

# Brampton and Oxnead Parish Council

## Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council

Wednesday November 9th 2022

Held in the Village Hall

### Present

Councillors:

Mark Little (ML) Chair

Gary Bean (GB)

Trevor Whiteman (TW)

Karen Lawrence (KL) (District Councillor)

### Also in attendance:

Maggie Claridge

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**2022/36 Apologies-** There were no apologies

**2022/37 Co -option of Parish Councillor and Election of Vice Chairman-** Karen Lawrence was Co-opted as a Parish Councillor, proposed by Cllr TW, seconded by Cllr GB. The Chairman welcomed Karen to the Parish Council as a Parish Councillor as well as our District Councillor. **It was agreed** that the Clerk would inform KL of available training in her new role.

Following the resignation of the previous Vice Chairman, the Chairman informed the PC of the need to elect a new Vice Chairman. Cllr Lawrence was proposed by GB and seconded by TW.

**2022/38 Minutes -** Minutes of the meeting held on Sept 7<sup>th</sup> 2022 were circulated, agreed and signed by the Chairman as a true record

**2022/39 Matters Arising from the Minutes -** As agreed, the Clerk had sent a letter of thanks to Mr and Mrs Huish for their hard work and dedication in painting and maintaining the Village Sign. They replied to say that they are happy that the Clerk has double-checked with the Parish Council insurers that the sign is fully insured against liability from those doing external work on it, and that the Parish Council have agreed to do regular maintenance inspections. The Chairman proposed that the Parish Council reinstate having a regular annual walk around the village to check on the maintenance of all Parish Assets. It was agreed that this would take place at the July meeting in 2023.

The insurance company advised that a 'Do not Climb' sign should not be put on the village sign as it might have the opposite reaction and be 'like a red rag to a bull'

**2022/40 Adjournment-** There were no members of the public present.

**2022/41 Reports-** District Cllr Karen Lawrence reported that she attended a meeting in October at BDC where a commitment was agreed not to build on Grade 1,2 or 3A land because of its agricultural value.

Broadland has agreed to have net zero carbon emissions by 2030. It also has a new draft environmental strategy, which is an improvement on the previous strategy.

Cllr Lawrence informed the PC that work on two footbridges over ditches running into the Bure under the Pile Bridge at Buxton has been completed. The river bank under the bridge is eroding badly due to dogs jumping in and out of the river. This is on land owned by BDC. Michael Horton who was responsible for these areas, including steps up to the railway line, has now left BDC. Cllr Lawrence will follow up on these issues.

District Cllr Trevor Whiteman reported back to the Parish Council about his trip on the special BVR train journey. He met several other passengers who were invited guests, including the owners of Hautbois Hall, a wedding venue. He heard that in order for them to get the train to stop at the Hall, wedding organisers would need to charter their own train. Cllr Whiteman was able to put across the feelings of the Parish Council to other participants on the journey, regarding environmental issues along the BVR line.

**Oxnead Hall** Cllr Lawrence discussed the ongoing issue with noise at Oxnead Hall saying that when the wedding business was managed locally it was fine, but now that it has been outsourced the management are going for the maximum number of weddings. There is a need to find a balance again

County Cllr Steve Riley

Cllr Riley was not present. Cllr KL will ask Cllr Riley to do a summary of what has been happening at the NCC.

Cllr Gary Bean - reported that there were no crimes

2022/42 Planning- No applications at present

2022/43 Finance-

- a) The Bank reconciliation was approved and signed
- b) **It was agreed** to approve the following payments

Clerk's salary and expenses	618.77
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The Clerk is to organise paperwork for Cllr GB to take on the Bank Mandate issue (replacing J S-S's role) to become authorised as a signatory to enable the Parish Council to finalise the on-line banking process.

2022/44 Highway and Footpath Matters- Cllr Lawrence mentioned again the fact that the steps down from the railway line at Brampton Station and at the Mermaid end are still a concern and in need of attention and repair. Lawrence has flagged these up yet again. The Mermaid steps, rails down and toes of all the steps are all in a poor state of repair.

Highways Issues: Rangers are due to return to Brampton in mid to late November. The Clerk requested the Chairman to do another marked up plan of areas needing attention.

The Clerk has sent a request to NCC Highways to cut back the hedges along both sides of The Street as they are getting very overgrown and are affecting visibility. **It was agreed** that this work will be added to the plan of action to be sent in.

2022/45 Late Correspondence and refer as appropriate to next meeting January 11th 2023

The Clerk read out an e mail received from a French family planning to move to the area for work. **It was agreed** that the Clerk would send a reply to the email advising of suitable websites for the family to get the information they require.

A set of keys to the village hall were handed to the Clerk by the Chairman.

**It was agreed** that the Clerk would look into finding a new Grounds maintenance contractor, following the departure of Stewart Turbett. GB suggested that he may know of someone local who is taking on local ground's maintenance work. The Clerk is to send details of the areas in need of cutting to GB.

2022/46 Closure of Meeting: There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 8.30pm.

Approved

Date

DRAFT