.30pm**

at the Parish Centre, St Stephen Suite, Station Road, Bricket Wood, Herts, **AL2 3PJ**

Present: Councillors

David Brannen

Aaron Jacob

Adrian Ruffhead

Richard Curthoys

Dorothy Kerry

Mark Skelton

Ajanta Hilton

Bill Pryce

David Yates

Also present Sue Hake, Clerk

District Councillors Fry and Webb

County Councillor Nash

4 Members of public

2324/078 Public Participation – to receive petitions, comments and questions

To welcome public participation in accordance with the Public Speaking Policy

Two members of public requested to speak at the meeting

A member of the public requested to speak on behalf of Bricket Wood Residents Association about concerns the Parish Council considering selling the Parish Centre and removing all facilities from the Village

It was confirmed the Parish Council do not have any plans to sell the Parish Centre for a housing estate and not have facilities in Bricket Wood, but would complete a survey in the future should be any changes with the current building be considered

A second member of the public raised the subject of communications and provision of a 3d plans offered to submit for the option study relevant and will forward an email with relevant queries

A member of the public enquired about the details recorder in the minutes

It was confirmed the legal requirements for the minutes of the meeting are to ensure all decisions made by the Parish Council are recorded and are not required to be verbatim

It was confirmed the Parish Council aim to look into the possibility of recording meetings for members of the public to access in the future

2324/079 To receive reports from representatives of St Albans District Council and Hertfordshire County Council

County Cllr Nash gave a verbal report to the Council about the consequences to the local Road infrastructure in 2024 as the progress to the Freight Terminal continues

all details are on the County Council website

Highways contract will be going to tender next year with aim to improve response action times

New Chiswell Green signs will be installed shortly

Winter salt bin requests to be submitted to County Cllr Nash

Issues with speeding cars continue to be looked into by the police

A new speed related camera is being looked into and police are parking in the area as a deterrent

District Cllr Fry gave a verbal report following attending Chiswell Green and Bricket Wood Residents Association meetings

Feedback given on actions being taken in Bricket Wood and positive feedback on the Woodbury field play area

District Cllr Webb gave an update on Park Street actions being taken

Judicial review for Rail freight responses received from HCC and Segro will going to the judge to decide in January 2024

2324/080 To receive and accept apologies and reason for absence

Apologies have been received from Cllrs Tyndale, Whittaker and Berriman

2324/081 To receive declarations of interest and dispensations

- a) To receive declarations of interest from Councillors on items on the agenda
 - b) To receive written requests for dispensations for declarable interests
 - c) To grant any requests for dispensation as appropriate
- None received

2324/082 To confirm minutes of meeting held on 19 October 2023

Resolved: Agreed by attending councillors

2324/083 To invite St Stephen Parish Councillors to update Members on Parish related issues

Cllr Pryce raised concerns about intrusion by large lorries on the Segro site onto the bridle way and has reported this to the District Council

2324/084 Update on previous actions not mentioned later in the agenda

None

2324/085 Reports: Finance, Policy and Resources

- a) To confirm list of September and October 23 payments authorised by Finance Committee Members
Noted
- b) To note the quarterly direct debit payments for July – Sept 2023
Noted
- c) To note the half year finance summary report
Noted
- d) To note the salary increase confirmation received for April 2023
Noted
- e) To consider and agree grant request from St Lukes.
Deferred to the next finance meeting.
- f) To reconsider Terms of Reference for Fixed Assets and Community and Leisure Committees to avoid confusion between the two committees – report with recommendations by Cllr Pryce
Deferred to the next meeting

2324/086 Update on Greenwood Park Resident Survey

Amendments in progress and will be circulated to Councillors and uploaded to the website

2324/087 To note minutes and agree recommendations from the Council's Committees & Working Groups

To receive brief progress reports and recommendations from the:

- a) Community and Leisure
 - i. To agree to sign the Armed Forces Covenant- to be circulated-
Deferred to the next Community and Leisure meeting
 - ii. To consider applying for the Green Flag Award 2024 - Greenwood Park and Park Street Recreation Ground
Cllr Pryce proposed applying for the Green Flag at Greenwood Park which has previously been obtained but not Park Street recreation ground
Resolved: To apply for the Green Flag for Greenwood Park
 - iii. To consider holding a Spring/Summer Festival, agree date(s) and budget requirements for Community and Leisure to commence preparations
Possibly for May 2024

Councillors discussed the option for holding an event in 2024 with concerns raised about costs to tax payer although positive feedback and support from the survey and social media has been received, possibility of local fundraising groups contributing or attendees paying

Action Community and Leisure to provide a proposal for holding an event in May or June 2024

- b) Fixed Assets - None
- c) Finance - None
- d) Planning - Update
- e) HR- Administrative Assistant commenced in post the previous week
- f) Events Working Party
 - i. Feedback on Remembrance Day
Cllr Pryce informed the council the day was a success and everyone who attended and all councillors confirmed they would hold the next Remembrance Day on Sunday November 10 2024
 - ii. To recommend the date for Armed Forces Day Celebrations 2024 and to consider budget required
Cllr Pryce informed Councillors the day for the next Armed forces day will be held on Sunday 30 June 2024
Cadets from Columbus college and 22 squadron plan to attend and an application to request a grant from County Cllr Nash will be submitted
Events Working Party to provide costs for the budget.

2324/088 Clerks Report

Updates

A verbal update was provided on Park Street and Woodbury Field Play Areas

Meeting closed at 20.57pm

Agenda items for the next meeting to be sent to the Clerk by Monday 8 January 2024

Signed:

Date