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MINUTES: of an extra ordinary Parish Council meeting held in Brimpsfield Village Hall on WEDNESDAY 11<sup>th</sup> April 2018 at 7.30pm.

PRESENT: Parish Councillors: Roger Lock, Emma Ryan, Tom Overbury, Jane Parsons and Archie Larthe

IN ATTENDANCE: Kate Sales, Clerk  
No parishioners were present.

**1) To receive apologies for absence.**

Apologies received and noted from Cllr Eaton.

**2) To receive Declarations of Interest on items on the Agenda. (Localism Act 2011).**

No declarations were made.

**3) To hear representations from the public regarding items on the agenda.**

No representations were made.

**4) To discuss the issue of grants and donations, and the creation of a Grants and Donations Policy.**

The donation to the Church was discussed and after taking advice from NALC and GAPTC it was noted that under the 1894 Local Government Act the Parish Council did not have the powers to contribute towards affairs relating to the Church. The Clerk informed the meeting that the Council could decide to make a grant but it must do so knowing that at some point it could be legally challenged - the law is currently very unclear as to whether the 1894 Act has been over-riden by later Acts of Parliament.

The Council therefore, resolved that it could not make a payment that it did not know for certain to be legally valid and therefore resolved to refuse the donation request.

Discussions then took place regarding the formation of a draft grants and donation policy. Cllrs Lock and Parsons suggested that if no funds were available for donations in the future then a policy would be not to grant any donations. Other councillors felt that it should be part of the Parish Council's remit to help local causes where possible. It was eventually agreed that a simple draft policy should be put together and circulated to councillors with the aim of approval at the May meeting.

*ACTION: Clerk to circulate a draft policy*

**5) To discuss the Annual Parish meeting.**

It was agreed that the Annual Meeting would be an informal event allowing residents of the parish to come together and offer their thoughts and opinions on areas of action the Parish Council could work on in the forthcoming year. The County Councillor had already sent his apologies for the meeting but the District Councillor would attend and present a short report as would the Parish Council Chairman.

After the reports the meeting would close and refreshments from the bar would be available. The Village Hall would invoice these costs to the Parish Council.

**6) Items for information only**

It had been noticed that there were overhanging branches from a property at Ash Place on to the road at the junction from Caudle Green causing this stretch of road to become a blind spot. Clarification needed to be sought as to whose responsibility it was to remove the branches.

The Chairman concluded the meeting at 8.25pm and thanked everyone for their attendance. The next meeting will be the Annual Parish Meeting on Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> April 2018 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall.

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**Chairman**

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**Date**