

BROUGHTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council, held at Broughton Village Hall on Wednesday, 15 July 2015, commencing at 7.00pm.

Present: Cllrs Mrs PA Scouse (in the Chair), R Baxter, Mrs HJ Bull, Mrs JC Chester, R Shrive, and Clerk to the Parish Council, Mr GA Duthie.
County Cllr C Groome.
One member of the public.

15/7259 **APOLOGIES.** Apologies were tendered by Cllrs AK Lofthouse (family illness), JH Noble (unwell) and Cllr B Withington (diary conflict).

15/7260 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST.** None were made.

15/7261 **MINUTES.** The draft minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 17 June 2015, copies having been circulated, were approved by members and authorised for signature by the Chair.

15/7262 **RIGHT TO SPEAK.** No use was made of the facility at this meeting.

15/7263 **REPORTS OF COUNTY AND BOROUGH COUNCILLORS.** County Cllr reported upon a number of issues including that a six-month review had been secured of recycling site opening times, that the electrification programme for the Midland Mainline rail service had been suspended (although some associated works were to continue), that it seemed the Pytchley cross-road improvements did appear to have reduced the rate of accidents there, that work on proposed HS2 connectivity continued, that the Rural Forum and A6 Towns Forum were considering their respective remits and futures, that consideration was being given to whether Highcroft Farm could benefit from formal designations to reflect its habitat value, and that Parking issues in and around Cransley Hill were prompting local concern (including affecting the unmade roads locally).

In response to an invitation, members agreed to hold a village walkabout with County representatives on 16 September; commencing at 6pm.

15/7264 **MATTERS ARISING.** Arising from 15/7247, the meeting heard a comprehensive response from Mr John Conway, Head of Housing at Kettering Borough Council, in relation to the various allegations of criminal and antisocial behaviour being linked with a council house in Carter Avenue. Members noted that various complaints had been received recently and were being investigated, although it was also the case that some previous complaints had been found to be unproven, or were trivial in nature. Those present heard also that associated safeguarding concerns relating to children had been referred to Social Services and repairs to glazing had now been undertaken. Mt Conway had stressed that although complaints would always be taken seriously when received, the Council did need to respond proportionately on the basis of evidence; the family concerned were being supported by professionals in order to try and avoid further issues arising.

Arising from 15/7253 and from representations made as a result of the consideration of the planning application relating to the The Old Willows caravan site, members heard a detailed response from the Development Manager of Kettering Borough Council, explaining the rationale for using a planning condition to address the safety concerns arising from the proximity of the A43, rather than a planning obligation. The officer had also replied to concerns in relation to other conditions discussed at the Planning Committee meeting, including one controlling commercial use and one controlling occupation to named families (not favoured). Members noted the replies and agreed the Borough continue to be pressed to see through the outstanding enforcement notice to compliance.

Arising from 15/7256, the meeting was advised of a series of emails exchanged between the Clerk and the leader of Kettering Borough Council, Cllr R Roberts, which had failed to secure the latter's agreement to attend any scheduled meeting of the Parish Council.

Arising in respect of the proposed new street light for Brookhaven, members noted that a quotation had been received from E-On via the Borough Council in the sum of £1,240 plus Vat for the installation and cabling of a new column. After some discussion of how this might impact upon the current street lighting review, it was agreed to pursue the provision provided acceptance of the quotation did not prejudice the current agency arrangements that the PC wished to continue.

Arising again from 15/7256, members were informed that Kier WSP on behalf of the County Council had advised of the frequency of visits to undertake vegetation control in the village. Members noted that three visits each for grass cutting and for weed-spraying occurred each growing season and this had been the case since April 2008. It was agreed to query whether it might be possible to secure additional cutting visits at the Parish Council's cost given the current arrangement was not thought sufficient.

Arising from 15/7236, and in connection with the exchanges with Pia Bellamy of the Borough Council concerning maintenance of play and sports equipment at the Village Hall playing field, members heard reported that the Borough Council intended to pursue the issue with the Village Hall Association, as the Association were believed to have a long term plan for the field. Councillors were concerned this might indicate a desire by the Borough Council to transfer liability for maintenance to the Association in the face of the current legal responsibilities reflected by the respective ownership positions.

Arising also from 15/7256, it was confirmed that the footpath off leading off Northampton Road had now been cleared so as to be passable.

Arising from 15/7248, Cllr Mrs Bull advised that material publicising the call for 'considerate parking' had been prepared and placed in the public domain.

15/7265

CORRESPONDENCE. The following items of correspondence were reported:

- a) A communication from the County Council, advising that a review of the mobile library service routes had resulted in no change to the service for

Broughton. A copy of the service schedule and routing details was placed on circulation.

- b) An email had been circulated by Cllr Lofthouse concerning an issue raised with him arising from dogs being allowed to foul in the area of the play area in the High Street recreation ground. Members agreed to ask the Borough Council whether the previously existing fence around the play area could be reinstated notwithstanding the legislative changes that had occurred in recent years.
- c) A communication received from the NNJPU advising that a consultation was due to commence from 27 July 2015 on Focused Changes to the Pre-Submission Joint Core Strategy. Members agreed no comment would be necessary on this given that no changes were proposed that affected the village directly.
- d) A letter from Kettering Borough Council, advising of the launch of the Borough's Capital Community Grant Scheme and advising how applications might be made. Members agreed this was a potential source of assistance with the village sign plinth project.

15/7266

REPORTS OF MEMBERS ATTENDING MEETINGS OF OTHER BODIES.

The Chair reported on her attendance at the Village Hall Committee meeting held on 14 July 2015. Business there included confirmation that a dedicated IP address now existed for the CCTV system, that quotes were being obtained for a replacement water tank, that discussion of the basis for precept derived PC financial support had occurred (significant capital items), that various fund raising initiatives were under consideration, a proposal for a fitness trail in the village hall field, a need for a new cleaner, assistance needed with village show stalls, and contributions for tombola prizes etc. The minutes of the meeting held on 9 June were placed on circulation.

Cllr Shrive reported upon the meeting of the Rural Forum held on 25 June 2015. Business there included the re-election of Cllr Hakewill as Chair, Cllr Watson as Vice-Chair, a presentation on current and proposed policing arrangements (including a parish constable in training for Broughton and Mawsley), a presentation by NALC on the possible future remit of the Forum, an update on the street lighting review, and possible agenda items for future meetings.

15/7267

POLICE REPORT. Members noted that officers were unable to attend this evening but the usual statistical report had been provided that indicated 4 reports of crime had been made in June; comprising 1 sexual offence, 1 criminal damage report, and 2 violence offences. These contributed to the 8 reports received across the sector.

15/7268

DEVELOPMENT CONTROL.

Planning applications submitted for comment:-

The following application was considered and it was **RESOLVED** that discharge of condition 7 should be objected to on grounds that the roof form for plot 17 remained over-bulky and devoid of architectural interest to the detriment of visual amenity enjoyed by surrounding properties and the overall character of the vicinity, being out of keeping with the established and emerging vernacular of the development:

Cransley Hill (land off)

Condition 7 of KET/2012/0709

Redrow Homes

The following application was considered and no observation was considered necessary:

St Andrews Farm 4G upgrade to telecoms mast etc EE Ltd

15/7269 **FINANCE.** The following items of income and expenditure were noted/agreed:-

Income			£
Barclays Bank PLC	Interest on savings a/c		1.13
Expenditure			£
Zen Internet	Web charges incl domain	(direct debit)	16.76
Barclays Bank PLC	Commission	(direct debit)	4.00
Barclays Bank PLC	Store fee	(direct debit)	1.00
GA Duthie	Salary and WP July and Aug	(101667)	513.92
HMRC	Income tax	(101668)	291.96
GA Duthie	Telephone and electric exps	(101669)	14.37

15/7270 **POCKET PARK.** Members noted that the park looked to be in generally good order presently although the invasive Himalayan Balsam was starting to flower so would benefit from removal work before seeding.

15/7271 **GENERAL INTEREST ITEMS.**
Cllr Shrive reported the next edition of Broughton News would be produced in the next week or two and it was agreed a cheque for the print cost (£95) could be drawn when needed.

Cllr Baxter mentioned that some difficulty was occurring with the pavement at The Bank being obstructed by a car left overhanging when drawn into a former driveway that was not large enough to accommodate it.

15/7272 **DATE OF NEXT MEETING.** It was reported that the next scheduled meeting of the Parish Council, would be on Wednesday 16 September 2015, at 7:00pm in the Village Hall.

15/7273 **URGENT ITEMS ADMITTED BY THE CHAIR.** None were raised and the meeting closed at approximately 9:35pm.

16 September 2015

Signed.....