

BROUGHTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council, held at Broughton Village Hall on Wednesday, 18 May 2016, commencing at 7.00pm.

Present: Cllrs Mrs PA Scouse (in the Chair), R Baxter, Mrs HJ Bull, R Shrive, M Van de Water, and Clerk to the Parish Council, Mr GA Duthie.

16/7409 **ELECTION OF CHAIR AND VICE-CHAIRMAN.** This being the annual meeting of the Parish Council, consideration of business was preceded by the election of the Chair and Vice-Chairman for the ensuing year. The following appointments were confirmed after nomination and being duly seconded without competing nominations being made:-

Cllr Mrs PA Scouse was re-appointed as Chair.

Cllr R Shrive was re-appointed as Vice-Chairman.

16/7410 **APOLOGIES.** Parish Councillors Mrs JC Chester and Rev. B Withington apologised for absence due respectively to holiday commitments and an unavoidable diary conflict, and Borough Cllr J Hakewill due to having to attend the annual meeting of the Borough Council.

16/7411 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST.** None were made.

16/7412 **MINUTES.** The draft minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 20 April 2016, copies having been circulated, were approved by members and authorised for signature by the Chair.

16/7413 **FORMER COUNCILLOR MRS PAMELA COPE.** Prior to the commencement of substantive business, the meeting heard and took a moment to reflect on the sad news that former parish councillor, Mrs Pamela Cope, had passed away on 2 May after a period of illness. Mrs Cope's funeral had occurred at the Albert Munn Chapel on 17 May and had been very well attended by family and friends.

16/7414 **RIGHT TO SPEAK.** No use of this facility was made at this meeting.

16/7415 **APPOINTMENTS TO COMMITTEES AND OUTSIDE BODIES.** After consideration of current arrangements, it was agreed that Parish Council representation on the Neighbourhood Plan group should continue to be performed by:

- Cllr Mrs HJ Bull
- Cllr R Shrive
- Cllr R Baxter
- Cllr P Scouse

Further, it was agreed that the same councillors should comprise the county matters committee for purposes of considering county facing consultation documents that might be received; the current district matters equivalent remaining unchanged.

Trustee representation on the Broughton Charities would comprise Cllr R Baxter, Ms L Smith, Ms S York, and Mrs C Riches; the latter having been appointed to the vacancy arising following the passing of former trustee, Mrs Pamela Cope as noted at 16/7413 above.

Finally, the Parish Council's formal representative on the Rural Forum would again be Cllr Mrs HJ Bull, and Cllr P Scouse would continue representation at the Village Hall Committee for the council.

16/7416 **REPORTS OF COUNTY AND BOROUGH COUNCILLORS.** Due to the parish council meeting coinciding with the annual meeting of Kettering Borough Council, no reports were received.

16/7417 **POLICE REPORT.** Councillors received a brief written update from PCSO Lawson who had advised that no physical attendance would be possible this meeting due to staffing levels. Members heard that during April, two incidents had been reported; one being an arson resulting in an arrest, and the other of egg throwing from a vehicle. The car concerned had subsequently been found abandoned.

16/7418 **MATTERS ARISING.** Arising from 16/7396, members noted that the date for the meeting of the Rural Forum postponed due to the clash with the EU referendum now looked likely to be Thursday 21 July 2016.

Arising also from 16/7396, the meeting heard that the recent litter clear-up noted at the last meeting had been kindly undertaken by Mr Michael Marriott of the village. Members were advised that the Chair had arranged to send a 'thank you' card on behalf of the council to acknowledge his public spiritedness.

Arising from 16/7393, the Chair confirmed she had discussed with the relevant Borough officer the matter of the proposed 'drop-down' bollards needed to protect the High Street recreation ground in order to identify the most effective location. Irrespective of the ultimate location for these that might be decided upon (consideration continued), it had been agreed that any new bollards would be more robustly secured to deter unauthorised removal.

Arising in respect of the Section 106 contributions resulting from the Redrow scheme for open space enhancements, the Chair reported that, in principle, the Borough Council had confirmed the application of this funding would be informed by parish inputs providing a reasoned and costed case for the expenditure could be made that was within the scope of the planning agreement.

Arising from 16/7402, the meeting heard that the stonemason, Mr Farrow, had indicated work had now commenced on preparing materials in readiness to construct the new plinth. The contractor would advise in due course when work on site would commence.

Arising from 16/7403, members were informed of and noted an exchange of correspondence with the treasurer of the village hall association in connection with the parish council's financial support for the ongoing village hall development plan.

Arising in connection with the area off Church Street comprising Broughton Common, members noted that some concerns had been raised about cultivation and tending of the area being undertaken recently by a nearby householder; specifically, there was concern in case some annexation of the area were to occur. Having received advice from the Clerk in respect of the legal protections enjoyed by the land as a consequence of its formal designation as common, it was agreed to write to the householder concerned to thank him for his public spiritedness in tending the area and seeking an indication of his future intentions given the status of the land.

16/7419

CORRESPONDENCE. The following items of correspondence were reported:

- a) A letter received from Cllr. Ashley Lofthouse on 13 May 2016, regrettably advising that due to changed work commitments the councillor would need to resign from his membership with immediate effect. Members noted that Mr Lofthouse had enjoyed his period in office and it was agreed he should be thanked for his valued efforts and contributions made during this time. It was noted that, should his circumstances change again such that more time was then available, Mr Lofthouse was more than happy to serve again if the opportunity presented itself.
- b) A communication from the County highways contractor, inviting requests for assistance with minor works under the community enhancement gang scheme. Members agreed footway width recovery works would be beneficial in 3 locations:
 - Kettering Road (Little Cransley side) – from Paston House to A43 junction
 - Gate Lane, approach to Village Hall
 - Vicinity of junction between Glebe Avenue and Wellingborough Road

Further, road signs throughout the village were very dirty and could use a wash, so should also be requested if available time also allowed.

- c) A communication from a representative of the British Legion seeking support for an initiative marking the start of the Battle of the Somme, on 1 July 1916. Members noted the suggestion was for a brief and simple act of remembrance at the village war memorial. Members agreed there would be no objection to this should local people wish to participate.
- d) A communication from a representative of Ricoh UK Limited seeking suggestions for volunteering opportunities under that company's corporate responsibility initiative. Members noted the approach and agreed that the clearance/reinstatement of the width of the public right of way running from the Church green to the pocket park might afford an opportunity so should be advised as a possibility.

16/7420

REPORTS OF MEMBERS ATTENDING MEETINGS OF OTHER BODIES.

Following the recent approach by a deputy chief executive of the Borough Council in an effort to improve liaison with local councils, Cllr Mrs Bull reported that she had attended a workshop along with representatives of Wilbarston and Warkton parishes to explore how communications might be enhanced. Amongst other themes, this exercise had identified particularly a need for guidance around solar farm planning

16/7426 **CARAVAN SITE PLANNING ISSUES.** The Chair advised that no further update had been received from the planners following recent representations and queries, but members at Pytchley parish had expressed support for the efforts being made at Broughton to focus on the issue. Given the lack of feedback from the Borough Council, it was agreed relevant material should be shared by the Chair with ward members and with Philip Hollobone MP.

16/7427 **GENERAL INTEREST ITEMS.**
Cllr Baxter suggested a need existed for barriers to protect the users of the new footways within the Redrow estate, where these emerged onto Coxs Lane. It was noticeable that traffic speeds there had increased since occupations were taken up.

The Chair again mentioned the out of service street light at Silver Street, affixed to the wall of number 2.

16/7428 **DATE OF NEXT MEETING.** It was reported that the next scheduled meeting of the Parish Council, would be on Wednesday 15 June 2016, at 7:00pm in the Village Hall.

16/7429 **URGENT ITEMS ADMITTED BY THE CHAIR.** None were raised.

The meeting was closed at 8:38pm.

15 June 2016

Signed.....