

Brampton and Oxnead Parish Council

Minutes of the Meeting held in the Village Hall, The Street, Brampton
on Wednesday 14th September 2016 at 7.30 pm

Present

Councillors: Stuart Wilson (Chairman), Mark Little, Margaret Whiley and Laura Woods,
Jon Sawyer-Stone

Also in attendance:

Barbara Rix, David Harrison

Margaret Claridge: Clerk to the Council

Notes of meeting

The meeting began at 7.30pm but was not quorate until 9.05pm when Cllr Laura Woods (nee Humphreys) arrived following a late shift at the N&N Hospital so the following items were discussed before being agreed after her arrival.

The Chairman informed us of the sad passing on the morning of the 14th September of William (Willy) Spinks. The Chairman is to send a letter of condolence on behalf of the Parish Council to Mrs Spinks and her family.

2016/38 Apologies

Apologies were received from Trevor Whiteman and Gary Bean

2016/39 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest

2016/40 Minutes

Minutes of the meetings held on 13th July were circulated agreed and signed by the Chairman as a true record.

2016/41 Matters arising from the minutes

An update was received on the Marsham Rd flooding that occurred on the 23rd June. The Chairman had facilitated a meeting between the residents affected and Mr Tim Briscoe who agreed to do some work on the field behind the properties. The works can only be carried out once the sugar beet crop has been harvested. It is generally understood that flooding may occur again in the future but it was discussed that the Parish Council should look into the purchase of sandbags to protect the properties in the future.

2016/42 Co-option

Jon Sawyer-Stone was co-opted as a Councillor onto the Parish Council.

2016/43 Reports

County Councillor David Harrison updated us on the Devolution issue which is still ongoing in the County. Cllr Harrison cannot see the point of it but the decision date is Nov 4th. It will provide another layer of Government with a Mayor elected by Suffolk CC.

Cllr Harrison informed us that school Ofsted reports are all good, as is Adult Education.

The Ex Chief Executive of NCC has now been let go with a £200,000 pay off, but he informed us that there are no perks for being a County Councillor these days, not even free coffee!

District Councillor Barbara Rix reported that the engineering works on the NDR are going well but that there is a £6million short fall in cash available for the works.

Cllr Rix agreed with Cllr Harrison on the devolution issue and said that 'localism' was a way of Government getting out of things. She felt sorry for Breckland DC who have been disenfranchised because they refused to vote on devolution.

With regard to the Audit on July 28th, Jill Penn the Chief Finance Officer at BDC stated "We are sailing in uncertain waters, but as long as the Government don't change the goal posts we will be ok".

There was no Police report from PC Greig Shepherd, however Cllr Rix had recently attended a SNAP meeting with him, and she informed us that PC Shepherd would like more people from the housing associations to attend the meetings. Now that there are far fewer community policemen than before, communication is more important than ever and the SNAP meetings allow PC Shepherd to meet the people who are aware of the crime issues in their areas.

2016/44 Public Participation

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

2016/45 Paston Heritage Society

The Clerk read out a report of the Volunteer Workshop held at the UEA to discuss the Paston Footprints events to be held to celebrate the 600th Anniversary of the writing of the first of the Paston Letters, and to bring to the attention of the public the life of this important Norfolk family.

The Workshop was attended by approximately 40 people including Cllr Barbara Rix and Cllr Mark Little and the Clerk. It outlined the ideas being currently developed such as the use of 3D imaging accessible by mobile phones and iPads showing what the Paston houses (including Oxnead Hall) might have looked like when the Paston family lived there.

Cllr Little commented on how the event could be used as a catalyst to form a Local History Society in Brampton. He stated that as everyone is interested in Local history this would be a perfect time and opportunity to start such a group. He had made contact with Veronica Savage, the Tourism Officer at BDC who has sent through some papers to help get this under way.

Cllr Little's proposal is that the Local History Society is born out of the Parish Council who should move this idea forward. Further updates on this proposal as well as the Paston Footprints project will be made at the next Parish Council meeting.

2016/46 Traffic issues related to Oxnead Garden Open Day Sunday Aug 21st

Mr and Mrs Aspinall, the owners of Oxnead Hall were completely overwhelmed by the amount of visitors to their NGS Garden Open Day on Sunday 21st August. The Chairman was informed shortly after the event that traffic on the roads within and around Brampton had been brought to a standstill. Cars were left abandoned in the village as visitors made their way on foot to the event.

Following discussions with Mr and Mrs Aspinall, for future Open Days they will look into alternative ways for visitors to arrive, including the idea of having a 'time allocated' entrance.

2016/47 Planning Applications

It was agreed that the Clerk is to make an informal enquiry to BDC regarding the legalities surrounding static caravans on private land. After a general enquiry to the Chairman the Clerk is to make enquiries as to what is permitted and what requires planning permission.

2016/48 Financial Matters

- 1 The Bank reconciliation was agreed and signed
- 2 It was agreed to approve the following payments:
£35.00 to ICO Subscription renewal (Ch No 100399)
£33.60 to Parish Online Subscription renewal (Ch No 100400)
£25.20 to URM Berryman's re Glass Collection (Ch No 100401)
£35.00 to NPTP re Clerks Training (Ch No 100402)
£200 to Brampton PCC Grant re Grass Cutting (Ch No 100402)
£369.43 to M Claridge Wages and Expenses (Ch No 100404)

2016/49 Correspondence

Parish Partnership- The Clerk had previously circulated an e mail to Councillors regarding Parish Partnership funding at the previous meeting but due to the bulk of items to be discussed at this meeting, had not been able to take this matter further. **It was agreed** that the Clerk is to find out more about this funding as the villages could benefit. Ideas for what to spend the money on included the creation of a 'Village Gateway'

2016/50 Highways and Footpath Matters

1. Traffic Closure on Marsham Rd due to upgrade works for 'Better broadband' to Brampton

Residents have been informed of the Road closure of part of Marsham Rd from the telephone kiosk to the bus shelter (and BT cabinet) to enable the 'Better Broadband' works to be carried out. The road will be closed to through traffic from September 20th 2016 to 3rd October 2016. There will be access to houses in the area affected but not to through traffic. Concerns were raised regarding traffic confusion from the Aylsham to Buxton Rd, and the need for a sign regarding the road closure to be installed at the top end of Marsham Rd.

2. Back Lane Flints and Overgrown hedge

Following a complaint from a resident of damage to his tyres from flints on the edge of Back Lane, the Chairman and the Clerk had attended a site meeting on Back Lane with Chris Mayes. He agreed to get the flints removed and to ask the resident of The White House to cut back their hedge to the boundary of the road in order that vehicles have more room to drive on Back Lane (a single carriage road). Some initial works to cut back the hedge have been carried out but more needs to be done.

The Clerk is to inform Chris Mayes to get the grass verges cut on the junction of Back Lane with the Aylsham Rd.

3. BVR

The Clerk had been in contact with Mr Barnes at BVR regarding the cutting back of trees on the railway line. Mr Barnes had informed the Clerk that he would not be attending a meeting but two other directors of BVR would be happy to meet representatives from the Parish Council. **It was agreed** that the Clerk is to contact BVR to agree a convenient date and time for a weekday, evening meeting.

4. Oxnead Bridge Railings & FP 12

In an e mail contact with the Clerk, Chris Mayes said that the painting of the white

railings on Oxnead Bridge will be carried out when a team is available. The work required to FP 12 has now been passed to the Environment Agency who have the equipment required to carry out this work from the river. The Clerk will continue to remind Chris Mayes about this issue, or alternatively get the contact details of the Env Agency.

5. Village Sign

The Chairman informed the Parish Council that Mr Huish had kindly repainted the village sign, and that it is now looking very smart again.

6. Accidents on the Aylsham to Buxton Road

The Chairman informed us that there had been another traffic accident on the Aylsham to Buxton Rd. He proposed that the Clerk should look into setting up a system of recording all accidents as not all are recorded by the Police.

7. Large vehicles travelling through the village

It was reported that two large vehicles (horseboxes) had been seen coming through Brampton village on their way from events at Hall Farm. It is understood that the Briscoe's are prepared to put up more signage directing traffic away from the village.

2016/51 Projects

• Defibrillator in the Former Phone Box-

The Clerk has made contact with the new Chairman of N Walsham YFC who has promised to get a group of Young farmers to help out with stripping off the old paint on the telephone box and with the repainting of the box. This will take place one weekend at the end of October when the young farmers are less busy with their farming work. **It was agreed** and approved that the Clerk is to purchase the necessary equipment from local builder's merchants up to the value of £100.00 to include sanding blocks and sandpaper, masks and gloves. **It was agreed** that the Clerk is to research official BS paint colours for the paint required.

• Notice board:

It was agreed that the Clerk is to purchase a new notice board for the Village hall at a cost of £263. It will match the existing one on the Bus Shelter but will take 8xA4 documents, so will be twice as large.

2016/51 Late Correspondence

Oxnead Hall: Wedding Noticeboards stolen from highway verge positions

Mrs Aspinall had contacted the Chairman to inform him that most of their Notice Boards directing guests to Oxnead Hall had disappeared on the evening of Saturday 11th September. It was agreed that Oxnead Hall should inform the police of this theft.

2016/52 Closure of the meeting

The next meeting is to take place on Wednesday November 9th 2016. There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.30pm.

Approved

Date