



**BRAMLEY PARISH COUNCIL**  
**Minutes of Annual Assembly meeting 20th April 2023**

Apologies were received from Mrs Alison Burrows. 6 members of the public attended the meeting, as well as Surrey Councillor Kevin Deanus and PC Gavin Greenaway.

1. The meeting minutes held on 21st April 2022 were approved and signed by Mr Leung.
2. There were no matters arising from the minutes of the meeting of 25th April 2022.
3. Mr Leung, Chairman of Bramley Parish Council, then presented his report for the year as follows:

April 2022 Chairman's Report

Good evening, everybody. We are all eager to get to the drinks after this so I will be brief. I want to thank all the councillors and Clerks for their hard work throughout the year. I would also like to send out a special Thank You to our County Councillor, Kevin Deanus, and our Borough Councillor, Martin d'Arcy, for attending nearly every of our Parish meetings to keep us informed and help out on a range of matters.

Our long-time Clerk Kathy Victor resigned from her position in September last year, she has been our village clerk for over 12 years and has done a fantastic job running the village, she has been very kind and agreed to help train our new clerk and pass on her knowledge, we are all very grateful, a massive Thank You to Kathy for all the hard work, and all the best on her future endeavour.

In January, Lindi Jansen van Rensburg was offered the village clerk role. She is having regular meetings with Kathy to learn and better understand the job, and she has been working closely with our assistant clerk Debbie. She has done an excellent job so far.

Unfortunately, we lost our Queen in September last year, and thank you, Kathy, for the quick response of lowering our Flag to half-mast in front of the Library and organising the Proclamation for Bramley.

**Traffic**

The speeding on A281 continues to be a problem for Bramley.

Big thanks to Francesca; she has been running several speed watch sessions with volunteers throughout the years, effectively calming down the traffic.

You will all be happy to know that the average speed camera installation in the village has been confirmed and is set for the 23/24 financial year.

**Library**

In January, Tony and I (Patrick Leung) had a meeting with Surrey Art Culture and Libraries Team; they informed us that due to Budget Cuts, our New Book Fund and Library Van Service – a total of 7000 Pounds would be cut, this is not just Bramley but all the Community Libraries. Still, a few weeks later Surrey Libraries Team informed us they have found the money and the cut is no longer necessary. However, during the meeting, they told us further amount is inevitable, so it might still happen in the coming years. We are lucky to have a fantastic team of volunteers to operate our Library; without them, Bramley would not have a Library, so a big thank you to all the volunteers.

**Planning**



We want to take possession of some ongoing projects regarding the school playing field and the Bonfire field. I heard that both cases had significant movement in the last few days, but it is too much to get into details here; if you want to know more, let us know, and we can fill you in.

#### Crime

The Parish Council used to receive a crime stat report from the Police, but since last September, the police have stopped providing us with such a report due to a budget cut. However, we will continue communicating with the police and see if a solution can be formed.

#### Fumes on High Street

An ongoing issue in the village is the smell of fuel. Waverley has been investigating, and nothing has yet been identified as the source; the investigation will continue.

Mrs Francesca Stern noted that the Diesel pumps needed to be resealed, but the Co-op still denied a leak.

Mrs Jane Austin took a sample of the stream and had it tested, but the results came back stating that it was not contaminated.

I cannot report on everything that happened last year. Still, if anyone would like more details on any issue, please talk to any one of us or email our clerk, and we will do our best to give you all the relevant information.

Finally, 5 of our nine current councillors will be stepping down from their duty after the May Elections; Maurice Byham, Patrick Molineux, Richard Seaborne, Tom Hughes, and Alison Burrows will leave us. There are nearly 60 years of experience between Maurice, Patrick, and Richard, where Maurice alone has been our councillor for almost 30 years - he started at ten years old, so he is only 40 - he was also our Borough Councillor for some time, so his knowledge on everything is fantastic.

Patrick has done much work for the village; he helped to form our neighbourhood Plan in the early stages; by having a neighbourhood plan, we have more control over planning matters in our town, and he is also the chair of the planning committee, where he did much work behind the scenes on planning issues, including the two ongoing projects I mentioned before.

Richard Seaborne is also our Borough Councillor; having him in our Parish is invaluable; he has helped Bramley so many times to get matters resolved and things done and provided us with helpful information and the right person to contact at Waverley for various situations.

Tom has been on the Parish Council for four years, and Alison 3, both have been a great help during this period, and we thank you for all your service.

We thank you for their service and for sure they will be missed.

Moving on to the council's finance,

The balance of BPC audited accounts as of 31<sup>st</sup> March 2022 stood at £65,752, which included reserves of £47,500, earmarked reserves of £6,526 received in a CIL payment and £826 received from the Surrey County Member's Allocation for the purchase of a grit bin on Chestnut Way.

The early indication for BPC accounts to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2023 is a cash balance of £66,083, including reserves of £45,000. The cash balance includes earmarked reserves of £10971 CIL funds, £826 SCC Member's Allocation, and £381 Section 106 funds.

#### **Receipts:**



The Parish Council received a Precept of £64,560, CIL funds of £7,094 and section 106 funds of £3963.

**Payments:**

The Parish Council spent the Section 106 funds on a new bench at Gosden Common, a new bench at the Coronation Oak Tree to the south of the village, and new signage at the Station and Downs Link due to be installed imminently.

Just over £1700 was spent renovating the benches, painting the signs at the station and various other items in the village. The fence at the Eastwood Road Play area was replaced at around £1700. In addition, £1500 was spent repairing the potholes on the Pavilion track.

£2,653 was spent from the CIL reserves on a bund and ditch at Gosden Common.

Other significant expenditures included £450 for a new laptop for the library.

2022/23, the Parish Council invested £47,500 of its reserves in a one-year fixed-term deposit account with United Trust Bank. We received interest of £594 from this investment. In addition, £45,000 was reinvested in a further one-year deposit account for the coming year.

The RFO has asked that those present note that these figures are still subject to internal and external audits. All accounts are available to view at the Parish Council offices by appointment.

Thank you.

- a. The early indication for BPC accounts to 31st March 2022 is that there is a cash balance of £65,751, which includes reserves of £47,500. The cash balance has earmarked reserves of £6,529 received in a CIL payment and £826 received from the Surrey County Council Member's Allocation for purchasing and installing a grit bin on Chestnut Way during 2022/23.

**Receipts 2021/22.** Other significant expenditures included £2,335 for the work of a Locum Clerk who was contracted whilst the Clerk was on extended sick leave early in the financial year and £900 in the purchase of a laptop for use by the Assistant Clerk who was employed in June 2021 and the purchase of a replacement printer in the Clerk's office. In addition, a grant of £6,750 was awarded to the Bramley Village Hall charity to cover the loss of income caused by the Covid pandemic.

In 2021/22, the Parish Council invested £47,500 of its reserves in a 1-year fixed-term deposit account with United Trust Bank. We received interest of £475 from this investment. The £47,500 balance was reinvested in a further 1-year deposit account for the coming year.

The Clerk asked those present to note that these figures were still subject to internal and external audits. However, all accounts can be viewed by appointment at the Parish Council offices.

- a. PC Greenaway discussed his work. He used to do beat work, patrolling the neighbourhoods, but now he specialises in dealing with anti-social behaviour. He mentioned that people willfully take over houses (cocooning) to sell drugs in parts of Waverley. He and his team are responsible for partially and fully closing premises drug dealers use as cocooning.
- b. He further mentioned that the channel for communication is open between himself and the parish clerk. For non-urgent matters, residents can phone 101, and to report crimes, residents can go on the police's website or Facebook page and send a direct message. For emergencies, 999 can be called.
- c. A resident asked members about a dirty road sign that needed repainting. The clerk said that she would log it to Waverley.



Mr Leung thanked those who had attended. The meeting closed at 6:45 pm, followed by refreshments and informal discussion.

Agreed and signed..... 20 April 2023