

# **BROMPTON TOWN COUNCIL**

## **OCTOBER 2020**

**MEMBERSHIP OF THE COUNCIL** – The current Members of the Council are as follows -

Dr K Carveley – 53 Church View  
Mrs S Briginshaw - Mill Cottage, 3B Water End  
Mrs S Haynes – 56 Church View  
Mr M Langthorne - 7 Lead Lane  
Mr B Martin (Chairman) – 8 The Green  
Mr S O’Sullivan – 7 The Green  
Mrs M Shiel Dods (Vice-Chairman) – 45B Northallerton Road  
Mrs Emily Kelly – 2 Mill Hill Close

Mrs Isobel Sanderson and myself are the Parish’s representatives on Hambleton District Council and the local County Council representative for this area is County Councillor David Hugill. The Council would like to thank Mrs Sanderson and David Hugill for all the time and effort they put into helping support the Councils position in other forums and in debates at the District Council and the County Council. Both are regular attenders at the monthly Council meetings.

The Council has for a considerable time operated below its full complement of 9 Councillors. Co-opted vacancies have recently been advertised and one has been filled but **there is still currently a vacancy on the Council. Any resident on the Electoral Register may apply to the address on the last page of this Newsletter to be considered for co-option to the Council.**

The free time given by Councillors is valuable not only in how their various contributions have improved the quality of life of others in the community but also from a financial viewpoint of the savings the Council has managed to make through their voluntary efforts. Whilst the Council meets monthly and also has some other commitments through its representation on a number of other bodies it accepts that not everyone is able to make a full commitment to be able to attend meetings every month. Consequently if you are mindful of becoming a Councillor so long as you are able to attend meetings when you are free to do so do not think that being away on holidays or for work commitments some of the time will exclude you from being considered.

### **Herbert Langthorne**

Herbert Langthorne, commonly known as Bert, a very long-standing former Parish Councillor and for many years it’s Chairman died in April. Bert was also for some time a member of Hambleton District Council. Not only did Bert devote much of his time to Council work he was also one of Yorkshires best known farming personalities and a great musician and sportsman. Bert loved his music being able to play a wide variety of instruments and at one time had his own dance band – The Bert Langthorne Band. For many years Bert played his accordion at many events mainly for local charities. From a young age Bert was a very proficient cricketer and played football until he was 37 when he took up rugby instead, playing until he was 61!

Bert always put in a float in the Carnival playing his musical instruments on the back and often dressed up as a woman in a wig and ladies dress. Bert was also a founder member of the Brompton Recreation Association and was much involved in fund raising to see that what is now the BRG and Weavers Pavilion got off the ground. Bert farmed an increasingly large herd of dairy cattle and also grew potatoes and was a former County Chairman of the North Yorkshire and Durham County Branch of the NFU. In 2001 he was named as the Yorkshire Personality of the Year in the annual Farming in Yorkshire magazine awards.

We could go on but it would probably fill the rest of this newsletter. Suffice to say that Bert hardly ever missed a meeting of the Parish Council and was closely involved in everything that makes the Council and the village tick.

### **David Winter**

Dave Winter a longstanding member of the Council during the 2000's also died recently. Like Bert there wasn't much that Dave didn't know about issues in the local community and if he didn't know he soon found out. Also like Bert Dave was a very practical person which can save a small Council like Brompton quite a bit of money as he was always able to suggest alternative less costly solutions when a problem arose.

### **Affects of Coronavirus**

The Council appreciates the co-operation of residents with regard to social distancing brought about by the coronavirus crisis. Unfortunately this meant that many of our traditional Spring/ Summer time events in the village had to be cancelled this year, however organisers are already working on their events in readiness for 2021.

There was an influx of dog walkers from other areas into the village immediately after the announcement of lockdown but this levelled off after about two weeks.

The totally unexpected coronavirus situation has meant that the Council has had to give very serious consideration as to how it will proceed over the next two years having regard to the fact that many residents will continue to struggle for some time into the future with a multitude of financial issues that have been brought about by the crisis.

### **Nil % COUNCIL TAX INCREASE**

In December 2019 the Council decided not to increase its Precept from the £45,000 it had agreed for the previous financial year of 2019/20.

This means that for the 12 months from 1 April 2020 to 31 March 2021 the Parishes Council Tax will remain the same.

The Council has also more recently agreed that for 2021/22 the level of Council Tax will not increase from the current level of £45,000. However this means that a number of projects that it was hoped would be completed between 2020 and the end of March 2022 will not now go ahead. These include –

The refurbishment of the play equipment in the Recreation Ground; improvements to play equipment and an installation of a BMX track in the Recreation Park and the construction of a bus shelter near Hilton Close.

In addition the Council has also been using the services of only one workman this year.

Also removed from the budget were the projects regarding the relaying of the Councils car park at the foot of Cockpit Hill and the addition of more boulders around the Village Green at Water End. However there is a possibility that there will be sufficient monies in the budget to relay the gravel surface on the car park but not perhaps to carry out any other planned works such as new fencing.

Councillor Mrs Emily Kelly and her husband recently carried out new works to their own garden and found that they had a surplus of thirty large boulders which they very kindly donated to the Council. These have now been placed where Councillors intended them to go a year ago on the west side of The Green at Water End. This very generous donation has saved the Council a considerable amount of money. The reason that the boulders had not been extended until recently was due to the high costs since the previous supply was originally purchased and the fact that they are in very short supply locally and due to their weight transportation costs from suppliers in the south of the country are prohibitive.

## **CURRENT NEWS** –

### **Wildflower Areas**

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 has gone to considerable lengths to plant trees and hedging as part of their flood defence work, and the time at last has come for the 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 Council is very proud of this wonderful space, and wants to do its 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 past the Water Splash. 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 on-going 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 to give the wildflowers

more of a chance. We would be delighted for anyone to offer their assistance in making this area special.

The Council still intends to enter the Yorkshire In Bloom contest in 2021 – this is the beginning of helping to transform the fortunes of our wildflower meadows - 98% of which across the UK have disappeared over the last 40 years as agriculture has intensified.

Daffodil planting also took place this past year and will continue again in the Autumn to infill the gaps in daffodils around the Greens.

### **Reporting Local Crime**

The Town 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 crimes that occur 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. **Please 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**

We have a new PCSO covering the Parish – details below –

**Dougie Beveridge**  
**Collar Number: 3758**  
**PCSO**  
**Northallerton**  
**North Yorkshire Police**

***Committed to the Code of Ethics***

**Dial 101, press option 2 and ask for me by my full name or collar number.  
If using my collar number, please state each number individually.**

## 100<sup>th</sup> Birthday Celebrations

If you are aware of anyone in the Parish who will be celebrating their 100<sup>th</sup> Birthday this year please send details of their name and address to the Clerk at [Bromptonpc@aol.com](mailto:Bromptonpc@aol.com)

The Council has agreed that it will send a birthday card and flowers to a lady or an appropriate gift to a gentleman who reaches this age in Brompton Parish.

## Proposal for the Establishment of a Unitary Authority and Devolution

Our current County Council/ District Council Local Government arrangement could alter by May 2022 as there is currently a proposal to establish a Unitary Authority for this area for a single Authority based on the County Councils area or alternatively based on the seven District Councils – both proposals may include the City of York. The last time changes of this magnitude took place in North Yorkshire was in 1974 and the before that in 1933. Progress on this matter can be followed on the North Yorkshire County Council and the Hambleton District Councils web sites. Frequent updates are also put on Facebook by both Councils.

## Waste Collection

With regard to the disposal of cans the contractor Hambleton District Council uses for sorting mixed recycling are two facilities the first will extract the majority of recyclable material, but what is left is then sorted at the second facility to make sure that nothing has slipped through which could possibly be recycled. At the end of the two process all that will be left is contamination.

Although the sorting process for the recycling is very robust it has been suggested that **it would be better that cans weren't completely flattened to reduce the chance of them becoming lodged in machinery or slipping through the conveyors etc. Squeezing them horizontally to allow more room in the bin is fine but please don't flatten them with your foot, this is something that was recommended years ago but is no longer necessary.**

Between April and June Hambleton District Council saw a 23% increase in their kerbside collected recycling. This was brought about by more families at home, and people having more time to efficiently sort their waste. HDC want to thank all those that have made a real effort to recycle over this difficult period and for the appreciation shown to our refuse and recycling crews.

Batteries in recycling and waste have also become a real issue:-

The waste industry at the moment is experiencing a real problem with fires caused by batteries in collection vehicles and at sorting facilities. These fires risk lives and have huge cost implications, therefore it is essential that everyone is aware of how they should be disposed of correctly. **No batteries of any variety should be placed in refuse or recycling bins, most small batteries can be returned to the supermarket or DIY store you where you purchased them from once used.** However, **some batteries packs found in phones, vape devices, laptops, re-chargeable toys, power tools etc. and car batteries should be taken to Yafforth Road, Household Waste Recycling Centre, Northallerton** where they will be recycled free of charge. If a battery can't be removed from an electrical item such as a phone then the whole item should be recycled at the HWRC using the electrical items collection point. For more information on recycling in Hambleton please contact [tracey.flint@hambleton.gov.uk](mailto:tracey.flint@hambleton.gov.uk).

**The main items of business with which the Council has been involved in the past extremely busy year have been as follows –**

**Use of Land off Station Road as a Waste Site.**

There have been fears in the village that land off Station Road behind Linen Way would become a waste site of some description, perhaps involving the movement of waste materials and skips.

There has been recent activity on the site in respect to the possible establishment of a Concrete Panel Manufacturing site – for which at the present time there is no planning consent and of which Hambleton District Council is aware, however as the site is already classified as industrial land there could be certain aspects that would not require planning consent but may need Environment Agency consents.

**Improvements to the Recreation Ground on Northallerton Road**

The Council has for some time been looking at how it can improve the play facilities at the Recreation Ground on Northallerton Road. However the planned improvements have had to be deferred until 2022.

It was hoped that new junior swings and a junior slide and perhaps an item of toddler play equipment could be installed. There were also plans to install at a future date a zip wire and a series of BMX jumps towards the eastern edge of the field. The area would be covered by CCTV as in the past year there has been a degree of vandalism especially the breaking of glass on the surface of the play area.

However due to keeping the Precept level at its current amount the most that could be accomplished this year would be either the junior swings or the junior slide.

In the future it is also intended to review the small play area on the Green at Water End.

**AJ1 Funding Project**

The Council has applied to the Police and Crime Commissioner for funding for a Vehicle Activated Speed sign for Lead Lane due to the increase in the volume of traffic along Lead Lane since the majority of the houses at the North Northallerton Development have been occupied. It is also concerned that traffic speeds along Lead Lane have increased.

The Police Authority has placed £190,000 in a road safety fund for local Councils to bid for monies from the sale of the former Chief Constables historic car registration number AJ1. The results of the bid will be known later this month and the bid also includes moneys for advance warning signs. The Council has advised the Police and Crime Commissioner that it would match fund a grant of £7,000 (50 – 50 – ie £3,500 with funding from each).

**Footpaths**

The public footpath along the eastern side of Northallerton Road towards the new North Northallerton development has been dug out by the Councils workman and cleared of weeds etc. This was very overgrown and its neglected state discouraged people from walking along it. Since it was dug out in April there has been a marked increase in the number of pedestrians who walk along this side of Northallerton Road instead of the western side, which of course is a cycle path.

Again this year the Council has continued to maintain the footpath along the west side of Stokesley Road from the Lead Lane junction to Hellikeld corner/ Long Lane to provide a safe country walk for residents. The Packhorse bridge on Long Lane, which is a historical feature in the Parish is to be cleared of overgrown vegetation.

A Working Group is currently looking at how circular footpath routes around the village can be provided for the enjoyment of walkers.

The Council is also currently working towards improving a footpath link from Stokesley Road, north of The Green Tree Inn through to the Danes Crest Estate so that it links up with the rest of the village particularly for pedestrians walking from Stokesley Road so that they can avoid walking along Lead Lane where there is no footpath. This will be particularly useful for residents who walk their children to the Primary School. When this materialises signs will be erected to indicate the route of the footpath.

The Council wrote to North Yorkshire County Council to support a proposal to open up Scots Pit Lane to walkers and horse riders with the route being included on the Definitive Rights of Way Map. As the County Council has referred the matter to the Secretary of State this proposal is likely to go to a Public Inquiry during 2021.

It is clearly evident that the route was well used for over 100 years prior to a Public Hearing that took place in the mid 1990's and until that era there was apparently no contention about the use of Scots Pit Lane by the general public - both walkers and horse riders.

Whilst the site of the burial ground of the Scottish army is merely a field with no commemorative decoration there are many such battle grounds throughout the UK that are similar in nature but where the general public would wish to just go and view out of historical interest. To add this route to the Definitive Map would provide the public with an experience of viewing the Battle of the Standard monument and walking Scots Pit Lane perhaps all the way into Brompton to view the historic St Thomas's Church which receives many UK and international visitors to view the Anglo Saxon pre 10<sup>th</sup> Century hog backs.

Whilst a west to east walk along Scots Pit Lane is perfectly feasible the limited size of the lay-by at the Monument would restrict this therefore if the route was opened up the Council could undertake production of Visitor leaflets and publicity on the internet on its web site etc for visitors to come into the village and walk along the route to the Monument in an east to west direction and back - a total distance of approximately 6 miles - a walk that in time could be made a very pleasant experience.

It is of course dangerous for walkers to try to view the site of the Scots Army encampment off Darlington road due to the speed and volume of the traffic.

Another aspect that the Council considers to be of great importance relates to education. Brompton Community Primary School lies very close to the site. It is important that local children learn about the history of their own community and in particular the Battle of the Standard - after all how many such schools in the whole of the UK lie within such a short distance of where a significant battle took place?

In addition, it is important that these children over time pass what they have learnt onto their own children and grandchildren etc.

An outdoor experience will greatly enhance what can be achieved by classroom lessons once restoration work has been carried out.

### **New Street Light**

A new street light has been erected, paid for by Brompton Council, on the area of land where the telephone box stood on the entrance to Hilton Close. This is because the bus stops close by and the pavement is on an incline where if it is icy this may not be seen in the dark.

Also one of the Councils seats has been relocated to this site.

### **Construction of a footbridge - Brompton Sports and Recreation Field Station Road Brompton**

The Council is still pursuing the issue of pedestrian safety by the construction of a metal footbridge from the school grounds across the beck to the BRG car park land. The existing footway across the bridge would remain as existing however pedestrian movements at peak times would be considerably lessened through use of the foot bridge.

The Council has engaged an Agent to take this matter forward and hopes to submit a new planning application to the District Council in the near future.

### **Allotments**

Brompton allotments are situated on Fullicar Lane, just along from Water End. The allotments operate a waiting list for those wishing to be considered for a plot.

The allotments sadly lost all of its previous bees however a new swarm is to be introduced.

The allotment holders are very grateful for the continuing help and support of the Town Council who have very recently completed works to improve the car park facilities.

In return the Allotments Group is assisting with the Councils wild flower initiative.

For further information please contact Val Coe on 07908 158255

Please note that Fullicar Lane which leads to the allotments is a private road. Although it has a tarmac surface it is strictly a Bridleway with permissive vehicular rights. It is important therefore that any motorists using Fullicar Lane do so at a slow speed and with care as it is likely that should an incident occur insurance cover would not be valid.

### **Car Park at the bottom of Cockpit Hill**

There are quite a number of deep depressions in the surface of the car park at the rear of the school which the Council therefore intends to resurface as these get filled with water when it rains. The other intention is to extend the car park by two metres along the southern boundary – ie where the white fence line is at present. The soil and grass where the boundary hedge used to be is to be removed and the roadside fence will be moved in so as to provide a grassed path to walk along to the bridge.

The Council has approved a set of rules regarding parking on the site which are available on request – the main rules are –

Car park spaces will only be available on a “first come first served basis”. No parking space will be allocated to any particular resident or vehicle.



Only vehicles having current Road Fund Licence and valid Insurance cover will be permitted to park on the land. Any vehicle not complying with the aforesaid will be reported to the Police.

Only vehicles owned by residents of the Parish of Brompton are permitted to park on the land.

Only private cars, motorcycles or vans no larger than a SWB Ford Transit may be parked on the land.

The parking of any trailers, camper vans, caravans, horse boxes, tractors, boats or boat trailers is not permitted without the previous written consent of the Council.

### **Tree Works**

During the past year the Council has changed its tree contractor. Until the coronavirus crisis the new contractor had been very busy in catching up with tree works that were programmed for last year. The Council is extremely pleased with the high quality of these works and the fact that the new contractor has come out immediately to deal with any broken branches during the coronavirus crisis so that they were not in danger of falling on the public.

Expenditure on tree works is very difficult to determine. In the past year very little work has had to be carried out as no large mature trees have needed to be felled. Annually the Council budgets in the region of £7,000 for works to the 165 mature trees around the village just in case.

### **Defibrillators**

There are four defibrillators around the Village, three of which have been provided by Brompton Council – one at The Shop on Northallerton Road, one at the corner of De Bruce Road, one outside the Village Inn and one at Weavers Pavilion (provided by the Junior Football Club).

### **Works around the Village**

Since April the Council has engaged a self-employed workman, Mr Paul Toman for a vast variety of tasks around the village. This has proved very cost-effective compared to having to get contractors in for each job and will continue until the end of this month as necessary. Paul has carried out a wide variety of tasks including restoration of footpaths, weed removal, removal of secondary growth from trees, painting, restoration of kerbed graves in the Cemetery etc, etc. Paul also had a lot of work to carry out earlier in the year in connection with coronavirus protection issues. The Council wishes to place on record its appreciation of all the hard work that Paul has undertaken in the village in the past eight months.

### **Skilled Workers**

There are occasions when the Council needs to carry out works that involve specialist skills – be that bricklaying, welding, joinery work or similar tasks. The Council therefore intends to set up a list of local people who are able to carry out these works as and when required. If you are a Brompton business – perhaps a self-employed or semi-retired person, who would be interested in placing your name on such a list please send your details and the type of work that you would be interested in to the Council.

## Notice Boards

New locally made notice boards are currently going up around the village. These are to a traditional design which will complement the village appeal of Brompton. The existing notice boards have served the village well for many years but are now beyond their best.

## Grants

In the past two years the Council has made grants to the Flood Prevention Group, the BRG and the Parochial Church Council. Applications for grants in 2021 by local organisations can be made via the Councils web site at the beginning of March 2021. The Council also makes a number of small donations to local bodies each year and to the Poppy Appeal and to the Northallerton Bonfire and Fireworks event (although of course this years event has been cancelled due to coronavirus).

## Christmas Tree

Once again Sam Turner and Sons kindly supplied the village with a Christmas tree free of charge for erection on Church Green by the local Scout group. The Council is still interested in acquiring some of Northallerton Town Councils existing Christmas lighting stock for the centre of the village when that Council renews its Christmas lights displays.

## Overgrown Hedges

The Council refers reports of overgrown hedges that affect public footpaths to NY Highways who arrange for an inspection to take place and for letters to be sent to the owners of the hedges requesting that they be cut back. Please contact the Council if you see that there are any hedges that are overgrowing footpaths in the Parish or are obstructing sight lines for motorists.

## Dog Fouling

If anyone has any information about regular dog-fouling in the village please contact either the Clerk to the Council or any Councillor so that the matter can be reported to the District Council; in particular making a note of the description of the animal and owner involved and the date, time and location especially if the same owner and animal are seen on a regular basis committing an offence.

The District Council has been asked to be proactive in ensuring that penalty tickets are issued to dog fouling offenders throughout the Parish.

Dogs in general have been an issue in recent months – hence the Notices around the Greens which indicate –

**Brompton Town Council welcomes well behaved dogs and responsible owners.**

**It is an offence not to clean up after your dog.**

**You are expected to have control of your dog at all times.**

**If they cannot return to heel at your command, then please**

**keep them on a lead.**

**Thank you. Enjoy your walk.**

## Councils Web Site

The Councils new website has been up and running for a few months –

bromptontowncouncil.gov.uk

There were a few teething issues in setting the web site up, and no doubt there will be need for further improvement, but the history of the Parish and photos, agendas, Minutes, Monthly Updates, grant application criteria, Cemetery rules, annual Financial Reports and links to local organisations are currently included.

The web site seems to be attracting a respectable amount of traffic.

### **The Cemetery**

The Council also acts as the local **Burial Authority** –

If you are wishing to trace burial details of a relative who is buried in the Cemetery the Clerk is able to answer questions relating to burials in the Cemetery back to the 1930s. Please note that the Clerk does not have the details of persons who are buried in the Churchyard. However the Council does have a document outlining the inscriptions on the headstones in the Church Yard.

The current burial fees are as follows -

- £250.00 per burial plot
- £60.00 per interment in a burial plot
- £50.00 for Memorials (half size headstones – half fee)
- £40.00 for the purchase of ashes plot
- £20.00 for interment of ashes
- No fee for deceased persons under 16 years of age.

Fees are doubled where the deceased person did not reside within the Parish boundary but in such cases proof is required that the person still had immediate relatives in the Parish, unless they had moved out of the Parish within a period of less than 12 months.

For the information of relatives the details of the rules and regulations concerning the erection of headstones and memorials in the Cemetery are set out below –

**Please note that granite kerb stones are now permitted around grave plots in the Cemetery subject to each application to position such kerbs being considered on its merits.**

**Headstones are not to exceed - 1050mm (3.5ft) in height; 675mm (2.25ft) in width + 100mm (0.33ft) in thickness with a base not exceeding 400mm (1.33ft) in breadth (inclusive of first inscription).**

**Vases are not to exceed 300mm in any dimension.**

**Where a headstone is already positioned on any grave space (whether a single or double plot) no additional memorial plaque may be placed in any position on that grave space where it has been subsequently decided by relatives to then place ashes within the said plot. Except that – a small flower vase may be permitted in such circumstances subject to the Burial Board having agreed the proposals in advance and to the vase not being placed on a cement or other hard base.**

**In respect of Plots purchased for the sole purpose of the burial of ashes the only plaques which will be permitted to be placed on plots will be in the form of a tablet laid in an inclined position on the ground not exceeding 18” x 18”. Any such tablet/plaque must not be affixed to a concrete**

or other hard standing which is positioned above the level of the ground - ie it must be positioned at the level of the grass when cut.

Where it is the intention to erect a headstone in respect of ashes which have been buried in the Cemetery then a full size burial plot must be purchased for this purpose. Headstones are not permitted to be erected in that part of the Cemetery which has been allocated for the burial of ashes.

**No headstone may be erected on any grave until the expiration of the period of six months from the date of any burial in the grave space concerned.** Furthermore, no headstone shall be placed on any part of the grave space which may have been excavated in order to accommodate the interment of the deceased. Consequently any headstone and any associated plinth shall be erected at the head of the grave on unexcavated land.

In severe weather conditions which give rise to adverse ground conditions in the Cemetery the Burial Board will reserve the right to suspend the erection of any headstones or memorials until such time that the ground conditions improve, regardless of the fact that the application to erect such a headstone or memorial may have been received after the expiration of the six month period since the date of the burial itself .

All headstones are to be erected vertically. Permission will not be granted for any headstone to be laid flat unless it is of such an age or condition that it has been deemed by the Burial Board to be of a danger to the public in it's present state. If this is the case then that situation will only be regarded as being temporary with the intention that the headstone is re-erected as soon as is practically possible.

Any headstones (or grave spaces including the older kerbs) which fall into disrepair will be reinstated by the Burial Board and the cost of so doing will be pursued where possible through any surviving relatives or family of the deceased.

No permanent plants, shrubs or trees may be planted on any grave space regardless of the fact that they may be considered to be a memorial. In addition no wooden crosses or headstones not constructed by a recognised Stone mason may be erected in the Cemetery.

Solar lights are not permitted on any grave spaces.

No fences of any description are to be erected around grave spaces.

No chippings shall be placed on any grave spaces other than for the renewal of chippings on grave spaces that have traditionally been kerbed in the older parts of the Cemetery.

No inscriptions, pictures or any such engraving may be included on any headstone which depicts anything which in the opinion of the Burial Board contravenes what could be considered as being in good taste or promotes anything which is contrary to the law existing in this Country at that particular time. In this respect the Burial Board reserves the right to remove any said headstone and to recover the cost of so doing.

Any headstones which do not meet with any testing undertaken by the Burial Board in respect of Grave Memorial Stability will be laid flat and a notice placed thereon that the memorial in question has been found to be unsafe and has been laid flat in the interests of safety. **The Burial Board will not be responsible for the re-erection or any costs of re-erecting any headstones or other memorials which have been found to be unsafe.**

**ANY RELATIVES WHO WISH TO REMOVE A HEADSTONE OR MEMORIAL FROM THE CEMETERY FOR REPAIR OR RE-INSCRIPTION PURPOSES MUST ADVISE THE CLERK OF THEIR INTENTIONS BEFORE ITS REMOVAL.**

### **The Council's Budget**

The Council's annual Precept for 2020/21 has again been set at £45,000.00. Details of all accounts are available for inspection upon request. The Clerk brings the Ledger of Income and Expenditure together with the Bank Statements to each monthly Council meeting. There is therefore an opportunity to view these documents with the Clerk after each meeting if there is a query to be raised. Otherwise please email the Clerk at [BromptonPC@aol.com](mailto:BromptonPC@aol.com)

You may also inspect the Council's accounts by contacting the Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer. The final accounts for the financial year ended 31 March 2019 were approved by the External Auditors who have indicated that the Audit for the financial year ending 31st March 2020 will not now take place due to the coronavirus situation until the end of this month instead of during June as is usual.

### **What does the Council do?**

Local Councils have a number of legal powers defined by various statutory provisions (e.g. Local Government Act 1972; Parish Councils Act 1957; Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984; etc). Their main role is to exert influence on the decisions of District and County Councils. They are consulted on local Planning Applications, Highway/Road Safety issues, long term planning and wider community involvement strategies. .

In most cases, Local Councils are directly responsible for providing the following services to their villages:-

- Bus Shelters, and their maintenance
- Street Lighting (other than that which is the responsibility of the County or District Councils), and its maintenance
- Maintenance any lands it holds (including Car Parks), Village Notice Boards, etc
- Maintaining/Improving the Village Greens/Common Land
- Provision of Grit/Salt bins at strategic points
- Supporting the maintenance of village burial grounds
- Insuring the use of play equipment in Recreation Grounds for the benefit of the wider community
- Grants to support local voluntary groups/associations
- Planting trees/shrubs to enhance the surroundings and to commemorate key events
- Commenting on all Planning Applications and making appropriate representations to the Planning Committee of the District Council
- Providing a focus within the village for action/representations on key issues
- Organising 'Parish Appraisals/Plans', and acting on their recommendations

However, just a reminder to say that whilst the Council is a consultee on any applications for planning consent that are made in the Parish the actual decision as to whether any application is approved, deferred or refused is one for Hambleton District Council to make as the Planning Authority for the area. If you are concerned about a planning matter in the Parish, whilst it is useful for the Town Council to be made aware of such matters, it is important that you actually take the matter up with the District Councils Planning Officers ([planning@hambleton.gov.uk](mailto:planning@hambleton.gov.uk)).

**The following articles have been submitted by other organisations for inclusion in the Town Council's Annual Newsletter:-**

**BROMPTON RECREATION GROUP**

Brompton Recreation Group is working with Brompton Junior Football Club to keep the pavilion and grounds a significant part of the Village. Unfortunately, this year has been full of problems first matches were postponed due to flooding, then we were all in lockdown from Covid 19. We are pleased to say that we are now offering a limited service on match days - of a takeaway instead of the cafe. We still make bacon and sausage buns but we have a one-way system and it seems to be working well. If you are in the play park or just walking round the field then do take advantage with a takeaway coffee or tea.

The group is always looking for new members to join our Committee, if you are interested please get in touch with Barbara Slater or any committee member.  
(Telephone 01609 772112)

**The Brompton Flood Prevention Group - 2020**

Looking back over the year it has been a very frustrating one for many reasons. Since August 2017 we have been in partnership with YDRT and EA to provide extra natural flood management to help alleviate flooding in Brompton. As our money had just about run out, we were excited to learn that it was a huge amount of money £167,000. We were told that we were not allowed to have the purse strings for the award from DEFRA because we were a flood group not a charity and as it was taxpayers' money, YDRT would be in charge of the money spent and in conjunction with the EA they would have the final say on what was done, the contractor used etc. Brompton Flood Prevention Group were in fact only in the meetings in an advisory role, as we had the local knowledge of the farmers and where it flooded etc. However, we delivered hundreds of information leaflets about a workshop which was on the Green for residents to be informed of ways to help prevent their house flooding using models and educating residents about the local wildlife which could be in the beck. Unfortunately, not a great deal of people turned up.

We were told that their priority was to provide farm plans for the local farmers and plant trees and hedges on their land. This was all fine, but our priority was another attenuation feature, as we knew how important another pond would be for Brompton, especially if we had a complete deluge as Leyburn had earlier in the year. It was our goal to double the capacity of holding back water and with that amount of money there should not have been a problem.

Against our advice they put in for planning permission for the pond, for which the planning officer said, "It's just a hole in the ground!". The YDRT and the EA decided to make it more complicated and have 2 dams controlling the pond, instead of one, (as we had done previously), also they put pipes in which were not necessary.

Six months later there were objections from the IDB and Network Rail, (as their embankment was near the proposed pond) because they had not been sent the revised plans. The result was that instead of them starting to build it in the early summer of 2019, the farmer was busy harvesting in autumn by the time it had planning permission, so it could not happen then. After that it was winter, then the pandemic struck in March 2020. We were then promised it in August, but again the farmer had an arable crop growing, so it is supposed to start in September 2020!

We have lost faith in them as they promised so much and achieved so little. If the pond is not completed by March 2021, we have been told by the EA that the money will be returned to the government. At the present time there is approximately £100,000 left. It cost us £8000 to build the original pond and a leaky dam and put another log on the other dams, so why is it costing so much more for them to do it?

I have written to Rishi Sunak, but a reply came back from the Environment Minister, who thought we should be grateful for the money from DEFRA, but he doesn't realise that our main goal has not been achieved and it is touch and go for it to be achieved at all!

We are grateful to Brompton Town Council for giving us a grant for £2500 to repair a dam at Northfields Farm, which desperately needs a wing wall caused by erosion, when torrents of water come down the tributaries in times of flood. The money from Defra does not cover repair to dams, which we have to fund ourselves. There are 2 other dams that need repairing, but they will have to wait for another year.

August 19<sup>th</sup>2020

Sue Butler-Smith

### **SAINT THOMAS' CHURCH**

#### **CHURCHWARDENS' REPORT 2020**

We are one of a group of five Anglian churches in the local area under the leadership of our vicar, Reverend Jonathan Cooper. Services are held every Sunday at Saint Thomas', Brompton and on the fifth Sunday the churches in the group join together. Also, Connect 2', a short informal service with music and refreshments, is held once a month at 6.15 pm on a Wednesday evening.

Together with the local Methodist Church, we form Brompton Churches Group, and are very active, with joint services being held at either one or the other of the churches and a busy calendar of events. One of which is that of joining with the village to sing carols around the Christmas Tree, which is provided by Brompton Town Council and is the highlight of the year. Both the Methodist Church and St Thomas' Church open for visitors to see the wonderful Christmas Wreaths provided by individuals, families, organisations and businesses. The support of the Town Council in allowing so many activities to take place on the various village greens is very much appreciated. Further details of regular service times and other events are to be found on our website - [www.bromptonchurches.org.uk](http://www.bromptonchurches.org.uk) and Facebook Page – Brompton Churches Community.

Brompton Primary School is always welcome to use St Thomas' and, on Remembrance Day, the school lays a wreath at the Lychgate in remembrance of the village's fallen with Reverend Cooper taking the service and the pupils usually make a poignant, moving, artistic display in the church's children's corner.

Saint Thomas' is very popular with visitors, both individuals and history groups, coming along to view the world famous collection of Anglo Viking hogback stones and Anglo Saxon crosses. We have in our care a Grade 1 Listed church housing important historic relics, which necessitates the building being kept locked at all times, except when a service or other activity is being held. However, access can be arranged by phoning one of the numbers posted on the notice board outside the main door. Please help us to protect our inheritance and we ask, should anyone of you witness any untoward happening at the church or in the churchyard, please get in touch with the local police force.

In 2016 a Church Steering Committee was formed of PCC members, with the sole aim of working towards the re-ordering of the church interior and rendering it a more versatile and adaptable building which, in the future, could accommodate a variety of events other than the regular church services. The wider re-ordering of the church is nearing the final planning stage and we are hopeful that plans will be submitted to the Diocese in 2020, following consultation with the congregation and village community.

We would like to thank the Town Council and everyone who donated to our appeal to help repair the Church Clock to keep it running in good order. Unfortunately, when dismantling the dial's motion works, it was discovered that the hour tube was split and both minute spindle ends were worn, resulting in a further cost of £650 plus VAT. We would be very grateful of further donations to cover this additional expenditure.

We would like to welcome anyone from the village who wishes to visit the church, be it to view the hogback stones, take a moment of reflection or prayer outside of service times, or those who would like to join us at our informal 'Connect 2' or regular pattern of services.

*Rita Laverick and Doreen Newcombe*

### **BROMPTON VILLAGE HALL**

So yet another year has passed by and the Hall still remains very much a hub of activity and continues to be used by local groups and organisations. This has seen both new and old groups using the facilities offered by the hall, including fitness, dance groups and the hire for children's parties, all on a regular basis.

We have been successful in replacing the front windows, stone sills and front door which improves the front appearance of the hall in addition to being more energy efficient. This was following the successful award from the Co-Op Community Fund. As with many Village Halls there are constant improvements to be made all of which take time and money. As a small Committee we continue to work hard to improve the facilities of the hall for the good of the Community. Hopefully the next year will continue to see further improvements.

It is always a pleasure to host the annual Pantomime performed by Brompton Players which this year was Sleeping Beauty, it was lovely to see returning and new cast members taking part.

The Village Hall Face Book page continues to grow from strength to strength and is regularly visited in order to make enquires and bookings. We remain mindful that not everyone does have access to the internet so contact details can also be found on the new banner displayed outside the front of the hall.

The Committee would like to thank everyone who has supported the hall and donated prizes over the past 12 months and previous years, please keep an eye out for new and exciting fund raising events scheduled for the coming year. Our aim and vision remains to achieve a building that the village can be proud of and continue to be used for many years to come. We always welcome new ideas and anyone wanting to join the Committee or offer their help is greatly appreciated.

Sarah Charlton  
Chairperson



**WOULD ANYONE REPRESENTING A LOCAL ORGANISATION THAT WISHES TO PROVIDE AN ARTICLE FOR INCLUSION IN NEXT YEARS ANNUAL NEWSLETTER PLEASE LET THE CLERK HAVE A NOTE OF THE ARTICLE FOR INCLUSION BY THE END OF FEBRUARY 2021.**

**PLEASE NOTE THAT THIS EDITION OF THE NEWSLETTER IS ALSO ON THE COUNCIL'S NEW WEB SITE**

**Finally** – Meetings of the Council are held monthly in The Methodist Church commencing at 7.00pm, usually on the third Tuesday of each month. However very occasionally the date of the monthly meeting needs to be changed from the third Tuesday of the month to an alternative date. Council meetings are currently being held by video conferencing details of which can be found on the Councils web site - **[bromptontowncouncil.gov.uk](http://bromptontowncouncil.gov.uk)** - each month.

The Council meetings are opened to the public for a ten minute period for the asking of questions at 8.00pm. Any elector for the Parish of Brompton is invited to attend the monthly meetings of the Council.

An Annual 'Parish Assembly' is held in April each year to enable residents to hear reports about matters relating to the Parish and to provide an opportunity for discussions on topics of general interest. The Annual Meeting of the Council is held in May.

Mr P Atkin  
Clerk to the Council and Responsible Financial Officer  
Brompton Town Council  
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