

BELCHAMP WALTER PARISH COUNCIL

The Parish Council meeting was held on 9th June 2022 following the Annual Meeting at the village hall.

Present:

Cllr J Walker (Chair), Cllr A Hogsbjerg, Cllr C Krelle, Cllr E Poels, Cllr R Teverson, Cllr M. Winter, Dist Cllr I Parker, Ms J Munro (Parish Clerk)

Apologies

County Cllr P. Schwier

1. Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on 16th February 2022 were approved and signed by the chair as a correct record.

2. Declaration of interest in agenda items

None

3. Reports

County Cllr I Parker reported on developments at Braintree District Council including:

- Local Plan – BDC is still waiting for the final report and hope to adopt it in July. It should put the council in a better position to object to speculative planning.
- Additional planning enforcement officers will be recruited
- BDC is exceeding the affordable housing target by 200 homes a year
- ECC has developed a Levelling Up white paper and rural Braintree has been identified as a priority area. A launch will be made in Sible Hedingham
- Information on cost of living and assistance available is on the BDC website

4. Parishioner Statements

None

5. Matters Arising

(a) Village Bench

Ms Munro reported that £350 had been received from the Councillor Grant Scheme towards a new village bench to replace the one near the notice board. A bench containing an inscription commemorating the Queen's Platinum Jubilee has been ordered, with delivery expected in July. In addition to a bench, a planter will be installed under the notice board. Mr Doman has volunteered to maintain the plants in the planter.

(b) Playing Field

Ms Munro reported that seat replacements were on backorder. It was agreed the willows would be removed at an appropriate time.

(c) Pond

It was noted that the pond had become quite overgrown with the bushes making it difficult for motorists to see around the corner. It was agreed there should be a village event to help clean up the pond. July 30th was agreed as a date (with a rain date of August 6th). A notice would be put in the Parish magazine asking for volunteers and council members would publicise the event.

(d) Village Hall Lease

Deferred to next meeting

(e) Bulbs

Ms Munro reported that few of the bulbs donated by BDC had flowered. It was agreed that in the autumn the parish council would purchase daffodils to be planted around the village. Ms Munro to use the parish magazine to ask for volunteers to help with the planting.

6. Finance Report

(a) Ms Munro reported on the bank balances at 03/06/2022

Community Account	£5,900	
Reserves Account		£4,061
Restricted Playing Field Acct- included in above	122	

(b) The annual accounts were approved as presented. Mr Doman was thanked for conducting the independent review without charge.

7. Items for next regular meeting

Village hall lease

Village bench

Playing field

Lifebuoy

Pond – including village sign

Bulbs