

Minutes of the Meeting of Brompton Town Council held in The Methodist Church, Brompton on Wednesday 27th February 2019.

PRESENT – Councillors Dr K Carverley, Mrs S Haynes, Mr H Van Huet, Mr B Martin (in the Chair), and Mr S O’Sullivan.

There were 16 members of the public present.

1. APOLOGIES AND DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST.

An apology for absence was received from Councillor Mrs M Shiel Dods (holiday commitment).

No declarations of interest in any of the items on the agenda were made by Councillors.

2. MINUTES.

AGREED – That the Minutes of the Meeting held on the 15th January 2019, having been previously circulated, be taken as read and be confirmed and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

3. LOCAL CRIME REPORT.

It was reported that over the last the month following crimes and ASB had been reported –

Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB)	-	0 reports
Autocrime	-	0 reports
Dwelling burglary/other	-	0 reports
Commercial burglary/other	-	0 reports
Criminal damage	-	0 reports
Theft (all including from shop)-	3 reports –	Lead Lane, Mount Pleasant Farm, Water End
Violence against the person	-	3 reports – 2 x Danes Crest, 1 x Dane Law Road
Other crimes inc Drug	-	0 reports
Total inc other crimes	-	6 reports

Important point – I have been made aware over concerns of drugs use in and around Brompton, if you see any known persons who you believe are dealing, supplying drugs or vehicles you suspect. Please where possible make a note of the registration number and email me the time, location, who is involved to Alex.Bilby@northyorkshire.pnn.police.uk .

OTHER NEWS –

Police forces join together in Operation Checkpoint for rural crime clampdown

A major operation targeting rural crime, involving six police forces across the north of England, resulted in hundreds of vehicles being stopped and checked and a number of arrests.

More than 110 police officers, PCSOs and Special Constables from the North Yorkshire, Cleveland, Cumbria, Durham, Lancashire and Northumbria forces worked alongside almost 100 volunteers for ‘Operation Checkpoint’ on Thursday 7 February 2019.

Across the region, hundreds of vehicles were stopped for proactive checks. In North Yorkshire, 60 vehicles were stopped and several searched, resulting in five arrests for burglary, theft and drug driving, along with two other vehicles seized.

Police tactics included the widespread use of Automatic Number Plate Recognition (ANPR) technology to locate vehicles suspected of being connected to crime, as well as targeting vehicles seen in suspicious circumstances.

In rural areas around Northallerton the operation involved officers, PCSOs and Special Constables from the force's Neighbourhood Policing Teams and Rural Taskforce, alongside volunteers from Girsby and Danby Wiske Watch Groups.

Police work experience opportunity for North Yorkshire youngsters

Young people are being invited to gain a greater understanding of their local police at a work experience programme this summer.

Anyone in Years 10 to 13 (aged between 14 and 18) can apply to attend the week-long programme with North Yorkshire Police.

The opportunity is open to youngsters from any ability, faith, gender and background, who are in education (including home schooling) within the county of North Yorkshire and the city of York – the only requirement is that they are enthusiastic about the project.

This is a fantastic opportunity for young people who are interested in joining the policing family to gain an insight into what we do, not just as police officers but also the different roles of police staff and opportunities across the organisation.

The programme will run for five days from Monday 8 July 2019, and will take place at North Yorkshire Police HQ, Alverton Court, in Northallerton.

New Ward Managers

Northallerton NPT have just recently reviewed their team ward allocations and the new areas are as follows –

PCSO Kim Laws - Bagby, Thorntons, Morton on Swale, Appleton Wiske, Gt. Smeaton

PCSO Emily Knights - Romanby / Town Centre

PCSO Alex Bilby - Brompton & NA North

PCSO Dougie Beveridge - NA South

PCSO Angie Smith – currently full time School Liaison in Northallerton College

Each PCSO has been tasked with engaging with key individuals and locations within their wards in order to get a full understanding of the issues that exist and how we can assist and will be looking at various projects including initiatives to protect those at high risk of becoming victims, increase community engagement and the target harden vulnerable locations.

PCSO Alex Bilby was in attendance at the meeting and encouraged the use of the 101 number to supply him with any snippets of information about matters of concern in the village no matter how trivial people may think the matter to be. It was thought that there was certainly an issue in the village of matters not being reported to the Police and consequently the village needed to be a lot more proactive in helping itself in such matters.

The PCSO stressed the need for local involvement in providing information so that at least a log of any concerns was recorded. Attention was drawn to the fact that there were parked vehicles at night outside BS Autos which did not have any reflectors for vehicles parked in the road. The PCSO pointed out that it would be difficult to take action during business hours but action could be taken with regard to vehicles parked against the direction of traffic, ie facing the oncoming traffic which residents concerned was an issue early on a morning and at night.

There were also difficulties at Bowe Bridge with cars parking half on the pavement and half on the carriageway which caused difficulties when pulling out. The PCSO undertook to report these matters back to the Traffic Officers. Action could certainly be taken if parked vehicles were blocking an access for emergency vehicles.

A resident asked what they should do if they saw a motorist talking on a mobile phone whilst driving. The PCSO said that the registration number of the vehicle should be taken so that a warning letter could be sent and informing the driver that if they did this again they would be fined.

A resident asked if "Give Way" signs could be provided at Bowe Bridge and the Chairman reminded the meeting that this had been requested several times however Network Rail had raised objections due to the possibility of traffic backing up to the level crossing.

A resident reported that a lot of litter was being thrown out of cars and vans along Lead Lane.

It was also AGREED – That CCTV for Brompton village was a matter for discussion at a future date.

4. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES.

(i) Works Schedule.

The two workmen would not start again until March (weather permitting). During the winter extensive improvement works had been carried out in the Cemetery and currently the "Brompton" signs had been removed from the stone plinths and were being restored as they had become quite weathered.

(ii) Road Closure

Sent from NY Highways to a resident –

As a matter of course the Highway Authority continue to inspect the works on a daily basis to ensure that all works are carried out to specification and programme. I can confirm that the works are now progressing well and are currently in line with the revised programme for completion by the end of March 2019.

I can confirm that the delays to the original programme were due to encountering a medium pressure gas main at a higher level in the road than was anticipated. When construction works of this nature are carried out trial holes are dug before works commence to confirm the depth of existing services. In this case the results of the trial holes relating to the gas main were passed to Northern Gas Networks (NGN) who confirmed that no diversion of their equipment was required. However, when the NGN inspector visited site he stopped the works and stated that the gas main required lowering in the ground prior to any works continuing. Every effort was made between NGN and Seymours/Taylor Wimpy to ensure this diversion was undertaken in a timely manner. The works to lower the gas main were completed in 6 weeks as opposed to the usual 3 month turnaround that NGN normally require. This of course still had a knock on effect on the programme and hence the revised completion date.

I hope that this information now helps you to understand the situation. I do understand your frustration and concerns but please be reassured that, whilst the works are not the responsibility of the County Council, officers are doing everything that they can to ensure that the works are completed by Seymours/Taylor Wimpy appropriately and in a timely manner.

Brompton Council had asked that the street lighting along Northallerton Road be kept on all night during the period of the works and that some protection in the form of boulders or barriers be put along both sides of the entrance to Lead Lane off Stokesley Road as this area was getting severely eroded away by vehicles cutting across the grass verges.

The Council had also asked the developer if they could at least help to keep the bus service that had proved to be a lifeline to villagers going after the road is re-opened. As the next phase of the road begins later on this year once again the road would have to be closed to accommodate its construction.

Councillor Blades reported that the road works would be completed later in the week. He added that whilst works to the footpath were being undertaken there may be a need for temporary traffic lights, followed by a safety audit and an adoption of the highway by NYCC. Councillor Hugill reported that there had been an objection to the closure of Northallerton Road and the traffic going down the new housing estate. This would be referred to the District Council's Executive Committee but should not prevent the road from being re-opened.

The Chairman stressed that railings needed to be erected on all sides of the crossing point for the safety of pedestrians similar to what had been put up at Tescos and Northallerton School and College.

Councillor Blades also reported on the broken street light on Lead Lane and said that this had been rectified by bringing the LED lighting works forward.

The Chairman reported that the Council had asked for the hedging the new development that had been removed to be replaced in the vicinity. The Council had also reiterated that it would like some form of traffic lighting at the pedestrian crossing point as this would be used by children and people with buggies etc. Councillor Blades reported that the new road was quite wide having been measured at 9.5m at the junction and 7.3m elsewhere.

As regards keeping the community buses running after the works had been completed the Chairman had been informed that this could not be done on Saturdays due to a lack of drivers.

A resident reported that at the top of Lead Lane there was a receding manhole cover that would damage vehicle tyres. AGREED – That the Clerk take this matter up with NY Highways.

(iii) Street Naming.

Councillor Blades reported on the reasons why a street in the new development could not be named after the Spitfire Pilot who had crashed and been fatally injured near the site of the new houses. The District Council had a ruling not to name streets after people who could still be remembered in living memory. This had followed changes in procedures following the death of Jimmy Savill, Councillors commented that it was highly unlikely after the passage of so many years that anyone alive would actually remember the Spitfire pilot. Councillor Sanderson also reported on the difficulties of incorporating local names into street developments and suggested that the Town Council could arrange to have a memorial seat and plaque placed within the development instead.

Although local residents could submit suggestions for street naming it was the developer who had the final say; as it was in essence their development and not the Councils. A Councillor commented that this was an example of the lack of communication between Hambleton District Council and the local community.

(iv) Sign at Crossroads

The Clerk reported that he had been asked for the sign at the crossroads in the centre of the village directing traffic to Northallerton to be turned towards Lead Lane round while the road is closed. It was considered that as the road works were to be soon completed it was now too late to do this.

(v) Dog Fouling

The Clerk reported receipt of the following from a resident -

"I'm really concerned about the problem of dog excrement in the village currently. It seems like this gets worse in winter months as in the dark mornings and evenings dog walkers 'get away' with not picking up after their dog more and more.

The path on Cockpit Hill is strewn with dog mess and even piles of it on some poor people's doorstep! Even when it's picked up it's half-hearted and smeared across the path. This is a 'walk to school' route for many children and not only is dog mess thoroughly unpleasant but as I'm sure you know, a danger to health also.

The Green at Water End remains a 'no go' area in Winter as it's simply unsafe for my young family and I to walk without trampling in yet another fresh pile.

It is also worth noting that many dog walkers are paying no attention to the new signs asking dog walkers to control their dog as I have had 3 separate incidents in the last month of my children being worried by large dogs running up to them and trying to jump up.

I love the countryside and Brompton and the reason I choose to live here and bring my family up here is so they can have access to all this beautiful outside space. At the moment, I feel like irresponsible dog walkers have a complete monopoly on our lovely outside spaces and are ruining it for everyone else.

Thank you for reading, I hope this can be discussed at a Parish Council meeting and some solutions found".

The Clerk added that one of the main culprits had been identified and action was being taken.

(vi) Tyres at DS Trading

The Clerk reported that all tyres had been removed a couple of days after the last Council meeting. Quantities of tyres had also been removed from BS Autos.

(vii) Bus Shelter – No Smoking

The Clerk reported that he had spoken to the Chairman about smoking in the bus shelter and as it is a structure closed on three sides smoking was not permitted. There were on a weekly basis what must be 50 to 100 cigarette ends thrown about the bus shelter and on the pavement outside.

The Chairman had suggested that we get a sign made up at Classic Graphics as follows -

"Smoking is Not Permitted in the Bus Shelter - Please Put Out Your Cigarette in the Bin Provided"

As it would not be appropriate to put cigarettes in the waste bin outside the shelter as it was usually full of paper it was recommended that a metal bin similar to those outside pubs be put on the bus shelter wall for cigarettes at a cost of around £45.00. AGREED –That these action be endorsed.

(viii) Street Lighting

The Clerk reported as follows in answer to a question that had been raised by a Councillor at the recent site meeting at Water End –

The Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 states that a road is restricted to 30mph "if there is provided on it a system of street lights not more than 200 yards apart."

However -

The courts had ruled that speed limits may not apply if street lights are broken, too far apart or illuminate the pavement instead of the road.

“It follows that there is a strong legal argument that switching off street lights can in some cases remove a speed limit and provide a defence to a person charged with speeding.

5. CHAIRMAN/VICE-CHAIRMAN'S ACTIONS.

The Chairman reported that he had received several telephone calls about the planning proposal at The Workshop on Stokesley Road. He had also received several telephone calls about the road diversion. One resident had fallen whilst walking along Northallerton Road past the new development late at night. What could be deemed to be obstructions had been removed by the developer the next day and the Clerk had taken photos of the site which revealed that the road was extremely well lit although some of the lights may have been switched off late at night. The Council had therefore requested that the street lights be left on all night whilst the works were taking place.

The Chairman also reported on the Policemen signs in the layby at the School. These were on loan for three weeks and if purchased would cost £300.00. AGREED – That funding for these signs be considered at the next Council meeting.

The Chairman also reported on the upgrading of the beck by the Environment Agency. This would mean that no works could be carried out in the beck between late October and the 16th June in each year.

The Chairman suggested that a representative of the CCG be invited to speak at the meeting of the Annual Parish Assembly in May about local doctors surgeries having regard to the increasing local population and this was AGREED.

At 8,00pm the meeting was opened to the public for the asking of questions.

(i) Mrs A Cornforth reported on the incident that had occurred on Northallerton Road late one night (outlined above) commenting that having walked the route she was surprised at the hazards left by the developers however these had now been dealt with.

6. REPORTS.

Town and Parish Council LGA Group – Civic Centre, Stone Cross, Northallerton – 17th January 2019.

The Deputy Leader of Essex County Council and the Director of Communications from Manchester City Council have been charged with reviewing HDC.

They met with 11 representatives of Local Councils to get feedback on how it is perceived that Hambleton District Council communicates with the third tier of local government.

Concerns were raised that it is the general view of the Towns and Parishes that HDC does not take on board the views of the local representatives when making decisions with regard to planning applications; it was however accepted that HDC does include such views in its Planning Officer reports on each application.

As regards the twice yearly District/ Parish Liaison meetings it was felt that these were being orchestrated around what HDC wanted to tell Local Councils about eg the Northallerton former Prison site and its development rather than putting more emphasis on what issues were the concerns of the Parishes in general, especially as many Parishes had little connection to Northallerton anyway.

It was considered that Northallerton and the larger towns got a better service from HDC as regards communications issues than did the smaller Parishes. There was in particular a concentration on the five Market Towns when some towns such as Great Ayton were just as large.

The construction of the Liaison meetings was also of concern whereby Local Council representatives got 3 minutes to address an issue which was in general answered by a District Councillor not from the area concerned making forced statements that had nothing to do with the area concerned and which were incorrect.

Curtailed debate from the Chair was also seen as an issue. It was however considered that the District/ Parish Liaison Committees were an improvement on the former Area Committees at which no one bothered to attend whilst the twice yearly Liaison meetings were extremely well attended with up to 80 attendees.

Language used in communications was seen to be difficult to understand and better use of plain English was recommended.

As regards social media there appeared to be little use of this so far as HDC was concerned whilst such web sites and Facebook pages used by Northallerton Town Council and other Local Councils were well visited. Other social media pages well visited were Thirsk Grumbler and Northallerton Views. It was however acknowledged that HDC's web site was easy to use as regards the matters that were of concern to the public which were mainly refuse collection dates, and reporting of dogs and faulty street lights, although as regards street lights it was extremely difficult to know which were NYCC, HDC or even some Parish responsibilities.

There appeared to be information obtained by social media that informed people about what HDC was doing but about which HDC has not informed the Local Councils, a current example of this was in relation to the plans for the cinema at the Treadmills site.

Regular updates on the vision as regards the Market Towns Initiative were seen as useful

It was also useful where villages had their own Community Facebook pages as had Brompton as information could be circulated to residents by this means.

The general view was that the District Council did not get involved in the community in passing information to residents and left this to the Parishes to do. There was a distinct lack of information circulated to communities by HDC although it collected the Precept.

A Councillor commented that in his Ward 21% of the residents did not have any digital connection and therefore information was passed to them by either visiting them or having residents meetings. For a District as large as Hambleton and spread over such a wide area it was felt that there was a need for better communication by HDC.

As regards devolving of duties the running of the market by Bedale Town Council had proved that there was scope in this.

The meeting was informed that in Essex non-essential highway maintenance had been devolved to Parishes and some Parishes had taken this task up. It was therefore for Parishes to make a case of what powers and duties they would like to take over. However it would be the Parishes responsibility to make sure that such functions worked once they took them on.

Parishes could get together to campaign for the devolving of services.

The discussion asked if people recognised that they lived in the area called Hambleton. It was the general view that this was not the case and most people when asked referred to living in Yorkshire. The case was different in Richmondshire where the District could directly be recognised from its title.

It was not considered an issue as to whether using the term Hambleton attracted businesses to the area or not.

There was also difficulty in distinguishing between the roles of the County Council and the District Council. Some representatives referred to the duplication with some services which they considered could only be addressed through having a Unitary Authority.

Unfortunately there was not a Hambleton Local Council's Association, the body in this respect being the Yorkshire Local Councils Association. There had in the past been a Hambleton branch but it had not been well attended.

An issue with the YLCA was that District Councillors did not attend it as District and County Councils were not members.

38 Parishes was a large number for a District and therefore it was difficult to communicate with one voice; a collective voice being a good way of lobbying for devolution.

The fact that by 2020 Government grants would no longer be payable to Local Authorities would mean that District Councils would have to rely on the rates and service provision income. It was of concern that HDC had not transmitted this information to the Local Councils in its area. This was seen as being particularly important since Parishes were not capped financially.

It seemed to be the case that where possible District Councillors endeavoured to attend meetings of their local Councils. However it was suggested that if they could not attend then they should submit a report in their absence.

Those present were unaware of Hambleton District Council's publication "Council Talk" which it circulated to its Councillors. It seemed to be the general practice elsewhere to also send such publications to local Councils but HDC failed to do so. It has been seen in Essex that when this was introduced to local Councils the County Councillor's emails reduced substantially as people knew what was going on.

As regards the District/ Parish Liaison meetings it was felt that everyone was not given a fair opportunity to speak on matters – this had happened with regard to the Fracking discussion when the Chairman had ruled that the matter was too complicated. The Liaison meetings had a culture of telling the Parishes what to do rather than asking them what they thought and Parishes needed to be part of the conversation.

As regards planning it was again emphasised that Parishes were concerned that they were not being listened to and there was a lack of confidence that their views would be taken on board and that views expressed were not valued. A prime example was the rush to construct many more houses around the District without firstly putting the necessary infrastructure in place.

The most effective answer to these issues would be to have powerful Local Associations.

Keep Northallerton Safe – Meeting held on 30 January 2019.

Gina Allen and PC Woodcock work at HDC offices dealing with CCTV, Anti-Social Behaviour and vulnerability aspects across the Hambleton District and link in with the Police Sergeants across Hambleton.

Projects in Northallerton include Shop Watch and Operation Artful Dodger. A new team has been allocated to take Shop Watch forward and improve radio systems so that shops can talk to each other about suspects in the town. New training needs to take place as radio phones are not being used in some shops that have them. Operation Artful Dodger uses civilian volunteers who can be used for

practice by going into and out of shops so that shop assistants can learn to track them and pass information on to other shops with correct descriptions and directions of travel; this practice aims to make shop assistants more observant. It is hoped to increase radio use in the town.

Anti-Social Behaviour was a significant problem 12 months ago. However a lot of work has been done and two Criminal Behaviour Orders have been obtained with exclusion zones in parts of the town. The Youth Club in the Town Hall has a very good attendance but operationally due to the large numbers attending it has had to split into two sessions – one for the younger age group and one for the older age group. However a number of the older ones are helping out at the younger ones sessions.

Also, after continuing anti-social behaviour issues at Barkers Arcade this had been addressed by using the “mosquito” machines which emit a continuous noise that irritates anyone being near it and which has dispersed the groups of youngsters who had been congregating in the Arcade on an evening. Prior to this a group of youngsters had been rude and abusive and had been starting fires therefore something had to be done in liaison with Barkers as the Arcade could not be closed off at night-time.

Shops thefts are a current issue with the town mainly being targeted by persons travelling from outside the region by train. Liaison is to take place with British Transport Police as it is suspected that they are travelling without rail tickets therefore with BTP assistance they will be prosecuted for travelling without a rail ticket which is a criminal offence so that they no longer bother to target Northallerton. The aim is to intercept them before they even get into the town centre. Photos will be shared with BTP so that suspects can be identified when they are on the trains.

A vehicle loaded with items stolen from shops in the town was stopped at Morton on Swale recently due to tracking of the team of shoplifters to their car, which had also been stolen and the CCTV operators being able to quickly pass the information onto the Police. The shoplifters were also wanted for numerous similar offences throughout the County. The CCTV operators are very knowledgeable at being able to spot potential and known offenders.

Pub Watch is currently dormant as it has to be run by the Licensees and they have to have their own Chairman and Secretary. However they are to meet with a view to setting it back up next week.

An elderly lady has been the subject of extensive Police action and resources around Northallerton in recent weeks having committed over 50 crimes and having taken up 250 hours in Officer time. Currently she is waiting to be remanded at Harrogate following several instances in the town today.

One young person who was the subject of a Criminal Behaviour Order had committed over 200 crimes in one year but since he received the Order he has not re-offended.

There have been 14 Behaviour Contracts issued in the last year and those who have been issued with them are seen by the team on a fortnightly basis. These persons require multi-agency responses to ensure that the right people are sat round the table to be able to move forward, however results are being seen.

It was noted that CCTV was affected by bunting and Christmas lights (where the camera concentrates on the light and nothing else) and also by being obstructed by signs – especially along Barkers Arcade. Northallerton is well covered by cameras and a new lamp post is being erected to accommodate the camera at Bullamoor Park. The majority of the cameras are the revolving type. In addition all Police Constables have body cameras that can be used to Court evidence.

Attention was drawn to a recent incident at the Youth Club with youngsters who had been drinking alcohol or taking drugs. As the Youth Club is governed by N Y Youth these youngsters were not permitted into the Youth Club due to their state and had to remain outside. A number of youngsters are currently banned from attending the Youth Club and some youngsters are under the watch of a number of Agencies due to their on-going issues. The Police have loaned the Youth Club an alcohol detector.

With regard to Fieldfare, Little Lane. Brompton considerable resources were put into dealing with the vast increase in reported occurrences to the Police in the village for a few months after The Priory

opened its residential home for children. Reported incidents have fallen considerably due to extensive multi-agency intervention. The inexperienced staff who were in post at the start have now received proper training or have been replaced. New intakes of children are now vetted and The Priory Group has been reminded that it must adhere to the planning conditions whereby no-one with a criminal record or a history of drugs may be accommodated at the home. This was not the case in the initial months. The same now also applies to the Childrens Home in Northallerton that is also covered by the same planning conditions and where reported anti-social behaviour/ crime levels have also fallen substantially.

7. PLANNING MATTERS.

(i). Decisions.

18/02195/FUL – Retrospective planning application for the construction and relocation of walls/fences in connection with previously approved planning application 03/00896/FUL at Sandgate Barn, Brompton Lane – Granted

18/02520/FUL – Proposed front conservatory at Spring House Farm, Stokesley Road – Granted

18/02543/FUL - Change of use of part of building to multipurpose community space at Weavers Pavilion, Station Road – Granted.

(ii) Applications.

Demolition of existing garage and construction of 2 No Detached Garages.

Land To The East Of 15 Lead Lane - Application Number – 19/00130/FUL - NO OBJECTIONS

Variation of conditions attached to Planning appeal APP/G2713/C/13/2198583- change of use of agricultural land for residential occupation

The Workshop Stokesley Road – Application Number – 19/00016/MRC - THE COUNCIL IS CONCERNED ABOUT THE EFFECTS ON THE AMENITY VALUE OF THE ADJOINING PROPERTY RIVERDOON AND REQUESTS THAT DUE REGARD BE HAD BY THE PLANNING AUTHORITY TO THE REPRESENTATIONS THAT HAVE BEEN MADE BY THE OWNERS OF THAT PROPERTY.

Application for the construction of 72 dwellings

OS Field 6504 To The North Of Northallerton Business Park Thurston Road Northallerton – Application Number – 18/027/20/FUL - THE COUNCIL FULLY SUPPORTS THIS APPLICATION BUT CONSIDERS THAT CONSIDERATION SHOULD BE GIVEN TO INCORPORATING SWIFT BOXES, SOLAR PANELS (AT LEAST FOR HOT WATER PRE-HEATING) + GREEN ENERGY MEASURES

Extension to form entrance hall, laundry, boiler room, breakfast area and replacement domestic garage

Firtree House Brompton – Application Number – 18/02625/FUL - NO OBJECTIONS

8. ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT.

(i) Accounts.

Receipts –

Nil

Payments –

Mrs L Huang (Street Sweeping)	80.00
P Atkin (Salary)	322.64

P Atkin (Expenses)	53.84
HMRC (PAYE)	68.00
NYCC (Printing)	20.00
Sam Turner and Sons (Balance of previous accounts)	10.72
Anchorage Hire Centre Ltd (Hire of Chainsaw and safety kit)	50.40
Mr R Allinson (Removal of hedge cuttings etc)	100.00
Mr P Toman (114.5 hours labour – working in Cemetery)	870.00
Mr P Toman (Fuel expenses)	25.00
P Atkin (Stamps + Envelope for rural address Newsletters)	43.94

Bank Balances

Current Account - £200.00

Business Savings Account - £23,411.42

High Interest Account - £13.16

AGREED – That the accounts listed above be approved for payment.

(b) Bank Mandate.

Bank Mandate

AGREED - Thatt this be left until new Council in May.

9. CRITERIA AND APPLICATION FORM FOR DONATIONS AND GRANTS.

The Clerk had previously circulated to Councillors for comments the criteria rules and the draft application form for donations and grants for comments. No observations had been received and it was AGREED – That the documents circulated be adopted so that a proper audit trail could be implemented in respect of any grants and donations made and that if necessary it would then be possible to reclaim the monies if the intended purpose for which the grant or donation had been made did not materialise.

10. BROMPTON RECREATION GROUP - Update.

Councillor O’Sullivan reported on the meeting of the BRG that had been held on the previous evening. Having received planning permission the cafe continued to be a success and was looking to expand its opening times to add Fridays and Sundays. Sainsburys had accepted the BRG as a Charity of Choice. A new Constitution had been agreed by the Committee. The BGR had applied for a Making a Difference Grant and was informed by Councillor Hugill that it had been successful and would be receiving a grant of £1,200.00 for repairs to the roof.

Plusnet had been appointed as the network provider and it was intended to put on an event at Easter. Jewsons had provided paint and labour for decoration of the Committee Room and Broadacres had granted the WiFi.

11. NORTHALLERTON ROAD RECREATION GROUND.

A new lock was needed for the double gate.

12. HIGHWAY MATTERS. –

See under Matters Arising for update on closure of access to Brompton at Stone Cross and associated traffic diversion and bus services.

Gritting.

Details of gritting, extracted from gritter tracking devices, carried out on both Lead Lane and Northallerton Road for the week commencing Monday 28th January:

Lead Lane

Monday 28th January – 07.25am

Tuesday 29th January – 07.40am

Wednesday 30th January – no treatment

Thursday 31st January – 07.45am

Friday 1st February – 06.40am

Saturday 2nd February – 07.00am and again 09.45am

Sunday 3rd February – 07.35am

Northallerton Road

Monday 28th January – 07.20am

Tuesday 29th January – 07.35am

Wednesday 30th January – no treatment

Thursday 31st January – 07.40am

Friday 1st February – 06.35am

Saturday 2nd February – 06.45am and again at 09.40am

Sunday 3rd February – 07.30am

NY Highways hoped that above information reassured residents that the roads in question did receive regular and appropriate gritting during the recent weather event.

Barbed wire on stile, public footpath 10.19/1 Brompton

Received from NYCC –

“The landowner has repaired these stiles to a good standard and I have close this case”.

The Clerk reported that further concerns had been put to NY Public Rights of Way by residents regarding this matter. These concerns were in respect of the chained and padlocked gate that excluded the public with difficulty in movement from getting over the stile. Photos of the difficulties that people had reported were circulated at the meeting.

The Clerk reminded the meeting that the Council had undertook to supply and fit kissing gates but this had to be agreed by landowners and the landowner of the path in question had recently died and for

the time being the matter was therefore in abeyance. Stiles could not be changed without landowners consent. A resident also outlined the history of the path concerned over the past 20 years when NYCC had put a stile in and the damage that had started to occur about two years ago. The consequences of the damage that had occurred were also outlined to the meeting.

The Chairman also pointed out that there was no requirement for stiles to be dog friendly but it was hoped that when the affairs of the landowners were sorted out it would be possible to have a dog-friendly stile.

Reference was also made to the broken fence at the stile past The Windmill onto the BRG field. A resident pointed out that this route had never been a Public Right of Way. It was considered that the route may have been used for that long that it could be considered to be put forward as a public footpath.

Encroachment into the Highway at Lead Lane

The Clerk reported that with regard to a report made to the Chairman about possible encroachment onto the highway in Lead Lane he had subsequently inspected the location and could not identify any encroachment having been made

Whilst the edge of the soil embankment did seem further out into the carriageway than the next door property the boundaries were all different. It therefore appeared that it would be a matter of opinion as to whether there had been any encroachment and there would need to be some solid evidence to prove that there had been.

PLANNED ROAD CLOSURE NOTIFICATION - LA19570 - Brompton Lane, Brompton

The Closure will be in place for a period of 1 night between 6th April 2019 and 7th April 2019 between 22:10 and 09:00 to re-rail through the level crossing.

Traffic Priority System Bowe Bridge.

Councillor Hugill reported that the Improvement Manager had undertaken to speak to Network Rail.

AGREED – That the Clerk ask NY Highways what progress it is making towards Network Rail withdrawing its objection to a traffic priority system being introduced at Bowe Bridge.

13. WEB SITE.

The Clerk reported that the website construction was underway pending a demonstration to Councillors of the draft in due course.

It was also suggested that the web site should include information about how members of the public could report matters to the Police.

14. BRIDGES AT WATER END – WORKS TO BE CARRIED OUT TO MEET WITH INSURANCE LIABILITES.

AGREED – That the handymen undertake the minor adjustments to the barriers to the middle bridge and the bridge at the Water Splash as had been identified at the site meeting held at Water End on Sunday 24 February.

15. ANNUAL GRASSCUTTING CONTRACT – 2019 GRASSUTTING SEASON.

AGREED – That CE and CM Walker, Grasscutting Contractors of Eryholme, Darlington be engaged for the 2019 grasscutting season at a rate of £680.00 per cut (14 to 16 cuts) + VAT; such being an increase of £32 per cut on the previous year 2018.

16. ENGAGEMENT OF HANDYMEN FOR 2019.

AGREED - That the Handymen be engaged for 2019 on the terms of the draft letter of Engagement previously circulated to Councillors.

17. GREENS INSPECTION.

The Clerk reported on the increase in dog fouling and undertook to contact Hambleton District Council about the emptying of Dog Bins should the Town Council decide to purchase addition bins.

18. CORRESPONDENCE.

(i) Proposed Closure of Northallerton Post Office.

The Post Office would be holding a 'drop-in session' as part of its consultation on the proposal for its branch in Northallerton. The forum would be held on Tuesday 5th March at Northallerton Town Hall, High Street, Northallerton between 3.30pm and 7pm, with people welcome to attend at any point between those times.

The proposal is to move the Post Office to WHSmith, at 190 High Street. The branch would be run by WHSmith, with extended opening hours, including Saturday afternoons and Sundays.

Under the proposals, the services at the new branch would remain the same with the with the exception of a cash machine. Services available will include everyday banking for the UK's high street banks, online shopping returns and collections and foreign exchange. The Post Office would have three serving positions.

(ii) Keep Britain Tidy Litter Pick – 22nd March to 23 April – Great British Spring Clean.

AGREED – That the Clerk contact HDC and ascertain on what days it is able to lend its litter picking equipment.

(iii) Northallerton and Villages Community Forum – Thursday 7th March at The Civic Centre at 4.00pm.

AGREED – That the Chairman and Clerk and Councillor Haynes attend this meeting on the Council's behalf.

19. ANY OTHER BUSINESS –

(i) Date of Next Meeting.

AGREED – That the next meeting of the Council be held at 7.00pm in The Methodist Church on Tuesday 19th March 2019.

(ii) Annual Parish Assembly

The Clerk reported that Purdah was the period leading up to an election, when Councils must take extra care when considering their publishing obligations due to the heightened sensitivity of the period. The period begins with the notice of election (19 March) and ends on election day (2 May). Consequently it was AGREED – That the Annual Parish Assembly be held after the May Local Council Elections.

(iii) Broken Street Sign – The Orchards.

AGREED – That Broadacres Housing be asked to repair this sign.

(iv) Brompton Sign near the Rugby Club.

ARGEED – That the current plastic sign on the stone plinth near the Rugby Club be replaced with a metal sign.

(v) Parking in the Church View Area.

ARGEED – That the Traffic Warden be asked to visit the village early in the evenings.

20. BURIAL MATTERS.

(i) Cemetery – Missing Head Stone.

The Clerk reported that investigations were carried out regarding a report of a headstone that had gone missing from the Cemetery. Enquiries came to a dead end but later the person who had raised the matter reported that another member of the family had had the headstone removed for restoration. The stone mason concerned had failed to inform the Burial Board before removing the headstone. It is normal practice for local Stone masons to advise the Burial Board although in most cases the families also do that.

The following matters were considered in Private Session

(ii) Update on Cemetery Extension

The Clerk reported that approval had been obtained from the vendor's Agents for exploratory digging to take place in the land behind the large Leylandii trees to ensure that it is suitable for an extension to the current Cemetery. AGREED – That this action be taken and that the Council reinstate the land and indemnify the landowner should any damage occur.

(iii) Application to Waive Double Fees for Recent Burial.

AGREED – That all Councillors having been circulated with full information prior to the meeting the application be refused.

The meeting closed at 9.50pm