BRADFIELD ST CLARE PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

HELD ON 13 AUGUST 2024 AT 7PM IN THE VILLAGE HALL

Parish Councillors present: Chair Cllr John Kirk, Cllrs Malcolm Hignett, Sue Partridge and Alex Duchesne. Parish Clerk, Nicola Sturgeon unwell and unable to attend.

1. Apologies for absence: Parish Cllr Vice Chair Paul Foster sent his apologises due to last minute work commitments. Borough Cllr Sara Mildmay-White sent her apologies due to her annual leave.

2. Declarations of Interest: none

3. Minutes: to consider and approve the Minutes of the Annual Parish Council Meeting on 14 May 2024.
   Cllr partridge proposed that they were a true and accurate record of the meeting. Cllr Hignett seconded. Minutes approved.

4. Matters arising:

   Grit bins – discussion deferred pending update around funding.
   Waste Water Treatment Plant – no response from Anglian Water as of yet. Cllr Hignetts perception is that the plant is being emptied more frequently than previously, although some odours issues persist.
   Meeting noted that Anglian Water Pipeline Project – has confirmed that they will have someone in attendance at the next PC meeting.

5. County Cllr and Borough Cllr reports:

   County Cllr Karen Soons and Borough Cllr Sara Mildmay-White reports are on village website at bradfieldstclare.onesuffolk.net/

   Councillor Soons confirmed that the proposal to extend the village speed limit will not go ahead as it does not meet the new criteria – apparently there are not enough entrance onto the road (properties, community facilities or businesses) in the areas concerned.

6. Public Forum:
   Members of the public comments/questions. No members of the public present.

Signed…….. Dated…….

7. Correspondence: (all correspondence has been forwarded to Cllrs ahead of the meeting);

8. To consider and approve any changes to the Parish Council Financial Orders:

   None of the Parish Cllrs had brought the revised document that the Clerk had forwarded along to the meeting. They approved it in principal. ***Clerk will put this on the Agenda for the first meeting in 2025 and in the meantime the current Standing Orders will continue.***

9. Clerk's report:

   (i) Schedule of payments:

PCC	grass cutting	£120	chq489	LGA1972
A Spall	grass cutting	£200	chq490	LGA1972
M Morley	grass cutting	£100	chq491	LGA1972
BSC VH	Grapevine	£200	chq492	LGA1972
N Sturgeon	salary	£412.14	chq493	LGA1972

   All Cllrs present approved the payments.

10. Cllrs report (if any available):

    Cllr Hignett noted that the village noticeboard, seating and sign require renovation (last treated 9 years ago). Agreement that this was necessary, but no decision taken place about how to arrange it. There was a discussion about the difficulty in finding people to undertake such work. Agreed to ask the Parish Clerk whether other parishes have such information on their websites?
    Councillor Soons suggested that we consider setting up a Village WhatsApp Group. This would require more than one administrator, as well as the establishment of rules, but apparently works well for other villages. Suggestion that a message goes into the Grapevine to ask if anyone is interested in setting up/administering such a group.
    This led to a discussion about the future of the Grapevine, as this will cease production after December 2024 if a new editor is not found. Agreed that the Grapevine was a valuable and much appreciated resource which could not be replaced by a digital alternative such as WhatsApp Groups; to do this would disenfranchise those who do not use social media. Councillors agreed to encourage people to consider taking on the editorial role. Cllr Partridge agreed to ask Debbie Thomas for a short piece describing the role, which we can share. *[Debbie did subsequently provide this and it was emailed to Cllrs on 19/08/24]*

11. Date of next meeting: Next scheduled meeting on 12 November 2024 at 7pm in the Village Hall.

Signed…….. Dated…….