

BROADWELL PARISH ANNUAL ASSEMBLY 6th May 2025

Members Present: Kate Burtonwood (Acting Chair), Cllr E Ashton (EA), Cllr R Ross (RR). **Members of Public**
(MOP) Present: 4 **Officers Present:** 0. **Noted:** *The Clerk was absent and the Councillors took notes.

MINUTES

- 1) The Acting Chairman opened up the meeting and thanked everyone for coming.
- 2) **Apologies** were received from Tony Leonard (Chairman), Debbie Braiden (Clerk), David Cunningham (District Councillor), Lynden Stowe has stood down, and the new councillor Darryl Corps was not present.
- 3) **Minutes** approved from the previous Annual Parish Meeting held on 8th May 2024.
- 4) **Glos County Council & District Council** – No reports received.
- 5) **Annual Chairman's report**

KB welcomed and expressed thanks to those in the village who volunteer – helping to maintain the village and run social events as this makes a community. Specific thanks to the Eckersleys from Rose Cottage who have left a donation for the village. Thanks to outgoing councillors Anna, Colin and Nigel and to Debbie who will move on after Jacob is comfortable in the role.

RR expressed particular thanks to Nigel for his work on Watery Lane and the pub pond.

KB also thanked those who run the village committees.

KB mentioned the need for new councillors and that we need 3 new councillors. The role should not be onerous, and we would be grateful if people could encourage others to join. She mentioned that in the coming year, the PC would keep working on managing our property and financial resources, and the issues that people come to us with. The main topics are development, traffic and flooding.

6. Village Matters

Traffic Calming: RR updated that we are still waiting for white gates but we have had months of inaction from County Council, whom we are chasing monthly. EA has spoken to Bob Skillen (Rhodri Grey's manager), and he is aware of the issue.

When the survey tracking was done, it recorded 17,000 cars in a week through the village. 18% were speeding, between 30-40mph and we therefore did not meet the criteria for becoming a 20mph zone as this speeding is not classed as serious enough. Donnington are in the same situation. They have invested in green 20mph recommendation signs. We could apply for a 20mph zone but we would have to meet the

considerable costs ourselves. Villager informed that DC has advised there are many additional costs to changing a speed limit like updating satnav companies. WN pointed out that if the Lib Dems secure a majority in the council, they could support making 20mph the standard in villages as this was a campaign issue. A villager suggested giving out 20mph stickers for bins again, as had happened a few years ago.

ACTION – Clerk to look into whether 20mph bin stickers can be provided to villagers.

Broadwell Village Plan: RR spoke on the Village Plan which will help on those issues. There will be a meeting on 8th May to get people “thru the door” of the Village Hall to talk about the areas the plan will cover. This will be followed by a questionnaire to the village to help prioritise those areas. The plan could be delivered by the end of year

SR asked what happened to the plan when done, and it was explained that it was registered with the District Council and may help influence future decisions; it marks what we have prioritised as a community to work on.

Parking: RR advised there have been no issues reported on Kennel Lane since the car park closure, but we will continue to take comments.

Flooding: Kennel Lane – RR mentioned that residents had initiated and carried out clearance work, but have advised that the gully here could still be wider. EA advised that Bob Skillen had offered to come and visit and inspect.

The work at Watery Lane and the pub has helped water flow in this area. The McKechnies have also improved drainage channels at the one bend at the bottom of Broadwell Hill.

Charity: EA mentioned land registering, vis-à-vis the allotments.

One villager asked if the land outside the Old Bakery should be registered to the PC.

EA advised on progress on the Allotment Field – Local farmers were allowed to bid on unused land, and it has been awarded to Paul Teague, who has ploughed and grassed, and tidied the allotments. **Allotments are available if anyone wants one.**

ACTION: SR advised putting this on the village WhatsApp and noticeboard, advertising that they are £10 a year

7. Guest speakers:

Church: WN updated that under-pew electric heating will be fitted, while also being net-zero. In the long term, they wish to install water into the church. The church tower has been upgraded. The Bell Ringing club is thriving. WN thanked volunteers who maintain the churchyard and do flowers. He advised burial space is running out. The land across the road is usable and has permission, but there would be a significant cost. Currently, the church is using the policy that you can re-use plots after 100 years. WN

pointed out it is in the village's interest to have a burial ground, and this also helps keep the land maintained by the church.

Village Hall: Gianina advised that the VH was getting more proactive after COVID. Hirers are up, and income is now balancing again. The committee has been focusing on use by the village too, with a cream tea and Easter meet-up event. She noted the VH supported villagers during power cuts in the Autumn storm, including providing WI-FI. They may redecorate the hall next year. Overall, the committee is growing - the bookings and maintenance are better monitored.

Fete: RR stated there was money in the account to fund the fete set up. WN pointed out the fete would have lower costs this year, but still provide a fun community day.

8. Parishioner's Questions

- 1) Wall by the splash - Luke James has kindly stated he will fix this for free, but has not yet carried it out.
- 2) The trees on the verge of Church Lane are becoming very burdened with Ivy.

9. There being no more business to discuss the Acting Chairman closed the meeting.

10. The meeting was closed at ???