

# Brampton and Oxnead Parish Council

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held in the Village Hall, The Street, Brampton  
on Wednesday 8th November 2017 at 7.30 pm

## **Present**

Councillors:

Jon Sawyer-Stone (JSS) (Vice Chairman), Maggie Whiley (MW) and Trevor  
Whiteman(TW)

Also in attendance:

Barbara Rix (District Councillor)

Maggie Claridge, Clerk to the Council

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## **2017/50 Apologies**

Apologies were received from Cllr's Mark Little, Gary Bean and David Harrison. Cllr's  
Jo Buchanan and Laura Wood's did not attend.

## **2017/51 Declarations of Interest – there were none**

## **2017/52 Minutes**

Minutes of the meeting held on 13<sup>th</sup> September 2017 were circulated, agreed and  
signed by the Vice Chairman as a true record

## **2017/53 Matters Arising from the Minutes**

Footpath 12: The Clerk was unsure of what sections of the Footpath 12 needed cutting  
on the Commons in order to request a quote from Norse, so this has been delayed.  
(See item 2017/59 Highways and Footpaths)

## **2017/54 Reports**

County Cllr David Harrison was not present at the meeting but had contacted the Clerk  
on the day of the meeting to advise her of £2000 that is available for highways projects  
in his Cllr fund.

Cllr Rix updated the Parish Council on the many meetings she had attended at  
Broadland District Council. With all the funding issues South Norfolk DC and Broadland  
DC are to amalgamate services, and whilst she thinks this is a good idea to join forces,  
BDC has some excellent staff and it would be sad to see the smaller BDC swamped by  
a larger District Council. Cllrs David Harrison and Steve Riley are both on the  
amalgamation committee. She told us that BDC had considered amalgamating services  
with North Norfolk but their recycling record is far less good than BDC's.

Cllr Rix advised us about a funding opportunity for Environmental Excellence and  
suggested that this might be a good fund to go for in order to get the stiles replaced  
on the Buxton to Oxnead riverside meadow's walk.

Cllr Rix informed us about an Enhancement Awards event that she had attended. Oxnead Hall had won the first prize.

Cllr Rix updated us on a full council meeting where Superintendent Chris Harvey had told Council that types of crime have changed significantly over the last 5-10 year. The PCSO's have now all gone but 80 of them will be promoted to full Police Officers and their role is now improved as they all have cameras on them.

### **2017/55 Public Participation**

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

### **2017/56 Planning**

There were no Planning Applications to consider. The Clerk had heard from the planning authority at Broadland District Council regarding caravans at Low Farm and the case has been closed.

### **2017/57 Finance**

- **It was agreed** to approve the following payments:  
£378.99 to M Claridge (Ch NO 100435)

### **2017/58 Correspondence**

In the absence of the Chairman the on-going discussions about a memorial with the family of the late William Spinks was not discussed. This will be carried forward to the next meeting.

### **2017/59 Highways and Footpaths**

The Clerk reported back from her site meeting with Chris Mayes on November 2<sup>nd</sup>. Chris Mayes had forwarded a costing of £7,800 to the Clerk for the resurfacing of two passing places on the road from Brampton to Buxton before the railway bridge. In his quote he stated that if the scheme comes in lower than this sum the Parish would be refunded its share of any remaining funds. It was decided that the passing place at Oxnead Bridge was used more as a parking place for walkers so was inappropriate at this stage to resurface as a passing place. **It was agreed** that the Clerk would progress with the Parish Partnership Scheme application in order to obtain the 50% funding for the scheme. Together with the proposed funding of £2000 promised from Cllr Harrison the Parish Council would only need to pay £1,900 towards the cost of the scheme. The Clerk is to contact Chris Mayes to ask if the quote covers two 'Passing Place' signs.

During her site meeting the issue of more regular vegetation cutting at the three junctions into Brampton from the Aylsham Rd was discussed with Chris Mayes. He said that there is money for two cuts per year, the first in late April/early May and the second in July. If there is a serious problem they can send a man with a strimmer to cut back, so he recommended it is best to keep in touch with Highways and report any problems.

A discussion took place regarding the installation of village gateway signs to encourage vehicles to slow down when entering Brampton village. It was decided to tackle this issue at the next meeting, as it was not certain exactly where the best position for a village gateway sign was. With the current lack of a speed restriction through the village, both the Marsham Rd and the Buxton Rd need to have a method of slowing traffic down.

Footpath 12: The Clerk was unsure of what sections of the footpath 12 needed cutting on the Commons in order to request a quote from Norse. The clerk walked FP 12 in mid- November to ascertain the severity of the problem of the long grass overhanging the path. Her conclusion is that it is a challenging walk especially during damp weather. There is a narrow, trodden pathway which is difficult to walk when the grass etc on either side gets overgrown particularly in the summer. This is a long stretch of footpath and more clarity is required as to how and where cutting is most necessary. This issue will be put on the next agenda for further discussion.

At the previous meeting Cllr Bean mentioned that he has been asked to replace the stiles on the Oxnead to Buxton footpath with kissing gates, as most of the stiles are too difficult for some walkers to use comfortably. Cllr Rix has identified a possible community interest funding source called 'Environmental Excellence' and the clerk will investigate this further to see if it is suitable.

#### **2017/60 Projects: Telephone Kiosk**

The Clerk read out a message received from Broadland DC that Tesco Bags of Help funding in Aylsham and Drayton are currently low on applications. **It was agreed** that Cllr Jon Sawyer Stone would assist the Clerk in applying for funding to get the painting of the telephone kiosk finished.

#### **2017/61 Late Correspondence and Reports from Councillors**

Cllr Little was unable to attend the meeting but had sent a message to the Clerk asking for the following items to be considered:

- 1) Railway footpath down to the east side of the Buxton Bridge which looks a bit dangerous with the drop visible.
- 2) Steps and stiles worn on the steps from railway to Mermaid River
- 3) Tree felling near Buxton station by the BVR
- 4) Parishioner enquiry as to whether we know in advance when the street sweeper is coming through. It has to go around cars in Upper Brampton and is spreading stones from a drive as a result. Do we get any notification?

The Clerk will deal with these issues by contacting Buxton Parish Council and highways team.

Cllr Bean was also unable to attend but had sent in a report from the Env Agency meeting he had attended at Burgh reading room regarding the cutting of the reeds in the River Bure. In summary there is only one boat to carry out all the cutting on the Bure and the Wensum so they are very understaffed.

The assets register still needs to be revised. The Chairman will assist the Clerk in revising the register.

**It was agreed** that the Clerk could attend the Data Protection training at Costessey on Monday 20<sup>th</sup> November. Cllr Whiteman said that he would also like to attend but the date was unsuitable for him.

**2017/62 Closure of the Meeting and refer as appropriate to next meeting**

There being no further business the Vice Chairman closed the meeting at 8.50 pm. The next meeting will be held on January 10th 2018 at 7.30pm.

Approved

Date

DRAFT