

# Minutes of a Meeting of Brampton Ash Parish Council held Monday 16<sup>h</sup> March 2020, 7.30pm at the Parish Church

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

This meeting was recorded in accordance with the parish council's protocol.

## Present: Parish Councillors

Cllr S Power (Chair) Cllr N Bevan Cllr J Lillie

In Attendance: Liz Evans (Clerk)

Public Attendee(s): None

		Action by:
<b>78</b> <b>19/20</b>	<b>Chair's Announcements</b> None	
<b>79</b> <b>19/20</b>	<b>Apologies for Absence</b> Apologies were received from Borough Cllr D Howes and County Cllr A Matthews	
<b>80</b> <b>19/20</b>	<b>Declarations of Interest: To Receive Disclosures of Personal and Prejudicial Interests from Councillors On Matters to Be Considered at the Meeting.</b> None received.	
<b>81</b> <b>19/20</b>	<b>Minutes of the meeting held 9 December 2019 (meeting 6: 19/20)</b> <i>To approve the minutes of the above meeting as an accurate record or to amend factual inaccuracies if they occur.</i> The minutes were agreed as a correct record and signed by the Chair.	
<b>82</b> <b>19/20</b>	<b>Matters arising from the minutes of the meeting held 9 December 2019 (except where they are agenda items for this meeting)</b> There were no matters arising.	
<b>83</b> <b>19/20</b>	<b>Minutes of the extra meeting held 16 January 2020 (meeting 7: 19/20)</b> <i>To approve the minutes of the above meeting as an accurate record or to amend factual inaccuracies if they occur.</i> The minutes were agreed as a correct record and signed by the Chair.	
<b>84</b> <b>19/20</b>	<b>Matters arising from the minutes of the meeting held 16 January 2020 (except where they are agenda items for this meeting)</b> There were no matters arising.	
<b>85</b> <b>19/20</b>	<b>Financial Matters</b> a) <i>Quarterly internal control: councillor checklist</i> This was checked by Cllr N Bevan and signed as being correct. b) <i>Councillor check of invoices against payments /reconcile to bank statement</i> This was checked by Cllr N Bevan and signed as being correct. c) <i>Approval of payments to be made:</i> i. <i>Clerk's salary, due 31 March 2020: £124.50</i> The above payment was approved for payment. ii. <i>Local Government Act Section 137 payment, donation to St Mary's Church for external lighting costs: £250.00</i> The above payment to be made under the Local Government Act 1972, section 137 was proposed by Cllr N Bevan, seconded by Cllr J Lillie and unanimously approved. d) <i>Budget Statement Period 4</i> The Chair checked the Budget Statement for period 4 and signed it off as being correct. e) <i>Current financial position statement</i> The clerk issued a financial statement showing a current balance of £1488.49. A	

	copy is attached to these minutes.	
<b>86</b> <b>19/20</b>	<b>Clerk's Contract of Employment</b> The Clerk's contract was reviewed without amendment. The National Association of Local Councils (NALC) has stated that the pay scales for 2020-21 have yet to be finalised and suggests that local councils allow for a likely increase in the region of 3%, commencing April 2020.	
<b>87 (a)</b> <b>19/20</b>	<b>Asset Register Review</b> Assets were inspected by Cllr J Lillie in March 2020: no items for action had been noted at that time. The register was signed off by the Chair.	
<b>87 (b)</b> <b>19/20</b>	<b>Planning Matters:</b> <i>To Consider Matters Relating to Planning Applications in and Adjacent to the Parish</i> KET/2019/0905, 2 Shires, Hermitage Road, Brampton Ash: Approved with conditions KET/2019/0742, Crabtree Farm, Brampton Ash: Approved with conditions	
<b>88</b> <b>19/20</b>	<b>Kettering Borough Council Conservation Policy: Brampton Ash</b> Cllr Lillie had approached Simon Richardson, Development Manager – Planning Policy, at Kettering Borough Council (KBC) in October 2019 to voice his concern that, in its current form, the KBC Conservation Area Appraisal for the village appeared to offer little protection from inappropriate development. Furthermore, it had been adopted in September 1992: it did not comply with Historic England's guidelines and subsequent changes to planning legislation in recent decades appeared to remove some of the protection previously afforded to the village. This was referenced by the Planning Inspectorate's response to Planning Application KET/2018/0683 when allowing an appeal against KBC's refusal of the application. In his response dated 21 January 2020, Simon Richardson acknowledged that there is a need to review many of the KBC Conservation Areas, resources permitting. He stated that current planning policies designate Brampton Ash a 'scattered village' and emerging policies intend to re-designate it a Category C village. Due to the scattered nature of the village, its size and its limited facilities, the emerging Local Plan is not allocating land for development at Brampton Ash and will only allow development in exceptional circumstances where specific criteria are met in relation to size, form, character and setting in the village, amongst other criteria ('other criteria' was not specified).	
<b>89</b> <b>19/20</b>	<b>Highway Matters</b> <i>i. Road Signage Update: Hermitage Road</i> Road signage installation (Single Track; No Overtaking) is completed. <i>ii. Potholes: Hermitage Road</i> Potholes in the centre of the track have been repaired. Northants County Council (NCC) will not fill potholes at the edges of the track because it is intended as a single track only. NB has reported a further pothole to NCC for their attention. <i>iii. Spring Litter Pick Arrangements</i> The Community Spring Litter-Pick will take place on April 19 <sup>th</sup> 2020, dependent on possible statutory restrictions during the Coronavirus emergency. Cllr Bevan will arrange for a supply of bags and litter-pickers from KBC. Cllr Power will provide an information poster. <i>iv. VAS Cameras</i> County Cllr A Matthews has advised that Wilbarston Parish Council has taken on responsibility for the VAS cameras and they will put a rota in place. They have paid for the new batteries and may seek a donation from participating Parish Councils toward the cost. Councillors agreed to this arrangement. The clerk will contact the Wilbarston Parish Council clerk to arrange a date for their use in Brampton Ash.	<b>NB</b> <b>SP</b>         <b>LE</b>

	<p>v. <i>SATNAV directing traffic along Hermitage Road</i>  SATNAV software currently directs all traffic, including heavy goods vehicles, along Hermitage Road which, despite its name, is in fact a track which is wholly unsuitable for through traffic. Ian Boyes, NCC Highways has written to SATNAV companies about this requesting a change to software. The clerk will also make the same request. C Cllr Matthews suggests also contacting the police commissioner, Stephen Mold, for some input with this.</p> <p>vi. <i>Parishioner suggestion re. Passing Places on Hermitage Road to combat muddy verges</i>  NCC Highways have made it clear to Cllr Bevan that they will not provide Passing Places in Hermitage Road, nor will they widen it, as it is classified as a track and not a road. The clerk will respond to the parishioner.</p>	<p>LE</p> <p>LE</p>
<b>90</b> <b>19/20</b>	<b>Parish Crime Report &amp; Police Matters</b> No updates relating to the Brampton Ash area have been received.	
<b>91</b> <b>19/20</b>	<b>Rural Forum: Minutes of the meeting held on 30 January 2020</b> The minutes of the above meeting have not yet been made available. Minutes of the Rural Forum meeting held 3 October 2019 can be found here: <a href="https://www.kettering.gov.uk/meetings/meeting/1775/rural_forum">https://www.kettering.gov.uk/meetings/meeting/1775/rural_forum</a> Paper copies are available from the Clerk to the Parish Council on request.	
<b>92</b> <b>19/20</b>	<b>Parish Council Elections 7<sup>th</sup> May 2020</b> On 13 March 2020 the government announced that the above elections are postponed until May 2021 due to the Coronavirus outbreak.	
<b>93</b> <b>19/20</b>	<b>Local Government Reorganisation</b> Updates are awaited, following the announcement detailed at item 92, above.	
<b>94</b> <b>19/20</b>	<b>Any Other Business: To report matters of a minor nature not requiring formal approval.</b> i. <i>Lighting</i> The streetlight at the A427 end of Hermitage Road has been out of order since January and this has been reported to KBC on several occasions. Action is awaited from Western Power. Cllr Bevan will chase it up again. ii. <i>Coronavirus/Covid 19</i> The clerk will produce a leaflet offering the assistance of the Parish Council to any isolated and vulnerable residents who might need it. Cllr Power will arrange for its distribution.	<p>NB</p> <p>LE</p> <p>SP</p>
<b>95</b> <b>19/20</b>	<b>Date and Venue of Next Meeting:</b> Monday 27 <sup>th</sup> April 2020, 7.30pm at the Parish Church to sign off on the Parish Council's annual accounts for audit, dependent on possible statutory restrictions during the Coronavirus emergency.	

**Signed:** Liz Evans, Clerk to Brampton Ash Parish Council

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The meeting closed at 8.35pm

