

Brampton and Oxnead Parish Council

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held in the Village Hall, The Street, Brampton
on Wednesday 12th July 2017 at 7.30 pm

Present

Councillors:

Mark Little (ML) (Chairman), Maggie Whiley (MW), Trevor Whiteman (TW), Jon Sawyer-Stone (JSS) (Vice Chairman), Gary Bean (GB), Laura Woods (LW) and Jo Buchanan (JB)

Also in attendance:

Barbara Rix (District Councillor),

David Harrison (County Councillor)

Maggie Claridge, Clerk to the Council

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the Parish Council meeting and went straight to the item regarding Neighbourhood Planning.

2017/21 Neighbourhood Planning

Richard Squires from Broadland District Council gave the Parish Council an overview of how to prepare a Neighbourhood Plan. He advised Council that it should be seen as being part of a bigger picture and told the Council about available funding and how to apply for it as well as informing us about what help is available in order to prepare one.

Richard explained that it can be a lengthy process, often taking between two and five years to achieve and that the Parish Council would need to engage the community in order to prepare a Neighbourhood Plan. He explained that the process can get quite technical and complicated in order to achieve the correct wording in the document. Whilst he is not a planner himself his experience from others is that writing watertight Planning Policies is difficult, but that the end result is about achieving a balanced approach. The Neighbourhood Plan is essentially a mini local plan that is produced by the Parish, and if approved following a referendum where parishioners are all asked if this plan is what they want to see in their village, it becomes part of the Local Development Plan adopted by BDC, so it is a highly important document.

It can be site specific identifying areas of land for specific wishes and needs of the community, but it is essentially a tool used to identify where new housing can be

built, and the incentive to Parishes is that those with a Neighbourhood Plan will receive 25% of the CIL tax for each new house, instead of 15% for Parishes without a Neighbourhood Plan. Equally it identifies areas of land that need or have special preservation status, or where additional recreational spaces are required by local residents.

The process can be used across the board in both urban and rural areas, and an example that Richard used as a comparison was Strumpshaw, a village 3 times the size of ours with a population of approximately 600 residents. He explained how they came to produce a Neighbourhood Plan and like Brampton and Oxnead, they had no housing allocation identified in their village but wanted a new Parish Hall and used the process to achieve their goal. They identified several suitable sites and a local landowner came up with an option whereby he would build a Parish Hall on part of his land if he could get approval for a small housing development of 10 houses. Support for the scheme went ahead.

Richards advise to the Parish Council is that it needs to think carefully about what the advantages of having a Neighbourhood Plan for the Parishes of Brampton and Oxnead would be.

The Chairman thanked Richard for his time and proceeded with the Parish Council agenda for the evening.

2017/22 Apologies

No apologies were received

2017/23 Declarations of Interest – there were none

2017/24 Co-Option - Mrs Jo Buchanan was co-opted onto the Parish Council as a Councillor and was warmly welcomed by all.

2017/25 Minutes

Minutes of the meeting held on 10th May 2017 were circulated, agreed and signed by the Chairman as a true record

2017/26 Matters Arising from the Minutes

There were none

2017/27 Reports

Cllr's Barbara Rix gave her report on the meetings she had attended at Broadland District Council which included a full Council meeting on 11th May, a Planning meeting on 14th June and an Audit training meeting on 22nd June where only two Councillors turned up. At the Audit meeting that followed on 29th June it was

necessary for Jill Penn to take time to train those present because so few had bothered to attend the previous training meeting. On July 12th Councillor Rix attended a Planning meeting.

Cllr David Harrison gave us a summary of the meetings he had attended at Norfolk County Council although with the recent two elections not much had been happening. Cllr Harrison did report that more huge cuts have to be made but the question is being asked about where those cuts be made and what is there left to cut other than the bare bones. Cllr Harrison reported that he finds it all very disturbing.

He reported that the NDR is funded by the government on the stretch from the A47 to the airport but that the rest is being funded by the CIL levy but that relies on the houses being built to fund the road that is to serve them, hence the delays. The County had to fund a new radar system for the airport because the original airport radar system identified all cars using the NDR as aeroplanes.

Cllr Jon Sawyer-Stone gave us his latest police report saying that we have had only one crime in Brampton and Oxnead and that was a minor offence.

2017/28 Public Participation

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

2017/29 Planning

There were no Planning Applications to consider

2017/30 Finance

- **It was agreed** to approve the following payments:
£101.62 to NORSE (Ch NO 100427)
£60.00 to Brampton Village hall Management Committee (Ch No 100428)
£401.44 to M. Claridge (Ch No 100429)

2017/31 Correspondence

The Clerk had received a letter from the family of the late William Spinks, asking if the Parish Council would be happy if they installed a seat close to the bus shelter in memory of William. Following a consultation with the Chairman it was agreed that the Spinks family would donate £250 towards the cost of refurbishing the existing seat in the bus shelter. Some of the money would also go towards tidying up the bus shelter structure, which is also in need of attention. The Councillors were all in agreement with this decision.

The Clerk read out an e mail received from Janice Langley, a heritage research volunteer with the Forum in Norwich, who is currently researching Norfolk Women in the First World War. She wanted to know if there were any people in the district whose ancestors were involved in the women's land workers, prior to the formation

of the Women's Land Army. **It was agreed** that the Clerk contact the family of Burrell Hammond who farmed Hall Farm during the first World War.

2017/32 Highways and Footpaths

The Clerk updated Council on the Parish Partnership Scheme that is available to help with funding the upgrading of the passing places on the roads into Brampton and Oxnead. Chris Mayes, Highway Engineer has forwarded information about the scheme and advised that applications for funding need to be in before Dec 2017. **It was agreed** that the Clerk is to proceed with this process in order to get the passing places surfaced and sign posted formally as Passing Places.

It was agreed that the Clerk is to contact Chris Mayes regarding the cutting back of the vegetation on the three junctions out of Brampton onto the Buxton/Aylsham road. The Chairman stated that these three junctions should be inspected regularly during the summer months and that the vegetation is cut back regularly when needed. These junctions are all dangerous but Marsham Rd is particularly dangerous followed by Back Lane and then the Buxton Road exit. The Clerk is to report that the sign on Back Lane needs to be replaced.

2017/33 Projects: Telephone Kiosk

The YFC have done an excellent job on stripping off the paint on the telephone kiosk and whilst we know they are very keen to finish the painting, **it was agreed** that a volunteer work party should be organised amongst Councillors and other interested people (maximum of four people at any one time) to get the kiosk sanded and the grey undercoat put on to seal the metal work against further rusting. Once the undercoat is on the YFC members can be advised that the kiosk is ready for its final top red coat. (ML to organise working party on the last weekend in July)

2017/34 Late Correspondence and Reports from Councillors

Following the presentation from Richard Squires, the Chairman asked all the Councillors to go away and think about how they would like to proceed with the proposal to work up a Neighbourhood Plan. Whilst it is a daunting prospect to go through the process of preparing the Neighbourhood Plan, he thinks it would be a good process for Brampton and Oxnead.

2017/35 Closure of the Meeting and refer as appropriate to next meeting

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 8.59 pm. The next meeting will be held on September 13th 2017 at 7.30pm.

Approved

Date