**MEETING OF**

**BROCKLEY PARISH COUNCIL**

**ON MONDAY 12th March 2018 THE VILLAGE HALL, BROCKLEY AT 7.30PM**

**PRESENT:** Cllr A English, Cllr. R Jones, Ian Robertson, District Councillor P Stevens (part) Cllr Mary Evans (part).

Due to the absence of the Clerk, Cllr Ian Robertson took notes of the meeting.

**1.** Cllr A English chaired the meeting.

**2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:**

Cllr Udo Hardy, Cllr Kevin Fisk, Cllr Danny Boreham, Miss Christine Eastell (Clerk).

**3. REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATIONS:**

No requests have been received.

**4. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:**

Cllr R Jones declared an interest in Item 11 of the agenda in that he benefits from a payment of 5p annual rent for the bus shelter.

**5. COUNTY COUNCILLOR’S REPORT / BOROUGH COUNCILLOR’S REPORT:**

Cllr Evans reported as follows:

The school consultation regarding transport has finished; Not a good response from Ickworth but better from Hargrave. SCC offered the chance of increasing council tax by 1% but this was rejected. Training is being organised at Clare regarding the new Data Protection Regulations. Following a request from Bob Double, Mary said she could help with funding a defibrillator for the village hall. Roads: Council has borrowed money and put out extra teams to deal with potholes. Cllr. I Robertson mentioned how poor the repairs had been in places and Cllr A English made the point that the whole B1066 needs attention. The request for extending the footpath on the B1066 alongside the village hall field was again mentioned but Cllr M Evans said there is no funding available for this at present.

Cllr. P Stevens reported as follows:

St Edmundsbury Borough Council are not increasing council tax this year. They can set a balanced budget until 2012. St Eds and Forest Heath are merging to form a West Suffolk District Council which will mean 11 less councillors and hence less wards. Cavendish may lose Poslingford to Clare but gain Rede and Whepstead. A consultation will come out about these changes. It was mentioned that funding for the village hall renovation could come from the larger fund called Community Chest accessed on the Borough Council’s website. We can invite Locality Officer Leslie Anne Keogh to give advice in using this site. Article has appeared in the Bury Free Press about car park profits, all profits are redirected into local series and looked at by a scrutiny committee.

**6. PUBLIC FORUM:**

There were no members of the public in attendance.

**7. TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF 8 JANUARY 2018**

Amendment to minutes: Agenda item 10: Delete the word **Cllr** from Bob Double’s name; For clarity a further sentence added to the paragraph relating to the Trustees of the village hall ‘subsequently the constitution of the village hall was amended formally establishing the Parish Council as Trustees of the Village Hall Charity’.

It was proposed by Cllr Robertson, seconded by Cllr English that the amended minutes were unanimously approved as a true record of the meeting of the 8 January 2018.

**8. MATTERS ARISING:**

The matter of the footpath cannot be taken any further due to lack of available funding. A response has been received from Ickworth Park Primary School on the number of pupils from Brockley who attend the school, between 5 and 10. With this information, a discussion took place regarding how much the Parish Council should continue to give towards musical instruments. As a number of children now is perhaps half of what it was, it was decided to reduce the contribution to £125. Proposed by Cllr English and seconded by Cllr Robertson – unanimously agreed.

**9. COMMUNITY GARDEN**

An introductory evening has been organised by Cllr I Robertson for the 22 March 2018. The Parish Council will pay the costs of this evening which should be in the region of £81.

**10. VILLAGE HALL REURBISHMENT PROJECT**

A report from Cllr I Robertson: There are three things to get in place before we go for funding; dig a hole to check foundations, get planning permission for a new roof, confirm ownership of the village hall. Cllr A English advised taking into account the Construction Design Management Regulations and that it must be demonstrated that we employ a competent contractor.

**11. FINANCE**

As at 12/01/2018 the bank account stands at £25,495.86. Two cheques were written at the meeting. The bus shelter rent was discussed, and it was agreed to continue paying Richard Jones the sum of five pence as he owns the land it stands on. Proposed by Cllr English, seconded by Cllr Robertson. Remuneration of Parish Clerk. No agreement for paying the clerk was originally agreed apparently and Christine has enquired about this and has also offered to be the finance officer. After some discussion, Cllr Jones agreed to continue as finance officer and he proposed a payment of £95 a month which includes travelling times. This was greed. Cllr Jones said he would contact Christine about this. It was also agreed to back date this payment to November and pay her for 5 months up to March 2018 and that a written contract would be created. Proposed by Cllr English, seconded by Cllr Robertson.

**12. DATA PROTECTION**

Clerk to provide guidance documents as agreed at previous meeting.

**13. No report**

**14. CORRESPONDANCE**

None.

**15. MATTERS FOR THE NEXT MEETING**

Cllr. English had to leave the meeting. It was agreed the next meeting which is the Annual Meeting of Brockley Parish Council shall be on Tuesday 8th May 2018 at 7.30pm at which we can discuss the Brockley Village Annual Meeting which is to be held on Monday 21st May 2018 at 7.30pm. Cllr Robertson agreed to book these dates and to put an article in the village newsletter to advertise the Brockley Annual Meeting. On behalf of the Brockley Village Hall Trustees, Cllr Robertson agreed they would give a short presentation on the progress of the village hall renovation at the meeting.

Cllr. English was nominated to chair the next meeting.