

Brampton Ash Parish Council
Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting Held
Monday 18 September 2017, 7.30pm At St Mary's Church, Brampton Ash

This meeting was open to members of the public, subject to prescribed regulations where applicable.

Present (Parish Councillors)

Cllr Steve Power (Chair) Cllr N Bevan Cllr Terry Hilliard Cllr Wendy Brooks Cllr John Lillie

In Attendance: Liz Evans (Clerk)

Public Attendee(s): None

Action By:

1. Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from County Councillor Allan Matthews

2. Chair's Announcements

1. Cllr Heather Shuttleworth

The Chair paid tribute to Cllr Heather Shuttleworth who had passed away in July 2017. Heather joined the parish council in November 1977. She had served as a parish councillor for almost 40 years, and as a past Chair of the parish council. For several years she had also been the parish council's representative on the Kettering Borough Council Rural Forum. The parish council offered condolences to Stuart and to all of her family: she would be sadly missed and the many mourners who had attended her service of remembrance bore testament to the esteem and affection in which she was held.

2. Casual Vacancy for a Parish Councillor: eligible parishioners were invited to attend the meeting and apply for co-option to the parish council. Eligibility criteria were listed at the end of the agenda.

In accordance with legislation a Notice of a Vacancy for a Parish Councillor had been published: no subsequent request had been received from parishioners for an election so the vacancy was, therefore, filled by the co-option of a suitably qualified candidate.

a) Nominations for co-option

Mr John Lillie agreed to be nominated. The proposer was Cllr Nick Bevan, and the seconder was Cllr Wendy Brooks.

b) Election and acceptance of appointment to the parish council

John Lillie was unanimously elected to serve as parish councillor and he duly signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office. Cllr Lillie received a copy of the Councillors' Code of Conduct and a Register of Interests form, the latter to be returned to Kettering Borough Council (KBC) for publication, as required by legislation. The clerk would inform KBC of his appointment.

JL
LE

3. Declarations of Interest: To Receive Disclosures of Personal and Prejudicial Interests from Councillors On Matters to Be Considered at the Meeting.

There were no declarations of interest to record.

4. Minutes of the meeting held 8 May 2017

To approve the minutes of the above meeting as an accurate record or to amend factual inaccuracies if they occur.

The minutes of the meeting held 8 May 2017 were accepted as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

Signed.....Chair.....Date:14 December 2017.....Page 1 of 6

5. Matters arising from the meeting held 8 May 2017 (except where they are agenda items for this meeting)

5.1

Item 16.1: Replacement of Flowering Bulbs

Cllr Wendy Brooks would chase Gigaclear for the agreed replacement of bulbs which had been dug up from the verges during their cable-laying operations.

WB

6. Minutes of the extra meeting held 17 June 2017

To approve the minutes of the above meeting as an accurate record or to amend factual inaccuracies if they occur.

The minutes of the meeting held 17 June 2017 were accepted as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

7. Matters arising from the extra meeting held 17 June 2017 (except where they are agenda items for this meeting)

There were no matters arising.

8. Minutes of the extra meeting held 6 July 2017

To approve the minutes of the above meeting as an accurate record or to amend factual inaccuracies if they occur.

The minutes of the meeting held 6 July 2017 were accepted as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

9. Matters arising from the extra meeting held 6 July 2017 (except where they are agenda items for this meeting)

There were no matters arising.

10 Financial Matters

• *Current financial position & forthcoming expenditure*

The clerk issued a statement showing a current balance of £2241.71. A copy is appended to these minutes. The statement was signed off as a correct record by Councillors Brooks and Bevan. Planned expenditure for the remainder of the financial year included:

Parish Council insurance: £250.00 approx.

Donation towards lighting the parish church: £250.00

Clerk's salary: £300.00

Councillors agreed that the clerk should obtain best value for the insurance as this would become due prior to the next meeting.

• *Annual audit: presentation of audit for councillors' approval*

There were no issues arising from the annual return and the conclusion of audit was unanimously approved and accepted by councillors. BDO have confirmed that they will not be the appointed auditor for Smaller Authorities next year. The clerk will find out who the new auditors will be.

LE

11 Planning Matters:

To Consider Matters Relating to Planning Applications in and Adjacent to the Parish

KET/2017/0603: Pendle Royd, Brampton Wood Lane, Desborough (in the parish of Brampton Ash): Erection of Annex in Rear Garden

This application had been noted by parish councillors, without comment to KBC.

Kettering Borough Council Decision Notices Received:

KET/2017/0334: 12 Hermitage Road: Permission Granted, subject to general conditions.

KET/2017/0228: Barn 2, The Hermitage: Permission Granted, subject to general conditions and to the specific condition that the development must be tied to residential use allied to the main dwelling.

12 Parish Plan

Documents giving a general outline of the procedure and possible benefits of adopting a Parish Plan had been forwarded to councillors for information and consideration.

Councillors considered a variety of documents, including the Desborough Neighbourhood Plan (NP) which encompasses a wide range of developments. The major tenet of such plans is that they are not a tool to stop development but, rather, they are about influencing decisions relating to the broad social and environmental impact of development. Whilst central government has declared its aim to build more homes it seems clear that Brampton Ash does not have the infrastructure to support any significant increase in housing. Councillors were unsure whether there would be any advantage in compiling a Parish Plan for Brampton Ash, particularly in view of the time and effort involved: best advice from professional organisations is that this requires a great deal of involvement and commitment by the local community and it generally takes at least 2 years to complete. The following action was agreed:

- 1/ In view of his extensive experience on such matters, further advice would be sought from C Cllr Allan Matthews on the viability of producing a Parish Plan for Brampton Ash. **AM**
- 2/ Councillors would look at the Wilbarston Parish Plan: the clerk would forward a web link for it **LE**
http://www.kettering.gov.uk/info/494/planning_-_local_plans/1404/village_design_statements_and_parish_plans
- 3/ This item would be discussed further at the next parish council meeting. **LE**

13 Highway Matters

1. *Traffic Calming Measures: VAS Cameras*

C Cllr Allan Matthews had advised that the advisory speed cameras were currently available to the parish council. The clerk would ask him to liaise with S Barber, Northants County Council (NCC) Highways, in order to arrange the earliest possible date for installation of a camera in Brampton Ash and request that it remains in the village for a 6-week period if possible. **LE**

2. *Road Safety A427: Update*

The clerk had reported the poor state of the highway at the A427/Hermitage Road junction to NCC who had responded that it did not meet their criteria for intervention but they would monitor it.

3. *Pond Inspection, Hermitage Road A6 end*

Cllr Bevan reported that the pond, which is on land owned by NCC, is now very overgrown with reeds. Requests to NCC Community Enhancement Gang to clear it had, so far, met with no response so the clerk would raise this with them again. **LE**

14 Parish Crime Report

The following reports have been received since the parish council meeting held on 8 May 2017:

April: No crimes recorded

May: No crimes recorded

June: No crimes recorded

July: No crimes recorded

August: 1 crime recorded: theft of copper from the porch of the parish church

Cllr Bevan understood that the Parochial Church Council is investigating the installation of surveillance cameras and the replacement of the porch roof with tin covering.

The clerk had received late notice of a further recorded crime dated between 26 August and 1 September: Manor Farm, Harborough Road – chain and lock cut to gates of field at the farm.

15 Rural Forum: Minutes of the meeting held on 29 June 2017

The minutes of the above meeting have been circulated to councillors for information.

a) Items of Interest

The Chair drew attention to item 17.RF.07 regarding fly-tipping in rural areas. Councillors were pleased to note that KBC proactively pursues offenders and is currently considering purchasing surveillance cameras rather than relying on NCC cameras, as at present. It was noted that there is currently some fly-tipping in the village and Cllr Bevan will report this.

b) Next Meeting of the Rural Forum: 21 September 2017

16 Any Other Business

16.1 Fresh Air Desborough

The Chair had been advised by the Fresh Air Desborough group that they had now disbanded as they had achieved their goal of preventing the installation of a waste incinerator on the outskirts of Desborough.

16.2 Footpath GB 8

The Chair wished to clarify and record the designation of the above footpath as, for some time, there had been some uncertainty as to its legitimate status, namely:

An extract from the minutes of the parish council meeting dated 3 August 1992 states:

"Cllr Johnson asked if it can be confirmed that the path running alongside No 6 Hermitage Road, up to the church, is a designated footpath. It is used regularly, especially since it has become too dangerous to walk on the A427 roadway."

An extract from the minutes of the parish council meeting dated 5 November 1992 states:

"Footpath to the church. It was confirmed at the conservation exhibition at the church that the path is protected".

However, on 15 May 2013 the landowner had sent the parish council an email which denied access to the path, stating *"All use of the field between the village and church, by all, is not permitted."*

On 14 July 2017 Northamptonshire County Council confirmed a Definitive Map Modification Order designating footpath GB8 as a Public Footpath and Right of Way under section 53(2)(b) of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981. This order means that, with effect from

NB

that date, the footpath is officially recognised as being legally accessible to all members of the public.

It was agreed that an advisory note would be inserted into the parish council minute book of 5 November 1992 (see above) to cross-refer them to minute 16.2 of 18 September 2017.

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17 Date and Venue of Next Meeting:

Thursday 14 December 2017, at the parish church.

The meeting closed at 8.45pm

Signed: Liz Evans, Clerk to Brampton Ash Parish Council

tel: 01536 771470 email: bramptonashparishcouncil@outlook.com web: www.parish-council.com/bramptonash

Date	On-line transaction	Chq no.	Item	Income £	Expenditure £	Salary £	Balance	
Brampton Ash Parish Council: Income and Expenditure 1 Apl 2017 - 8 May 2017								
01/04/17			Balance brought forward current account				£1,254.68	
20/04/17	Y		Precept	£1,000.00			£2,254.68	Bank reconciliation
Signed: N Bevan			(Member)	Signed: T Hilliard		(Member)		8 May 2017
Brampton Ash Parish Council: Income and Expenditure 9 May 2017 - 18 Sep 2017								
14/06/17	Y		Transparency Fund	£150.00			£2,404.68	
20/06/17	Y		NCALC Membership fee	£62.97			£2,341.71	
30/06/17	Y		Clerk Salary 3 months (Apl, May, Jun)		£100.00		£2,241.71	Bank reconciliation
Signed: N Bevan			(Member)	Signed: W Brooks		(Member)		18 Sep 2017