

BROUGHTON PARISH COUNCIL.

Chairman: Cllr P.A. Scouse.

Parish Clerk: Alison McDaid.

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Minutes of Broughton Parish Council held at Broughton Baptist Church, 7pm, Wednesday 15th June 2022

Councillors Present:

Cllr P Scouse (Chair)

Cllr R. Shrive.

Cllr C. Taylor.

Cllr J. Manning.

Cllr I. Robson

Cllr. H. Bull

Ward Councillors Present:

Cllr J. Currell

Cllr. C. Smith-Haynes

Members of the Public resent:

22/41. Apologies. (1)

Cllr M. Rose - holiday

Cllr. M. Gray - working

Cllr J O'Hara - unwell

22/42. Declarations of Interest. (2)

No declarations were made.

22/43. Minutes. (3)

Draft minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 18th May 2022 and copies were circulated. There was a slight amendment to 22/33 where there was a reference to Kier which should have read KierWSP. After manual amendment, minutes were approved by members and authorised for signature by the chair. **RESOLVED.**

BPC - Broughton Parish Council.

NNC - North Northamptonshire Council.

NCALC – Northamptonshire County Association of Local Councils.

22/44. Public right to speak. (4)

There were no members of the public present so this facility was not used.

22/45. Reports from NNC Councillors. (5)

Cllr Smith- Haynes

The Highways contract for North Northants Council (NNC) was awarded to Kier on a seven year contract. They also were awarded the contract for West Northants Council (WNC) on the same terms as well. They will be working from the Wellingborough depot mainly.

Cllr Smith-Haynes has stepped down from being a NHFT Partner Governor and a Trustee on Accommodation Concern due to health issues.

Visited the Knife Angel.

Cllr Currell

Cllr Currell as promised gave a list of contact details to the clerk.

Larry Henson has been elected as Vice Chair for NNC.

As Kier has been awarded the contract for Highways from the 12th Sept – Sarah and Ian B will still be involved for NNC.

Cllr Graham Lawman is the Portfolio holder for Highways.

Cllr Currell attended the Asset Mapping evening. It was remarked that there were not many parish and towns in attendance but it was noted that it was not an open invitation as they tried to choose parishes of different sizes, spread over different communities to get a more balanced view. They will roll out more meetings in future. – See 22/48 below.

Cllr Currell emailed Helen Howell on behalf of Clive Gresham (Village hall) and also George Candler in regards to the lease extension.

Cllr Currell attended the licensing appeals meeting last night which included the consultation regarding unifying taxi fares across NNC. A decision will be made Thursday and it was noted that Corby are not happy as they will succumb to the highest rise in fares.

22/46. Report from clerk (6)

19/9422. Street lighting on unadopted roads –12/04/2022 - The clerk has emailed Streetlighting on this matter. Ongoing.

Update June: NNC has added the omitted lights on Grange Road and will send through an amended list.

19/9423. General interest items. - The Old Cottage on the banks is looking very untidy.

Update April: The site remains the same. Action: Clerk to now contact environmental.

Update May: The clerk has emailed environmental services a few times with no response. Cllr Currell provided the clerk with a direct contact for the department. Lucy Wightman. 23/05/2022 - Emailed Iain Smith (Portfolio holder for Regulatory Services who replied with the following:

I have emailed my colleague the Assistant Director of Regeneration and Growth, Rob Harbour about the above issue and he has asked his planning management team to look into the matter further and advise regards any action that can be taken.

Jasbir Sandhu – Interim Planning Management and Enforcement Lead Manager – Regeneration and Growth

19/9440. Her Majesty Platinum Jubilee.

Action: Clerk to contact Dave Lane and ask for the old shrubs to be cleared out and a date to be confirmed for the work to the wall and the ramp as this is now a health & safety issue.

Update April: Emailed Dave 28/03/2022. Ongoing.

A follow up email was sent on 03/05/2022 but no reply.

Action: Clerk to contact Sarah Parr to ask her pick up and also ask advice on the bulbs BPC would like to plant. CC in Rebecca Jenkins who is the Woodlands manager.

22/09. Reports from other meetings attended –Action: Cllr Shrive to take photo of pathway Gate Lane/Butts Lane and report via FixMyStreet.

Works completed.

22/10. Police and Community Matters report - Action: Clerk to contact Environmental asking if NNC should be providing mobile toilet facilities at Old Willows. Email sent 03/05/2022.

Update May: See 19/9423 update. 23/05/2022 - Emailed Iain Smith who replied the following day to say:

He will need to make some further enquiries with colleagues about the matters raised in your email before responding further.

We are currently reviewing the current planning status of ‘The Willows’ with planning colleagues and the related site licensing requirements to ensure effective ongoing management of the site, which would include amenities such as toilet and washing facilities.

I have asked colleagues to review the complaint history of the site to see if this is a wider issue, which has revealed that there are no other similar complaints recorded attributable to the site. While clearly unsatisfactory, if the allegations are true, it would be extremely difficult to prove that the allegations are justified without corroborating witness evidence and given our understanding that the neighbouring land is agricultural in nature with no legitimate public access, the public health risk would be minimal.

22/11. Pocket Park Pond Regeneration update

There is now a boggy area in front of the platform. The contractor has been asked to quote to make an extension to the deck.

Update June: Cllr Rose has acquired two different quotes from local people. Please see 22/50 below.

22/16. General interest items - The road surface outside no 1 Podmore Way is disintegrating and needs looking at. Action: Clerk to report. Completed.

There is now new legislation for local authorities in regards to listed buildings. Action: Clerk to contact NNC in regards to Yeoman’s House. 23/05/2022 - Emailed Iain Smith who responded:

Update June: I have emailed my colleague the Assistant Director of Regeneration and Growth, Rob Harbour about the above issue and he has asked his planning management team to look into the matter further and advise regards any action that can be taken. Troy Healy- Principal Planning Manager – Regeneration and Growth

22/47. Correspondence. (7)

- NCALC Friday mini eUpdate - 20/05/22,
- Northants CALC eUpdate - May/Jun 2022
- M1 junction 13 to 16 upgrade - Weekend closure information
- UK Shared Prosperity Fund – NNC Consultation
- Superfast Northamptonshire Newsletter
- Update from the Leader of the Council 25, 26
- Consultation on Draft Hackney Carriage & Private Hire Policy and Conditions
- PRESS RELEASE: Northamptonshire ACRE calls for more action to protect the climate
- NCALC Training program
- Message from resident via Facebook regarding the kissing gate near Redrow Estate

22/48. Reports from other meetings attended (8)

Cllr Scouse

Cllrs Scouse & Shrive attended a meeting in Thrapston on Tuesday in connection with the Asset Mapping project. **Action: Clerk to chase slides for AMP meeting.**

Inaugural Rural Forum Meeting 27.10.21

Broughton Parish Council attendee: H Bull report

This meeting started the new format for the Rural Forum Meeting and consisted of parishes from the former Kettering and Corby districts. A separate Forum is in place for those parishes from the former Wellingborough and East Northants districts.

David Howes is Chair of both Forum and meetings are initially scheduled every 6 months (there is an appetite with parishes for this to be increased).

NNC confirmed that the 2022/3 budget will be presented to the Executive in December 21. There will be a formal consultation of the NNC Business Plan in January 22 and it was confirmed that money for Services provided by NNC will be available in this budget.

NNC are looking to progress their Climate Change agenda and they will be developing a framework to work out a route map for delivery.

NNC confirmed that they are currently engaged in a procurement process to source a Highways Contract provider for North Northants only and hopefully this will be in place for September 22.

With regard to the Corporate Strategy, NNC confirmed that they had noted the Consultation Feedback with focused comments re Delivery and have advised that they regard that as Key and recognise that Parish Councils do have a significant role to play. This will be included specifically in the Connected Community Chapter.

Rob Harbour acknowledged that whilst there is a national shortage, NNC are currently operating with a significant staffing shortfall of c. 20 officers in Planning – he said that resource levels are challenging and that melding 5 diverse former planning services is equally challenging whilst striving to achieve a uniform and harmonisation of service.

Rob Harbour advised that they were extending the PC notification/response to planning applications notice from 21 to 24 days and has said that if we experience a specific issue, then we should contact the relevant officer for an extension. They understand the issue and are trying to assist within the difficult operating circumstances that they currently have.

Rob Harbour advised that they were going to implement a significant upscaling of the Enforcement Team with an imminent recruitment drive and that Louise Holland is the contact to use for any enforcement issues currently.

Parish Clerks should contact Kerry Purnell for all matters relating to Community Services. She advised she will be looking to address the issue of devolution of services and how this will be tackled and what it will mean. She is hoping for this new strategy to be in place by the start of the new financial year 2022 (nb this date may have been an unintentional error as it is difficult to see how this will be achieved in the time available).

George Candler reiterated to the Forum how important he believes collaboration will be between NNC and Town and Parish Councils going forward and advised as an example of this being put to work that they will be setting up a separate group with those communities affected with G&T issues.

End.

A discussion ensued for the need to challenge NNC on how many GTT site allocations are required since KBC failed to adopt a GTT policy and this has now become an inherited problem.

It was noted that the Old Willows planning application will be dealt with by an external consultant.

22/49 Police & Community Matters report. (9)

Cllr Robson reported some discrepancy with incidents/crimes reported by the public on the Neighbourhood Alert compared with the crime stats on other websites. This could be that some crimes were of a sensitive nature so would not show up.

April figures which showed there were 12 crimes that took place in Broughton.

Action: Clerk to add Women's refuge phone number to website.

It was noted that a white NNC work transit van was spotted in Broughton with the driver talking on phone while driving. Cllr Currell was asked to feedback to NNC.

22/50. Pocket Park - pond regeneration update. (10)

Cllr Rose obtained the following quotes for the boggy area in front of the dipping platform:

- Douglas Landscapes – lay 850kg Cotswold Stone, 4m2 plastic grid, 1 day labour - £300.00
- Contractor full details TBC – Dig out area, lay hardcore, gravel grids and pea gravel - £600.00.

Action: Clerk to contact Tim Fox to see if he can ask permission for the contractor to drive a vehicle into the field and lift materials over the fence.

Newts and babies have now been sighted in the pond.
The last of plants were delivered today. These will be planted out on Saturday by parish councillor's.

Action: Clerk to look to order nest boxes after collecting a third quote for 3/4 different size owl boxes.

22/51. Traffic Calming. (11)

NNC Highways – reply email/report from Ian Boyes after BPC asked him to observe A43/Kettering Road junction at peak times.

I have now been out to site to look at this junction in conjunction with the Engineering Team Leader between 8:00am – 8:45am to look at the traffic movements at this junction.

During the period that traffic was observed, there were a couple of occasions where several vehicles stacked in the central reservation awaiting to enter the A43 eastbound towards Kettering.

Generally when traffic was slow moving, drivers on the A43 allowed the waiting vehicle out, and if more than one vehicle was waiting, alternate cars on the A43 let out vehicles in turn.

When traffic was free flowing natural gaps in the traffic allowed drivers to pull out onto the A43.

We did see one incident where a couple of vehicles were waiting in the central area and the rear vehicle joined the A43 first before the vehicle that had entered the reservation first. Generally however the first vehicle in the area would be let in to join the line of slow moving traffic then the other vehicles would merge onto the A43 in order as gaps appeared.

There were regular breaks in the westbound traffic created by the signals at Cransley Park which allowed drivers to cross to the central reservation.

Slower HGV's coming up the hill from the Kettering direction also helped create gaps to allow access to the central reservation and for vehicles to turn right in the Kettering Road.

The highest number of vehicles stacking back in Kettering Road waiting to join the A43 at any one time was about 6 but these cleared quickly once gaps appeared in the central reservation and on the A43.

As expected very little traffic turned left out of Kettering Road and only a small number of vehicles turned right in from the A43 during the period we observed.

We have also checked the injury accident record at this junction for the last 3 years that we have data for and in this period 2 slight injury accidents have been recorded so this would not warrant introducing any engineering measures on road safety grounds.

It was considered that the existing 50mph limit along this section is appropriate and it would be unrealistic to expect drivers to adhere to a lower limit and this would only lead to unrealistic expectations of enforcement by the Police.

Possible measures for major improvements to this junction in the longer term were discussed

although these would probably only be introduced as part of the A43 dualling of this section should this progress at anytime in the future and which would require funding, at least in part from Central Government.

Initially we discussed a roundabout which would require the acquisition of third party land but would probably have less effect on traffic volumes on the A43 than a signal option. Roundabouts are also not very friendly for pedestrians to use and with the low number of vehicles turning right in Broughton there may not be many few breaks in the westbound traffic to allow a driver to exit out right at peak times.

A signal controlled junction would probably be more effective than a roundabout. This would safely accommodate traffic turning in and out of the junction and could also possibly provide pedestrian facilities across the A43 to the footpath / cycleway opposite and would be less expensive to install than a roundabout.

An additional arm on the Mawsley roundabout leading directly via a link to the Northampton Road may also be an option that could be considered.

This would still involve acquisition of land and would require the construction a new section of road linking Northampton Road to the roundabout, so could probably only be achieved as a result of Development in the area.

The levels of the adjacent ground at the roundabout may be an issue and this would result in a longer journey for residents living at the eastern end of the village when heading towards Kettering.

Banning the right turn out of the junction, forcing all traffic to "U" turn at the Mawsley roundabout was discussed but quickly rejected as it would add an additional 3 miles to the journey to Kettering which is understandably unacceptable to those wishing to turn right at this junction.

Whist we appreciate the concerns of residents who use this junction, in the short term we couldn't identify any additional roadmarkings or signing revisions to assist with improving the current arrangement.
END.

It was noted that new signs have been agreed for Pytchley Crossroads.

Cllr Scouse reported how long the grass area in the central reservation on the A43 (near the northern Broughton junction) was. It is scheduled to be cut by NNC Highways by the end of the week. **Completed**

After the tragic accident on the A43 on Monday, Cllr Scouse wrote to Cllr David Howes asking that NNC look very carefully at the lack of adequate barriers between the A43 and the Traveller site at Broughton where a vehicle ended up. The scene of the accident was really shocking and highlighted the potential vulnerability of the caravans and the additional risk to vehicles while there is no barrier other than some sparse scrub or a temporary metal fence between the highway and a considerable drop onto the site below.

22/52. Planning Report. (12)

Planning applications

NK/2022/0536

LOCATION: 30 High Street

PROPOSAL: Full Planning Permission: Single storey rear extension

NK/2021/0995

LOCATION: Old Northampton Road

PROPOSAL: Section 73A Retrospective Application - Siting of caravans for residential occupation with associated utility buildings

Expiry consultation date: 20/06/2022

Action: BPC have made numerous requests to the planning department since this application was published, for clarification on what exactly is being applied for but unfortunately we have been unable to speak to anyone in a position to advise on this matter. As this is the case, BPC have asked for an extension to comment.

Planning decisions

NK/2022/0299

LOCATION: 9 Silver Street

PROPOSAL: Single storey rear extension

No comment

Target decision date: 06/07/2022

NK/2022/0211

LOCATION: 1 West Street

PROPOSAL: Single storey rear side extension

No comment

Target decision date: 27/05/2022

Approved

NK/2022/0214

LOCATION: 11 Cransley Hill

PROPOSAL: Full Planning Permission: Conversion of workshop into 1 no. dwellinghouse with single storey side extension and insertion of 6 no. rooflights with demolition to side

Comment: Broughton Parish Council are supportive of the project to sympathetically restore the property which will improve the street scene and contribute to the Conservation Area.

Target decision date: 30/05/2022

NK/2022/0235

LOCATION: 11 Cransley Hill

PROPOSAL: Application for Relevant Demolition in a Conservation Area: Demolition of single storey element to side of property

Target decision date: 30/05/2022

NK/2022/0246

LOCATION: 17 Riggall Close

PROPOSAL: Full Planning Permission: Replacement garage to side

No comment

Approved

22/53. Finance Report. (13)

June 2022 statements 18/05/2022

Nationwide 125-day saver - £16,230.13

Community - £36,994.69

Credits to Community account

NNC Community Grant		£998.00
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Credits to Nationwide account

Interest		£0.00
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Payments issued from Community account

Payee	Method	Amount
A McDaid wages - mth 3	Bank transfer	£359.20
HMRC income tax	Bank transfer	£89.80
A. McDaid home working, phone, Zoom, sundries.	Bank transfer	£36.87
Bank charges	Bank transfer	£2.00
Froglife	Bank transfer	£5468.40
Habitat Aid Ltd	Bank transfer	£317.00
Castletree - May	Bank transfer	300.00

Cllr Shrive to sign off and verify online payments.

22/54. Village Hall – Outdoor play equipment. (14)

A discussion ensued regarding the purchasing and outdoor gym equipment £4k proposed to Clive - all agreed

Leaning towards the £9k plus VAT with ground treatment.

VAT reclaim to be dedicated to S137 and awarded to Village hall

22/55. Annual Governance & Accountability Return – sign off. (15)

2021/22 audit has now been carried out by external auditor Tino La Torre.

The AGAR was signed off by the chair and RFO and will now be submitted to PK Littlejohn.

22/56. General interest items. (16)

The post with signs to Bridleway, Pocket Park & Village Hall in Gate Lane was reported as all signs are pointing the wrong way. **Completed**

Cllr Taylor reported on the abuse the residents of Ivydene Terrace were subjected too by speeding drivers while the works to Cransley Hill were being carried out. The residents are now looking at options to close off the road permanently to other road users.

Cllr Bull reported that the road sign in Northampton Road is now covered by an overgrown hedge. **Action: Cllr Bull to take photo and forward onto clerk to report.**

There are large potholes on the slip road coming off Kettering Road and entering into Northampton Road. **Action: Clerk to report.**

22/57. Date of next meeting. (17)

Wednesday 20th July 2022.

22/58. Any other matters that the Chair considers to be urgent. (18)

No other matters were discussed and the meeting was closed at 9pm.

Signed:

Dated: