

Brampton Ash Parish Council
Minutes of Parish Council Meeting Held Wednesday 17 February 2016,
7.30pm, At St Mary's Church, Brampton Ash

Present (Parish Councillors)

Cllr Steve Power (Chair) Cllr Nick Bevan Cllr Wendy Brooks

Also Present:

C Cllr Alan Matthews

In Attendance: Liz Evans (Clerk)

	Action
<p>1. Chair's Announcements There were no announcements from the Chair.</p>	
<p>2. Declarations of Interest <i>To Receive Disclosures of Personal and Prejudicial Interests from Councillors On Matters to Be Considered at the Meeting</i> There were no disclosures of personal and prejudicial interest.</p>	
<p>3. Apologies for Absence Apologies for absence were received from B Cllr David Howes due to a clash with a Kettering Borough Council (KBC) meeting and from Cllr H Shuttleworth due to a family event.</p>	
<p>4. Minutes of the Meeting Held Wednesday 16 December 2015 <i>To approve the minutes of the above meeting as an accurate record or to amend factual inaccuracies if they occur.</i> Item 9, final sentence was amended to read.....<i>appears to be based on incomplete data.....</i> The minutes were then agreed as a true record and signed by the Chair.</p>	
<p>5. Matters Arising From the Above <i>(except where they are agenda items for this meeting)</i></p> <p>5.1: Item 5.1 Traffic Calming A section 50 licence at a cost of £360.00 will be required. C Cllr Matthews expects that he will have funding available from April 2016. S Barber, Northamptonshire County Council (NCC) has advised C Cllr Matthews that he is currently visiting the relevant parishes in order to identify sites for the traffic calming equipment. An update is awaited.</p> <p>5.2: Item 5.2 Map of Brampton Ash Parish Boundaries This item has again been requested: the clerk will chase it up.</p> <p>5.3: Item 5.6 Grit Bin Installation The stencil has been obtained. Cllrs Bevan and Power will progress the installation.</p> <p>5.4: Item 6.2 Donation to Church Lighting Costs This has now been paid.</p> <p>5.5: Item 6.4 Precept The completed form has been signed and forwarded to KBC.</p> <p>5.6 Item 9.2 Police Commissioner's Letter This has been circulated to councillors.</p> <p>5.7 Item 10 Policies and Procedures The Financial Risk Assessment has been amended, as agreed, and the documents have been posted on the parish council's website.</p>	<p>LE</p> <p>NB/SP</p>
<p>6. Financial Matters</p>	

.1 Current Financial Position & Statement

The clerk issued a financial statement showing a bank balance of £629.84 and a credit balance of £103.26 on the pre-paid credit card. This was approved by the parish council and signed by the Chair. A copy is **attached**.

.2 Audit Date 2015-2016

The clerk reported that the Local Audit and Accountability Act (2014) establishes new arrangements to the way in which public bodies such as parish council authorities process their annual accounts for audit. The current arrangements will remain largely unchanged up to and including the audit for 2016/17 but the exercise of public rights to inspect the parish council's accounts will change for the 2015/16 financial year and beyond in that the period for public inspection will extend to a single period of 30 days, of which 10 days must fall within the first 10 working days of the month of July following the financial year to which the accounts relate. The actual inspection period is to be set by the Responsible Financial Officer. C Cllr Matthews hopes to be able to advise parish councils as more details become known.

LE

7. Planning Matters

To Report and Consider Matters Relating to Planning Applications in and Adjacent to the Parish
No planning applications had been notified to the Parish Council since the last meeting.

8. Highway Matters

.1 Road Safety A427: Response from NCC/Kier WSP Update & Further Action

In response to the parish council's concerns regarding road safety S Barber, NCC/KierWSP had investigated and reported his findings to the parish council. Councillors agreed that his report was unsatisfactory in that the process was very largely based on incomplete data and on assumptions rather than facts.

Mr Barber had subsequently been asked to provide additional information with regard to the speed readings that he had quoted: he had assessed average speeds along the stretch of the A427 as being between 63 and 66 mph. Councillors felt this was misleading because it did not take account of the lower speeds of the considerable number of HGV vehicles which use the road and which are restricted to 56mph. He was therefore asked to provide details of the speeds recorded by vehicles other than HGVs (eg, cars and motorbikes), and the highest speed that he had recorded. In point 2 of his reply dated 1 January 2016 he stated that taking HGVs and small lorries out of the equation gave an average speed of 65-66mph for cars and 67mph for motorbikes; he did not provide information on the highest recorded speed. Councillors queried why, when slower moving vehicles were excluded, average speeds did not show an increase, as would be expected. It was agreed that his response did not fully and accurately address the questions asked of him. The clerk would request clarification from him on these points.

LE

Point 3 of his reply was deemed to have been based on assumptions rather than facts and he seemed to have ignored the photographic evidence provided to him which showed the difficulties and dangers associated with walking along the grass verge in the vicinity of the parish church. It was felt that his suggestion that people use their cars instead of walking to the church was only likely to compound the road safety issue.

Point 4 of his reply reiterated his use of certain data and ignored the fact that the parish council had repeatedly queried the veracity of such data. It was felt that his judgement on this point was made on the basis of incomplete data owned by others and could not, therefore, be

held to be reliable.

.2 Road Safety A427: Police and Crime Commissioner

As the Police Commission and Crime Commissioner, Adam Simmonds, had publicly stated that road safety, especially in rural areas, is a priority area for him it was agreed that the parish council would seek his support in their efforts to improve road safety in Brampton Ash. The Chair would raise the parish council's concerns in a letter to Adam Simmonds which the clerk would forward to him, together with the response received to date from S Barber (see item 8.1). Specifically, the parish council would seek the Police and Crime Commissioner's assistance in obtaining double white line road-markings on the stretch of the A427 that runs through Brampton Ash, and a reduction in the speed limit.

SP
LE

.3 Dumped refuse, Eckland Lodge/Brampton Ash (B Cllr David Howes)

B Cllr D Howes had reported fly-tipping at the above location to NCC Highways. The clerk would check whether the dumped refuse had been removed.

LE

.4 Other Matters

There were no other matters to discuss.

9. Any Other Business

.1 Rural Forum 4 February 2016: draft minutes

The Rural Forum draft minutes were circulated to councillors on 16 February 2016. Brief reference was made to the matter of changes to the responsibility for street lighting. On behalf of the parish council, the clerk had responded to a short survey on the subject from NCC. C Cllr Matthews advised that this situation is currently ongoing between NCC and KBC.

.2 KierWSP Parish Satisfaction Questionnaire

Although some of the services received from Kier WSP were satisfactory, councillors were unhappy with the response that they had received to their road safety concerns. It was agreed that Cllr Brooks would draft a reply to cover these matters and it would be circulated to councillors for their approval, after which the clerk would return it to KierWSP.

WB
LE

.3 Other Matters

There were no other matters to discuss.

10 Date and Venue of Next Meeting: Wednesday 27 April 2016, 7.30pm at the parish church.

Meeting finished at: 8.50pm

Liz Evans, Clerk to Brampton Ash Parish Council tel: 01536 771470

email: bramptonashparishcouncil@outlook.com web: <http://www.parish-council.com/bramptonash>

Brampton Ash Parish Council: Income and Expenditure 1 Apl 2015 - 21 May 2015										
Date	On-line transaction	Chq no.	Item	Income £	Expenditure £	Salary £	Balance		Pre-pay card £ amount credited	Pre-pay card £ transaction
01/04/15			Balance brought forward current account				£722.82			
01/04/15			Balance brought forward deposit account				£290.11			
01/04/15			Total balances brought forward				£1,012.93			
16/04/15			KBC Precept payment	£500.00			£1,512.93	Bank reconciliation 31/04/15		
			Signed					Date: 21 May 2015		
			Chair							
Brampton Ash Parish Council: Income and Expenditure 1 Apl 2015 - Sep 2015										
30/06/15			Interest	£0.35			£1,513.28			
06/07/15			Councillors' Empowerment Fund (Grit Bin)	£172.65			£172.65			
							£1,685.93	Bank reconciliation 01/09/15		
			Signed					Date: 17 Sep 2015		
			Chair							
Brampton Ash Parish Council: Income and Expenditure 30 Sep 2015 - Dec 2015										
30/09/15			Interest	£0.43			£1,686.36			
	06/10/15		Pre-payment Card		£350.00		£1,336.36			
06/10/15			Pre-payment Card credit balance						£350.00	
06/10/15			Pre-payment Card set-up charge							£6.00
06/10/15			Pre-payment Card loading fee							£0.50
16/10/15			Grit bin							£154.80
26/10/15			Grit/salt mix							£24.00
21/10/15			Portable hard drive							£24.99
02/11/15			Website hosting charge, parish_council.com							£24.95

COPY

	23/11/15		Statutory insurance		£251.85		£1,084.51			£235.24
25/11/15			Grant from Transparency Fund	£195.00			£1,279.51	Bank reconciliation	£114.76	cr balance
			Signed					Date: 16 Dec 2015		
Brampton Ash Parish Council: Income and Expenditure 31 Dec 2015 - Feb 2016										
06/10/15			Pre-payment Card loading fee not charged						£0.50	
22/12/15			Salary E Evans			£320.00	£959.51			
31/12/15			Interest	£0.13			£959.64			
31/12/15			Interest	£0.20			£959.84			
05/01/16			Stencil for Grit Bin							£12.00
19/01/16			HMRC PAYE		£80.00		£879.84	Bank reconciliation		
15/02/16			Brampton Ash PCC Donation for Lightin		£250.00		£629.84	Balance	£103.26	cr balance
			Signed					Date: 17 Feb 2016		
			Chair							

COPY