

BROUGHTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council, held at Broughton Village Hall on Wednesday, 16 May 2018, commencing at 7.00pm.

Present: Cllrs Mrs PA Scouse (in the Chair), R Baxter, Mrs HJ Bull, Cllr A Parker, Mrs I Robson, M Rose, R Shrive, Mrs P Wade, and Clerk to the Parish Council, Mr GA Duthie.
Borough Cllr J Hakewill, County Cllr Mrs C Smith-Haynes, PCSO P Miller of Northamptonshire Police, and one member of the public.

Cllr Mrs Isabel Robson was welcomed to her first meeting after being co-opted to the membership of the Parish Council, and completing her declaration of office prior to commencement of the meeting.

18/7789 **APOLOGIES.** Apologies were received from Cllr Mrs JC Chester (work commitment), Cllr A Parker (for likely lateness), Cllr S West (away).

18/7790 **ELECTION OF CHAIR AND VICE CHAIR FOR ENSUING YEAR.** This being the annual meeting of the parish council, the first substantive business was to elect a Chair and Vice Chair for the year. It was unanimously resolved that Cllr Mrs PA Scouse should be appointed to the position of Chair once more and the Vice Chair should be occupied by Cllr R Shrive.

18/7791 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST.** None were made.

18/7792 **MINUTES.** The draft minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 18 April 2018, copies having been circulated, were approved by members and authorised for signature by the Chair after some discussion whether 18/7777 captured the full essence of what was decided and asked for in respect of the council house tenancy issue described.

18/7793 **POLICING.** PCSO Miller attended the meeting. As figures were now accessible on-line and local Street Watch reports were being circulated, PCSO Miller offered to deal with any questions or take away any comments. There was discussion of the continuing spate of anti-social behaviour complaints, which remained a focus, and which seemed to be at odds with an apparently low level of incidents generally.

PCSO Miller heard that there remained a local perception that Gate Lane might still be being used as a place where substance trading was occurring.

In response to a question, it was advised that no information was available about a possible raid on particular premises; PCSO Miller noted that a potential concern there related to animal welfare.

In more general discussion with members, it was noted that the policing role was necessarily becoming more responsive/reactionary in nature.

PCSO Miller also provided a questionnaire about local policing issues, and information about the Neighbourhood Alert messaging service.

18/7794

RIGHT TO SPEAK. The facility was not used at this meeting.

18/7795

REPORTS OF COUNTY AND BOROUGH COUNCILLORS. Councillors received a report from County Cllr Smith-Haynes, who described that today had been the first day with the Government appointed commissioners on-site; with support being provided by the Local Government Association. Indications so far were that the intervention would be relatively light-touch in nature.

In response to a question from Cllr Mrs Bull as to how that informed any likely restructure or reorganisation as recommended in the recent Inspection, it was confirmed that an extensive overhaul of County Council processes was occurring and the Section 114 Notice remained in force. After discussion, it was also confirmed that the commissioners effectively enjoyed a veto over Executive actions but in day-to-day terms the public should see business continuing as usual.

Borough Cllr Hakewill the reported upon Borough Council business since the last meeting, expanding specifically on the question about the council house tenancy to confirm he was satisfied, after making enquiries, that notwithstanding the history, this had been awarded in accordance with due-process. Some discussion of this followed in light of local concerns.

Cllr Hakewill then advised that there had been some dialogue with relevant managers who had agreed to focus for a while on the issue of litter on the A43 margins near the Northampton Road junction, where there appeared to be a particular problem.

Turning to the issue, mentioned earlier, of anti-social behaviour, it was confirmed that consideration was being given to the possible making of a Public Space Protection Order to cover affected parts of the village, which would afford police and council officers with enhanced powers to address the issue for its duration, if implemented. Caution in the use of such powers was necessary however, to avoid imparting an unrealistic impression of the extent of any problems.

Following this, it was confirmed the County Traveller Unit was now focused entirely on dealing with unauthorised encampments occurring on public land, and not any more in liaison with settlements generally, which was noted with regret by members.

The Street Watch initiative seemed to be working well, having also become a valuable means of communication with individuals and capturing concerns.

In respect of the issues confronting the County Council, inter-authority dialogue continued about possible new structures for local government locally, with a move to a Unitary based model seemingly being favoured that could also see Kettering and other towns also becoming parished. This gave rise to one possible anomaly around respective elections timing, with any new Unitary authorities likely to have elections after the parishes in their areas, which seemed wasteful.

Cllrs Smith-Haynes and Hakewill left the meeting after inviting final comments, at 7:55pm.

18/7796

MATTERS ARISING. Arising from the High Street recreation ground improvement project, it was reported that a grant of £2,000 had now been received from the Market Harborough Building Society toward this, which was very welcome and much appreciated. Members noted various orders had been placed for necessary equipment procurement, and arrangement made for storage pending installation, whilst the site was prepared.

Arising in respect of the Site Specific Part 2 Local Plan allocations, members heard that correspondence had been exchanged with the Borough Council as to why the Grange Road paddock site was still being progressed as a potential housing site given its recent firm refusal of permission and discounting for purposes of the Neighbourhood Plan, presently subject to examination. In addition, it was reported that Cllrs Mrs Bull and Mrs Scouse had attended the Planning Policy Committee meeting on 19 April, when this had been considered. Despite hearing representations from members, supported by Borough Cllr Hakewill, the committee had, however, persisted with retaining the site as a potential allocation subject to conclusion of the Neighbourhood Plan process.

Arising in respect of the previous decision to once-again participate in Operation Springbloom, the Chair advised that a quantity of bulbs had been requested for the exercise, including daffodils and crocus.

Arising from the Old Willows planning issue, Cllr Mrs Bull confirmed a comprehensive information request had been made to ascertain the extent and nature of pre-determination dialogue that had occurred.

18/7797

APPOINTMENTS TO COMMITTEES AND OUTSIDE BODIES. It was agreed that current arrangements should roll forward and, accordingly, representation on the Neighbourhood Plan group should continue as currently (including Mrs Mary Rust), that there should be no change to the County Matters committee, nor to the Broughton Charities or Rural Forum. In respect of the Village Hall Committee, representation would now be undertaken by Cllr Mrs West, and the District Matters committee would comprise Cllrs Baxter, Rose and Shrive.

18/7798

CORRESPONDENCE. The following items of correspondence were reported:

- a) A letter received from the Electoral Services Manager, confirming that the advertising of the casual vacancy arising from the resignation of former Cllr White had not resulted in any request for an election.
- b) A communication received from Mr B Staniscia of Baker Avenue requesting opportunity to address members in connection with a proposed planning application. It was noted information had been provided in response as to how the application and consultation process operated.

Expenditure			£
Zen internet	Web hosting	(direct debit)	5.99
Broughton PF&VHA	Room hire standing charge	(standing ord)	10.20
O Wyeth	Expenses youth council	(101816)	3.70
Broughton PF&VHA	Room hire invoice	(101817)	42.07
M Baines	Pocket park maintenance	(101818)	300.00
Came & Company	Insurance renewal	(101819)	786.04
GA Duthie	Salary and WP	(101820)	259.15
HMRC	Income tax	(101821)	142.43
GA Duthie	Telephone exps	(101822)	17.76

18/7802 **POCKET PARK MANAGEMENT AGREEMENT.** Members noted that this agreement was due to expire on 7 June 2018. Subject to Kettering Borough Council, as owner, not having any other intention (none having been notified), the Parish Council agreed that there was no reason why an annual rolling renewal could not occur.

18/7803 **NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN.** Cllr Mrs Bull reported that the draft Plan was still being considered by the examining Inspector but some preliminary queries were now being discussed with Kettering Borough Council.

18/7804 **GENERAL INTEREST ITEMS.**
Cllr Mrs Bull mentioned she had become aware of an IT agency in Desborough, called Poppy Design, who offered 60 minute makeovers for websites, which might be worth bearing in mind.

Cllr Shrive suggested an edition of Broughton News was about due; it was agreed to produce this with a planning policy focus after the Neighbourhood plan exercise was concluded.

The Chair mentioned she was continuing to investigate WW1 commemoration possibilities with the blacksmith but it was proving difficult to contact the necessary person.

The Chair reminded councillors to take care with postings on social media that had any council linkage, given recent controversial matters.

18/7805 **DATE OF NEXT MEETING.** It was reported that the next scheduled meeting of the Parish Council, would be on Wednesday 20 June 2018, at 7:00pm in the Village Hall.

18/7806 **URGENT ITEMS ADMITTED BY THE CHAIR.** None were raised and the meeting was duly closed at 8:55pm.

20 June 2018

Signed.....