

Minutes of the Meeting of Brompton Town Council held in The Methodist Church, Brompton on Tuesday 17th December 2019.

PRESENT – Councillors Dr K Carveley, Mrs S Haynes, Mrs E Kelly, Mrs M Sheil Dods, Mr B Martin (in eth Chair) and Mr S O’Sullivan.

There were 6 members of the public present.

Mr M Sykes – Chairman BJFC in attendance.

1. APOLOGIES AND DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST.

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor M Langthorne (holiday commitment) and from the Clerk (illness).

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

2. MINUTES.

AGREED – That the Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 19th November, having been previously circulated be taken as read and signed by the Vice-Chairman as a correct record.

3. EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC.

AGREED – That due the confidential information to be discussed regarding an insurance matter the public be excluded from the meeting for the consideration of item 17 - part (iii) on the agenda under the provisions of Section 100(A) of the Local Government Act 1972 – paragraph 7 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Act.

4. LOCAL CRIME REPORT.

As the monthly Police Report had not been received in time for the meeting the it was AGREED – That the Clerk circulate the report by email when it had been received.

The November Police report had been circulated after the last meeting as follows –

Crime and ASB Data

Qualifier	No of Incidents	
Anti-Social Behaviour	1	
Auto crime	1	
Burglary :	<i>Commercial : 0</i>	<i>Residential : 3</i>
Criminal Damage	3	
Theft (including from shops)	1	
Violence Against the Person	2	
Other crimes including Drugs	3	
TOTAL THIS PERIOD	14	

5. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES.

(i) Mechanical Sweeping

It was reported that the following had been received from HDC in answer to question raised about the frequency of the sweeping machine visiting Brompton -

“The village is scheduled for 3 mechanical sweeps per year with ad hoc sweeps as required. I have asked for the last 6 months records to be summarised, I am aware from speaking with the sweeper drivers yesterday and again this afternoon that between them they have attended on at least 4 occasions in the last month..... leaves. Once I have the records next week I will confirm details to you”.

(ii) Primary School/ North Northallerton Development

It was reported that the planning application for the new primary school was due in January/February with NYCC hoping that the first intake of pupils would be 2022.

The Chairman asked both Councillor Sanderson and Councillor Hugill if it was possible for Councillor O’Sullivan to be included in any Committee regarding the school due his previous experiences in setting up new Community Schools. Both Councillors undertook to check if this would be possible and to report back to the Council.

The Vice-Chairman undertook to inform the Council when the planning application was received

It was also reported that the bridge over the railway line would be a smaller bridge which meant that it could be set in place without waiting for a day when the railway line was closed.

(iii) Notice Boards

It was reported that the contractor Mr Robert Douglas was working on the 8 notice boards and hoped to have the first one completed in the next few weeks so that it could be inspected by Councillors before he started work on the other 7 notice boards.

(iv) CCTV

It was reported that Appleton Wiske had offered the village their CCTV camera. AGREED – That the Clerk be requested to update the Council on this matter.

(v) Trees

It was reported that Mr Whitehead would be carrying out a full inspection of all of the trees in the New Year.

(vi) Daffodils

Councillors Langthorne and Martin had planted the remainder of the bulbs along Water End and various sites along the Green and the village.

Councillor Haynes asked if the grasscutting contractor would be careful when they cut the grass so that the daffodils would come back every year. AGREED – That the Clerk write to Mr Walker the grasscutting contractor accordingly.

6. CHAIRMAN/VICE-CHAIRMAN'S ACTIONS.

No actions were reported under this agenda item.

7. REPORTS.

(i) Northallerton and Villages Community Forum – 27th November 2019.

Access to Services and Volunteer Opportunities: Hambleton Community Action

HCA has been in existence since 1979, previously called Northallerton and District Voluntary Services Association and then Hambleton Community Action since 2015 moving from Community House to premises in Romanby Road in April 2019.

It consists of 7 staff supporting 130 volunteers and has a Board of 7 trustees.

It is beneficiary central - rights respectful and collaborative.

The 5 ways of well-being are - Connect, Be Active, Keep Learning, Help Others and Take Notice.

There are overriding geographic and transport related challenges covered by Wheels to Work, community car share and HARBUS.

The community car share covered 600 journeys this month and 7,000 journeys in the financial year. The car journeys are mainly to medical appointments and to day care centres and helps people who are unable to access public transport in Northallerton, Bedale and the surrounding villages. The Wheels to Work scheme currently has 35 mopeds. The group also chairs the Rural Transport and Access Partnership.

With regard to building confidence and connections the Association -

- Covers the Carers' Respite sitting scheme
- Shopping Angels - who work alongside the shared car scheme
- Community visiting
- Coffee mornings
- Social afternoons - held at Rivendale once a month

Support for volunteers and organisations that support volunteers is also provided.

In this respect the new project "Lets Get Connected" helps people take part in the activities that they are interested in, supports individuals in trying out new activities that they may find challenging on their own and also helps them to make new friends.

Support is also provided through stepping stones through the Euro Social Fund supporting volunteers who are unemployed or in receipt of benefits; to increase skills, confidence, employability and to build relationships with potential employees.

Support was also provided in the form of Human Guide Dogs, sighted guide volunteers, promoting independence for the visually impaired giving short term support to enable them to go shopping etc.

Overall the service had between 400 and 500 clients,

UCI Event

The UCI event had brought an extra 7,000 visitors into the town on the day of the event

There had been a 65% positive reaction from local businesses as many had not done much business on the day. However it was accepted that there would be long term benefits. It was mentioned that the event had led to major problems in Harrogate with the town having been locked down for a long time. The 35% negative reaction had been based on loss of revenue. Whilst the main High Street shops had been generally positive the footfall north of the High Street had been down. Market traders had been given three days rent as compensation by HDC.

Northallerton Heritage.

A Heritage Action Group has been formed which would not focus on one particular outcome but on a range of possible outcomes.

With regard to the town itself ideas are being looked at to help shape the projects such as the improvement of the appearance of empty shops; what goes on above the shops themselves (perhaps converting to residential through a feasibility study); and improvement of the yards and alleyways to make them more attractive.

Space was available in the Joe Cornish Gallery for some sort of exhibition, perhaps information boards on the history of the town.

Mrs Haynes reported that the Government had commissioned a report of High Streets and Peter Cole undertook to see if he could access a copy.

Yorkshire In Bloom.

A verbal report was made on the recent meeting that had been held in Northallerton Town Hall. Mrs Haynes reported on the plans for Brompton Town Council to enter the competition in 2021 and outlined preliminary works that had recently commenced and to a talk that had been given in the village by the Yorkshire Dales Rivers Trust.

Mr Dobson commented that people didn't realise how good the Northallerton had been in entering the Britain In Bloom competitions in the past, having come second in one of the categories.

Other Matters.

- (i) It was reported that Hambleton Foodshare was going to be based at Living Rooms which would be a one-stop shop/drop-in centre with a mental health emphasis. The official opening would be on the 6th December.

Relaxed screening was going to be introduced at The Forum for people who did not want to be confined to the formality of a cinema. "It's a Wonderful Life" was to be shown on the 17th December.

However support for this venture was needed as it was costly to run; an adult ticket price was charged but careers received free admission and was suitable for children's and mothers with babies.

It was suggested that an application for funding be made to HDCs Making a Difference Fund.

- (ii) Mr Dobson referred to plans to open an eye department at The Friarage Hospital following plans that had been put in in 2017 to utilise Wards 14 and 15 (the former mental health wards) that had closed. The unit would contain its own operating theatre and initially there would be one consultant with another in the pipeline.

Mr Dobson also reported on a forthcoming consultation for a children's hub at Thurston Road. Which had originally been planned for the Friarage Hospital.

(ii)BFPG Meeting 12th November

Present: Sue, Peter, Simon, Craig, Jan, Sarah, Tony

1. Minutes from 5th March were read out and passed.
2. Apologies Jan
3. Matters Arising
 - a. We made about 300 pounds from the last quiz.
 - b. Sarah Clarke is no longer working on the project, Dan Turner is in charge now and it is progressing better.
 - c. There is a weather station to be installed.
 - d. Water quality sampling yet to start.
 - e. We now have 5 waders.
 - f. After a lot of wrangling we managed to desilt the beck for a total of 470 pounds including 150 pounds to the EA for a licence. It was commented on that the EA now have ridiculous rules for desilting the beck!
 - g. We need to determine the prizes for the quiz on Sunday.

- h. Geoff's dam and Nigel's still need repairing weather permitting.
- i. We have got an expenditure update from Dan which was shown to the committee.
- j. Sarah informed us that the adoption of the link road will be complete by October 2020 and CIL payment will be 100,000 pounds in the latter part of 2020 to early 2021. There will then be a discussion about what to do with the money after that.
- k. We liked the Brompton community page.

4. Chairman's Report 2019

We had some progress with the DEFRA project in that time lapse cameras have been bought and installed. Fences have been put up on farmers' fields, and also hedges and trees have been planted. A workshop has been done on the Green to engage the community and farm plans have been accomplished, however the main NFD to be installed, the new pond, which must take precedence over everything else has not happened. There are many factors in this, but our survey we had taken by our surveyor was not deemed good enough so months later another survey and design was made. Then months later they decided against having our contractor with local knowledge and picked one from Skipton. Throughout the 2 and a half years this has been going on Nigel Hebden, the farmer has been brilliant and has been very patient, asking every month or so when they were going to build the pond. Then EA and YDRT decided they would have to get planning permission. This was put forward in June after a year of perfecting the design, which in my mind was over complicated. Then came the problems! As the planner said 'It's just a hole in the ground isn't it?' Both IDB and Network Rail suddenly decided that they weren't happy with the design after taking 2 years previously to accept it. The IDB then proceeded to say they hadn't been informed even though they were at the meetings. Network rail then came on board again but the IDB was determined to wreck our goal of another pond. They had a call from their CEO courtesy of Paul Cobbing, head of the National Flood forum and they said that they hadn't received the fee which had been sent in June. They conceded, but still held things up as their comments, 'lacked clarity'.

I have been in contact with Chris Henshaw for the last 2 months to check on progress with the application and he has been so frustrated with the IDB. I rang this morning and got a reply from the planner saying that everything is fine now and it would be finalised this week or next. Nigel said they could start next week or it will be next spring, in March, so it will be next year now. In the forthcoming meeting with the EA etc. both Chris Henshaw and I are determined to get some answers as to why the IDB was determined to block our application! After the floods in the Sheffield area it is expedient that the pond is made as quickly as possible. The other problem was that the original contractor would probably not be able to do the work as he would have taken other work on board. I then suggested that they should contact James Coxon and see if he was available.

The money runs out in March 2021 and even when they start to build the pond they have decided to build a leaky dam in front of the pond to regulate the flow of water going in, which I also think is unnecessary. The water needs to be able to get into the pond easily and it will just flow out when the water level subsides. The pond that we have in now has made a significant difference to the fact that water has hardly gone over the sides of the beck, even after the extensive rainfall we have had. It has done its job of slowing the flow. We have proof from time lapse cameras that the pond was almost full on the day of the heaviest rainfall when Sheffield flooded!

Our next meeting with the EA, YDRT and IDB etc. is next Monday 18th November.

5. Quiz Night

We have sold 67 tickets. Brenda sold 28 and was able to get loads of raffle prizes. We will make £3 on each ticket and the raffle prize money. There will be 6 rounds with 10 questions, as well as a picture round. We will start at 7pm prompt and there will be 3 rounds, (the picture round is ongoing). We will break at 7:45 for a meal and sell raffle tickets. We will start again at 8:30 and finish the other 3 rounds at about 9:15pm. We will then do the raffle. Brenda and Jan are on the door, Craig will do the quiz, Simon and the Chair will sell raffle tickets. Tony will fold them and Peter will direct people for meals. Teams will give their papers to be marked by other teams, then committee members check scores and see who the 3 prize winning tables are. Prizes are:- 1st prize £40, 2nd prize £25 and 3rd prize £15. The Chair to buy a ream of paper, pens and raffle tickets. Vegetarian numbers are needed.

6. EA and YDRT meeting update

This has already been explained in the Chair's report. Dan Turner will do a presentation for the next Town Council meeting on Tuesday 19th November. We will make posters and display on notice boards and Peter will do a leaflet drop round Water End. Brenda will bring her model of a leaky dam for residents to look at. Dan said that the new attenuation pond should be in within the next 6 months.

News about the CIL money

Sarah explained when the CIL money would be available. There are 2 conditions to fulfil, when Phase 1 is complete and the link road is open. This is explained in matters arising above, but Sarah also told us that the sports land is not in Brompton so that can't be one of the criteria.

7. Finance update

The balance at 31st August was £4287.09. We paid out 470 pounds for desilting which was given back by the last of the 106 money and Brenda was given 10 pounds to get the raffle prizes, so we now have £4277.09.

8. Correspondence

Jan and Peter were able to help the Town Council out with a flood risk assessment for the proposed pedestrian bridge which will hopefully help with their planning application.

AOB. Craig was concerned with the silt behind B & M but Mark Lillie from the EA has already explained that it is worse if that particular area had the weeds removed. Peter wrote to the Town Council so that his letter could be read out in the meeting to object to a barn type dwelling which was trying to be proposed on a flood plain near to his house. The flood group organised for objectors to use HDC site to object and the meeting was to take place on 14th November at 1:30
Sue Butler-Smith (Chair)

Next meeting To be arranged

8. PLANNING MATTERS.

(i) Decisions.

It was reported that Danes Crest development planning application had been approved at HDC Planning Committee with NYCC Highways providing additional signage to help slow cars down.

Mr Walker had carried out an additional traffic survey and it showed no increase in traffic but due to it being winter it was suggested it needed to be carried out again in Spring.

Councillors agreed to look at ownership of the cobbles at the bottom of Cockpit Hill to help with additional junction improvements which might include a crossing.

(ii) Applications.

19/023/09/CAT – Works to fell two Silver Birch trees in a Conservation Area at 37 Church View – No objections.

19/02384/CAT – Works to fell a tree in a Conservation Area at 98 Water End – No objections.

Councillor Sanderson confirmed that the planning application at Mr Spences farm had been passed but only with temporary permission for 2years so as to give him time to improve the site for the residents.

9. ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT.

Receipts –

Nil

Payments –

Mrs L Huang (Street Sweeping)	40.00
P Atkin (Salary)	322.64
P Atkin (Expenses)	To be added to January meeting
HMRC (PAYE)	68.00
NYCC – Yorwaste Ltd (Advance charges)	32.80
Sam Turner + Sons (Hammerite paint)	21.40
NYCC (printing of agendas)	10.00
Mr P Toman (98 hours labour)	1,176.00
Mr P Toman (Expenses – Petrol mix)	30.00
Hambleton District Council (Church View bin)	372.00
Hambleton District Council (Street Light for Hilton Green)	2,400.00

Bank Balances

Current Account - £200.00

Business Savings Account - £24,075.67

High Interest Account - £13.20

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

A query was raised about the balance sheets with a Councillor wishing to see a more detailed account/balance sheet. Councillor Hughill informed the Council that some Councils had a separate Treasurer to the Clerk and Councillor Sanderson confirmed that the Clerk at Brompton had been appointed as the Responsible Financial Officer to the Council many years previously.

Councillors agreed to look further into this matter so they could get a better understanding of the finances etc, especially as it was known that the Clerk had provided a comprehensive financial training session for the staff of Northallerton Town Council.

AGREED – That the Clerk be asked if he could provide a Financial Training Session for all Councillors and that a date be set accordingly.

10. PRECEPT LEVEL FOR THE 2020/21 FINANCIAL YEAR.

It was reported that the current Present Precept level was £45,000.00.

The Clerk had recommended that the Council should increase the new level to £62,000,00 in view of the likelihood of substantial tree works having to be carried out, the non-receipt of the CIL monies and the intention to upgrade the Recreation Ground; which if all materialise there could very well be a financial risk if the Councils balances having spent these monies fell to a low level and then something untoward occurred on which the Council would be required to spend monies. At the year-end on 31 March 2020 the Clerk had estimated that the Councils balances would have fallen to as low

as £13,000 as compared to more than £20,000 over the last six years – this amount being below the contingency sum recommended by the Auditors.

Councillor Sanderson queried the 33% increase and informed the group that Brompton had a similar Precept level to some of the large towns.

After discussion it was AGREED – That for the financial year 2020/21 the Precept level be again set at £45,000 and that Hambleton District Council be informed accordingly.

11. BROMPTON RECREATION GROUP - Update.

No matters were reported to the meeting under this agenda heading.

12. NORTHALLERTON ROAD RECREATION GROUND.

It was reported that top soil was available locally to help make the BMX jumps and that there was a local villager who can help with the BMX jumps

Matt Sykes the Chairman of Brompton Juniors Football Club attended meeting to ask if the Junior club could use the Recreation Ground on a Saturday/Sunday morning due to flooding at the football pitches as it had been an exceptionally wet winter and the Club was having to use vital funds to hire other pitches.

Councillors raised issues about parking on Northallerton Road due to the Dance School operating at those times of the day but Mr Sykes confirmed the children would be walked up from Weavers Pavilion and walked back so there would be no issues about car parking.

In addition a litter pick would be carried out at end of each session

AGREED – (i) That permission be granted to this request for a temporary trial of 3months (January to March)and that BJFC come back to the Council in April to discuss any issues and look at a permanent arrangement; and, (ii) the Chairman write to BJFC confirming the trial period.

Mr Sykes also asked for an update on the larger litter/dog waste bin it had requested. AGREED – That the Clerk be asked to provide an update on this matter.

At 8.00pm the meeting was opened to the public for the asking of questions.

(i) Mr B Walker informed the Council that a road sign at the crossroads at bottom of Lead Lane had been knocked down, a lamp post had already been demolished.

(ii) Mr Walker complained that road sweeper had been in village but had not been up Lead Lane. The Clerk had already taken this matter up with HDC.

(iii) Councillor Sanderson confirmed that measures would hopefully be put in place to secure the long term future of the Friarage Hospital; there being a new head of South Tees Trust. However there would be no new doctors surgery.

13. HIGHWAY MATTERS.

Street Light – Corner of Hilton Green

It was reported that two options were available from HDC –

Option 1 –

A new street light to cover the of Hilton Green/ Northallerton Road junction where the old telephone box was at the cost of £1,500 + VAT + the annual costs.

Option 2 -

Due the location proposed if the Parish Council were to pay £2000.00 (excluding VAT) Hambleton District Council would take ownership of the column.

This would cover

- Supply install of 5m column complete with LED lantern and part night photocell.
- Electricity board connection.
- Ongoing maintenance and testing
- All energy costs.

AGREED – That a new light ordered for the corner of Hilton Close/Northallerton Road at a total cost of £2,000.00 (excluding VAT)

Standing Flood Water, Northallerton Road

It was reported tht the following had been received from NY Highways -

The Highway Officer advises me that he is aware of this situation and is currently carrying out further investigations in conjunction with Taylor Wimpey. It appears from initial investigations there may some damage to drainage pipes but unfortunately until further investigation is carried out we are unable to confirm what action, if any, will be carried out to resolve the issue.

Highway Drains.

It was reported that 18/20 Mill Hill Close had an issue with flooding on the road/drive as water was not running into the drains. It was also reported that there was an issue with drains at the junction of Mill Hill Close and Northallerton Road. Councillor David Hugill undertook to look into getting the drains cleaned.

Church View/Green

Councillor Hugill undertook to look into the matter of hatching at the Church; the Council having agreed to pay for any painting costs.

Stokesley Road Footpath

Councillor Hugill reported that he had a quote from a company DTMS to improve the footpath along Stokesley Road. The quote was for £6,000.00 and he could use some of grant money to fund the works. However Councillors ARGEED - That the Councils workmen could do the work at a cheaper cost and that they could also look at placing a seat on the footpath.

Request for a Grit Bin at the Bottom of Corber Hill

It was reported that a resident had requested that the grit bin that had been relocated from the bottom of Corber Hill be reinstated in its original position. AGREED – That - (i) the request be not acceded to and that the grit bins remain where currently sited; and (ii) the workmen to be asked to look at all the bins and buy additional grit if needed

Church View Junction.

Councillor Kelly asked for update on Church View junction and Councillor Hugill confirmed that double yellow lines couldn't be placed at that location but white lines possibly could after consultation with local residents. Councillor Hugill undertook to look further into the matter.

The Chairman asked Councillor Hugill about the kerb on the old Northallerton Road not being the same level as footpaths and undertook to email Councillor Hugill with a photograph of the kerb.

The Chairman asked Councillor Hugill for an update on the 40mph limit on the small stretch of Northallerton Road. No update was yet available.

14. GREENS INSPECTION.

No new matters were reported to the meeting under this agenda item.

15. CORRESPONDENCE.

No items of correspondence were reported under this agenda heading.

16. ANY OTHER BUSINES.

(i) Date of Next Meeting.

AGREED – That the next meeting of the Council be held at 7.00pm in The Methodist Church on Tuesday 21 January 2020.

(ii) Sweeping.

A question was raised about the leaves around the Church and it was confirmed that role of the sweeper was to clear the leaves, bag them up and take them to the tip. It had been reported that the leaves have been put over the Church wall and are blowing around the Churchyard. AGREED – That Councillors to look at the role in more detail.

(ii) Hedgehog Signs.

Councillor Haynes requested Councillor to look at the matter of hedgehogs signs.

(iii) Councillors Training.

Councillor Haynes asked about training courses for the Councillors on varies issues AGREED – That the Clerk be requested to arrange whatever training Councillors consider that they need.

(iv) Bollards.

The following questions were raised - Who owns the cobbles and do the residents need informed before bollards go in at the junction of Lead Lane and The Green.

(v) Boulders.

Councillor Carveley asked for update on the stones for Water End

17. BURIAL MATTERS.

(i) Burial fees – To determine the level of Burial Fees to be applied from 1st January 2020.

AGREED – That for 2020 burial fees remain at their current level.

(ii) Cemetery Hedge.

It was mentioned that the Leylandi hedge needed to be reduced in width as it was over the paths.
AGREED – That the workmen be asked to carry out this work.

(iii) Cemetery Extension.

It was reported that the owners of the land had requested a meeting with Councillors Langthorne and Mrs Shiel Dods in the New Year. AGREED – That this request be agreed to and that Councillor Langthorne Miles arrange an appropriate date to meet.

The meeting closed at 9.15pm