

BROUGHTON PARISH COUNCIL.

Chairman: Cllr P.A. Scouse.

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Minutes of the meeting of Broughton Parish Council held Wednesday 20th January 2021

Join Zoom Meeting

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Meeting ID: 894 0272 0665

Passcode: 528866

Councillors Present:

Cllr P. Scouse.

Cllr R. Shrive.

Cllr H. Bull.

Cllr O. Wyeth.

Cllr M. Rose.

Cllr I. Robson.

Cllr J. Chester.

Cllr C. Taylor.

19/9212. Apologies. (1)

Cllr R. Baxter – accepted

19/9213. Declarations of Interest. (2)

No declarations were made.

19/9214. Minutes. (3)

Draft minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 16th December 2020, copies were circulated and after 2 typing amendments, were approved by members and authorised for electronic signature by the chair. **RESOLVED**

KBC – Kettering Borough Council.

NCC – Northamptonshire County Council.

BPC – Broughton Parish Council.

NNC – North Northamptonshire Council/Unitary Authority

This meeting was audio recorded and was agreed by members. The recording will be deleted as soon as the minutes have been signed off. Broughton Parish Council meetings are open to the public but the audio recording is to remain solely as a reference for minuting by the clerk at all times.

19/9215. Public right to speak. (4)

This facility was not used.

19/9216. Reports from local County and Borough Councillors. (5)

There were none present at tonight's meeting.

19/9217. Matters arising from the minutes. (6)

Matters arising from 16th December's minutes

19/9203. Report from Community and Traffic Management Sub Committee (11)

Cllr Bull asked if BPC needed to contact Highways with regards to the S106 currently being held for the Traffic Calming project before the Unitary Authority takes over. All agreed to contact to have in writing. **Action: Clerk to contact Ian Boyes. Update: Ian Boyes confirmed in writing S106 monies held by the County Council will pass over to the relevant new Unitary Council, North Northamptonshire Council, when this comes into effect on 1st April 2021. RESOLVED**

19/9204. Report from Pocket Park Management Sub Committee (120)

The clerk contacted KBC on 28th October to release the grant that was awarded to BPC earlier in the year. The Clerk chased payment on 08/12/2020 and the response was that the original officer who was dealing with the grant has now left. A new officer has picked it up and is making enquiries. **Action: Clerk to continue to chase. Update: Payment received. RESOLVED**

19/9209. General interest items (17)

Cllr Scouse advised that as we are now subscribed to NCALC, councillors should take advantage of any training sessions they are offering. **Action: Clerk to gather a list of sessions and report back in the new year. RESOLVED. Update: Cllr Taylor is booked onto "Off to a Flying Start" course which will take place on 4th February 2021, costing £44.**

19/9218. Correspondence. (7)

Friday mini eUpdate x 3

ANPR Scheme

Highways ebulletin x 2

Village Viewpoint magazine

Link and slides from NACRE natural capital workshop

Training workshops from NCALC

Budgets and future plans with the Police, Fire & Crime Commissioner - 18th January

Northamptonshire Health and Wellbeing Board Pharmaceutical Needs Assessments

19/9219. Reports from members attending meetings of other bodies. (8)

Cllr Robson attended Budgets and future plans with the Police, Fire & Crime Commissioner meeting on the 18th January via zoom.

Expenditure slides were circulated. Over 20 parish councillor's attended to discuss budgets.

Despite the last council tax rise, there is still a 15% deficit on the next 3 years budget due to funds being allocated elsewhere to help with the current pandemic.

The deficit on the Police is higher than the fire department.

It is proposed another council tax increase ranging from 1.99% and up to £15 per household, agreeable on precept levels. Even with these amounts, there will still be a £3.3 million deficit on year 2023/24. They will be looking on identifying areas where savings can be made.

Cllrs Scouse, Taylor and Bull attended a Natural Capital Workshop with NACRE – Wednesday 6th January at 10am via Zoom.

Good workshop and very interesting looking at local environment issues and mapping in the whole of Northamptonshire.

Natural Capital is looking at a plan about the elements of nature that directly or indirectly provide benefits to people in a variety of ways, including wellbeing and sustainable growth. The maps will show the data relating to natural capital in a detailed and visual format for use by planners and others, enabling to see instantly where natural capital is around the village and how it could be developed or enhanced as part of planning and growth.

It links to a project being carried out by the Oxford – Cambridge Arc, to investigate how a natural capital approach can be applied to the planning process.

Councillors did question whether it may not be included in any statutory planning document and therefore become lost after a lot of work has been achieved.

There are 2 more workshops to attend. It will be very interesting to see the conjunctively of the plan and if it achieves more by the end of the workshops.

At the end of this pilot scheme, BPC along with 10 other parish councils, should have good mapping for their parishes which will include sound/noise pollution and green corridors.

19/9220. North Northamptonshire Unitary Authority. (9)

The website now has a page dedicated to the Unitary Authority. All relevant information will now be placed there for residents to read.

Local Government Reorganisation Q&A for North Northamptonshire – Tuesday 19th January, 10am via zoom.

Cllr Scouse attended the above meeting. It was chaired by NCALC and Rob Bridge, who has been appointed as the Chief Executive to North Northants Council (NNC).

Rob Bridge's background is accountancy and he has previously worked for 2 different District Councils.

On first impressions, he seemed to be very insistent that he would like a culture of transparency and better relationships with Town/Parish Councils working as partners. This was welcomed as previously this had not been the case.

NNC have appointed Director levels already and are in the process of appointing Assistant Directors. He would like to see a forum similar to the Rural Forum put in place but it may be conducted as an Annual conference instead. It was suggested that more than annually would be better.

He is not convinced that elections will take place in May due to the pandemic. As the Electoral Returning Officer, there will be a great challenge to the safety of staff, opening polling stations and the finding space big enough for count. All must be taken into consideration. His view is the elections will not be cancelled but maybe delayed but the decision will come from central government. From a democratic point of view, a low turnout will not be ideal and it is now too late to do entirely by postal votes.

Decisions on other appointments will not be made until after the elections.

2021/22 tax year responsibilities will continue to be the same as 2020/21. This means that services which the County and District Councils are responsible for delivering at the moment will continue in the 1st year.

The services devolution between Parish Council's and NNC will be a negotiation on which services will be taken on. Parish Councils will not be compelled to take on services but NNC will not be compelled either to carry on supplying them. Initially, he said these decisions would be voluntary but some services will have to apply to all as NNC would not be able to contractively venture into an agreement with a supplier to only provide for half the area. The example given was Street lights after Richard Barnwell from Cransley PC, pressed him as apparently Russell Roberts had said publicly if a Parish Council did not want to adopt the Street Lighting that would be fine but then that Parish wouldn't have any street lighting.

Initially, services will be left in the place they are currently run by.

County Council staff have not been transferred yet. It will depend on where they live as to which authority they will go to.

Contact lists will be made available to the community and the Parishes when different services transfer.

The question of double taxation worries NNC when they were questioned on how they calculated the base level for their part of the council tax. They are very aware of the fact that some services for parishes will be paid for by NNC (KBC parishes) and other parishes will have to pay for their own services in the first year by precepting as usual. This has always been the case under all other district councils.

Community grant arrangements will probably continue for the 1st year but financially, NNC is not in a great place. Rob Bridge was made aware when appointed that there is a £35 million deficit. The way NNC propose to raise some money is through council tax, approx. £8 million.

Cllr Bull commented that it was good to hear that double taxation is on NNC radar as it has not been evident previously.

Cllr Shrive commented that he had tried on numerous occasions to contact various departments within KBC with no avail. He then was able to individually contact the contractor that carries out the grass cutting in Broughton. At the moment, they are in talks with East Northant's to get them on board as well as their supplier. In February, they will purchase all new equipment to enable them to carry out the work and are putting together a document for street lighting to submit to NNC.

It has been recognised that Broughton residents will be the winners in the first year as the Parish Council's finances are in better shape than many other villages.

On the government website, it was intermated today that the elections may be moved to July.

[19/9221. Report from Community and Traffic Management Sub Committee \(10\)](#)

Policing

Broughton crime rates remain low.

Cllr Robson gave feedback to the online crime reporting form as at the moment there is a delay before it is picked up. The person submitting has to call 101 to ask for the email address to send photo evidence through for the staff operator to file.

The Police confirmed there will be the ability to submit photos with the form in the near future. This will save time and resources for the police and enable the opportunity to identify suspects faster leading to arrest where appropriate.

Traffic Management

The SID changed direction opposite 16 Kettering Road and is now facing the road going out of the village. Data was collected, circulated and comparisons made.

Cllr Robson has submitted some data to the relevant authority but will now only submit when there is exceptional high traffic and speed recorded.

Community

There have been a few isolated incidents of people not adhering to social distancing measures. The covid rate remains high rate in Kettering so it was proposed to add some additional information onto BPC website as a reminder to all. **Action: Clerk to liaise with Cllr Robson on updated figures and content.**

[19/9222. Report from Pocket Park Management Sub Committee \(11\)](#)

BPC have now received the KBC grant for £2000.00.

The contractor Castletree & Landscaping have completed phase one of the Regeneration project at the Pocket park. They have thinned the trees that had self-set and cleared the shrubs around the pond which had both been reducing much needed light to the pond.

There was a lot of conversation on social media regarding the works, most were positive comments but there were a few negative ones as well.

Some residents were upset they had not been told of the works. An article about the project phases was due to go out in the Broughton News before December but unfortunately with the current pandemic and third lockdown, it was deemed inappropriate for the volunteering councillors to hand deliver to all properties as usual. The Broughton News has always been the usual way BPC have kept residents informed about the ongoing Pocket park project previously.

Cllr Shrive commented on the lack of footfall now compared to many years ago which kept the footpaths width and the undergrowth down. Over the years, the footpaths had all but disappeared and were not reinstalled until the Parish Council started looking after the maintenance of the spinney a few years ago.

Cllr Taylor visited the spinney today and reported back that all the fairies are still there and intact. She confirmed the middle area around the pond is now light and airy and no longer dank and dark. The works carried out will aid the regeneration project in time.

When the fairies were first introduced, Cllr Scouse was in contact with the organiser and it was agreed the fairies should be placed away from the pond as works were to commence soon.

It was agreed to post the article onto BPC website and then share via social media as it is recognised that residents tend not to visit the parish website as often.

Cllr Scouse met with Dave Lane from KBC at the Pocket park to discuss the Section 106 funding that BPC is requesting for the capital works. After being shown around, he agreed the provision for the decking platform and the reprofiling of the approach to the pond to give increased path width would satisfy the criteria, he is happy to take the agreement to be signed this off and transferred into the parish's bank account in due course.

19/9223. Report from Planning Sub Committee. (12)

The Committee referred to their copy of the Neighbourhood Plan conditions document and the summary of policies when looking at Planning Applications for consideration.

Planning Applications for consideration.

None that were applicable.

Planning Decisions.

KET/2020/0805

LOCATION: Ivydene Barn, Ivydene Terrace, Broughton

PROPOSAL: Two storey front extension.

Note: Cllr Taylor was excluded in commenting on this application due to having an interest.

Comment: Providing that it meets with Policy 3 of the Neighbourhood Plan and that as it is in the conservation area that any stone boundary wall is not removed, there will be no objection.

Submitted 18/12/2020

Target decision 19th Feb 2021

Report from Planning Sub Committee

Update from James Wilson from KBC re The Old Willows Site.

There is an officer report in draft form and we are awaiting further inputs. This therefore means that the planning application would potentially go to committee on 16th February at the earliest. We will be trying to get it to this one. We haven't had the specifications for the retaining wall from the County Council and this is something that I will chase them on again.

Enforcement action is ongoing and I can't say at present anything regarding the present inhabitants on site.

19/9224. Decision on draft budget consultation under North Northants. (13)

It was decided not to submit a response as a Parish Council but to leave individuals to submit their own comments to the consultation.

19/9225. Fly tipping. (14)

Cllr Baxter got in touch with Cllr Scouse regarding illegal fly tipping that has taken place by the Kettering Road allotments on the old A43 past the horse field last week.

KBC came out and it was obvious it has become a dumping ground with the remains of a bonfire, walls, rubble and sofas. KBC have put tickets on the old sofas but they were unable to take away as the items are behind the gate which is locked.

A discussion took place as to who owned the land, who has access and who would have the key. It was also discussed whether or not it would be a good idea logistically to move the gate and if by doing so, would it become a problem for the trailer blocking the road. Highways were previously contacted to enquire about moving the gate but will charge a significant amount.

KBC will now investigate.

19/9226. Precept. (15)

The precept for £14,000.00 for 2021/22 was submitted on the 14th January to KBC which is the same amount as the last 2 years.

19/9227. Report from Finance Committee. (16)

January 2021 statements

Savings - £0.41

Nationwide 125-day saver - £16,065.21

Community - £28,590.68

Credits to Community account.

KBC – grant for Pocket Park		£2,000.00
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Cheques issued from Community account.

Payee	Cheque number	Amount
A. McDaid wages - mth 10	Bank transfer	£346.25
HMRC income tax	Bank transfer	£86.40
A. McDaid home working, phone and internet, Zoom	Bank transfer	£34.74
Castletree x 2 June & October	Bank transfer	£600.00
BRT PF & VH Association	Standing order	£7.79
Castletree – tree work for regeneration project	Bank transfer	£2,304.00

Barclays have taken another charge of £1 for B/S STD store from the Premium account. This now leaves a balance of 41p. **Action: Close the account before the next charge comes in and we go in debit.**

The clerk is working out the VAT claim as it was last claimed in 2018. It will be ready for next month's meeting. So far, it amounts to £1,408.40 from Nov 18 - Jan 2021. £841.00, is from the Pocket Park maintenance and the remainder is traffic calming so when the claim has been made, the monies will go back into the relevant pots.

19/9228. General interest items. (17)

The clerk sent out the schedule from NCALC to all members to gauge who would be interested in some additional training. Cllr Taylor has been booked onto "Off to a Flying Start" session which takes place on the 4th February via zoom.

Cllr Scouse proposed Cllr Chester oversee the training needs for all and members agreed. **Action: Clerk to send over to Cllr Chester already submitted interest.**

Earlier in the year, Cllr Scouse reported the Village Hall were having difficulty getting the lease signed for the football club but after Cllr Hakewill intervened, it is now in progress. BPC, as trustees will also have to sign the lease so a solicitor will need to be sorted. Cllr Scouse asked members if they could recommend anyone. **Action: Clerk to contact NCALC for a quote and Cllr Rose to contact known solicitor.**

Cllr Shrive aired his disbelief over the road works that were carried out in Kettering Road before Christmas. Cllr Scouse has already emailed Sarah Barnwell at Highways regarding the poor road patching. In some areas it is sitting proud and there is no bonding between old and new surfaces so water is gathering and not draining away. Highways asked Cllr Scouse to report through Streetdoctor but someone had already done it so she sent the reference number. Ref: 2436272. There are works scheduled for February.

Cllr Shrive asked if there were enough SID brackets for the back plates as there are still 2 to go up. The back plates enable the transfer of the device much easier when they already have the back plates in position. There was also a discussion was also had about the SID's in Wellingborough Road that is active and Northampton Road which is not.

Action: Cllr Scouse to contact Messagemaker and order more brackets.

Action: Cllr Scouse to send clerk the information which is on the back of Northampton Road SID with the view to ask for it to be repaired.

Cllr Robson reported to KBC that there are several graffiti tags on both sides of bridge internal concrete walls on Cransley Hill. There were some tags about a year ago, but the majority was added over the past few months.

Update: 22/01/2021 Graffiti was removed.

A resident contacted the clerk via the website as they are embarking on the task of writing their autobiography, and asked if BPC had any old photos of the old school in Church Street (BT Exchange) and also, to be put in touch with a Local History Group.

A discussion was had and members agreed that the Broughton History online group was probably the best place to reach out on. Cllr Rose will look to see if he has any in his archive and Cllr Shrive to ask his family. Cherie has been in recent contact with Cllr Taylor asking for help with her history project but with covid, it is not advisable to meet at the moment.

Action: Clerk to contact Cllr Baxter for any photos.

Four spires Newsletter was drawn to discuss the viability and usefulness of keeping the newsletter running. The decision was that it had probably served its purpose, and the world had moved to much more efficient means of communication so the December-January edition was therefore the final installment.

19/9229. Date of next meeting. (18)

The next meeting will be held Wednesday 17th February 2021 at 7pm.

19/9230. Any other matters that the Chair considers to be urgent. (19)

No other matters were considered and the meeting was closed at 8.17pm.

Signed: *P A Scouse*

Dated: 17/2/2021