

Minutes of the Meeting of Brompton Town Council held in the Methodist Church, Brompton on Tuesday 18th January 2022

PRESENT – Councillors Mrs S Brigginsshaw, Mr R Carter, Mr J Hazelwood, Mrs S Haynes, Mrs E Kelly, Mrs M Shiel Dods (in the Chair), Mr M Langthorne, Mr S O’Sullivan and Mrs A Robinson.

There was 1 member of the public present at the meeting and three people on Zoom.

1. APOLOGIES AND DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS.

There were no apologies for absence – all Councillors being present at the meeting. No declarations of interest were made.

2. MINUTES.

AGREED – That the Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 21st December 2021 having been previously circulated be taken as read and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

3. CORONAVIRUS.

The number of Covid cases the Friday before Christmas per 100,000 for the Hambleton District were 385 per 100,000

30 December - 1,327 per 100,000.

7 January – Hambleton District – 1,434 per 100,000 – North Yorkshire 1,566 – England – 1,769

10 January – Hambleton District – 1,439 per 100,000 – North Yorkshire 1,475 – England – 1,475

4. LOCAL CRIME REPORT.

Crime Type	
Anti-Social Behaviour	3 Reports
Total	3 reports
Arson	0 Reports
Burglary Dwelling	0 Reports
Burglary Commercial/Other	0 Reports
Criminal Damage	3 Reports
Theft (inc Theft from Shop)	1 Reports
Violence against the person	1 Reports
Other crimes inc Drugs	0 Reports
Hate Crime	0 Reports
Robbery	0 Reports
Fraud	1 Reports
Total	9 reports

5. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES – FOR INFORMATION ONLY.

(i) Minutes.

Received from Councillor Mrs S Haynes with regards to the Minutes of the meeting of the Council held on the 16th November 2021 -

- a. The Council was only in a position to consider Cllr Haynes' actions in relation to her role as a Councillor.
- b. Cllr Haynes questioned the factual basis for such a public action since the Council had not viewed written or photographic evidence proving no damage.
- c. The Parish Council confirmed in the meeting that they had received no written and signed complaints from the public.
- d. The Parish Council attempted to restrict my defence to 2 minutes.
It was only the intervention from Cllr Sanderson, County Councillor, who stated that in all her years she had never seen such an action taken, and that it was uncharitable and unfair, and that Cllr Haynes was correct in only matters relating to her as a Councillor that should be brought to Parish meetings.
- e. Cllr Haynes stated that the Parish Council had bought themselves into disrepute by their actions questioning their ability to follow due and correct procedure.

AGREED - That the above be recorded as a matter of record.

(ii) Wet Leaves on Northallerton Road.

Hambleton District Council had agreed to remove large amounts of leaves from the pavement on the north side of Northallerton Road approaching The Close which were making walking difficult.

The Clerk reminded the meeting that Case Law stated that a claim for personal injury against a Local Authority for slipping on wet leaves was highly unlikely to succeed as it would be unreasonable to expect the Highway Authority to sweep all footpaths. Especially as in this case there was an adequate footpath on the opposite side of the road.

(iii) Condition of Wall etc – Cockpit Hill.

The Clerk reported that NY Highways had been again asked to confirm when works would be carried out at Cockpit Hill due to the further deterioration in the condition of the wall etc. Councillor Hazelwood reported that NY Highways had carried out some work resetting the copings. A question was raised about NYCC Highways responsibility for the east side of Cockpit Hill which was also hit by passing wagons as there was a footpath on the inside of the wall and the Clerk undertook to take this matter up with NY Highways.

(iv) Tree Works.

An estimate had been received from Hillside Tree Surgeons for works to 58 trees as outlined in Mr Whiteheads recent tree survey. The estimate was in the sum of £7,820.00

Due to the need for specialist equipment there were three trees that Hillside Tree Surgeons could do works to. One consisted of major work to a Willow Tree at Water End and the other two were only minor works.

A quotation to reduce the height of the trees on the eastern boundary of the Cemetery had also been received from Hillside Tree Surgeons in the sum of £1,200.00 as this work must be carried out prior to the bird nesting season.

AGREED - That the estimates received from Hillside Tree Surgeons in the sum of £7,820.00 and £1,200.00 be approved and that Rennison Tree Services be asked to quote for works to the three trees that Hillside Tree Surgeons cannot work on.

(iv) Hedge Cutting.

NY Highways had been asked to contact the owner of the hedge alongside Stokesley Road approaching Hellikeld corner as it was obstructing the footpath for walkers and needed to be cut back before the bird nesting season started.

(v) Dog Fouling.

The Clerk reported that there had been a significant amount of dog fouling along the footpath adjacent to the Church wall at the rear of the Church opposite the properties on the west side of Church View. It had in the past been thought that this was caused, together with dog fouling in the adjacent grounds of the Cemetery in this location by a dog or dogs being let out of adjoining properties unaccompanied for exercise. Councillor Kelly said that she would speak to residents who she knew who lived there to ask if they had any information on the matter.

(vi) Recreation Ground – Safety Inspection.

The Clerk had inspected the play equipment in the Recreation Ground on the 12th January and had found as follows -

Climbing Frame

The missing bolt has been replaced.

Rocker

Moss needs to be killed off underneath.

Screw holes in platform have been filled but some have eroded and need to be monitored.

However - no sharp edges.

Swings

Considering that both seats, chains, shackles and bearings were replaced last year all is fine.

Springers

Fire Engine - Spring could do with oiling but is encased in a rubber shroud.

Horse - Could do with repainting.

Both could still do with hand and foot grips.

Basket Swing

All good.

See-saw

The annoying squeak has reappeared - hopefully it is the weather.

Roundabout

Moss killer needs to be applied to the safety surfacing surround.

Basket Ball Hoop

The surface of the backing board is deteriorating - monitor.

Goal Posts

Ok

Other

Seats + picnic table - Moss killer needs to be applied under one seat.

Litter bin – ok

Gates and signs – all ok

Councillor Hazelwood suggested that options needed to be looked at as regards the backboard to the basketball hoop.

AGREED - That (i) now there is very little vegetation on the broken boundary fence it be again inspected and (ii) Councillor Hazelwood assist the Clerk in the quarterly inspections of the play equipment.

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

Other than the report about the middle bridge by eh Vice-Chairman no other reports made to the meeting.

7. REPORTS – INCLUDING REPORTS OF WORKING GROUPS

(i) Finance Group.

The Finance Group had met on the 10th January 2022.

The main matter that was considered was the budget for the financial year 2022/33. The Recommendations for the budget are set out later on the agenda.

Other matters considered -

Vandalised Brompton sign on Northallerton Road - AGREED - That the sign and plinth be removed until the bridge/link road was completed and stored; it being reported that the stone was in good condition.

Domain name and Councillors email addresses - AGREED - That in view of the forthcoming Elections these matters be considered by the new Council after May 2022 when the Councillors are known.

(ii) Middle Bridge.

The Finance Group had considered the fact that the bridge would have to be removed from site to carry out removal of paint etc and also the high costs involved in re-manufacturing a repaired bridge.

The bridge at Water End was built in the 1880s so that workers from the linen factory could walk to the shops at Water End. It was a wooden bridge until 1950, then the current steel bridge was erected.

The bridge had never appeared on BTC assets register and there had been no maintenance programme for the bridge over the years. The painting of the bridge over the years had hidden the rust to the naked eye.

Once alerted to the decline of the bridge BTC closed it pending an inspection by a structural engineer who had reported that 70% of the bridge was rotten and it was hoped a new bridge could be put in its place.

Working with the EA and structural engineers it became obvious that any new bridge would need to be widened and raised to comply with 1:100 years flood prevention policies and accessibility law.

As a new bridge was not possible, the structural engineer was asked to look again at the old bridge to see if a repair could be made. They had hoped that the remaining 30% of the bridge could be used as good steel to attach new steel girders etc.

Further investigation of the bridge showed the presence of high levels of lead in the paint work.

The EA would not allow the removal of the lead paint in-situ due to the high risk of lead entering the water course.

The bridge would therefore have to be removed in one piece and sent to a specialised lead paint remover. The specialised paint removal company and the engineer had agreed that once the paint is either shot blasted or acid dipped there would not be enough good steel left to use as a fixing point for the new steel.

Ultimately the bridge cannot be repaired, and the Council couldn't replace the bridge with a new bridge.

Sadly, the only option left was to remove the bridge and carry out remedial work on the paths and bankside to make it safe for the public in future.

Councillors were of the view that the matter regarding the paths leading to the bridge on both sides of the Green needed to be further considered and the view was taken that the repair would not be cost effective. It was therefore AGREED - That – (i) the bridge be removed and disposed of for scrap; (ii) the paths leading to and from the middle bridge be taken up on both sides of the Village Green be further considered; (iii) safety measures for the play equipment at Water End be looked into; and (iv) the reasons for the removal of the bridge be placed on the Council's website and on the Notice Boards.

Councillor Langthorne to liaise with Andersons of Ripon as regards the removal of the bridge in one piece. Also the Environment Agency would need to be contacted again about the removal of the water meter.

The Chairman thanked Councillor Langthorne for all the time he had spent dealing with the bridge on behalf of the Council.

7. PLANNING.

(i) Decisions.

None received.

(ii) Applications.

21/02737/FUL - Remove existing casement windows to the Front of the property, supply and install 4 no. Traditional box sash windows in Accoya Timber with Traditional pulley wheels - waxed cord, traditional fitch fasteners. A simple sash with no sash horns. Heritage double glazed units, 4 over 4 georgian bar individually putty glazed. All windows will be primed, undercoated, finished with two top coats in Dulux Indian white. 1 Front Entrance door in Accoya Timber in a Georgian style 6 panel door with two top panels glazed – 44 Cockpit Hill – No Objections.

21/02738/LBC - Replacement of 4No existing wooden casement windows to front elevation with traditional white painted box sash windows in Accoya timber, Heritage double glazed units and simple sash with no horns. 1No. Front Entrance door in Accoya Timber in a Georgian style 6 panel door with two top panels glazed – 44 Cockpit Hill – No objections.

9. ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT.

Receipts –

Mrs E Greenwood (Burial Plot fee)	500.00
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Payments –

P Atkin (Salary)	344.00
P Atkin (Including Zoom)	24.89
Mrs C Huang (Sweeping – 4.5 hours)	45.00
HMRC (PAYE)	68.00
Structural & Civil Consultants Ltd (Fees for Middle Bridge)	540.00
Vintage Autos (Site inspection + test for lead on bridge)	100.00
Sam Turner and Sons (wood latt for seat repairs)	16.95
J T Atkinson (Bitumen and road salt)	152.93
D Langthorne (Filling Grit Bins)	195.00
Yorkshire Local Councils Association (Memorials course)	22.50
NYCC Yorwaste (Advance Charges)	23.06*

* paid by Direct Debit

Bank Balances

Current Account - £200.00

Business Savings Account - £46,681.20

High Interest Account - £13.20

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

10. PROVISIONAL BUDGET FINANCIAL YEAR 2022/23.

EXPENDITURE

1. Salary, HMRC - **£6,500**
2. Admin etc - **£3,500**
3. Grasscutting - **£12,000**
4. Hedge cutting - **£400**
5. Dog bins - **£500**
6. Allotments - **£1,200**
7. Insurance - **£1,200**
8. Greens/Wildlife area - **£1,500**

- 9. Cemetery works - **£4,000**
- 10. Room Hire - **£400**
- 11. Recreation Ground - **£1,000**
- 12. Defib - **£400**
- 13. Tree works - **£7,500**
- 14. Donations - **£1,000**
- 15. Trade Refuse Bin - **£300**
- 16. Car Park - **0**
- 17. Highways - **0**
- 18. Village caretaking /building materials/ hire charges - **£5,500**
- 19. Flood Prevention - **£2,500**
- 20. Projects - Bridge - **0**
- 21. Projects - Cemetery – removed
- 22 .Cockpit Hill - **£11,000**
- 23. Projects - School Bridge – **0**
- 24. Transfer to Reserve - **£5,500**

TOTAL - £66,300

INCOME

Precept - **£62,000**

Bank Interest – **0**

VAT Refund - **£1,000**

Burial fees - **£1,500**

Memorials - **£200**

Wayleaves - **£400**

Allotment Rents - **£1,200**

CIL Monies – unknown

ARGEED – That the Councils budget for 2022/23 be as outlined above and that this be reviewed at the September Council meeting.

TOTAL – £66,300

11. HIGHWAY MATTERS.

PLANNED ROAD CLOSURE NOTIFICATION - SW-32417-Long Lane,
Brompton

The Closure will be in place for a period of 9 hours between 12th February 2022 and 13th February 2022 to allow for rail inspections works on behalf of Network Rail (23:00-08:00 only)

The Road Closure and any associated Diversion Routes can be viewed using this URL
link <https://one.network/?tm=124340137>

20's Plenty

As expected NYCC Executive at its meeting on the 11th January voted 9 - 0 to reject calls for a default 20mph speed limit in built up areas.

Strong representations from North Yorkshire 20's Plenty, Parishes + letters etc were put to a lengthy meeting. The Chairman sent a letter on behalf of the Council supporting the 20's Plenty campaign and the Clerk attended a photo call at County Hall arranged by the campaign group in December.

Carl Les the NY Leader had stated that this would be an issue for the new Unitary Authority to look at if its respective Area Constituency Committees wished to do so in the future.

The officers had stated that NYCC conformed with all existing national criteria and policies and would review the position as appropriate should national criteria and policies change. They had added that if Parishes had a specific problem then they would look at that with them.

One criticism made was that the policy had been drawn up without any opportunity for Parishes to engage in any consultation process.

A third of all Schools were within 20mph limits in the County.

Reasons for rejection -

The long term KSI graph is continuing downwards and concentration needs to be made as regards the exceptions - ie motorcyclists, cyclists, newly qualified drivers, elderly drivers and drivers affected by drink and drugs.

There are very few casualties on the County's rural roads.

Air pollution from vehicles is caused by vehicles that are not moving.

Without Police enforcement and traffic calming there will be widespread flouting of the 20mph speed limit.

Only 59 of the 731 Parishes in the County had signed up to 20's Plenty. In some areas no Parishes had even mentioned it in their Council meetings.

Police enforcement would take the Police away from dealing with all other crimes.

North Yorkshire has the safest roads in the whole Country and villages were also very safe, therefore such as motorcyclists etc need to be concentrated on.

KSI spots need to be targeted - not blanket cover.

The initiative would cost Council Tax payers £10m.

People would drive in accordance with road conditions not the speed limits.

Councillors Brigginsshaw, Hazelwood and the Clerk were online for the North Yorkshire Branch 20's Plenty Zoom meeting on the 13th January –

The main actions considered at the meeting were -.

1. Parish Councils supporting default 20mph form one or more clusters within each district, contacting one another, to consider putting in joint applications for default 20mph.
2. Parish Councils and supporters write to the schools in their area.
3. Contact County Councillors, both directly and via their Area Constituency Committee .
4. Ask Zoe Metcalfe Police Fire and Crime Commissioner, to agree to recalibrate Police Speed detection equipment to include 20mph, and enforce existing and new 20mph areas.
5. Ask all local Unitary Authority and Parish Council election candidates for their views on default 20mph policy.
6. Become a branch of 20s Plenty for the community.
7. Bulk buy more wheelie bin stickers, window and car bumper stickers, to give out to town/village residents

AGREED – That - (i) a Working Group consisting of the Clerk and Councillors Briginshaw, Carter, Hazelwood and Kelly be set up to move 20's Plenty matters forward; (ii) consideration be given as to how to get responses back to a tear off consultation page in the March Newsletter, possibility using post boxes attached to some of the Notice Boards and (iii) Councillor Hazelwood design the 20's Plenty consultation page for the Newsletter.

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

(i) Mrs B Slater asked why the Clerk had taken photographs of the vehicles using the BRA car park recently. The Clerk explained that four parents had contacted him assuming that the car park came under the Councils jurisdiction. He had advised Mrs Slater of that at the time but had said to one of the parents that he was on his way to the industrial estate he would look at the issues raised in passing. The proprietor of BS Autos was at the car park when he arrived and informed the Clerk that he had that morning removed 12 vehicles that would not be coming back to the car park. The Clerk had not taken any photographs. Mrs Slater commented that one problem was the length of time that some parents took in dropping their children off at the school, with some taking up to 45 minutes. She added that the Police had been to look at the abandoned car on the car park.

12. GREENS INSPECTION + WILD LIFE AREA UPDATE.

Councillor Briginshaw made reference to the article that had appeared in the Darlington and Stockton Times on the 21st December about the wildlife area.

The Clerk had arranged with HDC for the Queens Jubilee Oak tree to be planted at the wildlife area.

The Chairman thanked Councillor Langthorne for his efforts with the bulb planting.

Councillor Langthorne thanked Councillor Briginshaw for her efforts in planting 2,500 bulbs.

13. CORRESPONDENCE.

(i) Arrangements for the Queens Platinum Jubilee.

On 6 February 2022, the Queen would become the first British monarch to celebrate a Platinum Jubilee, marking a 70-year reign. A recent study showed that for 85% of the population she is the only monarch they have known. The first week in June has been chosen for the celebratory weekend, with summer offering a better chance of good weather than February.

To celebrate the four-day weekend, the late May Spring Bank Holiday will be moved to 2 June and an additional one-off bank holiday on 3 June created.

The Queens Platinum Jubilee Committee has asked Councils if they are intending to have a Beacon to mark the occasion. On the 2nd June Beacons are to be lit at 9.45pm - The Palace guidance is as follows -

Beacon lighting ceremony - 2nd June 2022

Please light your Beacon at 9.45pm.

The required beacons are £490+ VAT although subject to abiding with the regulations there is provision for bonfire beacons.

Councillor Kelly reported that the Sports and Carnival Committee was already making plans for events on the weekend of the Queens Jubilee.

AGREED – That (i) the Council support any officially organised street parties and (ii) the Clerk ask Mr Derek Plews if he intends to light a beacon to commemorate the event.

14. ANY OTHER BUSINESS.

(i) Date of Next Meeting of the Council.

AGREED – That the next meeting of the Council be held in the Methodist Church at 7.00pm on Tuesday 15th February 2022.

(iii) Grit Bin – The Methodist Church.

AGREED – That Councillor Langthorne ask the Church if a small grit bin can be placed outside the Church for use by residents around Little Green.

(iv) Arrangements for the Death of a Monarch.

The Clerk explained that the Council had no protocols for putting arrangements in place for the death of the Queen. AGREED – That this be placed on the February Council agenda.

(v) CIL Monies.

AGREED – That the Clerk ask the Interim Director of Finance at HDC to confirm in writing the verbal information he had given him about the Council receiving its CIL monies in full in March 2022.

(iv) Tree Branches in the Recreation Ground.

Councillor Langthorne undertook to remove the tree branches that were in the Recreation Ground.

(vi) April Council Meeting.

The Clerk reported that HDC had confirmed that the April meeting of the Council could go ahead as long as it was restricted to normal Council business.

(vii) Proposed Virtual Meeting with Broadacres Housing Association.

AGREED – That the Clerk consult Councillors about the date for a virtual meeting with Broadacres Housing Association and Mrs Madden from HDC about a housing development proposal for Brompton.

15. BURIAL MATTERS.

The Clerk reported that one single burial plot had been sold this month to a person outside of Brompton whose was an immediate relative of family persons buried in the Cemetery. In addition there was to be a burial of ashes in the next week.

The Clerk had this month undertaken the YLCA Managing Burial Ground Memorials course.

The meeting closed at 8.45pm