

BRAMPTON PARISH COUNCIL
CHAIRMAN: Alan Mellor



Minutes of the Meeting
Held on the 20th of December 2023
At the Memorial Centre, Thrapston Road, Brampton
At 7.30pm

Present: Alan Mellor, Chair (AM), Nigel Maggs, Vice Chair (NM), Mike Shellens, Vice Chair (MS), Mike Bainbridge (JMB), Billy Blissett (BB), Jon Chitty (JC), Sue Clarke (SC), Margaret Footner, (MF), Brian Hodgson (BH), Jacqui Long (JL), Natasha Pope (NP), Liz Ruston (LR).

In Attendance: Patricia Jordan (PJ), Dave Shaw (DS), District Councillors, Ken Billington (KB) County Councillor, Tess Rogers, Clerk, Alan Barratt, Dementia Group.

195/12/23 Chairman's Opening Remarks

AM thanked Alan Barratt for his commitment to the dementia services within the village over the past five years and wished him well for his retirement. In addition he thanked the councillors and office staff for all their work undertaken throughout the year.

196/12/23 To Receive Apologies for Absence

John Childs, absence accepted.

197/12/23 To Receive Declarations of Interests

All dispensation requests must be made to the Clerk prior to the meeting. You must comply with the statutory and the Authority's requirements to disclose and withdraw from participating in respect of any matter in which you have a disclosable pecuniary interest.

198/12/23 To Agree to hold a Public Forum Maximum time allotted for the Public Forum 15 minutes.

If no members of the public are present the meeting will continue. At the close of this agenda item members of the public will no longer be permitted to address the Council.

The meeting was adjourned whilst Alan Barratt took the floor and spoke about his time as Chair of the Dementia Group during the past five years. He said that he is handing over to Jane Coggin but will remain as an active member of the Dementia Choir and as a consultant to the groups where required. Alan offered his thanks to the Village Hub and the Parish Council for their support.

The meeting was reconvened.

199/12/23 Village Hub

There was no representation or report.

200/12/23 Youth Matters

There was no representation or report.

201/12/23

District Councillors Report

Dave Shaw stood to summarize his report, already circulated, to councillors prior to the meeting. The main points being:

- i) Garden Waste Subscription early bird discount now available.
- ii) Huntingdonshire District Council approves council tax support scheme.

In addition, Dave mentioned that he has been asked if the bench outside the co op on the High Street could be removed due to the recent anti-social behaviour suffered by the store. This matter was taken at the last Greens & Footpaths meeting and is recorded within the minutes of that meeting. The recommendation to the full council made by that committee was that the bench should remain in situ and that the co op needs to put in preventative antisocial behaviour practices.

Dave spoke regarding the placement of bollards on the grass near the Nisa shop to stop vehicles parking there. This matter will be discussed at the next Greens & Footpaths meeting.

There followed a brief discussion as to why the District Council doesn't charge for general rubbish collection. Dave said that this was a statutory service that the District Council must provide, and householders cannot be charged separately for.

202/12/23

County Councillor Report

202/12/23.1

Ken Billington spoke about a presentation made by the County Council at the recent Grafham Parish Council meeting, regarding the possible closure of the Brampton Road, from Van Diemens Way to the Nature Reserve, from traffic. This wouldn't be a popular decision but Brampton Parish Council will give this consideration once it is formally approached regarding the matter.

202/12/23.2

KB then spoke about a briefing note received from the fire service informing readers that three local fire stations will be closed, one being Kimbolton which currently relies on volunteer fire fighters. The volunteers will now attend St Neots station when on duty. There will only be a crew of three manning the fire engines in the future. KB said that he will confer with a colleague who sits on the deciding committee and report back to the Parish Council at the next meeting.

Action: KB

202/12/23.3

KB reported that the drains between Huntingdon Road and Mill Road are blocked due to leaves not having been cleared away.

Alan Barratt, Dave Shaw, Patricia Jordon and Ken Billington all left the meeting at this point – 7.55pm.

203/12/23

To Approve the Minutes of the Meeting held on the 22nd of November 2023.

BH proposed the acceptance of the minutes as being a true record of the meeting. Seconded by JC and agreed by all.

204/12/23

To Receive an Update about the Progress of Resolutions from the last meeting.

204/12/23.1

179/11/23 Peter Menczer to ask the Hub Treasurer to provide income and contingency figures in support of his budget. Remains outstanding.

204/12/23.2

185/11/23.1 Footpath closure 01/11/2023 – 20/12/2023. This relates to footpath 15 which runs behind Hansell Road. The diversion whilst the footpath is closed runs round the housing and around Councillor Ruston's land. However, because the county Council haven't cut the footpath route

pedestrians are skirting around from the footpath and walking across Councillor Ruston's land. The County Council will be approached to cut back the proper footpath way. Although the date of the closure is now passed, NM reported that no work has been done.

- 204/12/23.3 185/11/23.2 Resident request to have a line painted on the path between Layton Crescent and Brampton Park to separate cyclists and pedestrians to prevent accidents. A discussion was held and it was agreed that white lines would not be supplied due to the cost but signs will be provided at each end of the footpath showing that it is a dual purpose pathway for pedestrians and cyclists.
- 204/12/23.4 166/10/23.6 To arrange the repainting of white lines where identified. BB said that he would check out the lines that require remarking and will follow up with the appropriate action, to contact the County Council as this action falls under their maintenance programme.
- Action: BB**
- 204/12/23.5 Process and costings will be sought for the introduction of double yellow lines at Manor Close. BB will process the documentation required for this project to proceed.
BB has received an email detailing the costing to have the yellow lines implemented, circa £6K per site. JC asked for the costings to be forwarded to him and the matter further discussed at the next finance committee meeting.
- Action: BB**
- 204/12/23.6 166/10/23.7 Re footpath 24, Kings Walk – CCC to be asked if the Parish Council can install a key clamp barrier at the Thrapston end of the footpath. Awaiting contact details for the new Green Team appointed at the County Council. Still awaiting contact details of the Green Team
- 204/12/23.7 166/10/23.9 The Clerk said this would be implemented from April 2024.
- 204/12/23.8 185/11/23.7 Enquiries will be made to clarify if it is possible to place a skip at the Brampton Road site as is done at Thrapston Road at Easter time. Enquiries have been made and it would not be possible from a logistics point of view to site a skip within the allotment boundary.
- 204/12/23.9 185/11/23.9 Further detail required regarding CAPALC'S Date Protection Officer Scheme. This had been received and it was agreed not to sign up to the service.
- 204/12/23.10 187/11/23.5 To list the Dragoon as an Asset of Community Value. The Clerk has obtained the necessary form and will look to complete the required information with AM's assistance.

Action: Clerk

205/12/23 To Note the Minutes of the Following Meetings and to Consider the Approval of the Recommendations being made within them.

- 205/12/23.1 Greens & footpaths held on the 20th of November.
6.3 the Royal British Legion (RBL) have asked permission to hold a classic car show on the Village Green in the summer of 2024. MF asked if they would prefer this to be on the playing field. However, it is thought as the Village Green is near to the headquarters of the RBL they would prefer the event to be held on The Green.
9.2 The gate at the old rectory has been repaired by a village resident, a letter of thanks will be sent to him.
- Action: Clerk**
- 205/12/23.1.1 JMB proposed that the minutes including the recommendations made within them be accepted, seconded by MS and agreed by all.
- 205/12/23.2 Planning held on the 12th of December.

- 205/12/23.2.1 NM summarized the minutes drawing attention to planning application 23/02169/FUL for the change of use of a residential property to a care home for young adults. The planning committee has requested more details.
- 205/12/23.2.2 NP proposed acceptance of the minutes and the recommendations made within in, seconded by BB and agreed by all.
- 205/12/23.3 Sports & Receptions although not quorate on the 12th of December, general discussions were held with the football and cricket club's representatives. The discussions to be brought to this meeting for consideration.
- 205/12.23.3.1 A football representative asked if further details, regarding the clubs being able to use the playing field free of charge, had been found. This following a letter brought to a previous Sports & Receptions meeting from a Mr George Papworth dated some years ago. The Parish Council agreed that the football clubs should find any further evidence regarding free use of the fields rather than this being a Parish Council responsibility. However, NM and SC will agree on a date when they will access the archives to see if they are able to find anything relating to this.

Action: NM & SC

206/12/23 Parish Council Matters

- 206/12/23.1 Commonwealth War Graves Commission: request to install a sign indicating war graves at your Cemetery.
MF suggested that a small sign be erected next to the noticeboard at the entrance to the church. However further discussions will take place at the next Cemetery and Churchyard meeting.

Action: C&C

- 206/12/23.2 Councillor training date – 27th January 2024.
LR has said that she will be unable to attend the training. NM will confirm his attendance as soon as possible but he may be away. MF proposed that the Parish Council provides lunch for the event. This was seconded by NP. MS asked that it be minuted that he spoke against this proposal. Seven other councillors agreed the proposal, two were against and one abstained, therefore the motion was carried.
- 206/12/23.3 Callout for additional members to the Sports & Receptions committee.
JMB volunteered to join the committee. Therefore, there will be five members.
- 206/12/23.4 Date required for wash up meeting following the recent Remembrance Day parade.
The Chair of the local branch of the RBL had provided a report following the parade held on the 12th of November. Within the report are recommendations of the actions for which the Parish Council should be responsible for the next parade. A meeting will be arranged. However, it was said the RBL Chair should be made aware that we don't agree with all of the recommendations. NP said the Parish Council is happy to support where it can.

207/12/23. Bank Balances
Noted.

- 208/12/23 Planning – monthly report 23.10.23 to 20.12.23.**
NM summarized the report drawing attention to planning application 23/02169/FUL as per 205.12.23.2 above..

209/12/23 Parish Communications
209/12/23.1 Brampton Magazine.

The Clerk read out a complimentary letter about the new look magazine received from a village resident. Following the February issue, the magazine will be produced bi monthly (every other month).

209/12/23.2 Website

Still requires some updating to include committee minutes.

209/12/23.3 Facebook page.

JMB reported the page is receiving hits as usual.

210/12/23 Representatives Reports

210/12/23.1 Alan Mellor spoke on behalf of the Thomas Miller Charity. The Charity had received a request to provide a piano scholarship for a local School attendee. Unfortunately the request doesn't meet the charity's constitution but The Brampton Churchlands Charity may be able to help.

Correspondence Received

211/12/23.1 CCC Cycle Way Route discussion between Brampton and Grafham
See the county Councillor report at 202/12/23.

211/12/23.2 Huntingdonshire launch Local List Consultation

Any councillor wishing to comment should contact the Clerk.

211/12/23.3 Cambridgeshire County Council Budget Briefing with Town and Parish Council.

Noted.

211/12/23.4 Statement of need for the purchase of a roller for the cricket square received. JC had requested this from the Cricket Club following the last Finance committee meeting. Now this has been provided the Parish Council will purchase a roller as money was set aside in the 2023/24 budget.

211/12/23.5 The 2024/25 Local Highway Initiative application window closes next month on 12th January 2024 at 17:00PM.

It was agreed that the Parish Council would not be forwarding an application for this period.

211/12/23.6 Cambridge & Counties Bank – sign up to the online savings service.

Signatures of the account will be encouraged to go online and sign up to the service.

212/12/23 To Accept Notices and Matters for The Next Agenda

Please note that no decisions can lawfully be made under this item, LGA 1972 s12 10(2)(b) state therefore the Council cannot lawfully raise matters for discussion.

None raised at this time.

213/12/23 Confidential Matters

There was nothing for discussion.

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The meeting was closed at 9.15pm.

Signed:
Chair

Date: