

## **BROUGHTON PARISH COUNCIL**

Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council, held at Broughton Village Hall on Wednesday, 20 January 2016, commencing at 7.00pm.

Present: Cllrs Mrs PA Scouse (in the Chair), Mrs HJ Bull, Mrs JC Chester, AK Lofthouse, R Shrive, M Van de Water, and Clerk to the Parish Council, Mr GA Duthie.  
County Cllr C Groome, Borough Cllr J Hakewill.  
PCSOs K Ellerby and J Parish of Northamptonshire Police.  
One member of the public.

**16/7342**      **APOLOGIES.** Apologies were tendered by Cllr R Baxter (diary conflict).

**16/7343**      **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST.** None were made.

**16/7344**      **MINUTES.** The draft minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 16 December 2015, copies having been circulated, were approved by members and authorised for signature by the Chair.

**16/7345**      **RIGHT TO SPEAK.** No use of the facility was made at this meeting.

**16/7346**      **POLICE REPORT.** PCSOs Ellerby and Parish briefed members on the recent spike in reported crimes in the parish; councillors noting that a significant number of the incidents complained of were domestic in origin. Generally, the increase in complaints was thought to be an exception to the general pattern of reports that was not thought likely to change markedly going forward. The meeting heard, for instance, there had been just 3 complaints logged since the last report was generated, which would be the sort of number typically expected.

Borough Cllr Hakewill then raised an issue with continuing complaints of anti-social behaviour that were coming to his notice, if not to that of the Police, emanating from a particular address in the village. The PCSOs confirmed there was an awareness of the matters described by Cllr Hakewill that were primarily being dealt with by the Borough Council under its housing management function; albeit there were cross-overs with the Police to the extent any criminal matters arose. This issue would continue to receive attention as warranted.

**16/7347**      **REPORTS OF COUNTY AND BOROUGH COUNCILLORS.** County Cllr Groome spoke in support of the report previously circulated by him by email; expanding particularly on the Highcroft farm issue by explaining indications from the County Council were now that a renewal of the existing tenant's lease of the site was more likely given the current stasis with the Gypsy and Traveller site allocation policy and timetable for dualling of the A43, which was clearly some years off for the stretch that could affect this land.

Prompted by a question from the Chair, there was then also some discussion of an emerging concern around an apparent shortfall in school place provision; it was wondered how this could occur, especially given the emphasis placed on infrastructure planning associated with major developments. In the local context, County Cllr Groome confirmed that the S106 Obligations relating to the Redrow

housing development in the village did include for contributions to be applied toward facilities at the Broughton School.

*As he had another engagement to attend, Cllr Groome left the meeting at 7:16pm.*

Borough Cllr Hakewill then presented his report; initially picking up the school place allocations point. It was asserted that a significant component of the current pressure resulted from high levels of inward migration to the area.

Members were then advised the Borough Council's annual Council Tax/budget setting consultation meeting was to be held tomorrow (21 January), which was usually worth attending and very interactive.

As indicated by County Cllr Groome previously, firmer proposals now existed for the nature and timing of upgrades to the A43; although some way off in terms of any effects on the village, these did acknowledge the need for revision of the Mawsley roundabout.

In respect of the High Street recreation ground, the issue of how to make the site more secure against incursion remained under consideration. Similarly, the re-establishment of a Lime tree at the junction of Lime Close was continuing to be pressed for given the local desire for this.

The meeting heard the issue of street lighting remained at something of an impasse in that the Borough were seemingly unable to agree a way forward with the County. There remained doubt about the historical basis for the current agency arrangements and, further, a related issue had also arisen concerning lighting power costs. Members expressed the view that the issue needed to be resolved, not least in the context of the number of new lights being erected to serve new developments.

There then followed some discussion concerning the currently stalled Gypsy and Traveller site allocation policy; it seemingly now being tacitly acknowledged that this was becoming stale given the time that had passed since originally devised and consulted upon. Councillors were agreed the failure to progress and adopt this policy had been very harmful to proper planning and had resulted in ad-hoc decisions that had been arbitrary and disproportionate in their effects on communities including Broughton; the position was not satisfactory.

An issue was the mentioned concerning the proposed relocation of a lamp column in Carter Avenue; it being noted that an application would be necessary to the County Council in order to secure the necessary consents.

*Borough Cllr Hakewill left the meeting at 7:35pm.*

### **16/7348**

**MATTERS ARISING.** Arising from 15/7332, councillors heard that the request for assistance with the provision of a bench for walkers on Bridleway GW6/GW16 between Pytchley and Broughton had been referred to the County Council Rights of Way team for consideration, and the originator had been advised. In addition, an in-principle offer of limited financial support had been made notwithstanding the PC

was unable to take on ownership or future maintenance of such a facility (hence the referral to the County).

Arising from the proposal to enhance the central village sign with a base or plinth, members noted that the grant application to Kettering Borough Council for assistance with this had been successful and an award of £975 had been confirmed.

Arising from 15/7335, the meeting heard that the Borough Council had been asked if they might be able to assist with the removal of those Gateway planters that had now failed or were in imminent danger of doing so.

Arising from the provision of a new interactive speed sign at Cransley Hill, members noted that sign needed to be relocated to be better visible to traffic approaching from Cransley; the County Council had advised a contractor had wrongly placed the column and it would be relocated shortly. Councillors expressed their thanks to Cllr Van de Water for pursuing the issue. Additionally, members were informed that sign timings and displays had yet to be programmed to coincide with the school runs.

Arising from 15/7339, Cllr Shrive reported that the latest edition of Broughton News had been printed and was ready for distribution; members agreed to undertake this. The printing costs were £115.

#### **16/7349**

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

- a) A communication received from the Borough Council and advising of the Holocaust Memorial Commemoration to be held on 31 January 2016, at 2pm; theme – ‘*Don’t stand by*’.
- b) An invitation to renew membership of NACRE at a cost of £35; this was agreed.
- c) A communication received from NACRE, providing details of this year’s Best Village Competition. Details agreed to be circulated.
- d) The annual report of the Police and Crime Commissioner

#### **16/7350**

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

Apart from the Chair’s usual attendance at the Village Hall Committee meeting, which mainly considered matters of housekeeping, no significant meetings had been attended.

#### **16/7351**

**DEVELOPMENT CONTROL.**

**Planning applications submitted for comment:-**

The following proposals were considered, and whilst members had no wish to object to the scheme represented by these applications (including the listed building application), they did wish to seek that any planning permission is made subject to a planning obligation or condition that restricts the new habitable space for use only incidental to the principal dwelling, and never as an independent dwelling unit or holiday let etc. It was considered that residential amenity and highway safety would be unacceptably compromised if such subdivision was to occur in the future, hence the need for this to be expressly controlled:

Ratcatcher, Church Street      Creation of guest rooms in annexe      Mr Reynolds

**16/7352**      **FINANCE.** The following items of income and expenditure were noted/agreed:-

<b>Income</b>			<b>£</b>
Barclays Bank PLC	Interest on saver a/c		1.05
<b>Expenditure</b>			<b>£</b>
Zen Internet	Web hosting charge	(direct debit )	4.79
PA Scouse	Chair's allowance	(101689 )	235.00
GA Duthie	Salary and WP	(101690 )	256.96
HMRC	Income tax	(101691 )	145.98
GA Duthie	Telephone and electric exps	(101692 )	22.72
NACRE	Subscription	(101693 )	35.00
Poppy Print	Broughton News printing	(101694 )	115.00
PA Scouse	Village hall key cutting	(101695 )	13.50

**16/7353**      **GATEWAYS PROJECT.** No further consideration of this matter occurred at this meeting.

**16/7354**      **HIGHCROFT FARM.** Although this had been considered earlier under the reports given by Cllrs. Groome and Hakewill, members spent some time discussing the historical interest of the site given new information was being learned all the time.

**16/7355**      **GENERAL INTEREST ITEMS.**

The mentioned a lamp still remained out at Silver Street.

Cllr Lofthouse flagged that there was a damaged car in Wellingborough Road that appeared to display signs of different burning incidents each time he went by.

Cllr Van de Water raised a query about dedicated bins for dog waste; members advised that, provided bagged, such waste could be disposed of in general bins. Dedicated bins were generally not provided due to the prohibitive cost of emptying.

Cllr Mrs Bull mentioned the Traveller site appeared to be very crowded currently.

Cllr Mrs Bull reminded councillors of the Neighbourhood Plan public meeting to be held on 20 February at the village hall, as a further consultation event in connection with the preparation of the plan.

**16/7356**      **DATE OF NEXT MEETING.** It was reported that the next scheduled meeting of the Parish Council, would be on Wednesday 17 February 2016, at 7:00pm in the Village Hall.

**16/7357**      **URGENT ITEMS ADMITTED BY THE CHAIR.** None were raised.

17 February 2016

Signed.....