

## Meeting of Brompton Town Council held on line on Tuesday 21st July 2020

PRESENT – On line – Councillors Dr K Carveley, Mrs S Haynes, Mrs E Kelly, Mrs M Shiel Dods, Mr M Langthone, Mr B Martin (in the Chair) and Mr S O’Sullivan.

There were no members of the public present on line.

### 1. APOLOGIES AND DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS.

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

### 2. APPOINTMENT OF CO-OPTED COUNCILLOR.

The Chairman and Vice-Chairman had interviewed Samantha J Brigginsaw of Mill Cottage 3B Water End, Brompton for the vacancy of Co-opted Councillor and recommended her appointment.

AGREED - That Mrs Samantha Brigginsaw be co-opted to serve on the Council until the next Elections in May 2023.

Councillor Brigginsaw handed her signed Declaration of Acceptance of Office to the Clerk.

### 3. MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 16th June 2020.

AGREED – That the Minutes of the Meeting of the Council held on the 16th June 2020, having been previously circulated, be taken as read and be confirmed and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

### 4. EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC.

AGREED - To Exclude the Public from the meeting for items 21 and 22 on the agenda under the provisions of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972 as the disclosure of information would at the present time be prejudicial to public interest.

### 5. LOCAL CRIME REPORT + CRIME STATISTICS FROM 2016 TO DATE.

- (i) The Clerk had obtained comprehensive crime statistics for the Parish of Brompton from 2016 to date. These had been compared to the monthly crime statistics that were presented to the Council. All Councillors had had copies of both sets of statistics from 2016 to date but it was likely to be sometime before any worthwhile comparisons had been worked out. However it had very recently been found that Sergeant Wilson had not yet retired so this provided a bit of leeway so that a case about Policing in Brompton could be taken up with his successor and with the Police Commissioner.
- (ii) Monthly Crime Figures.

Qualifier	No of Incidents	
Anti-Social Behaviour	8	
Auto crime	0	
Burglary :	<i>Commercial : 0</i>	<i>Residential : 0</i>
Criminal Damage	2	
Theft (including from shops)	0	
Violence Against the Person	4	
Other crimes including Drugs	0	

<b>TOTAL THIS PERIOD</b>	<b>14</b>	

- (iii) The following wording for the Brompton Community Page as well as the Councils Web site about Crime in the Village was AGREED -

The Parish Council has been made aware of an INCREASE in crime in the village.

Unfortunately many of these reports are never made to the Police, so we have a disconnect in the level of Police attendance.

Reports must be made of ALL crime that occurs in the village. There has been a marked increase in crime including Anti-social behaviour, criminal damage, drug dealing, and burglary. We are all responsible, reporting a crime means the chances increase of the offender being caught and brought to justice.

The Police keep records of all crimes and this information goes into the government statistics and can help to change the way crime is dealt with. Do your bit and report crime.

**HOW TO REPORT**

IF THE CRIME IS TAKING PLACE NOW 999

CALL 101 IF REPORTING AFTER THE EVENT

GO TO THE POLICE STATION

OR CALL CRIME STOPPERS 0800 555 111, IF YOU WISH TO REMAIN ANONYMOUS

- (iii) Letting of Properties.

AGREED – That a letter similar to that which had been sent to the local Letting Agents be sent to the landlord of the apartments at The Three Horse Shoes.

**6. CORONAVIRUS UPDATE.**

It was reported that the tapes had been removed from seats and the Recreation Ground play area had been re-opened. The BRG had also opened its play area.

(at this point Councillor Mrs Kelly joined the meeting)

**7. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES.**

- (i) Damaged Seat at Water End.

A damaged seat that was unsafe to sit on at Water End had been cordoned off so that people did not sit on it. The seat was not the Councils but had been erected privately and the family was to be asked if they wished to replace the seat as they had done in the past.

- (ii) Tree Works.

Hillside Tree Surgeons had removed further branches from trees at Water End that had snapped and were left hanging. They had also freed a telephone cable that had been tangled up in branches at Water End.

A response was still awaited from Mr Whitehead about tree inspections in the village as referred to at the last Council meeting,

(iii) Scots Pit Lane Appeal Update.

The date for submission in respect of the Appeal had now passed and a decision was now awaited from the Inspector. The likelihood was that a Public Inquiry will be held in 2021.

(iv) Parking at the Church.

Parking on the white lines at the Church continued to be a problem when funerals took place. The Council was therefore asking the PCC, the Vicar and Funeral Directors for supporting letters about this issue so that they could be used to again to put a case to the Highway Authority for yellow hatching or yellow lines. Currently the issue was being resolved by putting out cones. The Chairman said that he had received an email from County Councillor Hugill about the matter and it would be seen as to what effect the cones had. However it was noted that on one occasion someone had moved the cones.

(v) Annual Newsletter.

The Chairman had agreed that an article be placed in the Newsletter on behalf of Hambleton District Council about the dangers of putting batteries in the domestic waste and recycling bins. Also the article would include information that beer cans etc must not be completely flattened as they could get stuck in the recycling machines and stop them working. It was however ok to crush them but not to completely flatten them.

(vi) Works Schedule.

Weeds had been removed from the Church wall. Restoration of overgrown kerbed graves in the Cemetery was currently taking place. Pathways were being cut into the wild flower area. Boulders had been trimmed around so that they are visible.

Unfortunately Northallerton and Romanby Councils were unable to assist with weed spraying due to the vast backlogs of work caused by the coronavirus situation. Sam Turners was able to provide a commercial type gas weed burner with trolley for £99 and the Chairman considered that this was a worthwhile solution and investment for the future. There would of course be a need to acquire the gas bottle as well.

AGREED - That – (i) the Working Group draw up a list of non-recurring works and that Councillors give thought to jobs that they would like to see carried out in 2021, and (ii) a gas weed burner and gas bottle be purchased.

(i) Purchase of iPad.

Councillor Haynes had come forward with some specifications and prices for an iPad.

(ii) North Northallerton Development - Future Planning Applications and Allotments Site.

Received from HDC –

*In terms of applications to come through this would be a bit of a guessing game, although essentially all of the houses set out in the Outline now have reserved matters approval.*

- *There is a current County Council application for the new school, being dealt with by the County Council.*
- *Current application for the Sports Village*
- *I would expect to see at least one application for the Neighbourhood area to the west of the site.*

- *There is some discussion at present for the land to the west of Darlington Road, which is designated as employment land and again I would expect to see an application at some point.*
- *The Broadacres proposals for Sheepcote have stalled and as such I would anticipate a further application on that site as well.*

*Owing to the bank for the road, there is insufficient land to the north of the Link Road, to allow for the provision of allotments as envisaged in the Masterplan.*

Councillor Carveley referred to the sale of an area of land at the rear of The Shop but was advised that this was a private matter. As regards comments made in respect of planning applications the Vice-Chairman advised that if someone informed the Planning Authority that they did not wish their comments to be made public and kept confidential then they would not be published and would not be put on the public register.

No public being on line there were consequently no public questions raised at 8.00pm

#### 7. CHAIRMAN'S/VICE-CHAIRMAN'S ACTIONS.

None reported to date.

#### 9. REPORTS.

None reported to date.

#### 10. PLANNING MATTERS –

(i) Applications. (ii) Appeal re Land adjacent to 53 Water End.

20/01106/ADV - Application for advertisement consent to display 2no non-illuminated Fascia Board V Signs and 3no Flags/Flagpoles - LOCATION: Taylor Wimpey Development William's Heath - Northallerton P2 Darlington Road Northallerton – No objections.

20/01251/LBC - Listed building consent for the installation of a first floor fire escape window, interconnecting fire doors internally and other internal alterations

LOCATION: North Yorkshire County Council The Close 58 Northallerton Road Brompton – No objections.

(ii) Appeal re Land adjacent to 53 Water End.

An appeal has been lodged by the applicant into the refusal of planning permission on land adjacent to 53 Water End.

(iii) The Workshop, Stokesley Road.

The District Councils Enforcement Officer is currently looking into matters raised by a resident about The Workshop, Stokesley Road.

#### 11. ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT.

##### Receipts –

Brompton Allotments Group (allotments rent)	1,200.00
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##### Payments –

P Atkin (Salary)	344.00
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P Atkin (Expenses)	30.89
HMRC (PAYE)	68.00
CE + CM Walker (June grasscutting + verge cutting)	2,188.80
Sam Turner and Sons (wheelbarrow, barrier tape + fence board)	133.66
Darrell Langthorne (4 days at car park)	400.00
YDS Ltd (4 days hire of JCB + £20 fuel)	220.00
P Atkin (Reimbursement of payment to J Walton JCB - £100 + Soil Liner - £100 + Fuel £20) - £220.00	
Metcalfe Farms (Gravel for allotments car park)	1,189.57
Brompton Methodist Church (Room Hire)	324.00
Hillside Tree Surgeons (Works to three trees)	270.00
Mr P Toman (144 hours labour)	1,728.00
Mr P Toman (Expenses)	30.00
Mr R Douglas (Outstanding balance re the 2 noticeboards already paid for)	60.00
Mr R Douglas (Third noticeboard including fitting)	800.00
Mr R Douglas (Repair to allotment fence) One cheque – total + £1,304.00	444.00

#### Bank Balances

Current Account - £200.00

Business Savings Account - £21,472.67

High Interest Account - £13.20

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

#### 12. ALLOTMENTS SITE – Update - Including Car Park Restoration Works.

The Vice-Chairman expressed her thanks to everyone who had helped with car park works particularly when they had even turned up at 7.30am to work in the rain. The allotment holders were delighted with the works as there would be no more potholes in the car park in the future. There was also a plan to see if a further two allotments could be created in the roped off area. A meeting of the Allotments Group was to be held on the 8th August to look further into this.

The car park restoration works had commenced on the 24th June and were now nearly complete. Slightly more gravel had been required than had been estimated but this would avoid the need for more to be purchased in the future should there be any sinkage. Photos of the new car park were to go on the Council's web site.

#### 13. BROMPTON RECREATION GROUP – Update – Including close of gate.

The gate at the BRG field had been locked for the some time as travellers were camped in town and some persons had been seen looking at the field at the same time. Councillor Sullivan said that the travellers had moved on and therefore the gate was open again. It was planned that the works to the fencing would start on the 1<sup>st</sup> August. The Sportmans and Brompton Juniors Football Clubs were to be offered credit notes for when they had been unable to use the field when it was flooded.

The Football Club had applied for funding to the Football Association fence the field along the beck side. The Clerk commented that normal leases would require the consent of the landowners before such works could be undertaken but the Lease from the Council to the former BRA would need to be checked in this respect. The application for funding however was only in its early stages. There was also a need to look into who was responsible for maintaining the trees although the Clerk expressed the view that he was sure that it would be the Council as it had carried out works to the in the past.

14. NORTHALLERTON ROAD RECREATION GROUND - Safety Inspection carried out on 12 July 2020.

The safety inspection revealed few matters that required attention.

The replacement of the swing seats was already a matter agreed before coronavirus. There were gaps in the safety surfacing that needed to be filled in and the workman was extracting the overhead bolts to from the swings to see if there was any wear inside the mechanism that was not visible from the outside.

The main safety item that was being resolved by Mr Douglas the joiner was the surface of the seat on the rocket that had worn away and had left sharp edges.

Rubber grips needed to be fitted to the handles and feet of both the fire engine and the horse.

The rubber sleeves to protect the springs on both the fire engine and the horse were cracked but could be repaired by adding over-sleeves.

The two picnic benches needed further brackets on the legs to stop them from moving side to side.

Nails sticking out of the double gate post had been sorted out by Mr Toman as that matter had come up prior to the safety inspection. Mr Davidson was to replace some fence posts near the single access gate and had sorted out some nails and screws that were sticking through the fence.

15. HIGHWAY MATTERS.

(i) Restoration of Road Markings by Statutory Undertakers.

Concerns had been raised about the standard of work by Statutory Undertakers in repainting road markings on the highway after they have dug trenches etc. In a recent case only the road markings that had been affected by the trench had been repainted in and the faded remainder of the Keep Clear letters had been left untouched.

AGREED – That this matter be pursued with NY Highways.

(ii) Wall along both sides of Cockpit Hill.

Concerns had been raised about the state of the wall along both sides of Cockpit Hill. Recently bricks and other materials had either fallen off the wall or had been knocked off by passing vehicles into the highway. The wall was not the Councils but on occasions urgent replacement of bricks had been carried out by Brompton Council. Photographs of the current condition of the wall had been sent to NY Highways who it was assumed was responsible for the wall. Brompton Council could not legally

work in the highway to carry out any repairs and due to the deterioration of the condition of the brickwork and stonework must not be seen to take over responsibility for the wall by default.

AGREED – That the Clerk continue to pursue this matter with NY Highways.

(iv) Speeding on Lead Lane (possible speed matrix sign).

NY Highways had been approached about a speed matrix sign on Lead Lane following concerns from residents about speeding and the increase in traffic along Lead Lane since the new North Northallerton development had been occupied. The cost was likely to be in the region of £3,800 + advance warning signs. NY Highways had suggested that it would be appropriate to have a speed survey carried out before any decision was made. If it was decided to acquire a speed matrix sign then it would be for NY Highways to determine its position.

The Clerk reported that speed surveys were carried out by the Safety Partnership and there will be a waiting list of Parishes before a survey would be carried out. The last two speed surveys carried out in the Station Road area had revealed speeds well below the 30mph limit.

The signs that were put out for 6 weeks at a time at the approach to the School and at on Northallerton Road could be moved to any other position as they were connected to fixed points in the highway.

The alternative would be to reinstate the red raised markings across the carriageway at Lead Lane which were there for a short time some years ago but were removed after complaints from a resident that when empty agricultural trailers went across them at night time they kept him awake.

The Vice-Chairman reported on concerns about a lady in the village who had been cutting back overgrowth around the School sign on Lead Lane one evening. The Clerk reported that he had also had to speak to the same person in the last year about trimming back a tree which he considered was also dangerous for her to be doing.

The Vice-Chairman also mentioned that there was a need to look at traffic on Cockpit Hill especially the traffic that would be accessing the new building site off Danes Crest. The Vice-Chairman also reported that the Highways Engineer who had recently met with herself and the Chairman had stated that cobbles at the foot of Cockpit Hill opposite the entrance to Danes Crest were in the County Councils Highways ownership.

Councillor Langthorne pointed to the need to cut the grass on Lead Lane and the Vice-Chairman said that the Councils workman could trim this area. Councillor Langthorne undertook to show the Vice-Chairman the area that needed to be trimmed

AGREED – That a Working Group be established consisting of Councillors Kelly and Brigginsshaw and the Clerk to look at traffic issues and traffic speeds problems and to have regard to measures that have been taken in other villages in the Hambleton District.

(v) Traffic on Cockpit Hill.

Received for a resident –

*I am a resident of cockpit hill Brompton, and have been for 25 years . I have become increasingly aware of speeding through our village , especially the cross roads at the crown near the school and over cockpit hill in particular . My property steps directly onto the brow of cockpit hill and Myself and my neighbours risk our safety daily stepping out of my own gateway. This hill has never seen so much traffic in the 25 years I have lived here. I wondered has there ever been an attempt to reduce the 30 mph limit over this hill . I have recently noticed that the 30 mph follows on down by the narrow lane to the village inn . This area has curb side parking and 30mph is a ridiculous*

*speed to travel at in this village area . I am even more concerned as the new development addition to Danes crest is going underway and the potentially 21 new properties /cars all using this access road . Can we ask that the speed in the whole of Brompton be reduced to 20mph , who has this power ? And how can we get this in place before any more accidents , the cross roads are a major hazard pulling out from cockpit hill and cars fly round when approaching cockpit hill .. Which has a blind summit and resident access directly onto the road ??  
I would be interested in any update or concerns and the future of the safety of our roads*

The Clerk had responded to the residents concerns and all Councillors had been copied into that reply.

(iii) Removal of Hedge on Fullicar Lane.

The Chairman had reported that a line of hedging along Fullicar Lane had been removed by the landowner. The Planning Authority had investigated and had been shown by the landowner a photo of the hedge and fence combined together and that was what he had taken out. The position was that it was only illegal to remove a hedge over 30 years old and in this case it has been proved that it was not really a hedge but a fence with a hedge growing through it.

16. AJ1 PROJECT ROAD SAFETY FUNDING – To agree to support a project for Funding from the sale of the Registration Plate AJ1 by the Police Authority.

The Clerk reported that monies were available from the sale of the former Chief Constables car registration plate AJ1 for road safety projects. Councillors had indicated that they would like to support the project that the School intended to put forward as a bid for some of this money but to date the details of that project were unknown. Councillor White undertook to contact the Primary School to see if they had the details of their application for this funding stream

AGREED - That the Working Group as outlined above look at drawing up a suitable application for AJ1 funding.

17. GREENS INSPECTION – Including Bulb Planting and cutting of west side of Water End past the Water Splash.

The Chairman had ordered bulbs for planting in the Autumn.

Following comments from residents the boulders on the west side of the Green past the Water Splash have been strimmed round so that they are visible and this work will continue as necessary periodically.

The following wording appears on the first page of the Councils web site –

*Several years ago the Parish Council drew up a local plan for Brompton which examined a diverse range of improvements that could be put in place to increase diversity of the flora and fauna of the village, improving the environment. Our wonderful flood group have gone to considerable lengths to plant trees and hedging as part fo their flood defence work, and the time at last has come for the Parish Council to work to improve the environment on our greens.*

*The far end of the Greens past the water ford at Water End, is where Brompton meets the countryside, the ford providing a separation from the other greens. Recent times have seen high use of these spaces not only by Brompton villagers, but also those from Northallerton and further afield. Brompton Parish Council are very proud of this wonderful space, and want to do our part to help diversity. We are very keen to keep our village feel, and whilst we appreciate that lots of people like well manicured grass, the Greens are not Municipal parks, or domestic gardens, and having a less manicured feel is much more in keeping with a country village ethos.*



*Perhaps a little history will help fill in the ways in which the Greens have over the years changed. During the Second World War the Greens were dug up and used to grow vegetables for the war effort. Prior to that and for decades after the Wars the Greens had animals grazing on them, and many of the properties at Water End still retain those rights. As such the Greens being cut short is a relatively modern thing, and many older villagers have spoken of the wonderful wildflowers there were years ago when the grass was only cut by four legged mowers!*

*The process of returning this area of the Greens back to nature has now begun and a decision was made at Council, unanimously, to cease to cut the grass at Water End. The many dog walkers have successfully worn their normal walking paths down, and we have received many encouraging comments about allowing this area to return to nature. We have cordoned off two areas in which the plan is over the next three years to establish a healthy area of wildflowers. This can take time and we have been somewhat hampered initially. The area was scarified first. Seed was sown twice but the cold spring and the well established grass has further hampered germination, but this is an ongoing project which will evolve over time. We aim for the wildflowers to spread over the whole area. Despite this, mid spring saw a wonderful display of yellow dandelions, and now the tall nodding heads of grasses, all of which are buzzing with insect life, frogs, toads butterflies ;and moths. Some species of wildflowers have already tentatively shown themselves. In the autumn we will sow yellow rattle which will hamper grass growth its growth to give the wildflowers more of a chance. We would be delighted for anyone to offer their assistance in making this area special.*

Several emails had been received from residents expressing concerns about the state of the grass on both sides of Water End past the Water Splash. These have been circulated to Councillors. Councillor Haynes pointed to the very busy week she had had in this respect and the need for further strimming to take place and outlined why due to lockdown and the weather things had not gone as had been originally planned. She also referred to the number of people who had spoken to her and had expressed how good they thought the project was. It had been disappointing that one person had been very aggressive towards her.

There was a need to start off the planting again and the Vice-Chairman said that there was a rotovator at the allotments. As regards dog fouling Councillor Haynes and the Clerk had looked at the site at different times and had seen no evidence of dog fouling.

It was felt that communication was the key to resolving any concerns and the Chairman pointed to the need to involve the schools and family groups after September. After further discussion it was AGREED – That the Council continue with wild flower project and continue to finance the Working Group up to the sum of £500.00 on the Councils Sam Turners account as to what is needed to see the project move forward.

The Clerk asked Councillors that if they were approached by persons objecting to the project and those questions were of a legal nature such as in connection with Greens then such questions be referred to him to respond to.

It was also AGREED – That the next new Notice Board be sited at the Water Splash.

## 18. CORRESPONDENCE.

(i) Devolution – White Paper Autumn 2020.

The Clerk reported that a White Paper on Devolution was expected in the Autumn and that this could have a serious effect on the future of Hambleton District Council.

Simon Clarke MP's speech to the Local Government Annual Conference last made on 8<sup>th</sup> July 2020.

Of major significance is the following -

*"Concerning a radical rethink of how we support communities at local level -*

*this Government will be pressing ahead with the publication of our White Paper on Devolution this Autumn*

*Providing a place-based strategy to boost economic performance in every part of the Country .... - with many more elected mayors and Unitary Councils in the footsteps of Dorset, Buckinghamshire and Northamptonshire"*

- with the new Councils coming into effect in 2022.

. 19. ANY OTHER BUSINESS.

- (i) Date of Next Meeting.

AGREED - That the next meeting be held online at 7.00pm on Tuesday 18th August 2020.

- (ii) Working Parties.

AGREED AS FOLLOW -

Cemetery Extension – Councillors Mrs Sheil Dods and Councillor Langthorne

Wildlife Area - Sarah + Samantha

Crime Stats + meeting the Police - The Chairman, Councillor Carely and the Clerk.

Works Schedule – Councillors Mrs Sheil Dods and S OSullivan

Speeding and Highway Safety (Liaison with the School) – Councillors Mrs Brigginsshaw and White and the Clerk

Flood Group – Councillor Haynes + a n other

Circular Footpaths Project + Information Board Development – Councillor Haynes and Councillor Brigginsshaw

North Northallerton Development + Alternative Allotment Site Provision - Councillors Ms Shiel Dods and Langthorne

ICT - Councillors Haynes and Carveley

- (iii) Proposed Walk around the Village.

AGREED - That the Clerk email Councillors as to a suitable day and time.

- (iv) To consider supporting the Closure of Northallerton High Street to through traffic on Market Days.

Councillors had commented that they would wish to see the closure of part of the High Street continue for market days after the current coronavirus situation had passed. There had been letters in the Press recently both supporting this and speaking against it. The main objections were the traffic situation which had been somewhat unexpected on the first day of the closure and the fact that the road closures involved a fee.

AGREED – That the Council requests that this matter be placed on the agenda for the next meeting of the Northallerton and Villages Community Forum.

- (v) Planning Application for the Pedestrian Bridge.

AGREED – That the planning application be not withdrawn but that the Vice-Chairman contact Geo Whites the agents of Bedale to ask that they re-access the existing planning application as to whether a fresh application should be submitted and for them to advise as to the preparation of the Environmental Statement.

(vi) Footpath Signs from The Green Tree.

AGREED – That the Vice-Chairman speak to Mr Douglas the joiner about traditional wood direction footpath signs as opposed to metal ones.

(vii) Overgrowth along Footpath along Stokesley Road.

AGREED – That strimming along Stokesley Road footpath be added to the works schedule.

## 20. BURIAL MATTERS.

### 1. Restoration of kerbed graves.

The Clerk reported that the workman was currently restoring overgrown kerbed graves in the Cemetery by replacing the weed control membranes and renewing the gravel where necessary.

### 2. Headstone.

The Clerk reported that the issue about the erection of a headstone had been resolved. This arose due to a mistake 27 years ago which resulted in the wife not being able to be buried next to her deceased husband. The family were happy with where the headstone for their mother and father was to placed. Councillors had been consulted and had agreed that the fee for the erection of a headstone in this case be waived.

AGREED – That the actions taken in this matter be endorsed.

### **The following items of business were considered in Private Session.**

21. CEMETERY EXTENSION – PROGRESS AS REGARDS EXTENSION.

22. ALLOTMENTS – POSSIBLE OPENING OF NEGOTIATIONS FOR FURTHER ALLOTMENTS SITE.

The meeting ended at 10.15pm