

BRADWELL PARISH COUNCIL



**Notes of the BRADWELL
ANNUAL PARISH MEETING
Held in the Methodist Hall
at 7:30 p.m. on Tuesday 25th April 2018**

Present:-

Parish Council Members

Cllr P Downing (Chair), Cllr P Higgs, Cllr N Kirkham, Cllr L Granger
Cllr A Nash, Cllr M Salvage, Cllr L Sowerby, Cllr R Stevens,

Mrs C Preston Clerk to Bradwell Parish Council

Cllr J Twigg	Derbyshire County Council
Cllr C Furness	Derbyshire Dales District Council
PCSO A Boswell	Derbyshire Constabulary
Mr E Cavanagh	Hope Cement
Mr C Winterbottom	Fire Service

c. 13 members of the public attended

The Chairman introduced the meeting, welcomed those present and thanked those who provided refreshments.

1. Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from Cllr K Lancaster

2. Notes of Last Year's Meeting

It was agreed to accept the minutes of last year's meeting.

3. Parish Council Chairman's Report

Your Parish Council has been very busy again during the past year. If anyone has specific questions, then we do have all the Councillors here and we will do our best to answer them for you.

We retained a full complement of councillors until April, when Chris Furness resigned. As I stated last year, a team which stays together and whose members understand each other will always do a better job than one which constantly changes. We did, however lose another key person during 2017, and that person was the individual responsible for keeping us all honest - our Parish Clerk, Steve Lawless.

I want to express my gratitude to him, not only for working tirelessly throughout the many years for which he has been working with us, but also for the professional way he has handed over the reins to our new clerk, Caroline Preston. We welcome Caroline to the team and I can assure you that she is already making her own mark. The parish clerk plays a crucial and central role in the life of the village and in ensuring the efficient functioning of Council. Local tasks range from the filling of grit bins to making sure the grass is cut, but the clerk also acts as our focus for communications with external agencies such as Peak District National Park, the police, District and County councils.

You will be pleased to hear that we are in the final stages for sale of the Council owned quarry in Bradwell Dale. You will remember that we had decided to dispose of it because of the potential cost of maintaining it in a safe condition, and the sale documents were signed a few weeks ago.

Another key happening in the past year is that the Newburgh Engineering factory has been completed and the site handed over to Camstead development, who are responsible for demolishing the old industrial buildings and building the houses. You will recall that Council

supported this plan, for the building of 55 houses on the site, including 12 affordable homes for use by local people. As far as we are aware, the plan is proceeding on time and without major amendment, although we are watching closely because you never know..... Council continues to work closely with Peak District planning officers regarding this and other developments in the village, and we are supporting each other as we try to ensure compliance with planning law.

Although the village Youth Club was closed last year, we felt that we shouldn't just walk away from our efforts to support the village youngsters. We therefore set up a Youth Activities committee and Councillors Sowerby and Salvage have been doing a splendid job, supported by Edale YHA in making available a series of exciting and demanding activities for a group of Bradwell youngsters. Councillor Sowerby reports:

The Bradwell youth activities group is run by, but not funded by Bradwell Parish Council. The group was formed in April 2017 and is available to Bradwell young people who are in school years 6-11. The aim is to provide the group with a greater knowledge, love and care of the countryside and promote healthy recreation and education. This is achieved through a programme of activities coordinated and supervised by Edale YHA. Activities have included abseiling, caving, limestone adventure, rock climbing, weaselling, night hikes, orienteering, archery, high ropes, raft building and canoeing. The group have grown in confidence, have great team spirit and have met all challenges set. The youth leaders praise their courage and determination. They have been lowered down a 40ft mine shaft, abseiled in the dark, sat in a muddy oyster chamber under Stoney Middleton listening to ghost stories and capsized all the canoes whilst all going for the same football. You always hear laughter and hopefully new memories being created. I have been informed that there are 6 levels of competence when weaselling. Three of our group have achieved the highest level - 6, which is brilliant. They are all a pleasure to work with and we would like to thank:

Bradwell Co-op

District Councillor Furness' local projects fund

Bradda Dads

County Councillor Judith Twigg

Derbyshire Dales Community Safety Partnership

Eden Tree Caravan Site

And the group themselves for joining in two fund raising activities.

There will be a few vacancies in the summer so if you think you know someone who may be interested please encourage them to apply. Please keep an eye out for various posters and for activity reports in Bradda News

Spaces in the new car park in Softwater Lane were rapidly taken and all have been in use throughout the year. We are now looking at several other areas in the village where similar schemes can be developed, as we try to ease the parking congestion in the village. We have also had some success in preventing residents from destroying our grass verges by driving their vehicles over them. Mostly this has been through the expeditious use of heavy, strategically placed flower tubs, which have the added bonus of looking rather attractive. Grateful thanks to anyone involved in planting and maintaining these tubs.

The job of maintaining the playing fields continues to be potentially expensive due to the large number of trees we own. A survey of the Parish's trees has been done and we are drawing up a 5-year plan to ensure their future safety and health. The playing fields committee has also commissioned work on the Rose and Peace gardens, improving access and making the Rose Garden much more attractive.

Carnival – Carnival continues! Last year the event was again highly successful, and we were blessed with good weather. We had slightly less royalty than usual due to a clash of events, but nobody seemed to notice.

This year the theme is "Movies" and Carnival Day will be on 4th August. If any resident would like to take an active part in the planning and running of Carnival, then do please let us know. There is much to do, but many hands make light work. Dogs on the field were less of a problem last year

and we were pleased that this year the dog warden was able to come, although it quickly became apparent that he had few real powers to do anything except ask the offenders to leave the field.

The general feeling was that Carnival 2017 was again a very successful event, bringing the village together and showing all our visitors how a real carnival should be held. This year we are challenged because the lady who organises the queens has left, and we are trying to find a replacement.

This year there will again be a second Saturday event - the highly successful "Comedy Night" in the Memorial Hall. There will also be Bradwell Open Gardens on the second Saturday and both events are being organised by the Community Land Trust. I am sure they hope to see as many residents as possible supporting these village events.

During the year the "Community Resilience Committee" has been very active, the number of flood wardens has again increased, and the new store at Town Bottom has been stocked with warning signs, barriers and various items of flood equipment. We are again indebted to the redoubtable Councillor Higginson for his work in this area and in his other capacity as a snow warden.

Regarding Financial Matters, the chair of our finance committee, Ngaire Kirkham, reports that we are just ending the last year of the council's five-year plan. This plan was implemented to ensure that the council always had sufficient funds to meet its obligations and maintain its assets.

Behind the plan are four guiding principles:

1. The Financial Reserves should never be allowed to fall below the recommended national levels
2. The play equipment on both playing fields should be broadly maintained at its present level
3. The cost of refurbishing the Beggars Plot play equipment should be included in the plan
4. In 15 years' time there should be sufficient funds to refurbish the Town Bottom play equipment

Through careful planning and by prudent control of costs we have been able to hold annual increases to only 5% for the past three years, without any loss of village amenity. We are hoping that the recent cold weather and the need for frequent restocking of the council grit bins will not adversely affect our finances during the coming year. As always, more financial information is available on request.

No report would be complete without a mention of the toilet block on Town Bottom. District Council have maintained them for many years, along with similar toilet facilities in surrounding villages, but like all of us they are under financial pressure and so during the early part of this year they decided to close a substantial number of them. We did not want this to happen in Bradwell and with the help of District Councillor Furness we were able to have them removed from the list of those targeted for immediate closure. The big question is what to do with them, because the costs of running them are £xx a year and Council does not believe this is something which should be paid for out of the precept. We are therefore investigating alternative ways to manage them, possibly by a specially created local group, or even by the Community Land Trust. There are many issues yet to be resolved, such as who owns the building (believe it or not this is not clear), whether we can apply to have business rates waived (yes, business rates are payable) and other factors which make this venture slightly problematic. We will of course keep residents informed as we go along.

During the coming year we will be keeping a watch on the Newburgh site development to make sure inconvenience and any problems for residents are minimised. Council thanks residents for their support during the past year and we appreciate that some of you do attend Council meetings. We do hope you have been suitably entertained.

Cllr Granger gave an update on parking in the village. It was reported that the car park at Softwater Lane was running well and most spaces are occupied. Any available spaces will be advertised in Bradwell News. It was reported that other spaces for parking in the village are being reviewed and the next area to be reviewed in detail is at the end of Gore Lane. Further information will be available after the feasibility of the area is examined in full.

Cllr Higgs reported on Community Resilience – Thanks were given to the Flood Wardens for their assistance during the bad weather. Cllr Higgs did confirm that the first responsibility for protection is with the home owner but the flood wardens would assist where they could. The grant that was received is being used for equipment and supplies that could be used in the event of a flood.

4. Reports from Other Authorities

Derbyshire County Council Report (DDC Cllr J Twigg)

Cllr Twigg gave her report which included the following information:-

- Cllr Twigg thanked Bradwell for the invitation and she see that there is a good working team in Bradwell
- She acknowledged that there is a major issue with pot holes and over 1000 had been repaired in the previous 12 months
- Four new vehicles have been purchased in order to speed up the repairs required
- It was advised that when a crew visit a road to carry our repairs they repair all of the pot holes that are present in the road at that time
- Cllr Twigg advised that she was highly delighted to give some money to Youth Activities. She advised that funds are available for other clubs in the village but stated the funds are not to run the clubs but for specific projects that need funding

District Council Report (DDDC Cllr C Furness)

Cllr Furness gave his report which included the following information:-

- He advised that the ownership of the toilets at Town Bottom would be resolved in the coming weeks.
- When questioned about the funding of the new toilets in Hathersage he advised that they had received a grant
- He advised that DDDC were looking at a number of ways that some funding could be given to Bradwell Parish Council if they took over the running of the toilets at Town Bottom
- Cllr Furness was unable to comment if the election of a Mayor in Sheffield would make a difference to how the rural buses would be funded
- All DDDC councillors have a personal grant fund for allocation within their parishes. He has some money available and applications will be welcomed.

Police Report (PCSO Boswell)

PCSO Boswell gave his report which included the following information:-

- In previous years there were reports of illegal drug use and that trend is reducing with much fewer reports in the last year
- He advised that there were a number of ANPR cameras around the boundary of the area
- He confirmed that the CREST speed monitoring will continue to visit Bradwell. He acknowledge the request to position the van at different locations in the village

Fire Service (Mr C Winterbottom)

Mr C Winterbottom gave his report which included the following information:-

- There ate 10 personnel in Bradwell Fire station
- They work in conjunction with Hathersage so there is one appliance always available
- They are still actively recruiting in both Bradwell and Hathersage
- They are still conducting safety checks for vulnerable people and installing smoke alarms where required
- He advised that Bradwell Fire Station will be 60 years old this year and there was going to be an open day on 11 August 2018
- When asked if the fire station was safe he said he couldn't promise anything but it currently has full support

5. Bradwell Village Topics

Breedon Hope Cement Works (Operations Manager - Ed Cavenagh)

Mr Cavenagh gave an update on the plant's performance and the challenges it faced since last year. He advised that Breedon has purchased Lagan in Ireland which is one of the largest quarries in Ireland.

He advised that the major repairs that are planned are Kiln 2 shutdown commenced as planned 3rd Jan 2018 for 24 days (2 days ahead) with Kiln 1 shutdown commencing 11th Jun 2018 for 24 days

On the subject of health and safety he advised that 0 Lost Time Incidents at Hope Works (3 in Cement) in 2017 & 0 YTD. There were 5 Medical Treatment Injuries in 2017 and 1 so far in 2018

Mr Cavenagh assured the meeting that the business will continue to invest in the immediate local area.

6. Presentations by Village Organisations Community Land Trust (Cllr A Nash)

Cllr Nash gave an update on the CLT. It was reported that work on the Newburgh development has already started – it was reported that the site was expected to be levelled by September 18 then the building of the first 12 houses would commence.

The CLT plans to raise funds for immediate use by running a bar on the Carnival field, running a comedy night during the Wakes week and by organising the Open Gardens.

Bradwell Teddies (Report from Rachael Burton)

Rachael's written report was delivered by the Clerk. Her report was as follows:-

In January 2016 Bradwell Teddies was struggling to carry on! The membership was very low and the few parents that went were greeted with a note stating where the keys were kept and to help themselves to the toys in the cupboards. There wasn't a committee or bank account and the group was slowly vanishing as the children moved on to Pre-school and Infant School. I went along to Teddies and was saddened to see it like this, especially as I had experienced a thriving group, ten years previously, when I attended with my eldest son.

Isabel and I (another Mum with two children) spoke to the Health Visitor and decided that it would be worth us revitalising the group. We created a small group of key members (consisting of two members being responsible for the planning etc and 1 key member being responsible for finance). We also developed a constitution and opened a bank account.

At that time Teddies opened 2 sessions a week and needed 11 families per session to cover the rent. After consulting the parents, we decided to close one session and focus on the Friday morning, opening from 9.30 till 11.30. By the end of 2016 we had 34 children on membership. From January 2017 to December 2017 we had an average of 12 children per session. The highest membership in the last two years was 44 members. Since January 2016 we have had a total of 55 members at Teddies. The current membership numbers are 35. On average since Christmas we have had 17 children each session. Most of the children are from Bradwell, however, we do have families attend from Hope, Ashford in the Water, Peak Forest and Eyam.

As part of the session we offer a craft activity, based on a theme for the term. We have looked at favourite books, such as, The Hungry Caterpillar, we're going on a bear hunt, Stick Man, The Gruffalo. This term's theme is 'Spring time'. We also provide a snack, and this is a sociable part of the morning. All the children are able to sit down together and enjoy a varied snack, consisting of fruit, biscuits, crisps and a drink. The session finishes with everyone tidying up the toys and sitting together for 'song time'. We have good links with the Preschool, and we have been involved in an open afternoon at Preschool and Preschool have been to visit Teddies. This provides support for the parents and children in the transition to Pre-school, as this could be the first-time parents may be leaving their children with other adults.

We also encourage external people to come along to the group to promote themselves, if we feel it is relevant to our parents. We have had Wendy Osborne Healthy Lifestyle, Breast Feeding Advisor, The Health Visitor and Slimming World come along, and Buxton Swimming Pool are planning on coming to talk about their toddler swimming lessons. We have also had Painted Pots come to make Christmas decorations & gifts. The 'Slings in the Valley' hold their drop-in meetings as part of Teddies session once a month. Parents are able to talk to trained advisers and try on various styles of slings to carry their babies and can then hire them at a small cost. This encourages new parents to come along to Teddies and it works well.

For the last two years we have been involved in Bradwell Carnival and have done a joint float with the Preschool, as the members do overlap with siblings. This has been a great success and we have also been fortunate enough to have a share of the carnival collection. Last year we held a Table Top Sale, selling Baby and Children's clothes and toys in the Memorial Hall. This was well supported by the community, despite the weather, and we have another one planned for June this year. We have visited Chatsworth Farm Park, Castleton Christmas Tree Festival, Bradwell Christmas Tree Festival and have meet ups in the parks in the village.

Bradwell Bowls Club (Carol Hill)

Carol thanked the council for the S137 grant which has allowed the club to replace lawn mower. She stated that they found out about the S137 grants by attending the Annual Parish Meeting last year.

Bakewell and Eyam Community Transport (John Plant)

John thanked the parish council for the invitation to the meeting. He stated that Bakewell and Eyam Community Transport were very appreciative of the S137 grant which they received which went towards the funding of a new vehicle.

He said that as they are a charity operating in the Derbyshire Peak District which provide travel services for people of all ages and backgrounds, the community service they provided was essential to support isolated people and the new vehicle is necessary to continue providing the service.

7 General Q&A

Final questions / answers and a general discussion took place.

8. Thanks & Close

The Chairman thanked all for attending and brought the meeting to a close at 9:30 p.m.