

## **BROUGHTON PARISH COUNCIL**

Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council, held at Broughton Village Hall on Wednesday, 18 March 2015, commencing at 7.00pm.

Present: Cllrs Mrs MC Rust (in the Chair), R Baxter, Mrs HJ Bull, Mrs JC Chester, Mrs PA Scouse, R Shrive, B Withington and Clerk to the Parish Council, Mr GA Duthie.  
County Cllr C Groome.  
Borough Cllr J Hakewill.  
PCSOs J Breeze and M Lawson of Northamptonshire Police.  
Two members of the public.

**15/7196** **APOLOGIES.** Apologies for absence were tendered by (and accepted for the reasons noted): Cllr JH Noble (work commitment).

**15/7197** **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST.** None were made.

**15/7198** **MINUTES.** The draft minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 18 February 2015, copies having been circulated, were approved by members and authorised for signature by the Chair.

**15/7199** **RIGHT TO SPEAK.** Two members of the public addressed councillors. First, the meeting heard from Mr C Price, who raised the issue of the current difficulties being encountered by local people who were dependent on public transport in accessing the GP surgery at Mawsley. The question was posed as to whether any form of outreach clinic had been considered or other measures to assist those wishing to access surgery services. Members assured the speaker they were aware of the issue and that although a previous proposal for an outreach service had not then proved feasible, the recent changes to the bus timetable did mean there might be a necessity for this to be revisited.

Mr A Hind-Laugh then addressed the meeting in order to raise the issue of traffic speed in the village and the increasing numbers of HGVs using Cransley Hill. The speaker expressed fears that both issues had become more prevalent since the major roadworks commenced on the A14 and that significant road safety impacts were a consequence for the village. Councillors confirmed there was certainly an acute awareness of the issues and that traffic matters generally had been a key focus of the recent neighbourhood planning work, with a comprehensive traffic survey having been undertaken to inform the draft plan.

**15/7200** **POLICE REPORT.** Members received a breakdown of the increased number of reported incidents in the village during February, where 6 of the 13 reports received were accounted for by burglaries of sheds and outbuildings. Members noted that PCSO Breeze was due to join the regular police force and would be changing areas as a consequence; with councillors offering her their best wishes for her new role and duties. The Chair asked that consideration be given to increasing publicity for the mobile police station visits to the village.

**15/7201** **REPORTS OF COUNTY AND BOROUGH COUNCILLORS.** Borough Cllr Hakewill first queried whether councillors knew of any objection to a replacement of

the Lime tree that used to stand in Glebe Avenue, which had been requested by a local resident. This was supported as the tree had been a notable local feature and a previous attempt at replacement had failed. In respect of the planning application for the caravan site at Northampton Road, members noted this was due to be determined at committee in April; there followed some discussion as to the apparent inability of the Borough Council to identify the extent to which development at the site generally had intensified. Cllr Hakewill then reminded councillors of the need to ensure Section 106 contributions to be received as a consequence of the Redrow Homes development were applied as intended, especially at the Village Hall where the proposed extension project might benefit if there was scope for the contributions to be used toward this.

Members then heard from County Cllr Groome, who expanded upon his monthly report that had been circulated by email prior to the meeting. The points raised in this concerning budget setting, rail changes at market Harborough, children's services and education scrutiny, a proposal for the County Council to revert to a traditional committee structure, and the proposed development of a new office building in Northampton.

Parish councillors asked their Borough and County colleagues to pursue the issue of HGV traffic accessing the Redrow development site inappropriately via the back road from Great Cransley, and the nuisance now being caused by pile-driving operations to consolidate the ground.

#### **15/7202**

**MATTERS ARISING.** Arising from the query made as to the future of the BT exchange site at Church Street, the meeting heard that a response had been received from the company's property manager confirming that the facility was likely to be required for the foreseeable future with no plans for any decommissioning following the roll out of digital services in the village.

Arising from 14/7131, members noted information provided by County Cllr Groome that confirmed the Highcroft farm site had now been designated a Local Wildlife Site, and that it now appeared that the current tenancy affecting the land would continue and not be terminated. These together were thought indicative that the proposal to use the land as a caravan site had been abandoned although confirmation of this had not yet been seen.

Arising from 15/7186, the meeting heard an error in the notes accompanying the nomination packs for the local government elections in May had been identified and advised. Members were advised of the correct text for the affected note.

Also arising from 14/7186, members recorded their thanks to Cllr and Mrs Shrive for their work in reality checking the plan provided by the Borough Council detailing locations of street lamps in the village and for flagging discrepancies, which had now been communicated back.

***NB The meeting was adjourned at this point, at 7:58pm, to enable the annual meeting for local government electors to be held as convened. The meeting resumed at approximately 8:15pm.***

Arising from 15/7193 and recent concerns raised with members, including via social media, the meeting heard that a problem seemed to be developing in the village with dog related nuisance. Members agreed to request a supply of relevant publicity material from the dog warden to try and highlight the issues and attendant responsibilities of owners.

The meeting also heard there had been a recurrence of the issue of horse riders using the footway links across the Podmore Way open space, resulting in a hazard to pedestrians.

Arising from 15/7169, the meeting heard that the chicken manure issue continued to be causing concern at Northampton Road.

**15/7203**

**CORRESPONDENCE.** The following items of correspondence were reported:

- a) A letter received from the Borough Council advising that election nominations could not be accepted until following the publication of the notice of election on 30 March 2015.
- b) A communication received from the County Council providing publicity material for the Local offer initiative, focusing on young people with special education needs.
- c) A communication received from CPRE, publicising a training event to be held on 4 June 2015 at Great Houghton, on the theme of ‘making planning responses count’.
- d) A notification sent on behalf of CTIL and Telefonica UK Limited, advising of and consulting upon proposals to upgrade the existing communications site at Bypass Farm on the A43. This material was placed on circulation.
- e) Publicity material received from NACRE, concerning that organisation’s rural Wellbeing Project focused on isolation and loneliness often suffered by older people in rural areas.

**15/7204**

**REPORTS OF MEMBERS ATTENDING MEETINGS OF OTHER BODIES.**

The Chair reported upon the meeting of the Village Hall Committee held on 10 March. Members heard the business included progress made with arranging a further Touring Arts musical evening despite some difficulties, the successful running of a consultation event to raise awareness of the hall extension project that had been attended by approximately 40 people, the planned commencement of work on the new surfaced area during April, and the identified necessity for replacement of the water hall water tank due to deterioration of the existing one. The next meeting was scheduled for 14 April 2015 and the minutes of the meeting held in February were placed on circulation.

**15/7205**

**DEVELOPMENT CONTROL.**

**Planning applications submitted for comment:-**

The following application was considered and it was agreed no observation need be made:

8 Gables Lane

Detached double garage

Mr Fenton

**Planning decisions reported:-**

The following copy decision notice had been received, being an approval with conditions:

44 High Street

Two bed dwelling

Mr Purewal

Members then noted that the local public inquiry set for hearing the planning appeal relating to the wind turbine proposal at Orton (Aspenfield) had been postponed by the Planning Inspectorate to allow assessment of additional information that had been submitted. A new date for the inquiry would be set in due course. Members also noted that an application had been lodged for approval to do crown reduction works to two protected trees at 5 Manor Farm Close, a Sycamore and a Chestnut.

**15/7206**

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

<b>Income</b>		<b>£</b>
Kettering BC	Local initiatives grant	1,250.00

<b>Expenditure</b>		<b>£</b>
Zen Internet	Web hosting charge (direct debit )	4.79
Barclays Bank PLC	Commission (direct debit )	4.00
M Bodicoat	Website maintenance (101649 )	75.00
GA Duthie	Salary and WP (101650 )	252.24
HMRC	Income tax (101651 )	142.82
GA Duthie	Telephone and electric exps (101652 )	22.07

**15/7207**

**POCKET PARK.** Cllr Shrive reported that an initial tranche of work had now been undertaken, and that key pathways in the spinney had been very sympathetically cleared, which should encourage usage. Some discussion as to whether bark or some other surfacing should be spread to retain usability ensued but members agreed this was not presently necessary and the currently muddy surface should dry over summer. The next tranche of work would concentrate on the bramble clearance at the boundary.

**15/7208**

**WEBSITE.** Councillors noted information provided by Mr Bodicoat as to the work undertaken and needed going forward to keep the website updated with current material. It was estimated approximately £20 per month would be recharged for updating if Mr Bodicoat had to attend to this but the Clerk confirmed he was content to attend to minute and agenda uploading directly if this was feasible with the current design.

**15/7209**

**GENERAL INTEREST ITEMS.**

Cllr Baxter reported that the green area at Church Street near the new notice board had been planted with some new trees that would hopefully establish.

Members noted that there had been some local speculation and concern as to the possible future use of the land left isolated at the rear of Grange Road by the Redrow

development scheme, this being thought to belong to ED Estates who might be asked their intentions for it.

**15/7210**

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

**15/7211**

**URGENT ITEMS ADMITTED BY THE CHAIR.** None were raised and the meeting closed at approximately 9:20pm.

15 April 2015

Signed.....