

Meeting of Brompton Town Council held on line on Tuesday 16th February 2021

PRESENT – On line – Councillors Mrs S Brigginslaw, Mrs E Kelly, Mrs S Haynes, Mrs M Shiel Dods (in the Chair), Mr M Langthorne, Mr B Martin (in the Chair), Mrs A Robinson and Mr S O’Sullivan.

There were 4 members of the public present on line including County Councillor D Hugill and District Councillor Mrs Isobel Sanderson.

1. APOLOGIES AND DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS.

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Dr K Carveley and Mr B Martin.

2. EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC.

AGREED – That the Public be excluded from the meeting for item 21 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.

3. MINUTES.

AGREED – That the Minutes of the meeting held on 19th January 2021 having been previously circulated, be taken as read and be confirmed and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

4. LOCAL CRIME REPORT.

Town or Parish :	Brompton
Report Completed By :	PCSO 3758 Beveridge
Data Reporting Period :	14 th January 2021 – 10 th February 2021

Crime and ASB Data

Qualifier	No of Incidents	
Anti-Social Behaviour	10	
Auto crime	0	
Burglary :	<i>Commercial</i> : 0	<i>Residential</i> : 0
Criminal Damage	0	
Theft (including from shops)	4	
Violence Against the Person	0	
Other crimes including Drugs	0	
TOTAL THIS PERIOD	14	

The thefts had been 2 addresses reporting that they had milk stolen from the door step another had a pair boots stolen door step and the fourth was a more domestic related incident.

As regards the ASB, 6 of these were COVID related, 3 were ASB nuisance and the last was personal.

No 2 The Three Horse Shoes.

It was reported that Mr Donaldson was due to leave Hull Prison this week after serving 50% of his 18 week sentence.

As the address given by Mr Donaldson for his occupancy on his release has not been accepted by the Probation Service (not 2 Three Horse Shoes) unless he could come up with an alternative acceptable address he would remain in custody until the 16th March.

He could of course return to 2 Three Horse Shoes but he had apparently disposed of his furniture. He had not given up that tenancy. The person who had been sharing that property with him has apparently returned to Northallerton.

The female who has been the subject of ASB over past months had also moved away from Brompton.

The conditions of Mr Donaldsons Licence on his release from Prison were very strict - as severe as it was possible to impose and if he in any way failed to meet them he would be returned to Prison.

The offence of being involved in affray in Brompton a year ago had been withdrawn at Court by the Prosecution in order to obtain a successful conviction on all the other offences.

Mr Donaldson's Licence for his release was in place until May.

This successful course of action had only been achieved by members of the public coming forward with evidence and the Council signing a Statement outlining his history of the offences that had been reported to the Council over a period of time.

The Closure of the property still remained an option.

It was mentioned that in the past there had been some displeasure about how the Police had handled matters in the Parish, however recently there had been a marked improvement.

The Clerk reported that he was in regular contact with local Police and had seen a change of attitude over the past few months, including much more details as regards the monthly crime reports which helped to put matters into perspective.

A Councillor reported that a resident had recently reported a matter the Police and had been very impressed with how the matter had been handled.

AGREED - That when matters return to normality the Police be requested to attend Council meetings every two months and in the meantime Council meetings be held via MS Teams in view of the fact that the Police were not permitted to use Zoom for virtual meetings.

5. CORONAVIRUS UPDATE – See Monthly Update.

No specific issues relating to Brompton had occurred during the current lockdown period.

The Government was not currently planning to extend the remote meeting regulations beyond 6 May 2021. Along with other local government bodies, the National Association of Local Councils (NALC) was continuing to press for this extension. NALC were also preparing guidance for local councils on preparing for and managing the return to physical meetings in May and beyond.

The Secretary of State had also confirmed that the NY County Council elections would go ahead as scheduled on the 6 May 2021 regardless of Covid 19. Again representations were being made as to the effects of canvassing on the current lockdown situation.

Unless of course the Government made a decision on the new Unitary Authority for which the elections for that new Authority would then take place in May 2022.

County Councillor Hugill clarified that whilst some Political Parties were intending to canvass by way of door to door leafleting for the forthcoming May elections the Conservative Party had decided that in the current circumstances this would not be appropriate.

6. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES.

- (i) VAS Sign – Funding.

The Council was pleased to have received £1,000 from County Councillor Hugills NYCC Locality Budget towards the provision of the VAS sign for Lead Lane. To date this matter had been delayed due to lockdown.

The Council thanked Mr Hugill for arranging for this funding to be put in place.

County Councillor Hugill commented that he had also made a sizeable grant from his NY Locality Fund budget to Brompton Flood Prevention Group but had not received any acknowledgement in reply.

(ii) Village Pump and Well –Information Board Wording.

Beneath this pump lies a well. There is no record of what the well and pump originally looked like but what is now on this site is an authentic copy of a typical village pump and well, constructed in the traditional manner of using small brick and cobble mix.

At one time the water from this well would have been used for human and animal consumption.

Without piped water villagers would have to fetch water from the pump to use at home.

Most small cottages would not have had their own well, so the village pump was the most likely water supply, though those near the beck would have used it (even though it was also used for effluent).

Milk was scarce (with most being made into butter or cheese, in any case, as it would not keep), so water and beer were the common drinks of the day.

Water is a necessity for life but was also the cause of many problems in the past.

Traditionally water came from rivers, wells and pumps. Overstretched and polluted the water supplies became unhealthy. Good clean water resources were unreliable, even for the wealthy. Personal hygiene developments brought a new demand for water, cleanliness became much more important.

Fresh water supplies were also very difficult to get in the poor areas. With no running water supplies, the best people could hope for was to leave a bucket out and collect rainwater. Some areas, such as where you are now standing, were lucky enough to have access to a well with a pump but there was always the chance that the well water could have been contaminated with sewage from a leaking cesspit.

People who lived near a river could use river water. However, this was often where night-men emptied their carts full of sewage and where general rubbish was dumped. Any water collected would have been diluted sewage.

After 1880 compulsory education encouraged children to wash more

regularly. Industrial water requirements were also growing. Cholera epidemics came in 1831-2, 1848, 1854 and 1866 which underlined the need for healthy water and good sewerage treatment.

Campaigns for good water supplies and sewerage became a great mission for reformers with problems in 1858 in London spurring on developments, with the sewerage scheme for London being copied throughout the Country.

Fresh water supplies came later to replace water carts and other newer sources of expensive fresh water.

Politicians campaigned for Municipal control of water supplies but this campaign was only partly successful as in 1897 there were still 346 private water companies against 614 municipally controlled ones.

Public baths and laundries were built. People had become cleaner and healthier yet ironically enjoyed visits to seaside resorts where there were still sanitation problems caused by rapid development.

In 1891 and 1910 the two Oakdale reservoirs at Osmotherley were built to water supply to the Northallerton area, this being the start of the mains water supply as we know it today.

The Clerk clarified that the above wording was what had been originally intended by the Council some five years previously. Councillors considered that some of the language was somewhat advanced if the intention was for it to be an educational aid for young children.

AGREED - That Councillors Brigginsshaw and Kelly liaise with the School as regards the appropriate wording to be used and that in due course further consideration be given as to how the wording should be displayed with it also being included on the Councils web site together with photos of the pump and well.

In the latter respect Councillor Langthorne undertook to take the photos for the web site.

(iii) Adult Gym Equipment.

Due to time restrictions the Clerk had submitted the Councils application for funding towards Adult Gym equipment for the Recreation Ground.

(iv) Circular Village Walks

AGREED – That as the work on the village footpath walks progresses information be updated on the web site.

(v) Sandbags.

Hambleton District Council agreed that the sandbags left over after the floods at the corner of Water End Green could be used by the Council or the Allotments Group as required.

(vi) Gritting.

The Clerk and Councillor Langthorne would be reporting to a future meeting about a gritting strategy for the next winter. The Clerk reported that the YLCA was currently consulting local Councils about their experiences of the NYCC Community Gritting Scheme. It was also suggested that an article be placed in the next Newsletter to see if volunteers came forward to help with this and if there was sufficient interest then the Council could consider training of volunteers through NYCC.

- (vii) Emergency Plan and Flooding.

AGREED – That (i) the Council discuss input into the NYCC Emergency Plan with the Flood Group' (ii) work up a Flood page for the web site and (iii) consider providing residents at Water End with a leaflet for them to keep containing essential bullet point reminders for when they were threatened with flooding.

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

The Vice-Chairman has been involved in a number of meetings concerning the middle bridge at Water End.

8. REPORTS – INCLUDING REPORTS OF WORKING GROUPS.

Councillors had met virtually on the 28th January 2021 to discuss the closure of the middle bridge at Water End (see separate agenda item below) and to discuss the engagement of the workman for 2021 and it had been AGREED - That a letter be sent to Mr Toman as soon as possible so that he could look for alternative work if he wished to do so explaining why the Council was unable to give him any firm commitment of the offer of work during 2021.

AGREED – That this decision be endorsed.

Councillor Haynes undertook to arrange a meeting of the Working Party in the Spring to review the wildflower area and to involve Councillor Langthorne with his tractor.

The Vice-Chairman added that the Allotments Group had reached an agreement with the landowner with regard to a ploy-tunnel and said that there would be a part of area of the poly-tunnel area that could be used for the wild-flower area plants if needed.

See also below the report of the Finance Committee that met on the 8th February.

9. PLANNING MATTERS.

- (i) Applications.

21/00172/FUL - Alterations & extension to existing dwelling to form boot room/laundry room, WC, boiler room and replacement garage structure (previously approved application - 18/02625/FUL) at Fir Tree House – No objections.

Also AGREED - That the Clerk ask for an extension in the period for consultation on the planning application that had been received in respect of development at 28 Mill Hill Close in view of the fact that it had only been received on the day of the meeting.

- (ii) Decisions –

20/02582/FUL - PROPOSAL: Construction of an agricultural building to be used as a milking parlour – Lowfields Farm, Fullicar Lane – Granted

20/02489/LBC – Alterations to existing dwelling – 24 The Green – Granted

- (iii) Cement Block Manufacturing Works on the Industrial Estate.

Residents from Linen Way had contacted the Council about the works on the industrial estate and it was reported that the operator had been informed that planning consent was required and it was AGREED - That the Planning Enforcement Officer be asked to look into the matter.

10. ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT.

Receipts –

NYCC Locality Budget (Contribution towards VAS Sign)	1,000.00
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Payments –

P Atkin (Salary)	344.00
P Atkin (Expenses)	22.60
HMRC (PAYE)	68.00
Hillside Tree Surgeons (Works to trees in the village)	3,010.00
Sam Turner and Sons (chain, lock, Stihl chain + 2 stroke)	92.60
J T Atkinsons (Bulk rock salt)	259.20
George F White (Fees)	3,368.15
NYCC Yorwaste (Advance Charges)	22.56**
RGPS (Sign)	22.80

** due to Covid 19 to be paid by Direct Debit

Bank Balances

Current Account - £172.00

Business Savings Account - £13,135.25

High Interest Account - £13.20

Councillor Brigginslaw clarified that the sign referred to above was the one of the Cemetery.

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

11. BUDGET – TO CONSIDER THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE FINANCE WORKING GROUP HELD ON 10th JANUARY 2021.

The Finance Working Group met on Monday 10th January to consider the following matters -

1. Forward plan - as previously circulated
2. Recommendation re BRG Grant Application
3. Recommendation to defer 2021/22 grant applications until the August Council meeting
4. Grass cutting tenders.

The Finance members had started to construct a three year Forward Plan. This currently had 30 items on it all of which would require determination and progress reports from 2001 through to 2004/5. The Council had not to date previously had a Forward Plan of any sort.

The Committee hoped to be able to submit an on-going working document to the March Council meeting for endorsement.

As regards the BRG Grant application see the next agenda item below.

AGREED – That all local organisations be informed that for the financial year 2021/22 there was a distinct possibility that the Council would not be awarding any grants (as opposed to the annual small donations) due to its current financial position. However if any grants were to be made, which would be decided on at a later date after the end of the current financial year applications would not be invited before August.

For Grasscutting see item under Grasscutting Tender agenda item below.

The Working Group also considered a number of other matters –

Adjustments to the Budget to ensure that the Council ended the financial year with a credit balance.

AGREED – That year on year 2.5% be taken from the annual Precept and placed in the High Interest account to build up a contingency sum that cannot be accessed unless in an emergency.

Inventory of tools – the Working Group recommended that the Clerk draw up an inventory of tools (including service records if available) belonging to the Council and this has been done.

As regards Village Caretaking it was AGREED – That a sum of £4,000 be included in the 2021/22 budget for village caretaking tasks.

In answer to a question about financial monitoring the Clerk reported that this was to be an item for the next meeting of the Finance Working Group which was expected to meet in two weeks time. When this had been agreed by the Committee it would provide a better insight for Councillors at the monthly meetings as regards levels of expenditure on any particular budget head as the financial year progressed.

12. GRANT APPLICATION – TO CONSIDER THE 2020 GRANT APPLICATION RECEIVED FROM THE BRA (AS AMENDED).

The Finance Working Group had discussed the outstanding application for a grant under the current years procedures from the BRG.

Originally when submitted in the previous year the application had been for £2,000 of a project towards new CCTV equipment, new outside lighting and redecoration of the pavilion.

Recently the BRG had had new quotes of around £3,500 for the CCTV and lighting and had applied to HDC for a grant under that Council's Making a Difference Fund.

The amended request was for a grant for the redecoration materials only with the BRG contributing was its share the labour costs.

In the current financial year the Council had spent £4,100 of the allocated £4,750 in the 2020/21 budget for grants and donations.

AGREED – That a grant of £500 be made to the BRG for the decoration of Weavers Pavillion.

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

1. Mr P Walker asked if there was any update on the flooding on Stokesley Road.

Councillor Mrs Sanderson responded that HDC was working together the NYCC and the developer, plus the Drainage Board to reach a solution. The area had been surveyed and there was a further meeting to be held tomorrow.

It was also noted that Lead Lane was to be closed for a five day period in March to enable Yorkshire Water works to take place. Should therefore any issues occur in that period on Stokesley Road then traffic would have to travel via Water End. It was also the case that Lead Lane was in need to remedial work and County Councillor Huggill confirmed that if this was necessary then it would be carried out in due course.

As regards flooding issues on Northallerton Road as previously reported, Councillor Sanderson said that to date the Authorities had concentrated on resolving Stokesley Road especially as the situation could be very serious if ambulances were in any way restricted from accessing James Cook Hospital directly in cases of emergency.

2. Mr P Walker reported that the occupier of the garage premises on Lead Lane in the former Winns Bus depot was suffering from water pouring into his garage from the development site to the rear. The garage proprietor had to date had no success in trying to resolve the matter. The water that was coming from the bottom of the field to the rear had not done so prior to the development being commenced. It was suggested that a drain may have been displaced and Councillor Sanderson undertook to take the matter up with HDC Planning Enforcement.

3. Mrs B Slater reported on the line of vehicles parked outside the former children's home at The Close where building works were a taking place. This was worsened by vehicles also being parked on the opposite side of Northallerton Road towards the top of the hill. There were often up to a dozen Venice's being parked along the left hand side and four, including a van opposite. It was suggested that this was now taking place due to building works being carried out on site where the vehicles had previously parked. The question asked as to whether the vehicles were parked on the double yellow lines. Vehicles approaching Brompton from the Northallerton direction were regularly in conflict with vehicles coming the other way as they could not see vehicles our Northallerton because of the hill.

4. Mrs B Slater said that she hadn't received the letter about the pedestrian bridge that she had been promised at the last Council meeting. The Vice-Chairman said that she had located the letter but must have omitted to forward it to Mrs Slater and would the do this the next day.

12. ALLOTMENTS SITE – Update.

The issue with regard to the removal of a pergola from the allotments site had now been satisfactorily resolved.

The Allotments Group had submitted an application to the HDC Making a Difference Fund in respect of the creation of a wildlife area on one of the allotment plots.

The Vice-Chairman thanked Councillor O'Sullivan for assisting in resolving recent issues at the allotments site.

13. MIDDLE BRIDGE OVER BECK AT WATER END – UPDATE

The bridge was closed to the public on Friday 29th January and Notices were erected and the following wording placed on the web site and the Community Facebook page.

Please note that from Friday 29th January the middle footbridge joining the east and west side of the village green at Water End, Brompton will be closed off due to substantial corrosion having been found in the steelwork that supports the metal footway.

Recent weather has also dislodged some of the sandstone which in part supports the bridge.

A preliminary survey of the bridge has been undertaken which has lead to this action.

A further structural survey will be carried out by a local firm as quickly as possible.

It is very likely that the bridge will have to be removed if this survey proves that to be necessary as is expected.

A planning application and EA approval would then be applied for to erect a replacement bridge but this of course would be some months into the future.

Consultation will be carried out on the design of a new bridge in due course.

The Environment Agency had since confirmed that the correct action had been taken by the Council in closing the bridge as it was a possible danger to the public.

The situation was on-going and it had been clarified that planning approval would be necessary for any new bridge.

Consultations would take place in due course about the design of the new bridge especially in view of the fact that it would be there for very many years, as had the existing bridge.

The Vice-Chairman reported that a structural survey of the bridge had now taken place and the report was expected shortly. This would be forwarded to all Councillors when received. There was opportunity for the bridge design to be altered especially as a new bridge would require planning consent. There was also the option of looking at the possibility of repairing the existing bridge although initial discussions with the Environment Agency had revealed that it would prefer the bridge to be replaced. It was therefore hoped that when current conditions permitted perhaps potential designs for a new bridge could be displayed in the Methodist Church and residents could be invited along and asked to leave their comments on each design.

It was reported that the bridge had been a metal bridge since the Coronation in 1953, prior to which it had been a wooden bridge.

14. NORTHALLERTON ROAD RECREATION GROUND.

An application for funding had been submitted to Hambleton District Council under the Making a Difference Fund for adult gym equipment for the Recreation Ground. The application had been made under the Health and Wellbeing category to support the Governments aim to reduce obesity and to promote outdoor exercise amongst adults with over 60% of the adult UK population being regarded as being overweight. The Panel reviewing the applications was due to meet on the 4th March and would then make its recommendations to HDC Cabinet. The application was in the sum of £14,500 of which if successful the Council would need to contribute £3,500.

Councillor Haynes was thanked for her assistance in obtaining the quotations for submission with the application.

As a consequence of the recent flooding at Water End a number of the safety tiles around the swings had been displaced and these had been refitted by Councillor Langthorne a couple of days after the flood waters had retreated.

The Clerk reported that at the previous evenings meeting of Northallerton Town Council that Council had agreed that when it replaced the childrens play equipment the play area in the Applegarth Park Brompton Council could have the multi-play unit free of charge so long as it arranged for this to be taken away. NTC had been quoted £720 by it's play equipment supplier to take this unit away as there was no place for it to fit into the new play area scheme, which it was hoped would take place in 2021/22. Whilst requiring some restoration work such as re-painting Streetscape had confirmed that the unit would meet with current safety regulations. The acquisition of this unit would be a considerable saving to Brompton Council and would be an asset to the Recreation Ground.

Councillors indicated that this would have to be a two stage exercise - firstly removal of the unit from the Applegarth Park and secondly storage of the unit until the Council could afford for it to be installed at the Recreation Ground.

15. HIGHWAY MATTERS.

The receipt of the following from NY Highways was reported -

Further to the recent flood events on Stokesley Road which have impacted access and egress to the Thurstan Park development and the wider highway network, meetings have taken place between Taylor Wimpey, North Yorkshire County Council and Hambleton District Council and the County Council is working in collaboration to identify a suitable solution to the on-going issue.

The County Council understands and appreciates the inconvenience the flooding has caused and endeavours to provide a suitable solution as soon as possible.

In the meantime, the County Council will continue to respond to any further flooding issues on Stokesley Road and take appropriate action to ensure the safety of all road users and minimise the impact on the local community.

On the 3rd February following the reporting of further concerns about water on Stokesley Road the following response had also received from NY Highways –

The road is being closely monitored by the winter duty Officers who noted that water levels were raised this morning. The levels were not as high as they have been recently and the road was passable with care. Contractors were called out to remove the water from the carriageway and the road is currently closed to allow that operation to be completed. The most recent update from site is that this work is progressing well and it is anticipated that the road will reopen just after lunchtime.

Due to the ongoing flooding problems we currently have a dedicated contractor on permanent standby and they are able to react within the hour when needed.

The following road closures were reported to the meeting –

PLANNED ROAD CLOSURE NOTIFICATION - SW-28496-Northallerton Road, Brompton

The Closure will be in place for a period of 2 hours between 25th February 2021 and 25th February 2021 (19:00-21:00 only) to allow for Yorkshire Water remedial works.

The Road Closure and any associated Diversion Routes can be viewed using this URL link <https://one.network/?tm=120595018>

PLANNED ROAD CLOSURE NOTIFICATION - SW-28601-Cockpit Hill, Brompton

The Closure will be in place for a period of 5 days between 15th March 2021 and 19th March 2021 to allow for Yorkshire water works to renew lead supply

The Road Closure and any associated Diversion Routes can be viewed using this URL link <https://one.network/?tm=120745079>

PLANNED ROAD CLOSURE NOTIFICATION - SW-28665-Lead Lane, Brompton

The Closure will be in place for a period of 5 days between 8th March 2021 and 12th March 2021 to allow for Yorkshire Water works to renew lead supply.

The Road Closure and any associated Diversion Routes can be viewed using this URL link <https://one.network/?tm=120925244>

Concerns had again been raised in the past few days about large agricultural vehicles travelling along Water End and Cockpit Hill with damage having been caused to the road surface.

However a Councillor reported that 70% of the holes in the tarmac had been filled in the next day but was not aware who had done this.

Councillors were of the view that it would not be an issue if the tractors were driven at 10 - 15mph instead of 25mph and it was noted that the young drivers were still in the habit of using their mobile phones whilst driving. The Clerk undertook to draw the attention of the Police to the problems.

There was also an issue with regard to the damage to the verges along Banks Road by large wagons taking soil to a farm near the Fox and Hounds at Bullamoor. As the property concerned was one belonging to a relative County Councillor Hugill left the meeting at this point and took no part in the discussion.

Attention was drawn to the fact that there had been substantial damage to the verges all along Banks Road caused by wagons travelling in convoy to a farm near the Fox and Hounds, the soil allegedly coming from a building site at Yarm; it not being known if there was a Licence for such transportation. There was a need for the verges to be reinstated in the Spring when the surface was drier as at present it caused difficulty for walkers along this popular route since they were unable to step off the carriageway onto the grass verges when vehicles passed as they no longer existed. AGREED - That the Clerk contact NY Highways and ascertain the responsibility for the reinstatement of the verges and how this can be accomplished.

16. GREENS INSPECTION.

No new items were reported under this agenda item due to the Greens either having been covered in flood waters or snow.

17. GRASSCUTTING TENDER – 2021 GRASSCUTTING SEASON.

The following grasscutting tender has been received from CE +CM Grasscutting Contractors of Eryeholme -

£212.00 Greens

£147.00 Verges

£100.00 Church

£155.00 Cemetery

Prices exclude VAT charged at 20%

Approximate number of cuts during the season if applicable 14-16

This is exactly as anticipated on budget for 2012/22.

AGREED –That the quotation received from CE + CM Walker, Grasscutting contractors for the grasscutting season 2021 be accepted.

18. CORRESPONDENCE.

(i) Citizens Advice – Service Update.

Key Statistics Between 1st December 2020 and 31st January 2021 -

We helped 3,000 people (59% had a disability or a long-term health condition).

£1,589,679 of financial gains, including benefits and tax credits.

Main issues we helped with: Last year - This year 124% increase

Universal Credit

Other benefits

Debt Financial services & capability

Utilities & communications

. 19. ANY OTHER BUSINESS – Including –

(i) Date of Next Meeting.

AGREED – That the next meeting of the Council be held on Tuesday the 16th March at 7.00pm.

(ii) Dog/ Litter Bins - New Housing Estates.

The Clerk reported that residents from the Persimmon Homes estate had asked NTC to provide litter/dog bins. NTC had asked the developer to provide them and they had said no as it had not been contained in any agreements.

Northallerton Councillors had asked how many Brompton Council were providing on the two new estates as Brompton had five times as many new houses within its boundary. After discussion regarding Brompton Councils current financial position it had been agreed that NTC would buy 3 bins for the Persimmon estate if Brompton bought 3 for the Thurston Park Estate on the understanding that Brompton may need to wait until it had the finances to do so.

(iii) Hedgehog Signs

AGREED - That Councillor Haynes liaise with Councillor Briggshaw about the hedgehog signs.

(iv) Doorstep Crime.

It was reported that two males had been calling at houses in Brompton in the past week saying that they had been released from Prison and were trying to get monies by deception. The Clerk reported that the Police had been aware of these persons and were trying to get information on them so that they could be apprehended. The increase in dog thefts was also mentioned; the Clerk warned that there was an individual in the area with a van with Dog Warden on the windscreen and a Dog Warden armband who was not a Dog Warden. AGREED - That Clerk speak to the Police about both these types of crimes and that any further information be posted on the Councils web site.

(v) Village Caretaking.

Councillor Langthorne was to look at the list of jobs to determine which ones required to be done in the current year. The Clerk reported that Hillside Tree Surgeons were going to look at the amount of secondary growth that would need to be removed from trees as the Council had in recent years done this every year but before that it had only been done every second year.

The Clerk also reported that in due course any new bridge would need to be added to the Councils Assets Register.

(vi) Councils Laptop.

Councillor Haynes reported that she had arranged with Schools ICT for the laptop to be taken into County Hall when lockdown eased so that the Councils contact email address could be rectified.

(vii) Planting of Bulbs.

The Vice-Chairman reported that the Chairman had received an email from Mr A Cunningham of The Green requesting permission to plant daffodils on the Green outside his property and to arrange flower beds in the Church grounds in recognition of the fact that the Council did a lot of work in the Churchyard. This would be at Mr Cunninghams own expense and time and it was AGREED - That the permission requested be granted.

20. BURIAL MATTERS.

The Clerk reported that after ten months of inactivity there were to be two burials in the current week; both being pre-paid graves.

It was also reported that all local Undertakers had been advised of the new burial fee rates and that to date no comments had been received.

The following item of business was considered in Private Session

21. CEMETERY EXTENSION – PROGRESS AS REGARDS EXTENSION.

The Vice-Chairman outlined the history leading up to the forthcoming acquisition of land for the Cemetery extension for benefit of new Councillor Mrs Robinson. The matter was now at Heads of Terms stage and it was hoped that the land purchase could take place in the next two months.

The meeting closed at 9.20pm