

BROUGHTON PARISH COUNCIL.

Chairman: Cllr P.A. Scouse.

Parish Clerk: Alison McDaid.

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Minutes of the meeting of Broughton Parish Council held

Wednesday 21st April 2021

Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86736623319?pwd=dk3Y1VGyXVvUXMxSUt3MEpmVEZRZz09>

Meeting ID: 867 3662 3319

Passcode: 281342

Councillors Present:

Cllr P. Scouse.

Cllr R. Shrive.

Cllr H. Bull.

Cllr O. Wyeth.

Cllr M. Rose.

Cllr I. Robson.

Cllr J. Chester.

Cllr C. Taylor.

19/9271. Apologies. (1)

Cllr R. Baxter tendered his last apologies – accepted.

19/9272. Declarations of Interest. (2)

Cllr Taylor declared an interest in planning application NK/2021/0184, 22 Cransley Hill, so will not participate in discussions later in the meeting. 19/9265.

19/9273. Minutes. (3)

Draft minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 17th March 2021, copies were circulated and after a couple of small amendments, were approved by members and authorised for electronic signature by the chair. **RESOLVED.**

KBC – Kettering Borough Council.

BPC – Broughton Parish Council.

NNC – North Northamptonshire Council/Unitary Authority.

This meeting was audio recorded and was agreed by members. The recording will be deleted as soon as the minutes have been signed off. Broughton Parish Council meetings are open to the public but the audio recording is to remain solely as a reference for minuting by the clerk at all times.

19/9274. Public right to speak. (4)

This facility was not used.

19/9275. Reports from local County and Borough Councillor's now Unitary Councils. (5)

Cllr Jim Hakewill.

Cllr Hakewill pointed out that as the County and Borough councils have been abolished, reports should instead read from Unitary Councillors from now on.

In relation to traveller issues, Cllr Hakewill thanked BPC for their excellent lobbying to the old councils who failed to deal with issues and also the complete failure to the Gypsy and Traveller policy. He is happy to continue to help up until the elections with cross counties concerns.

Cllr Hakewill will also be up for election over the other side of the A43, so this is his last meeting representing Broughton.

Rural voices must be heard in North Northamptonshire Council.

There are 3 new Town Councils, with residents of between 30-35k people, so rural voices will be heard even less than they were previously, so important to all work together.

If Cllr Hakewill gets elected on the 6th, he would like to open up a conversation with the rural parishes and NNC.

Since the Unitary Council came into force, all telephone numbers have remained the same for resident services. A lot of the same staff from the old councils are working for the new NNC but unfortunately, many have also left. Martin Hammond will be leaving, who joined in around 1987, the same time as Cllr Hakewill.

Cllr Hakewill thanked BPC for all the energy we have all shared, particularly the outstanding work being the first parish in the Kettering Borough area to get a Neighbourhood Plan together and adopted. This has proved a real success with planning issues.

The chair thanked Cllr Hakewill for his many years of support and work with BPC.

Cllr Bull also thanked Cllr Hakewill as they worked together on the Broughton for Youth Project which was a resounding success and bought together the whole of the community. At the time, it was a critical project as there were some real issues in the village but without Cllr Hakewill's work, it might not have even got off the ground. Cllr Bull went on to recall some lovely memories and thanked Cllr Hakewill for his sterling work and how he will be sorely missed this side of the A43.

Cllr Smith-Haynes also thanked Cllr Hakewill for being her mentor when first becoming a borough councillor. He has been a fantastic support to me and my learning and even though we have differences in political views, I have always trusted in his advice and guidance. Thank you for all the support and help also when I became a County Councillor.

Cllr Chris Smith-Haynes

Interesting month with the transitions over to the Unitary Council.

Cllr Smith-Haynes is still receiving emails from her old address at county council but cannot respond as the account is now blocked.

New email address is chris.smith-haynes@NorthNorthants.gov.uk.

No meetings have taken place yet and the council is now in purdah until the elections. This may or may not be the last time Cllr Smith-Haynes will attend a BPC meeting depending on the outcome of the election on 6th May. Cllr Smith-Haynes thanked BPC very much and described it as being an honour to work with the council over the years and she very much has enjoyed the interactions shared.

The Chair also thanked Cllr Smith-Haynes for all her assistance to BPC.

19/9276. Matters arising from the minutes. (6)

Matters arising from 20th January 2021.

19/9225. Fly tipping.

Cllr Baxter got in touch with Cllr Scouse regarding illegal fly tipping that has taken place by the Kettering Road allotments on the old A43 past the horse field last week.

KBC came out and it was obvious it has become a dumping ground with the remains of a bonfire, walls, rubble and sofas. KBC have put tickets on the old sofas but they were unable to take away as the items are behind the gate which is locked.

A discussion took place as to who owned the land, who has access and who would have the key. It was also discussed whether or not it would be a good idea logistically to move the gate and if by doing so, would it become a problem for the trailer blocking the road. Highways were previously contacted to enquire about moving the gate but will charge a significant amount.

KBC will now investigate.

Update: The items are still there. Access is compromised by the locked gate.

Update: Boughton Estates are the presumed landowners but the tenants who keep the horses and rent the land put the lock on the gate.

Action: Cllr Robson to ask tenants for key and clerk to contact Boughton Estates. Once the gate is opened, clerk to rearrange removal by KBC.

Update: 25/03/2021 emailed Boughton Estates whose tenant made contact. Clerk raised new ticket to KBC 30/03/2021. Sofa has gone but push chair there. Cllr Robson spoke to the tenants who said KBC had called them to say they didn't need gate access now. RESOLVED

19/9228. General interest items.

Cllr Shrive aired his disbelief over the road works that were carried out in Kettering Road before Christmas. Cllr Scouse has already emailed Sarah Barnwell at Highways regarding the poor road patching. In some areas it is sitting proud and there is no bonding between old and new surfaces so water is gathering and not draining away. Highways asked Cllr Scouse to report through Streetdoctor but someone had already done it so she sent the reference number. Ref: 2436272. There are works scheduled for February.

Update: Some works have been carried out again but they have not returned to complete all. Ongoing.

Earlier in the year, Cllr Scouse reported the Village Hall were having difficulty getting the lease signed for the football club but after Cllr Hakewill intervened, it is now in progress.

BPC as trustees, will also have to sign the lease so a solicitor will need to be sorted. Cllr Scouse asked members if they could recommend anyone.

Action: Clerk to contact NCALC for a quote and Cllr Rose to contact known solicitor.

Update: NCALC are not qualified to offer legal advice directly but recommended a Solicitor from Wellers Law Group who specializes in Parish councils. A quote for £950.00 plus VAT was received. Cllr Rose confirmed this was a similar figure to the quotes he had received estimating between £700- £900 plus VAT.

Update: VSH Law have quoted £600 + VAT. Broughton Village Hall & Playing Fields Association have confirmed that they will not expect BPC to pay for this expenditure, just instruct as the management trustees.

Matters arising from 17th February 2021

19/9245. VAT reclaim.

A VAT Reclaim of £1,413.96 from Nov 2018 - Jan 2021 was submitted. £841.00, is from the Pocket Park maintenance and the remainder £572.96 is traffic calming so when the claim has been refunded, the money can go back into the relevant pots.

Update: Submitted via post on 18/02/2021 but BPC have not been reimbursed yet. Ongoing.

19/9248. General interest items

Cllr Bull saw on Facebook that a taxi company in conjunction with a charity were offering free travel to vaccination centres and asked if the Bentham Charities have any similar schemes available. It was discussed if new Broughton residents were aware of the help they could receive from this charity and the charities criteria as they do not seem to advertise.

Action: Cllr Scouse to ask Cllr Baxter.

Update: With regards to advertising, the Bentham Charities usually relies on word of mouth but at Christmas they do put a notice in the board at the co-op shop and they have previously advertised in the Broughton Bell and the Four Spires newsletters. As the Four Spires newsletter no longer exists, Cllr Scouse recommended the clerk put a contact on BPC website under useful information and it was agreed.

Action: Clerk to put on website and to send Rev Jones the contact details as well.

Update: 26/03/2021 emailed Julie for information. They do use the village Facebook and their rector has village links. She will ask the other trustees if they would mind being on our website.

Cllr Scouse asked the clerk to chase Highways as the promised drop kerb in Hutchinson Avenue has not been completed yet. **Action: Clerk to contact Ian Boyes. RESOLVED.**

Matters arising from 17th March 2021

19/9262. Preservation/disposal of documents & records. (12)

When the previous clerk retired, BPC were left with crates of documents that now sit between the chair and the clerk. Cllr Scouse has started to go through them and came across a set of copies of the Broughton news that went back to 1975 which is believed to be the first edition. The County Archives have been approached and they would be interested in receiving them. Also found was papers of the building of the A14, the A43 bypass and the footpath at Mile End Lane.

Cllr Bull clarified that she also holds the full set of the Broughton news so members agreed to let the County Archives have these when covid restrictions are lifted.

The chair and clerk will go through the crates at their end and liaise with each other on what must be kept and what can be digitalized for a possible future history project.

Cllr Rose has the ability to auto scan and characterize into searchable documents. He can also dispose of any sensitive papers securely.

Update: Clerk has started going through the documents she is holding and has come across a tenancy agreement dated 05/03/1960 for the High Street recreation ground and allotment land between Major Gerald Glover of Pytchley House and the Parish Council.

19/9263. Report from Community and Traffic Management Sub Committee. (13)

Dog theft is rising and people have been advised not to walk alone, despite the lockdown.

Action: clerk to put out advice on social media. RESOLVED.

19/9266. Report from Finance Committee and S106 signing. (16)

The NACRE membership for 2021/22 is now due. Members agreed to subscribe again this year.

RESOLVED.

Action: Clerk to fill in online subscription. RESOLVED.

19/9268. General interest items. (18)

Cllr Baxter asked Cllr Scouse if BPC could officially report the street light in the footpath that runs from High Street /Church Street alongside the park. (Bakehouse Lane) The light is located at the Church Street end near the dog bin/old person's home and it has been reported multiple times.

Reported 06/04/2021 with read receipt. Action: Cllr Scouse to check if work has been carried out this month.

19/9277. Correspondence. (7)

Letter from KBC - Government announces remote meeting powers will not be extended.

Northants ACRE - Northamptonshire ACRE has been awarded funding from the DEFRA Local Authorities grant to deliver food parcels in North Northamptonshire over the next two months.

An email from a resident regarding the placement of the SID in Cransley Hill and the traffic calming project as a whole.

An email from a resident regarding a proposal for a memorial garden for those who have died from covid 19. See 19/9289

Mark Neve – First Responders

Good afternoon, firstly I just wanted to say a massive thank you for your kind donation for the Community first responders.

Secondly I wanted to email you regarding some free training that we are giving people in the community around basic lifesaving skills, we are looking around July time. If you would be interested in this please drop me an email and we can arrange a date. **Action: Cllr's Taylor and Scouse wish to attend.**

Rural Bulletin – Latest Rural news and analysis.

Village Hall - new hire charges.

CPRE – email confirming membership details as last year BPC was entered into the Leicestershire group and not Northamptonshire, because of clerks address.

Open letter from Highways England regarding upcoming A14 roadworks.

A letter from a resident regarding the parking situation on the road outside the Village hall along with a response from Clive, the Chair of the Village Hall Association with a number of factors as to why the problem has arisen.

Action: The clerk to respond to resident and also ask the Village Hall if they could have car park matting. Also if the football club groups could be contacted to try and avoid parking on pavement and encourage parking further down Gate lane. This is to be reviewed after 6 -8 weeks as the points raised by the village hall are valid points and may well resolve themselves by then.

19/9278. Reports from members attending meetings of other bodies. (8)

Cllr Scouse, Bull and Rose were invited and attended a meeting arranged by Middleton Parish Council to ask for assistance as they had found themselves in a similar situation to Loddington regarding travellers. Although Broughton could not help with their situation, it was decided that Middleton Residents Action Group (RAG) along with other parishes who have existing traveller sites, come together to ask for a meeting with NNC Chief Executive, Rob Bridge, to discuss NNC's future joint strategy for gypsy and traveller sites, to encourage NNC to address policy on providing their five year land supply with all the original boroughs, enforcement and unauthorised sites and management of sites that have planning permission. Rob Bridge responded and accepted the invitation along with NNC Executive Director of Place and Economy who leads on planning and travellers and a couple of Heads of Service. He will be back in contact with a confirmed date after the election with the following parish councils: Middleton, Loddington, Broughton, Braybrook, Stoke Albany, Ashley and Cottingham.

Cllr Robson attended the Police Crime meeting this month. There were no minutes presented as it concentrated on points raised at previous meetings.

There was confirmation that over £1.3 million was spent on making roads safer.

On average there are about 2 dog thefts per month in Northamptonshire.

There will be a roll out of the mobile police stations from May 2021.

There are now 6 new trained dog vehicles, bring a total of 15 new dog units.
There is a new training centre for Police Officers based in Wellingborough.
Crime is down by 3.7%.
Domestic violence is up.

19/9279. North Northamptonshire Unitary Authority. (9)

Please see 19/9278

Cllr Scouse asked Cllr Smith-Haynes, after the election of Burton and Broughton BPC will have three elected councillors, who BPC would contact if need be and how would we choose which councillor. Cllr Smith-Haynes replied whoever is the most responsive.

19/9280. Election 2021 – Notice of uncontested election (10)

A notice of uncontested election was received from the Returning Officer that reported the persons whose names were duly elected Parish Councillors for Broughton.

Cllr P Scouse
Cllr R Shrive
Cllr M Rose
Cllr I Robson
Cllr J Chester
Cllr H Bull
Cllr C Taylor

BPC were extremely sad that Cllr R Baxter decided not to stand for election again this year. He took office in 1985. He wrote to the clerk with the following message.

After 35 years, it has been a privilege to have been a councillor for the village I have lived in all my life for so long. However I have not really enjoyed it since I lost my wife. That has influenced my decision along with a few more reasons not to stand for election to represent the village I love. Please wish the new council good luck with the new authority for the future. I will always be available to answer any questions about Broughton which I might be able to help with not only to the council but also yourself. Best wishes to everyone, Roy

Cllr O Wyeth also decided to stand down as well for the time being. He will be attending university and felt he would not be able to dedicate the time needed for the council to do justice. Cllr Wyeth has been a councillor since 2016.

Members decided letters of thanks should be written and discussed various ways to mark Cllr Baxter's extraordinary length of service and commitment to the village after so many years.

Cllr Hakewill suggested Honary Freeman of Broughton as another councillor was granted it by Mawsley many years ago. All agreed this would be a fitting tribute. **Action: Clerk to investigate.**

BPC now have a shortfall of 4 councillors. Cllr Bull suggested at election times, BPC should be more vocal in campaigning for councillors. A more concerted effort for a recruitment plan will be looked at

after the election. A canvassing stall at the village fete was seen as a good idea after the success of the stall promoting the Neighbourhood Plan a few years ago.

There will now only be 2 ballot papers to fill out:

Police and Crime Commissioner for Northamptonshire Police
North Northamptonshire local election Burton and Broughton.

Cllr Hakewill left the meeting but not before he was thanked again and wished good luck in the election.

19/9281. Remote meetings regulation. (11)

On 4th April 2020, central government announced two sets of emergency regulations under the Coronavirus Act 2020. The first set enabled all local authority meetings before 7th May 2021 to be lawfully held remotely and removed the requirement for the annual meeting that year. The second set postponed local by-elections and other polls scheduled until 6th May 2021.

These emergency regulations over-ruled 1960 and 1972 Acts. It also provided for the overriding of Parish Standing Orders without having to adopt new ones to facilitate things such as voting, i.e.: "show of hands" as someone joining a meeting via a telephone could not show their hand and extending the definition of "place" to include more than one location, i.e. electronic, digital or virtual locations.

On 25th March 2021, an open letter from Luke Hall MP to local councils and authorities stated that the Regulations 2020 will not be extended after 7th May 2021 as this would require primary legislation and concluded it would not be possible to bring this forward.

A High Court hearing started today in regards to the legality of the continuation of remote meetings after 6th May 2021. The Association of Democratic Officers (ADSO) and Lawyers in Legal Government (LLG) had lobbied for some form of statutory declaration from the Courts as they believed online/hybrid meetings could be lawful under the Local Government Acts 1960 and 1972. This resulted in ADSO/LLG along with Hertfordshire County Council, receiving permission to expedite a claim for a declaration in the High Court which will provide certainty for local authorities on whether they can continue to hold meetings remotely past the 6th May 2021 deadline, due to the expiry of the Local Authorities and Police and Crime Panels (Coronavirus) (Flexibility of Local Authority Police and Crime Panel Meetings) (England and Wales) Regulations (No.392).

Members recognised that the usual meeting room used at the Village Hall is too small to accommodate everyone safely socially distancing and with a severe lack of ventilation as well, members of the public would have to be excluded which means the meeting would need to be set up as a hybrid meeting.

As the main hall is not available to use on Wednesdays, Cllr Shrive suggested to hold the meetings on Fridays instead but some members were unable to commit to these days. The alternative would have to be to find another venue.

Cllr Bull declared that in her opinion, meetings via zoom worked much more efficiently and other members agreed. The clerk quoted parish councils on the SLCC forum were expressing exactly the same opinion with some refusing to meet before at least September.

A discussion took place after Cllr Scouse pointed out that the larger authorities would not be able to accommodate all of their councillors either.

The general consensus was if able, to continue with zoom meetings until at least the socially distancing rules are relaxed in June at the earliest.

19/9282. Report from Community and Traffic Management Sub Committee. (12)

Policing.

Cllr Robson sent over the data recorded from the SID at Cransley Hill to the police/road safety team.

Traffic calming

The SID is now back in its first location in Kettering Road. The data collated proved useful at Cransley Hill both ways as the sensor recorded quite a distance the speed of drivers approaching the SID.

Cllr Scouse to check if the SID is working after Cllr Baxter thought it was not. Other members confirmed it was working this morning.

19/9283. Report from Pocket Park Management Sub Committee (13)

The Section 106 agreement which was signed at the last meeting by the chair has now been submitted to Dave Lane for funds to be released. Dave acknowledged the signed copy and asked if BPC had submitted an invoice to draw down the payment as he said finance have not actually issued a cost centre code yet, so this might need doing before we they can issue the payment. The clerk confirmed the work had not started yet so is happy to wait for the cost to be issued.

In May, Cllr Scouse will contact Froglife to see when they will schedule in the work to the pond. The water was still relatively high last week but will obviously drop as the weather gets warmer.

19/9284. Report from Planning Sub Committee. (14)

The Committee referred to their copy of the Neighbourhood Plan conditions document and the summary of policies when looking at Planning Applications for consideration.

Planning Applications for consideration.

NK/2021/0101

LOCATION: Inglenook Cottage, 17 High Street

PROPOSAL: Full Planning Permission: Remove chimney stack make good gable end.

No objection

NK/2021/0308

LOCATION: 2 Rectory Gardens

PROPOSAL: Notification of works to trees in Conservation Areas: T1-T2 Oak, 2-3 height reduction and take back overhang.

No comment

NK/2021/0170 - amended plans

LOCATION: 43 Northampton Road

PROPOSAL: Full Planning Permission: Double garage with home office above in rear garden.

Previous comment: 2 storey building will be out of keeping with neighbouring properties – all garages/outbuildings at rear of Northampton Rd properties are single storey. Fenestration overlooking neighbouring Baker Avenue gardens/properties. Height of building will block light into Baker Avenue gardens early afternoon. No43 has already had very substantial development to the rear of the property – will this application be an over-development of plot? If approved, building to remain as a garage/outhouse with no change of use to a dwelling.

New comment: Recommend re-iterating our objections as raising the roof lights marginally does not counter our previous objections.

NK/2021/0340

LOCATION: 37 Church Street

PROPOSAL: Notification of Works to Trees in Conservation Areas: T1 Apple - pollard, removing all upper branch growth back to head of trunk at a height of approximately 1.3 - 1.5 metres.

No comment.

KET/2021/0052 – NK/2021/0052 - amended plans

LOCATION: 9A High Street, Broughton

PROPOSAL: Full Application: Two storey side extension, single storey porch to front, roof dormer to front and additional window to first floor side elevation

Previous comment submitted 30/02/2021: BPC Recommend rejecting this application on the following grounds:

- **Against Policy 3 of the Broughton neighbourhood Plan, overly dense development, added to an already lack of parking in the high street.**
- **Its visual impact in the conservation area, being too dense and out of character with red brick being used and not stone, stone is on the frontage of the nearby street scene and any red brick is used only on side elevations added this to the new large dormer roofing line will be a dominating visual feature out of keeping with the surrounding street scene.**
- **Removal of already sparse leisure area to build the extension.**
- **By making the property larger, the potential increases for more vehicles turning in blind from Kettering road side at the same point when you've already got extreme vehicle access issues on the other side of the road at 26 High Street AND Ashbrook Close with all other north/south vehicles negotiating at the pinch point, this will be detrimental to both pedestrian and vehicular safety.**

Comment: No objection.

Target decision date: 30/06/2021

Planning Decisions.

NK/2021/0112

LOCATION: Trees, Gate Lane, Broughton

PROPOSAL: Full planning permission: Single storey side and rear extensions

No comment

APPROVED

NK/2021/0125

LOCATION: The Gables

PROPOSAL: Tree works

No comment

NO OBJECTION

NK/2021/0132

LOCATION: Trees, Gate Lane, Broughton

PROPOSAL: Tree works

No comment

NO OBJECTION

KET/2020/0783

LOCATION: 11 Church Street

PROPOSAL: Full Application: Replace conservatory with single storey side extension.

No comment

APPROVED

NK/2021/0044

LOCATION: 43 Cransley Hill (land adj)

PROPOSAL: Application for works to protected trees: T1 Douglas Fir – prune back 4-6 lateral branches growing towards property by 3m.

No comment.

APPROVED

NK/2021/0074

LOCATION: 19 Cransley Hill

PROPOSAL: Full Application: Remove existing conservatory, add single storey rear and single storey side extensions with alterations to existing ground floor fenestration.

No comment

APPROVED

NK/2021/0184

LOCATION: 22 Cransley Hill

PROPOSAL: 1 new dwelling + conversion of workshop to form 3 dwellings

Comment: All stone/brick boundary walls to be retained and welcome new sympathetic scale/design amends to property 4 to respect neighbouring amenity. Neighbourhood Plan policy 3.

Target decision date: 26/04/2021

No report from Planning Sub Committee submitted this month.

19/9285. Report from Finance Committee. (15)

March 2021 statements

Nationwide 125-day saver - £16,149.38

Community - £24,146.97

Credits to Community account

		£0.00
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Credits to Nationwide account

Interest for period 01Apr 2020 – 31 Mar 2021	Direct payment	£84.17
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Cheques issued from Community account

Payee	Cheque number	Amount
A. McDaid wages - mth 1	Bank transfer	£346.25
HMRC income tax	Bank transfer	£86.40
A. McDaid home working, phone and internet, Zoom	Bank transfer	£36.74
Northants CALC	Bank transfer	£758.51
BRT PF & VH Association	Standing order	£7.79

A discussion followed to see if members were happy to continue with the NCALC subscription for another year. A vote followed which was a unanimous yes as members felt it would still prove to be useful. RESOLVED.

Cllr Shrive to authorise this month's payments.

19/9286. Pensions Regulator. (16)

It has been 3 years since the previous clerk submitted a declaration of compliance with the Pensions Regulator under the Pensions Act 2008 for automatic enrolment duties.

The Clerk submitted a re-declaration of compliance on 6th April which will last another 3 years.

19/9287. Insurance renewal quote & parish online mapping. (17)

The Clerk attended a zoom meeting delivered by NCALC for Parish Online which is a mapping service. BHIB insurance are offering parish councils free access to this service if they take up their insurance this year. BHIB provided BPC with an estimated quote of £719.28 based on BPC existing insurance with Came & Co.

The clerk has not yet received a quote for this year from Came & Co so unable to compare at this stage but last year's premium was £779.00. The current insurance contract expires on 31st May 2021. All agreed Parish Online mapping service could prove very useful to BPC and something to be considered. Without signing up to BHIB insurance, the mapping service would cost £168.00 per year which does include a 20% discount being offered at the moment as subscribers to NCALC.

Cllr Scouse mentioned that there is quite a lot BPC are covered for at the moment that as a parish, we do not own but this could change in the next year. The clerk confirmed that when adding the SID, she did question the street furniture aspect and was told that BPC had the basic parish council package so unsure it would not make any difference if removed.

19/9288. Assets. (18)

The clerk circulated a list of Assets after updating records which members contributed too for insurance purposes. This included dates and costs assets were purchased at, to work out value to replace at a later date.

Cllr Scouse asked Cllr Shrive how far BPC got with replacing the village map with a more updated version but unfortunately covid struck before there was a chance to complete. Cllr Bull estimated the village map was erected roughly 10 years ago.

The Village sign was erected in 2001 to celebrate the millennium. Cllr Bull suggested Clive and Tino may be able to help with more information as it was bought and sourced by the Millennium Committee.

19/9289. Memorial garden proposal. (19)

A resident contacted BPC via email to put forward a proposal for the memorial garden to come back in use again and become a memorial garden for those who have died through Covid 19. If it was granted, the resident would be willing to pay for a seat bench to be put there for people to sit and have a rest.

Cllr Scouse contacted Dave Lane as BPC had previously discussed the possibility of doing a bit of a make-over on the small area at the rear of the High St recreation ground that used to be the site of the War Memorial before it was moved to Wellingborough Rd a few years ago. The brickwork and steps are not in the best condition and Dave suggested that it might be possible to remove the slabs in the centre of the area and replace them with grass and some bulbs etc. and asked if there is any realistic prospect of NNC doing anything on this site and, if not, how would the Parish Council stand if we wanted to do it ourselves as the land is owned by NNC. Dave Lane did not offer any realistic solutions.

Originally, the bench was taken away because of drug and alcohol abuse issues so members agreed that while a lovely idea, a bench may not be appropriate. Use of planting instead or some sort of memorial would be more practical to make a nice calm reflective space.

Action: Clerk to contact resident to explain that the land does not belong to the parish council making it difficult as it falls under the new authority and might be best if we could leave it for the time being until such times as we hear back from NNC.

19/9290. General interest items. (20)

Cllr Shrive mentioned Cllr Baxter had commented on speeding vehicles in Kettering Road. As the SID is now back there, data will be captured.

Cllr Bull asked where BPC are with the PR media new policy for communications. **Action: Cllr Bull to send over draft copy to clerk.**

New equipment in Podmore Park has proven really popular. The roundabout is a big hit and Cllr Bull asked if we could thank Dave Lane for his assistance. Cllr Scouse confirmed this has been done.

Cllr Robson after sharing the SID data with the road safety team enquired if anyone had explored the possibility of Cransley/Broughton Hill being reduced from 60 to 40mph with Highways. As the Cox's Lane junction is a lot busier than it used to be, and the speed limit reduces quite near that junction, could there be an option of moving it further down the hill.

Action: Cllr Robson to contact Iain Boyes.

Cllr Robson noticed residents were asking on Facebook about the phone box library. Cllr Wyeth replied to comments to confirm this is already on the agenda to be done but was delayed due to covid. **Action: Cllr Scouse to paint and Bernard to erect shelves.**

The Chair took the opportunity to thank Cllr Wyeth for his contribution to the council over the years and to wish him good luck with his studies.

Members also thanked Cllr Smith-Haynes for all her support over the years and wished her good luck in the elections.

19/9291. Date of next meeting. (21)

The next meeting will be held Wednesday 19th May at 7pm.

19/9292. Any other matters that the Chair considers to be urgent. (22)

No other matters were considered and the meeting was closed at 8.55pm.

Signed:



Dated: 13/5/2021