

Minutes of Meeting of Brampton Ash Parish Council

Monday 26th February 2024 7.30pm, St Mary's Church, Brampton

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

North Northants Council (NNC): NNC Cllr Mark Dearing

In Attendance: Liz Evans (Clerk)

Public Attendee(s): None

Item	Action By:
77/23-24	
<p>Apologies for Absence Cllr T Pentlow</p>	
78/23-24	
<p>Chair's Announcements NNC Cllr Mark Dearing was welcomed to the meeting.</p>	
79/23-24	
<p>Declarations of Interest: <i>To Receive Disclosures of Personal and Prejudicial Interests from Councillors on Matters to Be Considered at the Meeting.</i> Members are reminded to update their register of interests if necessary. No declarations were received.</p>	
80/23-24	
<p>Minutes of the Meeting held 11th December 2023 (meeting 5): <i>To approve the minutes of the above meeting as an accurate record or to amend factual inaccuracies if they occur. It is assumed that minutes have been read prior to the meeting.</i> The minutes were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.</p>	
81/23-24	
<p>Matters Arising from the above minutes <i>except where they are agenda items for this meeting</i> Matters arising from the above minutes were agenda items.</p>	
82/23-24	
<p>Policies Review: Model Biodiversity Policy: draft for discussion All other policies can be found at: https://bramptonash.parish-council.com/policies-and-procedures The draft policy was discussed and it was unanimously agreed that the clerk should insert details for Brampton Ash Parish Council (BAPC) into the document and be publish it on the BAPC website. The following points were noted:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Brampton Ash Parish Council does not own any land. • The Parish Council would liaise with the Parochial Church Council regarding bird boxes and the like being placed on PCC land, ie, the churchyard and surrounding area. • BAPC would consider providing bird roosting boxes to parishioners. • The policy would be referenced in a newsletter to parishioners and on the BAPC website. • The policy would be referenced when planning applications were considered. 	LE

	<p>The WEBNOS report form had been completed and uploaded by Cllr Pentlow and a copy of the report form was forwarded to the Clerk. Cllr Pentlow also reported as follows:</p> <p><i>'Routine checks done, all okay'</i></p> <p><i>'I've done the checks and everything is fine and in date. A pane of glass has been broken on the telephone box but Nick has ordered a replacement and it will be fitted on arrival.'</i></p>	
85/23-24	<p>Planning Matters:</p> <p><i>To Consider Matters Relating to the following Planning Applications:</i></p> <p>No recent applications received.</p> <p>Apparent breach of planning permission (Brampton Ash / Stoke Albany boundary) flagged up to North Northants Council: no further communication received from NNC. This is believed to be under investigation by NNC. Outcome awaited.</p> <p>It was noted that the Biodiversity policy (see item 82 of these minutes) should be referenced when BAPC responds to planning applications.</p>	
86/23-24	<p>North Northants Council/Kettering Borough Council Conservation Policy - Brampton Ash:</p> <p><i>Update: Cllr Lillie</i></p> <p>North Northamptonshire Draft Corporate Plan 2021-25 Consultation (update if available). No updates are currently anticipated. This will remain an agenda item pending further information.</p>	
87/23-24	<p>Strategic Town and Parish Forum (formerly Rural Forum) Meeting 29th November 2023:</p> <p><i>Update if available: Cllr Lillie</i></p> <p>See item 72/23-24 11th December 2023 for details of the meeting held 29th November.</p> <p>The next meeting of the Rural Forum is due on to be held in May 2024.</p>	
88/23-24	<p>Northamptonshire Action for Communities in Rural England (NACRE)</p> <p>To consider whether the Parish Council should subscribe to the above organisation, as recommended by NNC Cllr Howes. For details see https://www.northantsacre.org.uk/</p> <p>Cost £42.00 pa inclusive of VAT</p> <p>Action with Communities in Rural England is a national charity speaking up for and supporting rural communities. It was unanimously agreed that BAPC would join the organisation as it was recognised as being helpful to rural communities. Proposer was Cllr Bevan, seconder was Cllr Lillie.</p>	LE
89/23-24	<p>Highway Matters:</p> <p>Updates on the following, where applicable:</p> <p>a) <i>Signage</i></p> <p>All signage is in place.</p> <p>b) <i>Potholes</i></p> <p>They have been reported to NNC who have marked out the areas for eventual repair.</p> <p>c) <i>Lighting</i></p> <p>No issues</p>	

	<p>d) <i>Litter-pick</i> The village litter-pick will take place on Sunday 14th April 2024, weather permitting. Details will be placed in the village newsletter / leaflet.</p> <p>e) <i>Road Safety A427</i>: revised speed limit signs have been installed.</p> <p>f) <i>VAS cameras</i>: installation dates are February, June and October 2024 There will be 1 camera installed for each session (not 2, as requested) as Wilbarston Parish Council, who own the cameras, wishes to retain 1 for their own use.</p> <p>g) <i>Hermitage Road spring-water update (Cllr Lillie)</i> This is ongoing: Cllr Lillie is monitoring the situation.</p> <p>h) <i>Parking on verge/lay-by outside St Mary's Church</i>: the preliminary consultation document with Parish Council input has been forwarded to NNC for their consideration, together with a map showing the actual area of the verge. The outcome is awaited.</p> <p>i) <i>Request for formal weight restriction on Hermitage Road, to protect grass verges from damage by heavy goods vehicles</i>: Ian Boyes, North Northants Council Highways department, has advised that there is insufficient heavy goods vehicle traffic travelling through the village to meet the criteria for a formal weight restriction. No further action.</p> <p>j) <i>Dangerous surface water drainage issue on A427</i>: There is an ongoing issue of surface water flooding on the A427 at Brampton Ash. This has twice been reported by Cllr Bevan to NNC Highways but no action appears to have been taken. It is understood that, at some point in the past, NNC Highways cleared surface water gullies on one side of the road but not on the opposite side. As a result, the uncleared gullies now overflow and cause flooding. In recent cold weather the flood water froze over a large section of the road and this caused a motorist to lose control of his vehicle, which then became embedded in the roadside verge. Cllr Lillie would send a written report of events to North Northants Cllr Dearing, who would then pursue the matter with Keir (highways contractors).</p>	<p>SP All</p> <p>JL</p> <p>NB</p> <p>JL MD</p>
90/23-24	<p>Parish Crime Report & Police Matters: No formal crime reports received. https://www.northants.police.uk/area/your-area/northamptonshire/kettering/desborough/about-us/crime-map</p>	
91/23-24	<p>Communication with Parishioners To consider communications with parishioners via social media. A newsletter / leaflet would be distributed to parishioners. A Facebook page would be set up to keep parishioners informed of PC activities. The village WhatsApp would include a link to North Northants Council 'Fix My Street' reporting site to enable parishioners to report highways issues.</p>	<p>SP SP SP</p>
92/23-24	<p>Parish Council Website & Email To consider whether the Parish Council should sign up to a .gov.uk website and email. The PC is happy with its current website, which costs £78.00 per year. The gov.uk websites cost in the region of £200.00 + per year. It was agreed that the PC would, therefore, remain with its current provider.</p>	

	Councillors are reminded that they all have email accounts which are specifically for PC business only. Personal accounts should not be used for PC business. It was agreed that no changes to website and email providers are needed at present.	
93/23-24	<p>Any Other Business: <i>To report any matters of a minor nature not requiring formal approval.</i></p> <p>a) The abandoned car bonnet has now been removed from the grass verge where it was dumped.</p> <p>b) Planting of the King Charles tree is in hand.</p> <p>c) Replacement glass for the telephone/defibrillator box is in hand.</p> <p>d) Trees on the grass verge at the Hermitage Road/A427 junction need a safety inspection by North Northants Council.</p> <p>e) The small copse at the back of Hermitage Road, backing onto the A427, needs dead vegetation cleared for safety reasons. The copse is owned by NNC.</p> <p>NNC Cllr Mark Dearing would report items d) and e) to the appropriate department for action.</p>	MD MD
94/23/24	<p>Date and Venue of Next Meeting: Monday 15th April 2024 at the Parish Church.</p>	

Meeting finished at:8.35pm

Signed: Liz Evans, Clerk to Brampton Ash Parish Council

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

Subject to Approval

Date	On-line Transaction	Cheque no.	Item	Income £	Clerk's Salary	Expenditure £ inc VAT	(VAT Paid £)	Expenditure £ Section 137 inc VAT	Balance Excluding Reserves LGA72 S137	Balance Including Reserves	Reconciled to bank	Reserves 1 Running total LGA72 S137	Reserves 2 Running total Election Costs S137	Legal Power
Brampton Ash Parish Council: Income & Expenditure 1 Apl 2023 - 31 Mar 2024: Report 1														
01/04/23			Balance brought forward	£2,683.11					£450.02	£2,683.11		£2,133.09	£100.00	
01/04/23			t/f to reserve 2			£100.00			£350.02	£2,683.11			£200.00	
13/04/23	Y		Wilbarston pc VAS paid from reserve					£60.00		£2,623.11		£2,073.09		LGA72 S137 payment H/ways 1980 s41
27/04/23	Y		NNC Precept	£1,500.00					£1,850.02	£4,123.11	27/04/23			
27/04/23	Y		NCALC			£226.01	£26.00		£624.01	£3,897.10				LGA 72 s.143(1)(b) Local Audit & Accountability Act 2014
23/05/23	Y		HMRC VAT+	£59.62					£83.63	£3,956.72				
23/05/23	Y		HMRC VAT+ paid to reserve	£859.48							23/05/23	£2,932.57		LGA72 S137 receipt
01/07/23	Y		HMRC PAYE			£32.00			£1,651.63	£4,784.20				LGA 72 s.112
01/07/23	Y		Clerk's salary Q1		£167.85				£1,483.78	£4,616.35	19/07/23			LGA72 s.112
Signed			N Bevan						Member		24/07/23			
Brampton Ash Parish Council: Income & Expenditure 1 Apl 2023 - 31 Mar 2024: Report 2														
28/07/23			Printer ink			£13.00	£2.17		£1,470.78					LGA72 s111
03/08/23			Website			£78.00	£13.00		£1,392.78					LGA72 s111
18/09/23			Flash drive			£10.99			£1,381.79					LGA72 s111
18/09/23			Flash drive refund	£10.99					£1,392.78					LGA72 s111
18/09/23			Flash drive			£7.99	£1.33		£1,384.79	£4,517.36	20/09/2023			LGA72 s111
Signed:			N Bevan						Member		09/10/2023			
Brampton Ash Parish Council: Income & Expenditure 1 Apl 2023 - 31 Mar 2024: Report 3														
03/10/23	Y		HMRC PAYE			£32.00			£1,352.79					LGA 72 s.112
03/10/23	Y		Clerk's salary Q2		£167.85				£1,184.94	£4,317.51				LGA 72 s.112
21/11/23	Y		NNC Grant	£1,093.00								£4,025.57		
30/11/23	Y		Zurich Insce.			£283.36			£901.58	£5,127.15				LGA 72 s.112
Signed:			N Bevan						Member		11/12/2023			
Brampton Ash Parish Council: Income & Expenditure 1 Apl 2023 - 31 Mar 2024: Report 4														
12/12/23	Y		Coles Nurseries				£21.00	£126.00		£5,001.15		£3,899.57		LGA72 s 137
27/12/23	Y		HMRC PAYE			£42.50				£4,958.65				
27/12/23	Y		Clerk's salary Q3		£209.95				£649.13	£4,748.70				
18/01/23	Y		Designer Metal				£142.00	£852.00		£3,896.70		£3,047.57		LGA72 s 137
13/02/24	Y		Clrs Grant InitFund	£300.00					£649.13	£4,196.70		£3,347.57		
Signed			N Bevan						Member		26/02/2024			
Note: Reserves 1 + reserves 2 + balance exc reserves = balance inc reserves = bank balance														