

BROUGHTON PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 11th MAY 2023

Present: Cllr J Hodgson (Chairman), Cllr J Mann, Cllr R Robson, Cllr B Keane, Cllr K McAllister, Cllr M Mossman & Cllr J Morrison.

In attendance: Heather Bourner-Clerk

HCC David Drew

TVBC A Johnson

2 Members of public

Apologies for Absence

1) Apologies had been received from Cllr James & Cllr J Dumper.

Election of Chairman

2) Cllr Mann nominated Cllr Hodgson to be Chairman for the forthcoming year. This was seconded by Cllr McAlister. All Agreed. Cllr Hodgson signed an acceptance of office form.

Election of Vice Chairman

3) There were no nominations for Vice Chairman. Given that two elected members were absent it was agreed to carry this matter forward to the June meeting.

Review and agree Standing orders, financial regulations & Code of Conduct

4) All documents had been circulated to Councillors prior to the meeting. These were all based on NALC model documents and the Clerk confirmed no amendments had been published. Cllr Hodgson proposed all documents were re adopted for 2023-4. This was seconded by Cllr Mann. All agreed.

All Councillors were asked to complete new Register of Interest forms.

Burial fees were discussed and it was agreed the matter would be formally reviewed at the June meeting.

Councillor responsibilities were considered and allocated.

Public Participation

5) The members of the public present wished to highlight the problem with several footpaths were extremely overgrown. Some of these were landowner responsibility. Cllr Morrison will review and liaise with the Clerk to write to landowners

Declarations of Interest

6) Cllr Keane expressed an interest in a proposed payment to his company which had fitted the generator at the village hall.

Planning

7) **The following decisions by TVBC were noted:**

23/00420/TREES-tree works, Dixons Cottage, Dixons Lane-no objection

23/00811/CLES-certificate of lawfulness-Copper Leaves-issued

23/00487/FULLS-installation of greenhouse, Rectory Lane-permission

Resolved: that the planning decisions on the following applications were endorsed:

23/00896/FULLS-two storey side extension, 12 Downs Close- objection submitted

23/00937/FULLS erection of dwelling with car port, Hyde Farm -no objections

23/00943/VARS-vary condition to allow solar panels to be fitted-Bayards, South Road- no objections

23/01001/LBWS Installation of an EV charging point on the side wall The Old Market House, High Street- no objection

23/01028/TREES- fell overgrown bush/tree-The Cottage High Street- no objection

23/01143/TREES-tree works, The Orchard, Rookery Lane- no objection

8) County and Borough Councilors' Report

HCC David Drew had provided a full report which can be seen at appendix 1. He also

reported a new HCC grant stream will open shortly and that Hants Highways have just been granted additional funding from central government to help with the major task of filling potholes.

TVBC Cllr Johnston reported that TVBC retained a conservative majority following the recent election. There will be a new Cllr in Mid Test who will play a part in representing Broughton. She confirmed cabinet will meet shortly to agree roles and responsibilities and that a new Councillor grant stream is now open.

Minutes

9) **Resolved:** The minutes of the meeting held on 4th March were confirmed as a correct record and were signed by the Chairman. Proposed Cllr Mann seconded Cllr Keane. All agreed.

Sports Field Update

10) Cllr Keane said there was little to report but expected the planning application to be submitted shortly. He said the sports committee continued to work to raise funds for this project. Building work is expected to start in the first quarter of 2024.

Cllr Hodson asked if a draft lease between the sports committee and PC had been drawn up and Cllr Mann asked if the draft document for the contractor given the work to rebuild was complete. Cllr Keane agreed to establish the current situation and report back to the Parish Council in due course.

Neighbourhood Plan

11) Cllr Mann had nothing to report.

School Lane Completion work

12) Cllr Hodgson confirmed a breakdown of the revised financial figures offered for the completion of the MUGA had been received. The solicitor has confirmed that inflation has been added to the proposed figures and that the proposal was that £120,712.54 was the contribution offered. While in principle the Parish Council were happy to accept the sum they were only prepared to do so once the other outstanding matters were resolved.

The Clerk agreed to contact Patrick Hunter at Shentons to establish the current situation and push for this matter to be completed.

Clerks Report

13) The Clerk reported as follows: -

Allotment fees due have been requested and almost all have been received. Currently the price structure includes £15 for a half plot, £25 for a full although there are two plots at £20 each and one at £30. A discussion about the level of fees took place and it was agreed a full review was required. All tenants should sign an agreement, some of these may be held by Will Bailie. The Clerk agreed to contact him and if necessary, ask all tenants to sign a new document. She will also review fees charged by other allotment providers and provide a report at the next meeting.

A letter has been received from TVBC regarding mandatory and discretionary rate relief for the Sports Pavilion. The current relief expires on 31/03/2024. The Clerk agreed to make an application for relief from 1st April 2024.

There are funds remaining from the Warm Hub grant and on the advice of TVBC Cllr James has been in discussion with Broughton School about an application so that these excess funds can be transferred to them.

A request from a contractor to lay cables on Parish Council Land for the electric car charging point has been received. Cllr Keane confirmed this was for the EV charger and he has signed the necessary documents on behalf of the Parish Council.

A plaque for the Pam Dawkins bench has been made and installed by a resident. A letter of thanks will be sent.

Concerns regarding the poor state of the grass areas in Plough Gardens were sent to Aster

Housing who have agreed to ask their contractor to remedy this.

The contractor who maintains the cemetery has increased her rates from £20 per hour to £24. After a brief discussion the parish council agreed the work carried out was always of an excellent standard and given the rise in costs of fuel etc this increase was acceptable.

Footpaths & Grass Maintenance.

14) Cllr Morrison confirmed HCC had sent some proposals regarding improvements to footpaths to be met by S106 funding. He has reviewed these and will be meeting with them to review the proposal and will report back to the Parish Council in due course.

Finance

15) Balances in the bank accounts at 30/04/2023 were noted as: -

TSB Charity account £250954.73

TSB Business Instant £72397.56

United Trust £30,285.00

ii) To approve the following payments and authorise on line transactions: -

H Bournier sal £664.33

H Bournier exp £31.25

HMRC £49.00

HALC £408.21

HCC £478.20

TVBC election fees £24.00

ECOSA survey £1356.00

Business stream water £233.19

Aceliftaway £312.00

Caro Davenport £120.00

James Morrison £11.94

Note that first instalment of the precept has been received as has the grant of £470 toward the cost of installing disabled access at the Village Hall

16) Items to carry forward

S106 footpath improvements

School Lane completion

Review of cemetery fees

Review of allotment tenancy agreements and fees

HCC highways meeting regarding flooding

17) Correspondence

The Clerk confirmed she had received:

An email regarding unpassable footpaths

Brochure regarding street furniture

Clerks & Councils direct magazine

New items for next meeting

18)

Community news

19) Cllr McAllister reported that on exiting School Lane on to Salisbury Road it was very difficult to see because of overgrown verges. The Clerk will report these.

Date of next meeting

20) 7.30 pm on Tuesday June 6th - apologies Brian

Appendix 1

Primary school place offers confirmed by Hampshire County Council

Parents in Hampshire who applied on time for a school place for children starting school in September 2023 – either in Reception Year or in Year 3 in a junior school – have been sent the outcome.

The County Council has processed more than 21,000 applications (21,193) for children to start school in Reception Year (Year R) and to move from infant to their first year of junior education (Year 3).

Over 98 per cent (98.77 per cent) of parents have been offered a reception year place for their child in one of their three preferred choice schools, with more than 93 per cent (93.02 per cent) allocated a place at their first choice of school.

Of pupils transferring from infant school to junior school (Year 3), more than 99 per cent (99.29 per cent) received a place at one of their three choices, and over 97 per cent (97.88 per cent) obtained a place at their first choice of school.

Pupils who did not secure a place at one of their preferred schools have been allocated a place at their catchment school or the next nearest school with a place available. In these cases, the County Council has advised parents, in their notification about the right to appeal and the arrangements for their preferred school's waiting list. Places can become available via the waiting list for various reasons including parents changing their mind, or families moving home.

<https://www.hants.gov.uk/News/20230417primaryofferday>

Highways Information - Road repairs, elections and a general pothole update.

With the elections coming I am seeing lots of social media posts about road repairs, quite a few saying "Good to see repairs being undertaken in X or Y" and also quite a few saying "They're only fixing the roads because an election is coming."

As you know as your County Councillor, I have to accept responsibility for all the potholes. ☺ And whilst it's nice to see credit being given for more repairs being undertaken it is unfair to say this is linked to the elections.

You may have noticed the weather has improved. Less rain and higher road temperature.

This means Hampshire Highways can do more in terms of patching and fixing.

From December to February the number of reports of potholes exceeded the number of repairs each week. Since then the trend has reversed and in the last three weeks considerably thanks to extra resources - both money (from HCC's budget and the £6 million given to us for pothole repairs in the budget) and staff (as we have been able to stand down those on gritter duty for example).

There remains much to do of course, and I suspect the comments to this note will fill with "but you've not fixed the dreadful pothole at X or Y". As you might imagine there needs to be a hierarchy for deciding priority.

We are prioritising repairs where there is a genuine safety concern above everything else (the arbiters of whether a safety concern is 'genuine' are our highway engineers who assess them).

We then look to repair those with the greatest impact on traffic and road safety, so on 'A' roads and main routes, then minor routes and finally residential streets and side roads. It is of course generally much easier to avoid a road problem on a quiet side street or lane than on a busier route.

Finally, do please continue to report any road issues you come across. If they are already reported, not fixed yet, but getting worse then do update your report to say so or report them again.

You can find all the reporting tiles to do so here:-

<https://www.hants.gov.uk/transport/roadmaintenance>

Thanks so much for bearing with us. It's been the worst possible winter for road damage and there remains a huge amount still to do.

That's all I'm afraid for this month – the elections curtail anything that might be seen to influence the voting. Hopefully more subjects and information next month.

Cllr [David Drew](#)

[Test Valley Central Division, HCC](#)