

BROUGHTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council, held at Broughton Village Hall on Wednesday, 18 January 2017, commencing at 7.00pm.

Present: Cllrs Mrs PA Scouse (in the Chair), R Baxter, Mrs HJ Bull, Mrs JC Chester, M Rose, R Shrive, N White, O Wyeth and Clerk to the Parish Council, Mr GA Duthie.
Borough Cllr J Hakewill
County Cllr C Groome
Two members of the public

17/7540 **APOLOGIES.** Apologies were received from Cllrs. A Parker, M Van de Water, and B Withington.

17/7541 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST.** None were made.

17/7542 **MINUTES.** The draft minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 21 December 2016, copies having been circulated, were approved by members and authorised for signature by the Chair after it was agreed minute 16/7533 should also reflect Cllr R Shrive being present at the meeting mentioned.

17/7543 **RIGHT TO SPEAK.** No use was made of this facility at this meeting.

17/7544 **REPORTS OF COUNTY AND BOROUGH COUNCILLORS.**

County Cllr Groome provided a report to members concerning the 2017/18 budget proposals of the County Council and efforts being made to subject these to scrutiny. Members noted that the focus of the exercise was to identify undeliverables and adverse impacts. Cllr Groome was promoting a move to a zero-based budget for the future but the immediate one was not affected.

The meeting heard that year-on-year reductions were almost certain and, although a four year budget settlement had been offered by Government, this would only operate to defer the most acute effects until after year 1. The biggest challenge related to social services, with both adults' and children's services likely to be affected.

Councillors were informed that 87 redundancies were presently contemplated, although early years' provision was being enhanced despite being non-statutory. It was further outlined that a radical restructure of the organisation was being pursued that would result in core employees being reduced to 150 or so, with a variety of trusts and community interest companies being established as wholly controlled service delivery vehicles.

Members then raised an issue with pot-hole repairs (or lack of) affecting village roads, especially and most concerning in the A43/Kettering Road approach lane where a string of deep holes had now developed despite previously being reported and missed opportunities to repair when works to the A43 were just undertaken. County Cllr Groome asked for details to be provided to him in order to follow up why the system was apparently failing.

Borough Cllr Hakewill then presented his report, first updating the meeting on the ongoing measures being taken to secure and clean up the Cransley Park development

site following departure of the recent trespassers. It was noted at this juncture that recent incidents of van thefts and dumping appeared to have been connected with the same occupation.

In respect of The Old Willows, the meeting was informed that dialogue had occurred with Cllr Howes and a further meeting had been offered to consider the matter and the policy implications.

Cllr Hakewill then mentioned the Community Speed and Street Watch initiatives and advised that efforts to progress this were a little hampered by relevant officers working shifts which frequently meant they were not available at times convenient for them to be contacted; there appeared to be a need for such initiatives to be overseen by civilian officers working office hours. It remained the case that a co-ordinator was needed for the Speedwatch scheme.

Turning to the current Site Specific housing locations consultation, it was noted that still no response had been received from the Borough Council, confirming the legal position as had been agreed to be provided, but a report was now to be presented to the Planning Policy Committee updating the Local Development Scheme, which appeared to be an indicator that it had been accepted there had been an omission in this respect.

Cllr Hakewill then briefly described work being done by the Borough Council on issues of homelessness/rough sleepers and controls relating to large houses being used in multiple occupancies.

Members noted that the Borough budget consultation meeting was to occur on 26 January, and that a future meeting of the Rural Forum would likely be considering the possibility of local councils being subjected to precept controls by capping.

Finally, it seemed to be being perceived locally that fly-tipping incidents were increasing and councillors heard that the debate around a move to unitary authorities continued.

17/7545

MATTERS ARISING. Arising in respect of the Site Specific Local Plan consultation in respect of Housing Land Allocations, members noted that the Borough Council had informed that the legal advice on the Local Development Scheme issue had still to be received and would likely not be to hand for a while.

Arising in respect of street lighting, Cllr Baxter mentioned that the defective lamp in Silver Street remained out of service despite repeated reports and reminders.

It was noted that a fly tipped deposit had been left in Kettering Road and reported. This prompted discussion as to whether the spur being the line of the former road that now served as the allotments access could be better secured, subject to any residual highway rights being stopped up.

17/7546

CORRESPONDENCE. The following items of correspondence were reported:

- a) A communication from the County Council highways contractor, advising of the 2017 round of the Community Enhancement Gangs initiative. Members noted requests for minor works were now being invited (for submission by 24 February); to be considered at the February meeting.
- b) A reminder from NACRE that the 2017 running of the Best Village Competition would close for entries on 16 March 2017.
- c) A letter received from the office of the Police and Crime Commissioner, advising of efforts being made to reach out to local councils in the County.
- d) A communication from Broughton playing Fields and Village hall Association, confirming details for the postponed Village hall Open Day, now re-scheduled for Saturday 25 March 2017 from 11am until 1pm. User groups of the hall were also invited to use the event as a promotion opportunity.
- e) A letter from the Borough Council, advising of details of its annual budget consultation meeting to be held on 26 January 2017.
- f) A letter from the Borough Council, providing details of a town and parish council planning training event to be held on 22 March 2017 from 6pm. It was agreed to consider representation at the February meeting; members noting places would be limited to two per local council.

17/7547

POLICE REPORT. No officer was in attendance at this meeting but a report had been emailed that indicated 9 incidents of crime being reported in December, comprising 7 thefts or attempted thefts from motor vehicles, and 2 of criminal damage (outbuilding doors being forced). There then followed a discussion that revealed continuing concern that policing resources being applied in the village did not appear properly reflective of crime levels being experienced, and that the present sporadic attendance at parish council meeting by officers did not enable the council to best assist. Consequently, members agreed to write to Sergeant Little to request that a policing action plan be devised and shared in order to address the issue in a more structured way.

17/7548

REPORTS OF MEMBERS ATTENDING MEETINGS OF OTHER BODIES.
No reports were given at this meeting.

17/7549

DEVELOPMENT CONTROL.

Planning applications submitted for comment:-

The following application was considered, and it was resolved that no observations need be made:

1 Rectory Gardens

Single storey rear extension

Mr Fisher

The following application was considered and it was resolved an objection be notified as the same was considered to represent an over-intense use of the site, that would result in completely inadequate amenity space and separation distances being achieved to render the same either a decently viable or safe location for residential

occupation, especially by families.

In connection with the application generally, it was questioned whether the same should even have been validated and registered. The block plan submitted by the applicant and included in the documents available on the planning register web-site did not comply with the General Requirements for Plans, Drawings and Documents (Article 7, DMPO), or as required by KBC's own validation standards.

Further, the scale of the drawing did not refer to the paper size and had no measure bar to indicate a linear scale. With no indication of the dimensions of the site it was not possible to give this application any more meaningful consideration beyond the objection advised above, which was based on the fact the site is currently occupied by more than 10 static units so it had been possible to assess the extent to which even the proposed occupancy levels would compromise living conditions for residents.

It was suggested determination should be delayed until these irregularities are addressed and any compliant application material resulting re-consulted upon.

Irrespective of this, the parish council should also ask that subsisting breaches of control on this site are now addressed to prevent immunity accruing as is being allowed currently:

The Old Willows Subdivision/increase pitch numbers Mr Rooney

Planning decisions notified:

None were reported at this meeting.

17/7550

FINANCE. The following items of income and expenditure were noted/agreed:-

Income		£
Barclays Bank PLC	Interest earned	1.05
Expenditure		£
Zen Internet	Web hosting charge (direct debit)	4.79
Barclays Bank PLC	Store fee (direct debit)	1.00
Barclays Bank PLC	Commission (direct debit)	4.00
GA Duthie	Salary and WP (101742)	256.96
HMRC	Income tax (101743)	145.98
GA Duthie	Telephone (101744)	17.35
PA Scouse	Chair's allowance (101745)	245.00
H Bull	NP consultation/publicity (101746)	350.57

17/7551

HIGH STREET RECREATION GROUND. Cllr Wyeth presented details of three different quotations sourced from Wicksteed Playgrounds, for options around the enhancement of facilities at the High Street recreation ground comprising the replacement of safety surfacing and provision of a selection of new play equipment. Members noted the quotes ranged from approximately £10,000 to £20,000 exclusive of VAT, and additional costs would also be incurred if dog proof fencing was desired to be provided to protect the play area too. On the basis of the quotations seen, it was agreed to approach potential funders in order to try and maximise resources to match

the S106 monies from the Redrow development as held by the Borough Council. In discussion, councillors acknowledged that capital funds would be used to enhance a facility belonging to the Borough but considered, in principle, this was acceptable provided future maintenance costs of any new provision were assumed by the Borough Council. Cllr Wyeth agreed to draft a fund raising letter for consideration at the next meeting.

17/7552 **OLD WILLOWS CARAVAN SITE.** This had been dealt with under the development control item.

17/7553 **NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN UPDATE.** Cllr Mrs Bull provided an update on the consultation as it entered its closing days; members noting that a healthy number of responses had been received, including from some developers. A response was anticipated from Kettering Borough Council but had not been seen so far. Once all were to hand, work would commence on assessment and resulting amendments to the draft plan where considered appropriate.

17/7554 **COMMUNITY STREET AND SPEED WATCH INITIATIVES.** Given the previous report from Borough Cllr Hakewill, no further consideration of this matter was necessary beyond noting a coordinator was still needed for the Speedwatch scheme.

17/7555 **GENERAL INTEREST ITEMS.**
The issue of the gates at the top of Northampton Road was raised; these having been damaged by a vehicle. It was agreed these would need to be repaired/rehung by the owner.

An issue with a car in Silver Street was noted as having been dealt with by a PCSO.

Three addresses, in Podmore Way, Silver Street, and High Street, all affected by overhanging foliage obstructing adjacent footways, were raised and agreed to be written to.

It was noted that the pathways at Church Street had yet to be attended to and this had been drawn to the notice of the Area Manager at the recent walkaround so should soon be in hand.

17/7556 **DATE OF NEXT MEETING.** It was reported that the next scheduled meeting of the Parish Council, would be on Wednesday 15 February 2017, at 7:00pm in the Village Hall.

17/7557 **URGENT ITEMS ADMITTED BY THE CHAIR.** None were raised and the meeting was duly closed at 9:00pm.

15 February 2017

Signed.....