**Minutes of Bringsty Common Manorial Court**

**on Monday, 11th March 2024 from 19:00 – 21:00**

**at Whitbourne Village Hall**

**Attendees:**

Niall Waller (Chair), Tom Fisher (Vice Chair), Elizabeth Hesketh (Clerk), Martin Boote, Kirsty Udall, Ruth Lyon, Rob Randall.

Amanda Lambert (Member of public) from 19:41

1. **Apologies for absence:** Sally Knowles (Whitbourne Parish Council).
2. **Minutes of the meeting of 15.01.24**

Approved.

1. **Questions and comments from the public**

Amanda Lambert reported that licensing for grazing on BC currently sits with HDC and that costs are prohibitively steep, and the period allowed for grazing is restricted to summer months. Amanda queried whether BCMC could take over this licensing responsibility. General agreement from members of BCMC that grazing animals on BC should be encouraged – not least because it could support future funding applications. Discussed possibly that responsibility for issuing licenses could be addressed within an updated BC constitution.

**Action:** To continue to raise the licensing issue with Helen Beale (HDC). **Chair**

1. **Chair’s report**

Peter Stoddart will no longer be attending meetings as a matter of course but will attend / follow up issues when requested. Helen Beale (HDC) has provided (i) a map of what BCMC is officially responsibility for – see Dropbox (ii) a current version of Bylaws. However, a previous version of the Bylaws is currently posted on BC noticeboards and so new version of Bylaws are not yet enforceable.

**Action:** To approach HDC re updating Bylaws on the appropriate HDC noticeboards **Chair**

**BC Constitution**: Helen Beale (HDC) is agreeable to the BCMC Constitution being updated / made more similar to that of Bromyard Downs. The main advantage of doing this is that Public Liability Insurance for Bringsty Common would be paid by HDC rather than being paid from BCMC funds.

**Actions:**

1. Update of BCMC Constitution – to carry forward to May Agenda **Chair**
2. To circulate previous version(s) of BCMC Constitution **Vice Chair**

**Garden waste on BC**: Garden waste has been deposited on BC and its removal has been requested. Chair has circulated email and a BCMC Committee member has volunteered to approach resident concerned. Members of BCMC agreed that there was a difference between the planned leaving of vegetation in specified areas to support biodiversity (as with the Woodland Management Plan) vs. the unsanctioned dumping of vegetation e.g. by residents / electricity company.

**Action:** To contact Electricity Company to request that they remove waste after carrying out work rather than leave it on BC **Chair**

**Parked car**: Residents have approached BCMC with concerns that a blue Honda has been parked for several weeks adjacent to their property. Chair has had phone conversation with owner of the car who has moved car over a little. Discussion ensued re byelaws and parking on BC. Agreement that BCMC chair has taken this as far as possible. Helen Beale (HDC) has been notified and is considering the issue.

**5.****a.****Bringsty Common maintenance and development plan**

Chair proposed the need for Management Plan (as with Bromyard Downs) which includes the following priorities (i) climate change considerations (ii) fiscal responsibility (iii) maintenance of work carried out (iv) consideration of fire risk (v) completion of scheduled maintenance tasks. Vice Chair noted that a ‘Scheme of Management (1951)’ already exists and that this encompasses a management plan. Chair suggested agreeing a vision of what BC would look like in 20 years’ time, and based on this, devise 5-year work plans to work towards this vision. Discussion included the remit of BCMC and the challenge of trying to reflect disparate views of BC residents, carry out initiatives whilst being fiscally responsible and realistic in terms of availability of human resources / volunteers. Discussed how to ‘enhance sense of community’ (as per Mission Statement). Ideas included facebook posts / face to face chats with BC residents.

**Actions:**

1. To place ‘Scheme of Management’ on Dropbox **Rob**
2. To talk to neighbours about BC initiatives, volunteering opportunities and community events (e.g. bring and share picnic)  **All**
3. **Review of Mission statement 2020**

Chair shared Mission statement devised in 2020 and committee members agreed that this was still relevant. To review again in 2025.

There was no further business, so the meeting was closed.

**An additional planning meeting will be held at Woodfield House on Saturday, 20th April 2024 from 10:30 – 12:30**

**The next ordinary meeting will be held at Whitbourne Village Hall**

**on Monday, 13th May 2024 from 19-00 - 21-00**