**BONINGALE PARISH COUNCIL**

**Minutes of meeting**

**Wednesday 6th December 2023**

**Present**

Councillors D Slatcher (Chairman), C Keeton (Vice Chairman), S Burgess,

A Gilson-Caldwell, K Vilton.

County Councillor, N Lumby.

Clerk to Boningale Parish Council, M Ward.

No members of the public were present.

The Chairman welcomed members to the meeting.

1. **Apologies.**

To receive and approve apologies for absence. Members are asked to give their apologies direct to the clerk.

There were no apologies for absence.

1. **Declarations of interest.**

To consider declarations of interest under consideration on this agenda in accordance with the Localism Act 2011 s32 and the Relevant Authorities (Disclosable Pecuniary Interests) Regulations 2012.

Where a member indicates that they have a prejudicial interest but wish to make representation regarding the item before leaving the meeting, they must do so under item 4 (D) of Public Participation.

None.

1. **Public Participation.**

**Members of the public**are invited to ask questions, make representations, or submit comments on any item on the agenda. This is **LIMITED TO THREE MINUTES PER PERSON –**at the sole discretion of the Chairman.

No members of the public were present.

1. **Minutes of the previous meeting (enclosure).**

To receive the minutes of the meeting held on 27th September, 2023.

Cllr. Vilton proposed that the minutes were a true and accurate record which was seconded by Cllr. Burgess and unanimously agreed by council. The clerk was asked to send a digital copy to Cllr. Keeton for posting on the website.

1. **Matters arising.**

To consider any issues arising from the minutes that are not included on the agenda.

There were no matters arising.

1. **Correspondence**

To review any outstanding correspondence that has been received since the last meeting.

Councillors considered an email relating to the D-Day 80 commemoration/celebration to be held on 6th June 2024. Members felt that any activities should be done in partnership with Albrighton Parish Council who had access to larger resources and the clerk was asked to contact Albrighton and express the council’s willingness to become involved in a joint venture.

1. **To approve accounts for payment:**
* Staffing - £300.00

Cllr. Slatcher proposed that the staffing payment of £300 should be approved which was seconded by Cllr. Keeton and agreed by council.

1. **Financial statement – December 2023 (enclosure).**

The clerk went through the financial statement covering the period September to December 2023. The balance brought forward was £3464.45 There were three items of expenditure, including staffing costs, which left a balance of £2952.06 on 6th December 2023.

The statement of accounts was approved by council and signed off by the chairman.

1. **To consider a council draft budget and precept claim for 2024/25 (enclosure).**

The clerk presented to members a draft budget for 2024/25 which called for a precept of £3,450.00. Members discussed this in detail and made reductions to the heading grants and local payments and to the costs of graveyard maintenance at St Chad’s church. Cllr. Burgess proposed that the precept for the next financial year should be unchanged and total £3,140 which was seconded by Cllr. Keeton and unanimously agreed by council.

1. **Items for inclusion on the next agenda.**

Councillors deferred this item to the end of the agenda and asked the clerk to place it at the end of the agenda for future meetings.

1. **Discussion on the latest developments at the Pepperhill Solar Farm site.**

Members noted that construction work on the proposed Pepperhill solar farm was scheduled to begin in April 2024 and a crop had been sown in the fields related to the development.

1. **Road safety issues in the Boningale area.**

The chairman informed members that there had been two road traffic accidents in the last week and there had been no response from Shropshire Council regarding concerns about speeding on local roads. Worfield Parish Council had conducted a survey regarding possible speed limits in the area and the chairman suggested that this is something that Boningale PC might do using money from the solar farm to finance the exercise. Particular concerns related to the A464 Shifnal road and Burnhill Green Road and the chairman agreed to contact Worfield PC to find out more regarding the details pf their survey.

1. **To consider draft policies relating to equal opportunities and GDPR for inclusion in the Boningale portfolio (enclosure)**

Councillors discussed the two draft policies that the clerk had produced regarding equal opportunities and GDPR and agreed to look at them in detail and provide comments to the clerk by 31st January 2024. The clerk was asked to redraft the policies taking account of members’ comments and present them for further discussion at the next council meeting.

1. **Request from the Red House, Albrighton for a donation to help fund the Pensioners’ Christmas Lunch.**

The chairman declared an interest in this agenda item and a £100 donation had been suggested for a table of eight Boningale residents at the Red Huse Christmas lunch. Members felt that the time scale was too short to properly consider this request and felt that the lunch should cater for residents with limited incomes as well as OAP’s. The clerk was asked to provide feedback to Albrighton PC regarding these issues and members agreed to provide £75.00 in support of the initiative.

1. **Suggested arrangements for D-Day 80 commemoration/celebration to be held on 6th June 2024 (enclosure).**

This issue had been dealt with under agenda item 6.

1. **Any outstanding planning applications.**

There were no outstanding planning applications.

Under the deferred item 10 of the agenda members agreed the following should appear on the next agenda:

* the Pepperhill solar farm;
* road safety;
* equal opportunities and GDPR policies;
* grant requests.
1. **Date of next council meeting, 6th March 2024, and dates for the financial year 2024/25.**

The next council meeting would be held on 6th March 2024 and dates for future meetings, including the Annual Parish Meeting, would be an agenda item for consideration.

There being no further business the meeting concluded at 8.57 pm.

Signed……………………………………………………………………………….

Chairman Boningale Partish Council