

BROUGHTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council, held at Broughton Village Hall on Wednesday, 16 October 2013, commencing at 7.00pm.

Present: Cllr. R Shrive (in the Chair).
Cllrs. Mrs. HJ Bull, Mrs. PA Cope, Mrs. P Roke, Mrs. C Taylor, and Clerk to the Parish Council, Mr GA Duthie.
County Cllr. C Groome.
PCSOs J Breeze and P Firth of Northamptonshire Police.
Two members of the public.

13/6928 **APOLOGIES.** Apologies for absence were tendered by (and accepted for the reasons noted):

Cllr. R Baxter (away)
Cllr. Mrs. JC Chester (unwell)
Cllr. Mrs. MC Rust (away)
Cllr. Rev. BJ Withington (prior commitment)

13/6929 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST.** None were made.

13/6930 **MINUTES.** The draft minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 18 September 2013, copies of each having been circulated, were approved by members and authorised for signature by the Chair.

13/6931 **RIGHT TO SPEAK.** No use of the Right to Speak facility was made at this meeting.

13/6932 **REPORTS OF COUNTY AND BOROUGH COUNCILLORS.** County Cllr. Groome presented a report of recent matters involving him that had also been circulated by email, including that an account of an issue arising from a question asked in respect of the High Speed 2 rail project, where examination of a technical annex appeared to indicate that a 25% reduction in local rail capacity would result, post implementation of the scheme. Consequently, the County Council was due to review its current policy of neutrality toward the project given the likely adverse effects that would result from such a contraction of local rail services.

In respect of the proposed Gypsy and Traveller accommodation policy, Cllr. Groome advised that the County now understood the Borough Council Planning Policy Committee would not be considering the consultation outcome on 23 October as originally intended, due to the weight of responses received. It was understood, however, that the proposal for the Highcroft Farm site might now be modified such that the holding is divided, with part being retained for future highway purposes and part as a site to accommodate Gypsies and/or Travellers. Some discussion then occurred about the history of the holding being acquired by the County Council.

Thinking ahead to the proposed village 'walk-around' on 13 November, Cllr. Groome reminded members that an indication of the nature of issues likely to be raised would be useful, if possible, in order that relevant County/MGWSP representation might also be invited.

13/6933

POLICE REPORT. Councillors heard that September had given rise to 8 reports of crime and, so far, 5 reports had been received for October. These reported incidents comprised a very even spread of one offence each over the available reporting categories apart from domestic violence, where two had been notified. In the County generally, councillors noted there had been a marked increase in vehicle keys being stolen from dwellings so as to enable the resulting theft of the parent vehicle; this appeared especially prevalent during daytime hours. Parishioners should be reminded not to leave keys on view or in the vicinity of doors and windows.

The continuing issue of obstructive parking at the junction of Baker Avenue with Wellingborough Road was then discussed; the attending officers being informed that notwithstanding the general availability of off-street parking at nearby addresses, certain residents or visitors had taken to parking in a manner that drastically reduced visibility for road users negotiating this junction. Local members endorsed the fact a real hazard resulted from this practice and that it was feared collisions might result if not curtailed.

PCSOs Breeze and Firth, and County Cllr. Groome left the meeting at the conclusion of this item, at 7:20pm.

13/6934

MATTERS ARISING. Arising from 13/6920, the meeting noted that further witness evidence had been filed in respect of the Judicial Review application challenging planning permission KET/2012/0709. Councillors heard that a statement had been made by Borough Cllr. Shirley Lynch for the planning authority that gave her account of a telephone conversation in which the extended deadline for the completion of the Section 106 Agreement for this scheme had been discussed with the Clerk. In view of the content and timing of this, a further statement in reply had been made and filed on behalf of the Parish Council in support of the application. Members were informed that it remained the case that a decision could be anticipated on the permission aspect once the papers had been read by a High Court judge.

Arising from 13/6921, in connection with the proposed new waiting/parking restrictions in High Street and Coxs Lane, councillors heard that the County Council had indicated the changes were due to be advertised in order to progress the legal process, with the resulting yellow lines being likely to be applied early in 2014 (weather permitting).

Arising again from 13/6920, members discussed the visit of Planning Minister, Mr. Nick Boles MP, to the village on 27 September. The meeting heard that the visit, which comprised a tour of significant sites in the village, followed by a question and answer session at the village hall after refreshments, had been very successful and the Minister left with an impression of a vibrant community that was not resistant to growth but was resolved to participate in influencing its scale and shape.

Although many had contributed to making the event a positive and worthwhile exercise, particular thanks were due to the staff and pupils at Broughton School who had gone out of their way to receive and welcome the visiting party.

Subsequent to Mr. Boles' visit, feedback had been received from his Assistant Private Secretary, which was shared with the meeting. This included advice detailing other local communities also engaged in pursuing neighbourhood plan initiatives, and details of potential sources of assistance and support. Members heard there had also been discussion as to whether a series of written questions handed to the Minister still required to be responded to in the light of the information exchanged at and since the visit; with it being confirmed that responses would indeed be welcomed given the questions largely derived from members of the public.

Arising also from 13/6921, in respect of the on-going Strategic Housing and Employment Sites Consultation, the meeting heard a draft response had been circulated for consideration and comments/input invited prior to submission.

Once more arising from 13/6921, members were reminded of the Development Services training session being held by the Borough Council on 4 November. It was believed that Cllr. Mrs. Rust intended to attend this and that another place was available as a provisional reservation of two places had been made. Whilst it was agreed that the training opportunity was most welcome, councillors considered the timing during the working day to be difficult to accommodate. Interest was expressed in attending any further similar event scheduled to occur out of office hours.

Arising from 13/6922, a note of the Neighbourhood Plan Group meeting held on 7 October was submitted and placed on circulation.

Arising from 13/6925, Cllr. Mrs. Taylor clarified with members the locations of the failing flower boxes and the nature of the problems affecting each; it being agreed that remedial action would best be taken prior to any spring re-stocking. Cllr. Mrs. Taylor offered to investigate the possibilities for reconfiguring these to make the same more resistant to decay.

13/6935

CORRESPONDENCE. The following items of correspondence were reported and action, as detailed, was agreed to be taken, with other general items being placed on circulation:-

- a) A formal acknowledgment of the Broughton Parish Neighbourhood Plan area designation request and supporting statement, as received from the Borough Council. Members noted that Mr. Lewis Goodley, an assistant planning officer, had been allocated as the relevant Borough contact and would be arranging a preliminary meeting in order to settle an action plan to progress the initiative.
- b) A communication received from the County Council, formally notifying of the making of the Road Traffic Regulation Order that will give legal effect to the proposed new waiting and parking restrictions in the High Street and Coxs Lane.
- c) A letter received from the Head of Development Services at Kettering Borough Council, suggesting a way forward in connection with the processing of the Parish Council's response to the Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Options Consultation, following receipt of the Parish Council's further representations on the passages that had been rejected. Members noted that several changes had

been proposed that essentially preserved the thrust of the points being made whilst avoiding the equalities based concerns that caused difficulty for the planning authority. After some consideration and, on balance, members concluded the suggested changes were quite fairly judged and agreed that the Council's consent should be given to the representation being taken forward in its amended form.

13/6936 **REPORTS OF MEMBERS ATTENDING MEETINGS OF OTHER BODIES.**
No reports were made at this meeting.

13/6937 **DEVELOPMENT CONTROL.**
Planning Applications submitted for the Parish Council's observations:-
The following application was considered and it was agreed that the observations as noted should be made to the planning authority:-

4 St Andrews Way Rear and side extensions Mr Harris
No objection in principle to this proposal although concern would arise if the current level of off-road parking for the dwelling was compromised.

Planning Decisions notified:-
The following decision notice, comprising an approval with conditions, had been received:-

Westlands, West Street Rear and side extensions Mr Mathews

Planning Appeals:-
The meeting noted that an appeal had been made in respect of the following refusal of permission; this to be decided by local public inquiry and in respect of which, any further comments needed to be submitted to the Planning Inspectorate by 5 December 2013:-

Glebe Avenue (land off) 67 dwellings etc Glanmoor Ltd

13/6938 **FINANCE. The following items of income and expenditure were noted/agreed:-**

Income			£
Barclays Bank PLC	Interest on premium account		1.03
 Expenditure			 £
Barclays Bank PLC	Storage fee	(direct debit)	1.00
Barclays Bank PLC	Commission	(direct debit)	4.00
Zen Internet	Web hosting fee	(direct debit)	4.79
GA Duthie	Salary and WP	(101572)	250.33
HMRC	Income tax	(101573)	141.20
GA Duthie	Telephone and Electric exps	(101574)	14.36
RB Travel	Mini bus – ministerial visit	(101575)	150.00

13/6939

GENERAL INTEREST ITEMS.

A copy of the tour route and written questions prepared for the ministerial visit on 27 September were placed on circulation for the benefit of members who had not been in attendance.

A draft copy of the Housing Needs Report as arising from the recently conducted survey was placed on circulation.

It was noted that the date for this year's Tin Can Band would be Sunday 15 December.

An agenda item to be included for the November meeting, contemplating the creation of a 'young councillor' role.

13/6940

DATE OF NEXT MEETING. It was reported that the next scheduled meeting of the Parish Council would be on Wednesday 20 November 2013, at 7:00pm in the Village Hall.

13/6941

URGENT ITEMS ADMITTED BY THE CHAIR. None were raised.

The meeting was closed at 8:20pm

20 November 2013

Signed.....