

Brampton and Oxnead Parish Council

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held in the Village Hall, The Street, Brampton
On Wednesday 8th January 2020 at 7.30 pm

Present

Councillors:

Mark Little (ML) (Chairman), Jon Sawyer-Stone, (JS-S) Maggie Whiley (MW), Gary Bean (GB), Trevor Whiteman (TW),

Also in attendance:

Karen Lawrence (District Councillor), David Harrison (County Councillor) Maggie Claridge (Clerk to the Council)

2019/61 Apologies – There were no apologies for absence. There are still 2 vacancies on the Parish Council for Councillors and these will be advertised on the noticeboards and in The Round

2019/62 Declarations of Interest – There were no declarations of interest

2019/63 Minutes - Minutes of the meeting held on 13th November 2019 were circulated, agreed and signed by the Chairman as a true record

2019/64 Matters Arising from the Minutes – There were none

2019/65 Reports- District Cllr Karen Lawrence reported that Broadland DC have taken on the responsibility for the Bure Valley Railway (BVR). Several ash trees have recently been felled where they are deemed to be a danger to pedestrians using the footpath and other users of the BVR footpath. When Cllr Lawrence asked BDC if there was a Management Plan for the works she was informed that the documents are not yet available. Annie Sommazzi is the officer at BDC working with tree officers at NCC to organise the tree felling work. Cllr Lawrence said that as Brampton has a significant section of BVR within its area, if the PC want to make any suggestions about the work, she is happy to facilitate a meeting with Annie. The works are being funded through an NCC Inter Eg Project using EU money, but ultimate the responsibility of the BVR lies with BDC.

District Councillor David Harrison commented that the County are now looking after the footpaths along the BVR, which play a prominent and important role in the allocation of green spaces in the Green Infrastructure Plan.

Cllr Harrison said there is a 3.99% rise in Council Tax. Money has been ring fenced for Social services but the cuts to disabled people has not been reinstated.

The Norwich castle building has received a grant of £8million to restore it to its original Norman plan. This will be an interesting and unique project.

Cllr Sawyer Stone said that there will be a SNAP meeting on Thursday 9th January which both he and Cllr Harrison will attend. In his Crime report, Cllr S-S said that there were 6 crimes recorded in October and 2 crimes in November. Cllr S-S has not found a single crime that has been cleared up in the last 5 years.

2019/66 Public Participation- there were no members of the public.

2019/67 Planning –there were no new planning applications received. The Lime Kiln Farm application was refused.

2019/68 Finance- The Bank Reconciliation was approved

It was agreed to approve the following payments:

£504.36 to M Claridge

£48.00 to NPTS

£60.00 to Brampton Village Hall Management Committee

Parish Precept-It was agreed that the Parish Precept would be set at £4,500. This is a 12% increase.

Budget – The PC discussed the Budget document and it was agreed that the final figures will be approved at the next PC meeting in March.

2019/69 Clerks report from Training Seminar-

The Clerk read out her report from a training seminar she attended with NPTS on Nov 20th 2019.

2019/70 Lack of Speed Limit through Village and Gateway Element

The cost of having the study to assess if the speed limit through Brampton can be set at 30mph would be in the region of £5,000 and the study is no guarantee that the village will get the speed limit. It was agreed that there are softer ways of getting people to slow down, such as the painted white lines on the road which have already helped, as have the amount of cars parked outside the Old Pub. Being a single lane road, cars are known to speed up in an attempt to get down Marsham Rd before meeting another vehicle. Because of this it was suggested that a formal passing place would ease the situation.

It was agreed that although the Parish Partnership money is in place for the Gateway Features to control speeding down Back Lane and Marsham Rd, the decision was made that the funds could be better used in other ways in the village.

2019/71 Update of Assets List

The updated Assets list was approved and it was agreed that the Clerk would inform the Insurance Company when it comes up for renewal.

2019/72 Correspondence- A series of e mails have been received from a member of the public regarding the Village Hall Management Committee asking who the Trustees are. A reply has been sent stating that in the absence of a Village Hall Management Committee the Parish Council are Custodian trustees. While the Village Club is still active the management Committee is not. This subject will be put on the Agenda for the next Annual Parish meeting in May, in the hope that new trustees will come forward.

2019/73 Village Hall Hire Fee-

It was agreed that the Parish Council rental hire for the Village Hall will be raised to £12.50 per hour.

2019/73 Highways and Footpaths-

Dead and diseased ash trees have been marked for coppicing or removal on the BVR footpath near the Mermaid. Whilst they will not automatically be replaced the coppiced live ash trees

will regenerate. Any replanting should include habitat rich native shrubs such as blackthorn. This would be a good project for community involvement. Further information regarding the coppicing of the BVR ash trees is to be found above in 2019/65 under Cllr Lawrences report.

As the Streetscene Inspectors are due to pay one of their regular visits in February **it was agreed** that the Clerk will again contact the Highway Engineer Ben Rayner to inform them about thee potholes on The Street, by the hedgerow opposite the Barns, and the large pothole at the top of Marsham Rd, at the junction with the main road to Aylsham. The Clerk is also to mention the filthy state of the roads, due to the sugar beet lorries, and ask that they are cleaned. The Chairman advised the Parish Councillors to use the 'Mend my Street' website of any highway issues. It was agreed that the Chairman and Vice Chairman will do street walk 'Pothole Search' and inform the Clerk of a positions and sizes of large potholes which need to be filled.

2019/74 Projects

Kiosk: The Vice Chairman informed Council that £1,309.89 has been raised for the defibrillator and case and these have now been purchased. It was agreed that we should raise funds for a second defibrillator to be positioned outside the Village Hall. A specific bank account has been opened for this fund. The Parish Council agreed to match fund the cost of purchase of the second defibrillator and case. These items are to be added onto the assets list and the insurance policy.

2019/75 Late Correspondence and Agenda items for the next meeting- there were none.

2019/76 Closure of Meeting and refer as appropriate to next meeting: There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 9.22pm. The next meeting will be held on May 12th at 7.30pm.

Approved

Date