

Brampton and Oxnead Parish Council

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held in the Village Hall, The Street, Brampton
on Wednesday 11th May 2016 at 7.43 pm

Present

Councillors:

Stuart Wilson (Chairman), Mark Little, Margaret Whiley,
Trevor Whiteman, Laura Humphrey, Gary Bean

Also in attendance:

Barbara Rix: District Councillor David Harrison: County Councillor

PC Greig Shepherd PC John McPrior

Margaret Claridge: Clerk to the Council

2016/01 Election of Chairman

The Clerk opened the meeting and asked for proposals for the Chairman. Mark Little proposed Stuart Wilson, seconded by Trevor Whiteman. Stuart Wilson took the Chair.

2016/02 Apologies

No apologies were received

2016/03 Declarations of Interest

No declarations of interest were received

2016/04 Election of Vice-Chairman

Mark Little was proposed by Maggie Whiley to be Vice-Chairman

2016/05 Minutes

Minutes of the meeting held on March 23rd 2016 were circulated, agreed and signed by the Chairman as a true record.

2016/06 Matters arising from the minutes

There were none.

2016/07 Reports

Were received from the following:

Police –PC Greig Shepherd reported that he had only one crime to report in Brampton of domestic abuse. He reported that only himself and one PCSO would remain as Community Police officers at the Aylsham Constabulary. He thanked the Councillors for their support. The issue of traffic was brought up and it was mentioned that there has been an increase in noisy motor cyclists racing through the village and this was a cause for concern. PC Shepherd reported that the camera safety team working in neighbouring Buxton had caught over 2000 speeding motorists in the village over the last year.

It was mentioned that there is an increasing amount of horse traffic through Brampton. PC Shepherd was asked to pass on our thanks and best wishes to PCSO Brian Levy who was leaving the Aylsham Constabulary.

County Councillor – David Harrison reported the £33million of works to County Hall were now completed and looking very good. The asbestos has been removed from the building. Devolution in East Anglia is the big subject at the County and District at

present. This aims to link Cambridgeshire, Peterborough Norfolk and Suffolk. Cambridge have said 'no' to the proposal and David says that nobody really wants this extra tier of local government but that it can only be opposed by the Secretary of State. George Nobbs is no longer Leader of the Council following the Green Party leaving the Rainbow Alliance.

District Council – Cllr Barbara Rix reported that it has been a very dull year at Broadland DC with 47 new councillors all trying to find their feet in their new roles. Broadland DC did not increase our part of the Council tax. They need to have £2 million in reserves to cover unexpected expenditure, and because of all the cut backs these reserves are being eaten into.

On April 15th a new Chairman was elected at Broadland and a Civic reception for him was held at Lingwood.

Questions were asked to the County and District Councillors regarding the disruption to motorists with the ongoing construction of the Northern Distributor Road. Cllr Harrison reported that the County Council website is constantly being updated to show where disruption is likely to be, and he said that the A140 is likely to become very congested with the building of a new roundabout at Aylsham, and would best avoided if drivers can find alternative routes. The new road is due to be finished in 2018.

2016/08 Public participation

It was agreed to adjourn the meeting to take comments from members of the public and Councillors. There were no comments.

2016/09 Appointment of Auditor

It was agreed that Ros Calvert should be appointed as our Internal Auditor for a fee of £40.00

2016/10 Telephone Box

It was agreed that we should make the application for funding for the defibrillator and that the Clerk should make contact with the North Walsham Young Farmers again to discuss painting.

2016/11 Planning

Whilst no planning applications had been received Cllr Rix mentioned that there was an application coming in for Brampton Hall and another is expected for The Old Forge on Marsham Road.

It was commented that there is a problem with lorry sized horse boxes coming through the village as SAT NAVS are sending them the wrong way.

2016/12 Highway and Footpath Matters

BNCT is seeking to apply for Tesco bags for Life Funding in order to replace the stiles on the footpath between Burgh and Buxton Mills. This is based on the e mail that was sent out by Cllr Little who had suggested the Parish Council organise this, but as a statutory body the PC is not eligible to fund raise, so the project has come under the wing of BNCT.

Now that cows have been put back on the Oxnead to Buxton Mill meadow from the owner has removed the plastic tree guards and canes on the planting that was put in by the Norfolk Rivers Trust. This is to avoid injury to the cows who might try eating them.

Cllr Little informed us that he had notified BDC about the dangerous rotten steps that

lead down from Brampton Station to Marsham Road. **It was agreed** that the Clerk is to mention this to Barbara Rix so that she can keep an eye on progress to ensure these get fixed.

2016/13 Correspondence

- a) General: there was nothing to report
- b) BVR: The Clerks letter to the BVR and their subsequent reply was read out regarding the 'Slash and Burn' approach the BVR had used on the vegetation on the Brampton stretch of the railway line. Cllr Little was highly concerned about the 36 trees that have been cut down and roughly half an acre of blackthorn scrub that has been removed along a 500 metre section of the line adjacent to Brampton village. His objections are that this is not a balanced approach as it has removed an enormous amount of wildlife habitat. The vegetation was removed during March-April 2016 and if a farmer removed this much he would receive an order from DEFRA, as anything more than 20 metres requires a permit. He said that whilst the BVR are clearing the vegetation from the embankments in order to create a view across open countryside for the railway passengers, they are creating an eyesore for the residents of Brampton. Cllr Little has asked for a copy of the lease from BDC through the Freedom of Information Act. **It was agreed** that the Chairman and Vice Chairman are to draft a letter to be sent by the Clerk to Andrew Barnes at BVR.

2016/14 Financial Matters

1. The Annual Accounts and reserves were signed and approved
2. The accounting statements were approved and the Annual Governance Statement for 2015/16 was completed and signed
3. The bank reconciliation was approved and signed
4. It was agreed to approve the following payments:
 - £40.00 to Ros Calvert Internal re Audit Fee (Ch No 100391)
 - £65.00 to SLCC re Annual Subscription (Ch No 100392)
 - £86.09 to NALC re Annual Subscription (Ch No 100393)
 - £356.18 to M Claridge re Wages and Expenses (Ch No 100394)
 - £164.25 to Came & Company re Annual Insurance (Ch No 100395)

2016/15 Late Correspondence and receive reports from Councillors

It was agreed that the subject of the BVR should be put as an agenda item under Highways and Footpaths at the next meeting. Also the title of 'Projects' should be given to Item 10 to cover the Telephone Box and the Notice Board for the Village hall, which is in desperate need of being replaced.

Also Co-option should be a separate item in order to get a seventh Councillor for Brampton.

It was suggested that each household in Brampton and Oxnead should receive a Village Newsletter to include information about the road closure etc. This is to be a printed A4 sheet.

2016/16 Closure of the meeting

The next meeting is to take place on Wednesday July 13th 2016. There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.15pm.

Approved

Date

DRAFT