

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF BRINDLEY AND FADDILEY PARISH COUNCIL
HELD REMOTELY ON 6TH JULY 2020**

PRESENT:	Cllr G Barlow Cllr T Long Cllr C Latham Cllr P Major	Chairman Vice-Chairman Cllr R Ford Cllr P Robinson
APOLOGIES:	Cllr J Pochin	Cllr S Davies (Cheshire East Council)
ALSO PRESENT	Dr. M Bailey (Clerk/RFO)	

121 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr J Pochin and Cheshire East Cllr Stan Davies.

122 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Members were invited to declare any disclosable pecuniary interest or non-pecuniary interest which they had in any item of business on the agenda, the nature of that interest, and in respect of disclosable interests, to leave the meeting prior to the discussion of that item.

There were no declarations of interest made by Members present.

123 MINUTES – 4th MAY 2020

Members considered the minutes of the annual Parish Council meeting held on 4th May 2020 and noted the following errors/omissions: -

- Cllr Latham to attend ChALC meetings
- The reference to a 'bus stop' should read 'bus shelter'

RESOLVED: Members resolved that the minutes of the annual Parish Council meeting held on 4th May 2020 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

124 MATTERS ARISING

The following matters were raised from the minutes: -

- Bus shelter – a request was made for progress and it was reported that work is proceeding as planned – foundations in place and waiting for woodwork to be done (wood will be the cost of the project to the Council)

125 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

There were no members of the public present at the meeting.

126 CASUAL VACANCY

The Clerk reported to the Council that a vacancy exists on the Parish Council.

It was further reported that there had been two applications for the vacancy.

Following a vote by Parish Councillors, it was **RESOLVED** that Jo Thomas become a Member of Brindley and Faddiley Parish Council. Cllr Thomas joined the meeting at this point.

127 FINANCIAL MATTERS

127.1 Authorisation of Payments

£265.96 Dr MJ Bailey – salary payment for Clerk (June/July 2020)

£66.50	HMRC for months 3 and 4 of the tax year (Clerk's salary)
£40.00	Mr. Peter Kent (Internal Audit 2019/20)
£12.60	Shires Pay Services (M1-M2 Payroll Costs)
£12.60	Shires Pay Services (M3-M4 Payroll Costs)

RESOLVED: The above payments were approved by the Council

127.2 End of Year Accounts (1st April 2019-31st March 2020)

The following documents, comprising the draft accounts for the financial year 2019-20 were presented to the Council for note: -

- Ledger 2019-20 (1st April 2019-31st March 2020)
- Receipts and Payments (full year 2019-20)

127.3 Internal Audit Report 2019/20

The Parish Council's Internal Auditor (Mr Peter Kent) has now completed his audit and has set out the following findings for the Parish Council to consider: -

- To review the Parish Council's insurance with a view to securing a more efficient outcome; and
- To review the bank accounts held by the Parish Council to move towards only having one bank account rather than the current current/reserve accounts in place

RESOLVED: The Internal Audit report was noted and approved by the Council.

127.4 External Audit 2019/20

The Clerk updated the meeting on the arrangements for the 2019/20 external audit. The audit itself is being undertaken by PFK Littlejohn. Due to the ongoing issues caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, the arrangements for the external audit have been changed.

It was proposed that the period for exercise of public rights will be between 20th July and 28th August 2020.

The Council noted these developments and **APPROVED** the arrangements.

127.5 Annual Governance Statement

The Parish Clerk presented the 2019/20 Annual Governance Statement to the Parish Council for completion and approval.

RESOLVED: The Parish Council completed and approved all eight sections of the AGS and answered 'yes' to all sections (section 9 is not applicable) with the exception of section 4 ('We [the Council] provided proper opportunity during the year for the exercise of electors' rights in accordance with the requirements of the Accounts and Audit Regulations') to which the answer was 'no'. This was due to the Clerk posting the accounts on the website on the same date as the 2018/19 period of electors' rights began (18th June 2019) rather than before this date, as required by the Regulations.

127.6 Accounting Statements 2019/20

The Parish Clerk presented the 2019/20 Accounting Statements to the Parish Council for approval.

RESOLVED: The Parish Council approved the Accounting Statements for the 2019/20 financial year.

127.7 Certificate of Exemption 2019/20

The 2019/20 External Audit process allows parish councils whose income/expenditure does not exceed £25,000 to certify themselves as exempt from an external 'limited assurance' review/audit. Brindley & Faddiley Parish Council qualifies for such a certification.

RESOLVED: The Parish Council agreed to complete the Certificate of Exemption and therefore certified the Parish Council as exempt from a 'limited assurance' external review/audit for the 2019/20 financial year. The documents will be signed by the Clerk/Chairman and submitted.

127.8 Ledger/Bank Reconciliation Statement (1st April 2020-31st May 2020)

The ledger/bank reconciliation statement for the period 1st April 2020-31st May 2020 was presented to Members, who noted the document.

128 CHAIRMANS REPORT

The Chairman of the Parish Council reported the following item: -

- Road signs – these need to be repaired and also lettering needs to be re-done – many signs are also dirty and need to be cleaned. It was also reported that the 40-mph sign coming into the village is covered by a tree.
- SID – the speed on the main road is appalling and police have been contacted about it. The SID was removed for a time but will now suggest that it goes back in place (although may need some more brackets). The Council **AGREED** to put the SID back in place.
- Planning – the application for a bungalow near to the Thatch has been delayed for 3-4 weeks (probably due to a backlog of applications at Cheshire East).
- Projects – it was requested that Members come to the next Parish Council meeting with ideas for projects in the parish

129 BOROUGH COUNCILLOR REPORT

Cllr Stan Davies (Cheshire East Council) was not at the meeting and sent his apologies.

130 HIGHWAYS MATTERS

There were no issues raised affecting the parish.

131 PLANNING MATTERS

Several applications have been received and shared with Members – comments have been passed on to Cheshire East Planning.

131.1 Planning Applications

20/2746N Sevenoaks, Hearn's Lane, Faddiley CW5 8JL
Single-storey side extension.

Members considered this planning application and made the following points:

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- This is a retrospective planning application – refers to the house and not the business at the same address
- Members had concerns about the increasing size of the property
- There were concerns about the impact on the highways of increased business at the site because of the expansion
- The Parish Council asked that the local CEC Member refer to this to the full Planning Committee

Members also expressed various concerns about the business operated at the property, but these concerns did not relate to the planning application.

Members **AGREED** that the above points be communicated to Cheshire East Council Planning.

132 COMMUNICATION/SHARED INFORMATION

The following matters were raised by Members: -

- Cllr Long – asked about what was happening to the Thatch pub – Members had no information
- Cllr Ford – expressed concerns about the state of the roads in the parish – in particular, Brindley Lea Lane and asked if Brindley Lea Hall will do anything about this
- Cllr Ford – the family of the late Cllr Williams asked if a commemorative tree could be planted on the common (will consider at the next meeting)
- Cllr Robinson – raised the issue of Willbank Lane, going towards Crooks Pit Farm – trees are over the highway and causing a blind corner (Parish Council **AGREED** to send a letter to Cheshire East Council and will raise issue of road signs in the same letter)

133 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next regular meeting of the Parish Council will be held on Monday 7th September 2020 at 7.30pm – details to be confirmed.

.....Chairman

The meeting commenced at 7.30 pm and concluded at 8.45pm