

Minutes of the Meeting of Brampton Ash Parish Council

Thursday 14th October 2021, 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 S Power (Chair) CLLr N Bevan CLLr J Lillie

Present: North Northamptonshire Council: CLLr David Howes

In Attendance: Liz Evans (Clerk) Public Attendee(s): None

Action by:

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| 36/ 21- 22 | Chair's Announcements None | |
| 37/ 21- 22 | Apologies for Absence Apologies were accepted from Wendy Brooks for absence due to health reasons. | |
| 38/ 21- 22 | Declarations of Interest: <i>To Receive Disclosures of Personal and Prejudicial Interests from Councillors On Matters to Be Considered at the Meeting.</i> Members were reminded to update their register of interests if necessary. No declarations of interest were made. | |
| 39/ 21- 22 | Minutes of the Meeting held 22 July 2021 (meeting 2: 21/22) <i>To approve the minutes of the above meeting as an accurate record or to amend factual inaccuracies if they occur.</i> Item 35/21-22 was amended from 'November' to 'October' and the minutes were then signed by the Chair as being a true record. | |
| 40/ 21- 22 | Matters Arising from the above minutes <i>except where they are agenda items for this meeting</i> Item 34/21-22: Quarry, south end of Brampton Ash. The landowners had been contacted by the parish council via email but they had not responded. The clerk would provide a hard copy in letter format for Nick Bevan to deliver personally to the office. | LE NB |
| 41/ 21- 22 | Policies Review – the documents can be found here: http://www.parish-council.com/bramptonash/index.asp?pageid=633064 a) Standards b) Financial Regulations c) Risk Assessment & Management (Financial) d) Internal Control Procedures (Financial) The above policies were reviewed by councillors and signed by the Chair without amendment. They will be posted on the parish council website. | LE |
| 42/ 21- 22 | Financial Matters a) Quarterly internal control: councillor checklist b) Councillor check of invoices against payments /reconcile to bank statement c) Current financial position statement no. 3 Items a) to c) were checked by Nick Bevan and signed as being correct. d) The Chair reported that the following payments had been made since the last meeting: i. Wilbarston PC, VAS Cameras £20.00 ii. Clerk's expenses, printer ink £11.00 iii. Clerk's salary September quarter £128.00 e) Approval of payments to be made: None currently pending f) Budget Statement no. 3 The budget statement was signed by the Chair as being a correct record. | |

Signed.....Chair

Date: 10th January 2022

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| | <p>g) Revised Asset Register</p> <p>The Asset Register was revised due to the destruction of the bus shelter by suspected arson. The register was signed by the Chair as a correct record: it will be posted on the parish council website. The clerk will enquire whether there is a refund due to the parish council from the insurer for the bus shelter.</p> | <p>LE LE</p> |
| <p>43/ 21- 22</p> | <p>Planning Matters:</p> <p><i>To Consider Matters Relating to the following Planning Applications:</i></p> <p>It is noted that North Northamptonshire Council (NNC) is currently unable to meet their 8-week deadline for deciding planning applications due to a shortage of planning officers.</p> <p>a) NK/2021/0306 The Hermitage, Desborough Road, Brampton Ash, LE16 8GP Target decision date was 15th July 2021, no further updates received.</p> <p>b) KBC/2020/0758 14 Hermitage Road, Brampton Ash, referred to planning committee, no further updates received.</p> <p>c) NK/2021/0422 Manor Farm, Harborough Road, Brampton Ash. Approved.</p> | |
| <p>44/ 21- 22</p> | <p>Kettering Borough Council Conservation Policy - Brampton Ash</p> <p><i>Update: Cllr Lillie</i></p> <p>a) North Northamptonshire Draft Corporate Plan 2021-25 Consultation</p> <p>John Lillie reported that the document focussed on legal obligations and equality matters but made no reference to conservation areas. He had responded on behalf of the parish council, stating that he did not support the draft plan for the following reasons –</p> <p><i>North Northamptonshire Unitary Authority has many conservation areas which the authority is obliged to conserve and enhance and there is nothing in the vision to support this obligation. Further, many of the conservation area statements / appraisals in the former Kettering Borough area are little more than "pro forma", only differing in name and location, that need to be done thoroughly to meet Historic England's standards. This obligation needs to be addressed by its inclusion in the vision.</i></p> <p>Cllr David Howes, for NNC, explained that the draft plan is currently a framework, and the fine detail will be formulated in response to the consultees' input. It is hoped that the plan will be finalised in December 2021. The authority currently has an acute shortage of planning officers, which it is trying to address.</p> <p>b) Parish Plan</p> <p>John Lillie had done some initial research into the matter of creating a parish plan. Two significant factors are:</p> <p>i) the plan must be community-led (ie, not in the 'ownership' of the parish council)</p> <p>ii) the local authority may take note of it but is not obliged to abide by it.</p> <p>He suggested awaiting the outcome of the draft plan in relation to conservation area policy.</p> <p>Cllr David Howes reminded parish councillors that some of the protection for conservation areas that was previously afforded by the Kettering Borough Council Part 2 plan has now been lost but some of that protection can be maintained through a parish plan and grants are available to cover the cost of consultancy. Nearby Braybrooke are currently formulating a parish plan. The clerk will initially approach them for some advice on how to get started.</p> | <p>LE</p> |
| <p>45/ 21- 22</p> | <p>Rural Forum</p> <p><i>Update: Cllr Lillie</i></p> <p>John Lillie had attended the Zoom Question and Answer session held 14th September by Cllr David Howes, portfolio holder for Rural Communities and Localism, (NNC), and hosted by</p> | |

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| | <p>Northamptonshire Association of Local Councils (NCALC). He felt that the meeting was very progressive: important points were –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NNC does not intend to place any additional burdens / jobs on the parishes without consultation. • NNC hope to introduce a “single point of contact” for parishes to contact them • NNC meetings will feature a regular agenda item to give parish councils an opportunity to discuss issues and concerns. <p>The inaugural meeting of the Strategic Town and Parish Forum, is due to take place on 27th October 2021, 7pm, via Zoom. It was felt that, although the former Rural Forum was still operating in a parallel but non-official capacity, the proposed Strategic Town and Parish Forum was endorsed by NNC, and it was likely to have greater legitimacy and influence.</p> | JL + all coun cillor s |
| 46/ 21- 22 | <p>Local Government Reorganisation May 2021: <i>Update</i></p> <p>Cllr David Howes (NNC) advised that no devolvement of responsibilities to parish councils was envisaged for the foreseeable future but opportunities would eventually be created for them to take more local control. The new authority had been in existence for six months and it would take time for procedures, etc., to embed.</p> | |
| 47/ 21- 22 | <p>Highway Matters: <i>Updates on the following, where applicable:</i></p> <p>a) Signage: No report b) Potholes: Repairs had been carried out. In some cases this had unavoidably slightly widened the carriageway. c) Lighting: No report d) Litter: Councillors would arrange an interim litter-pick in early December and would make informal arrangements, depending on the weather.</p> | All |
| 48/ 21- 22 | <p>Parish Crime Report & Police Matters:</p> <p>No formal crime reports had been received. John Lillie, reported, however, that grass cutting machinery had been stolen from a property in the village and pipework had been stolen from a local farm. Police offer John Hutchings of the Northamptonshire Rural Crime Team had attended and give advice regarding security.</p> | |
| 49/ 21- 22 | <p>Any Other Business: <i>To report any matters of a minor nature not requiring formal approval.</i></p> <p>a) <u>Budget setting</u>: parish councils were waiting for NNC to provide invoices for election costs (May 2021). Parish council budget setting would, therefore, be held over until the next meeting, pending receipt of the invoice. b) <u>Queen’s Diamond Jubilee</u>: the Chair would draw up a poster for the noticeboard, inviting villagers’ suggestions for celebrating the event, and the clerk would obtain information regarding the proposed planting of a canopy of trees nationwide, in celebration of Her Majesty the Queen’s Diamond Jubilee in June 2022.</p> | LE SP LE |
| 50/ 21- 22 | <p>Date and Venue of Next Meeting:</p> <p>The <u>revised</u> date of the next meeting is Monday 10 January 2022, 7.30pm at St Mary’s Church.</p> | SP |

The meeting closed at 8.45pm

Signed: Liz Evans, Clerk to Brampton Ash Parish Council

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