

Minutes of the Meeting of Brompton Town Council held in the Methodist Church, Brompton on Tuesday 19th April 2022

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

There were 14 members of the public present at the meeting including, County Councillor D Hugill and District Councillor Mrs I Sanderson.

1. APOLOGIES AND DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS.

Apologies for absence were received from, Councillor Hayes (Coronavirus) and from Councillors Hazelwood and Kelly (holiday commitments), however Councillor Kelly provided Councillors with an update prior to the meeting.

Councillors Brigginsshaw and Langthorne and the locum Clerk declared interests in the cheque payments under the Accounts item on the agenda as either they themselves or a relative was the recipient of a payment and Councillor Brigginsshaw declared interest in a planning application as her husband was the builder.

2. MINUTES.

AGREED – That the Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 15th March 2022 having been previously circulated be taken as read and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

3. LOCAL CRIME REPORT.

The local crime report had not been received to date and would therefore be forwarded by email

4. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES.

(i) CIL Payments.

It was reported that a letter had been received from HDC clarifying the timing of the payment of CIL monies of which land transfer was only one factor.

(ii) Medical Waste on the Green at Water End.

It was reported that on the 22nd March there was another incident of medical waste deposited on the Green at Water End. It had been thought that the adjoining location where such waste had come from previously had been cleared of such waste. The waste was cleared and the matter resolved with the Environmental Health Officer at HDC. The landowner was unaware that there were still medical supplies in the container in the field adjoining the Green after the first issue had arisen some time ago.

(iii) Annual Newsletters and 20’s Plenty Leaflets.

All Annual Newsletters and 20’s Plenty questionnaire leaflets were delivered to all residential properties in the Parish by 26th March. The return forms for the 20’s Plenty questionnaire were being left at The Shop and at the School.

(iv) Dog Fouling.

The meeting was informed that there had been no sign of any dog fouling around the Church and the Church View area during recent sweeping.

(v) Waste Bins.

The accident damaged bin that was opposite the Rugby Club had recently been replaced.

The bin on Cotswold Street which residents had been complaining about had been initially incorrectly sited by HDC. The bin had been paid for by Northallerton Town Council and once the error in siting was identified it was removed and sited correctly.

The Clerk has met on the morning of the current meeting with a member of the Hambleton Wombles and had agreed on a site on Banks Road for the bin that was recently purchased.

It was also suggested that two metal signs be ordered to go on posts on Banks Road indicating – “Dog Bin – 100 metres” + “Dog Bin – 50 metres” and this was AGREED.

(vi) Vandalised Notice Board.

It was reported that at the end of last month the notice board near the wildlife area had been vandalised and had had to be repaired.

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

No items were reported to the meeting under this item.

6. REPORTS – INCLUDING REPORTS OF WORKING GROUPS –

(i) Finance Group.

The Finance Working Group met on the 13th April.

Concerns were expressed that Restarting Hearts had not presented its cheque of £400 for maintaining the four defibrillators in the village. No response had been received from efforts made to contact Restarting Hearts. This led to the question as to whether the defibrillators were being maintained and the Clerk undertook to contact Yorkshire Ambulance for advice.

It was reported to the Council meeting that someone had been seen on a motorcycle recently servicing the defibrillators.

As regards payments it was RECOMMENDED that Councillor O'Sullivan be added to the Councils Bank Mandate.

The Finance Group also RECOMMENDED the approval of the end of year financial outturn in respect of receipts and payments (see below).

With regard to the book tokens to be awarded to the School classes in respect of the design of the 20's Plenty poster it is RECOMMENDED that book tokens be awarded only to those classes that participate in the design.

As regards the training of Councillors serving on the new Council the Clerk is to ask Northallerton Town Council if it wishes to approach the YLCA to see if a training session can be held in the Town Hall for all Councillors of both Councils one evening with BTC sharing the cost.

With regard to the Bank Statements that are sent monthly to all Councillors the Finance Group RECOMMENDS that this process be replaced by issuing the Bank Reconciliation with each monthly update.

With regard to the Clerks contract an amendment be made to include the number of hours and rate of pay which is not currently included and it is RECOMMENDED that the nationally agreed pay award of 1.75% be backdated to 1st April 2021 as agreed nationally.

AGREED – That the recommendations above be adopted and that the Finance Group be authorised to finalise arrangements to engage a new payroll provider

(ii) Middle Bridge.

It was reported that Councillor Langthorne had been meeting with the Environment Agency about the flow metre on the Middle Bridge on Monday with the only way forward being to repair it on site.

(iii) Highways/ Road Safety Working Group.

The Working Group had not managed to meet this month.

It looked like the response to the 20's Plenty campaign was going to be disappointing but not all the responses had been collated yet. The Chairman thanked Councillor Briggshaw for all her hard work.

Several responses from NY Highways to issues raised by the Group are listed under the Highways agenda item below.

(iv) NYCC Richmondshire Constituency Area Committee.

It was reported that there had been two items of interest from the meeting of the Area Committee held on 23rd March 2022 Chaired by David Huggill -

New Bridge

Work is progressing but completion of the bridge does not mean that the road will be opened to traffic.

Normal materials inspections will need to be carried out plus a full route safety audit.

This is especially important as this is the first developer funded classified road that NYCC has had.

Consequently no date can be given as to when the road/ bridge will be opened.

Following completion of the safety audit there will be a need to address all of the issues that have been raised by the safety auditors.

It is for the developers to appoint and pay for an independent firm of accredited safety auditors - that is all the developers do - appoint a firm of consultants and pay them.

NYCC will then need to sort out all the remedial works listed in the report.

There will also be a need to review signage along the whole route to ensure that it will effectively deal with the intention of removing HGV traffic from Friarage Street - hence the blank spaces on some of the signs.

The representations raised by Emily about the crossing and refuge were raised.

NY Highways pointed out that there is a limit to the size of splitter islands and it was very unlikely that one would be constructed to meet with the views put forward of parents with children on bikes and with dogs etc.

The independent safety audit will ensure that the safety audit addresses the pedestrian crossings on the route and the refuge islands so as to ensure that they are adequate.

Whilst residents would like a light-controlled pedestrian crossing signalled crossings were governed by both traffic volumes and the volumes of pedestrians and therefore surveys would need to be undertaken to check capacities once the road was opened.

Questions were raised as to why there were no penalty clauses in the contract with regard to completion by a certain date. However this is the developers funded road and that would be up to them to require not NYCC. The whole of the contract is a Persimmon Homes/ Taylor Wimpey contract; the developers having let the contract not NYCC.

The road will be a B Class road delivered under a Section 38 Agreement - it is the B6271.

It was agreed that the Area Committee needs to put pressure on the developers to provide a timeline.

Whilst both developers had built many roads previously neither of them has built a Classified Road and not a road that has needed a safety audit.

Litter along the Highways.

This was on the agenda as a specific issue relating to the single carriageway sections of the A66 but was seen as a problem District-wide.

District Councils have a statutory obligation to clear litter from highway verges but have extreme difficulty in carrying this out.

Other than closing roads during daytime the work has to be carried out at night and staff are generally unwilling to volunteer for this work at night which is an unpleasant task anyway having regard to what is in the grass verges - umpteen bottles of urine etc.

Double carriageway sections are cleared by Highways England but requests for assistance to Highways England, the Department of Transport and Defra have all be unsuccessful over the years.

The costs of this work is significant and hasn't been carried out in recent years. The problem is County-wide and national both on local and major roads.

There needs to be a strategy for litter on highways and it was suggested that this should be revisited by the new Unitary Council so that a County-wide strategy can be established.

There was also a need for companies such as McDonalds to print vehicle registration numbers on the packaging.

This had been in the past an initiative in Northallerton and take-a-way businesses were agreeable to be involved but the Police Sergeant working on this had retired and it had not been progressed.

However this won't remove the litter that is already there.

7. PLANNING MATTERS.

(i) Decisions.

22/00315/MRC - Modify or remove all conditions from previously approved application reference 21/00527/MBN (Application to determine if prior approval is required for the conversion of an existing agricultural building to form two dwellinghouses and for building operations reasonably necessary for this conversion) to reconfigure the internal layout and insert two windows on the west elevation at Standard Hill Farm, Darlington Road – Granted.

22/00465/FUL - Alterations & extension to existing Dwelling – 18 Vikings Court – Granted.

22/00421/FUL - Conversion of an existing detached garage into a habitable annex at Low Grange Cottage – Granted.

(ii) Applications.

22/00733/FUL - Single storey extension to dwelling to form utility, ground floor shower room, kitchen, dining area & replacement garage – 5 Lead Lane – No objections.

22/00734/FUL - Single storey extension to dwelling to form, ground floor shower room, kitchen & dining area – 3 Lead Lane – No objections.

22/00659/FUL - Alterations and extensions to Ashdene & Fieldhead to create 1 No dwelling (Ashdene) – Ashdene + Fieldhead, Stokesley Road – No objections.

22/00804/FUL - Single storey garage to side of dwelling – 31 Hilton Close – No objections.

It was also reported that the following planning application has been withdrawn –

22/00394/LBC - Listed Building Consent for alterations to the existing detached open sided garage to form a habitable domestic annex at Low Grange Cottage.

At 8.00pm the meeting was opened to questions by the public.

1. A question was raised by a member of the public over the response to the 20's Plenty Questionnaire and Councillors explained the results would not be available until the next meeting.
2. A member of the public raised concerns over tractors going at excessive speed in the village and Councillors explained that it was hoped that this would be addressed in the traffic calming measures planned in the future.
3. The following statement was read out by a representative from the BRG Committee.

"Due to the serious content of the letter which I received from the Council prior to last month's meeting, I felt I had no alternative than to follow the complaints up with Mrs Byrne at the school.

Firstly, the sawing of the tree and the fire I had to explain this to her as she had no idea what I was talking about, she had received no complaints from parents or teachers, or anyone connected with the bush tucker trail days. In fact, she said that on both days the trial the children had fires and they would not have taken place had it been windy, they would have contacted the BRG themselves.

Mrs Bryne explained to me that she had been asked by a Brompton Councillor to write the letters concerning the BRG car park, Mr Stapley and the road near the housing estate, her main problem appeared to be the road outside the school. As far as she was concerned the school has no problems connected with the BRG car park. I contacted the Environmental office to be told that we did not require a licence as it was a one-off situation there was no problem"

AGREED – That the Council and the School continue to monitor the situation in the car park.

4. A member of the public raised the situation with the garage opposite the school. NYCC Highways had been sent photographs but had not provided a solution to the problem.

District Councillor Sanderson confirmed that NYCC did not have funding for Middle bridge. She also confirmed that the CIL funding could be used to do the bridge.

Councillors explained that it was not acceptable to use all the CIL funding on one project and consultation with residents was necessary before committing CIL funding.

8. ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT + END OF YEAR OUTTURN.

Receipts –

Dales of Thirsk (Memorial fee)	55.00
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Payments –

P Atkin (Salary)	* To be paid next month
P Atkin (Expenses including Zoom payments)	51.37
HMRC (PAYE)	* To be paid next month
Mrs C Huang (4 hours street sweeping)	40.00
YLCA (Annual Subscription)	618.00
NYCC (Microsoft subscription renewal)	50.37
YDS Ltd (Hire of JCB at allotments)	25.00
Darrell Langthorne (Fencing works - allotments + delivery of Newsletters)	340.00
Sam Turner & Sons (Fence Posts)	48.55
Mrs S Brigginsshaw (Reimbursement for purchase of seeds)	52.99
Brompton Carnival and Sports Committee (Insurance for carnival)	288.00
Brompton Methodist Church (Bookings for 5 meetings)	120.00
NYCC Yorwaste (Advance Charges)	37.37*
* paid by Direct Debit	
Paid out of meeting–	
Printroom (Annual Newsletters + 20@s Plenty Leaflets)	784.00
Mrs M Shiel Dods (Payment to R Douglass for vandalised notice board repair)	190.00

Bank Balances

Current Ac't - £200.00

Business Premium Ac't (i) - £36,333.00

Business Premium Ac't (ii) - £13.20

AGREED - That - (i) the accounts listed above be approved for payment; (ii) the Financial Accounts for 2021/2022 be sent to the Internal Auditor immediately, and (iii) the Councils Zoom contract that has operated over the past 6 months be cancelled due to the ending of lockdown.

Year End Outturn

AGREED – That the end of year outturn as appears below be approved.

BROMPTON TOWN COUNCIL		
RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022		
	<u>2020/21</u>	<u>2021/22</u>
<u>GENERAL A/C INCOME</u>		
Precept	£45,000.00	£54,000.00
Bank Interest	£1.15	£3.46
VAT Refund	£0.00	£19,394.28
Grants	£4,500.00	£1,000.00
Burial Fees	£1,970.00	£1,900.00
Memorials	£220.00	£90.00
Wayleaves	£348.55	£348.55
Allotment Rates	£1,200.00	£1,200.00
TOTAL	<u>£53,239.70</u>	<u>£77,936.29</u>
<u>GENERAL A/C PAYMENTS</u>		
Salary/HMRC	£4,944.00	£4,876.07
Admin- Expenses,Misc,audit fees,printing,payroll services,web site,newsletter	£5,228.71	£3,706.52
Grasscutting	£11,889.60	£10,446.40
Hedge Cutting	£0.00	£0.00
Dog Bins	£0.00	£898.92
Sweeping	£20.00	£565.92
Allotments	£4,604.47	£1,500.00
Insurance	£663.00	£686.36
Green/Wildlife Area	£309.64	£1,634.96
Cemetery Works	£749.10	£0.00
Room Hire	£324.00	£222.00
Recreation Ground	£1,564.00	£68.40
Noticeboards	£3,368.00	£0.00
Defib	£150.00	£0.00
Tree Works	£5,428.00	£4,280.00
Donations	£4,100.00	£850.00
Trade Refuse Bin	£167.80	£346.41
Car Park	£0.00	£0.00
Highways	£970.24	£35.94
Village Caretaking- building materials, hire charges	£11,401.94	£1,561.43
Projects - Bridge	£0.00	£8,516.45
Projects - Cemetery	£1,207.00	£3,594.00
Projects - School Bridge	£0.00	£3,809.40
TOTAL	<u>£57,089.50</u>	<u>£47,599.18</u>
<u>BANK RECONCILIATION</u>		
	<u>2020-2021</u>	<u>2021-2022</u>
Opening Bank Balances	£11,047.99	£5,955.19
Plus Income Received	£53,239.70	£77,936.29
Minus Expenditure	£57,089.50	£47,599.18
Unpresented cheques	£1,200.10	£1,644.00
Cash in hand	£0.00	£0.00
(Capital assets carried forward see below)		
Figure reported at Annual Return	<u>£8,398.29</u>	<u>£37,936.30</u>
Balance of Barclays Community Account a/c	£200.00	£200.00
Balance of Barclays Business Premium a/c	£5,741.99	£36,523.00
Balance of Barclays Premium Savings a/c	£13.20	£13.20
Sub Total	<u>£5,955.19</u>	<u>£36,736.20</u>
Plus credit for cheques presented this year from last year accounts	£2,443.10	£1,200.10
Total	<u>£8,398.29</u>	<u>£37,936.30</u>
Difference	£0.00	£0.00

9. HIGHWAY MATTERS.

PLANNED ROAD CLOSURE NOTIFICATION - Brompton Road, Northallerton - 33994

The Closure will be in place for a period of 14 days between 25th July 2022 and 7th August 2022 between 21:00 and 06:00 to facilitate footbridge repairs.

Northallerton Town Council Strategic Plan

Northallerton Town Council (NTC) had agreed its Strategic Plan for the Period 2022-2027 and this included an ongoing action to develop Green Corridors with a vision to new and enhanced pedestrian routes through the town. Brompton Town Council would continue to work closely with NTC on this action.

Full details can be found using the following link:

<https://northallertontowncouncil.gov.uk/wp-content/uploads/2021/12/Strategic-Plan-2022-2027.pdf>

AGREED - That Brompton Town Council work alongside NTC in moving this Strategy forward.

North Road Bridge

The opening date had not been finalised. Prior to opening the work would need to be inspected by an independent auditor,

AGREED - To keep discussions going to obtain an opening date

Pedestrian Footbridge Bowe Bridge

It was pointed out that Brompton Town Council along with North Yorkshire County Council did not have funding to facilitate this type of scheme.

Response from NY Highways in respect of matters raised by the Road Safety and Highways Working Group -

North Road Bridge Pedestrian Crossing Safety

The highway facilities associated with North Northallerton development fall under the remit of our Development Control department rather than the Area Office. We understand that discussions are continuing between our Development Control department and the developers. However, prior to the link road opening to the public it will be subject to a further Road Safety Audit by an independent auditor, should they consider that any facilities are inappropriate then the developers will be required to review the situation. We note the Town Council's email of 16 March regarding the crossing provision and have asked our Development Planning department to provide a direct response.

Pedestrian Footbridge Bow Bridge

Unfortunately as the local highway authority we have no budget to facilitate this type of improvement scheme.

Car Park BRG

Parking within the private car park is a matter for the landowner or their tenant.

20's Plenty Campaign

If the request has arisen due to a concern about vehicles speeding, then in the first instance a speed concern form should be submitted to the North Yorkshire Police Traffic Bureau. Further details are available at the following location on our website <https://www.northyorks.gov.uk/speed-limits-speeding-and-road-safety-concerns>

There are a number of factors/ criteria that we consider when reviewing requests for 20mph speed limits:

- a) If an appropriate length of zone/ limit can be implemented, which should be at least 600m. We are unlikely to be able to support new speed limit reductions over shorter distances, as frequent short changes in speed limit can be confusing, which can lead to compliance issues.
- b) If a suitable step down in speed limit can be achieved at the location – for example we wouldn't support stepping directly from national speed limit to 20mph and a length of 30mph limit (to the length above) would be required.
- c) A speed survey is required (which the North Yorkshire Police Traffic Bureau can organise) to understand existing mean traffic speeds:
 - i. A mean speed above 24mph would require physical engineering measures (traffic calming) to ensure compliance with a 20mph speed limit. At present the county council does not have the necessary funding to implement schemes at locations where there is no significant evidenced road safety need identified.
 - ii. A mean speed of 24mph or less is likely to suggest that a 20mph speed limit without physical measures could be supported (subject to meeting the other criteria discussed).
- d) If there is a recent history and pattern of injury collisions at the location that suggest a reduction in speed limit would benefit vulnerable road users (such as pedestrians, horse riders and cyclists). Based on our records there isn't a pattern of injury collisions in Brompton that would suggest that there is a road safety issue relating to vulnerable road users.
- e) We would seek advice from North Yorkshire Police to understand if they would support a reduction in speed limit and be prepared to enforce it.

For general information when considering any proposed changes to speed limits, as the local highway authority we follow the guidance set in *Setting Local Speed Limits* (Department for Transport Circular 01/2013). This guidance is intended to set the framework of how speed limits are applied nationally to ensure consistency. As a rule speed limits should be appropriate for the setting that they fall within to encourage natural compliance (e.g. motorists expect a street lit residential area to be a 30mph speed limit and open countryside without obvious hazards to be a higher limit). Following recent budget reductions, unfortunately we have no funding for non-essential physical highway improvements. Given the current condition of the highway network the County Council sees maintenance as a high priority and this means that only evidence led safety-critical improvement works will now be routinely undertaken.

Overview of Brompton Village Traffic Calming Measures -

Extension of 30mph Brompton Lane

It's usually the expectation of a 30mph speed limit that there is density of development; as without this there is likely to be significant compliance issues as drivers expect the speed limit to increase when they leave a village into open countryside. Given that the small cluster of properties in the vicinity of Sandgate Boarding Kennels are approximately 250m from the existing terminal signs, an extension of the 30mph speed limit is unlikely to be complied with and would be difficult for us to support. Any change to a speed limit requires the endorsement of North Yorkshire Police, who are responsible for enforcement – we have spoken with them and they would not support an extension for the reasons already mentioned.

40mph Stokesley Road

The A684 is classified as an A road, which is defined by the Department for Transport (DfT) as a major road intended to provide large-scale transport links within or between areas. Setting Local Speed Limits states that for a single carriageway road with a predominant through traffic function, a 40mph speed limit should only be considered when '*there are many bends, junctions or accesses, substantial development, a strong environmental or landscape reason, or where there are considerable numbers of vulnerable road users*'. In our opinion the A684 does not fulfil the criteria set out in Setting Local Speed Limits and due to its through traffic function it's unlikely that the desired reduction in speed could not be achieved without long term enforcement. Having spoken with North Yorkshire Police they would not be supportive of the proposed speed limit reduction.

Bow Bridge traffic calming

We consulted on introducing a priority arrangement at the bridge in 2016 and Network Rail objected due to the proximity of their level crossing. Due to this objection the proposals could not be progressed. However, there are already a number of road safety measures in the vicinity of the bridge and the school. Carriageway edge lines are present on the bridge and there are advance warning signs on both approaches alerting drivers to both the school and that the road narrows to single file traffic at the bridge. There is a school crossing patrol officer at that location and also flashing amber lights on Station Road and Lead Lane that are activated at school times.

Water End Surfacing.

A safety inspection has now been completed of the area causing you concern. This email is to advise you that we will arrange for a repair to be made. Our aim is to complete non-urgent repairs within 90 days.

AGREED – That the Road Safety/Highways Working Group meet to consider the above responses.

10. GREENS INSPECTION + WILD LIFE AREA.

It was reported that Councillor Brigginsshaw was drafting up an application to the Broadacres Housing Sustainability Fund which would be match funded proposed through part volunteer labour and part the budget the Council set for the Wildlife /Greens Area 2022-23. Details of the draft bid had been forwarded to Councillors and several comments had been received.

A bird box volunteer poster has been advertised around the village.

The Council intended to expand the wildlife area and was looking at benches etc and was currently working with Northallerton Men's Shed about the possibility of bat / bird boxes.

Contact had been had with The Rotary Club and Chopsticks and were working on making the budget stretch as far as possible.

Councillor Langthorne was currently looking at the possibility of planting more bulbs in Autumn.

It was reported that residents in Hilton Green felt overlooked and that Broadacres had not yet cut the grass and did not intend to until the middle of May.

AGREED - That (i) the Council would look at the possibility of an interim cut of Hilton Green in the future; and (ii) Councillor Haynes be contacted about the plants she was growing for the Council.

11. CORRESPONDENCE.

(i) Street Lighting on Little Lane.

A resident had written to request street lighting along Little Lane. This may be something that could be aligned to any planning application for development of land on Little Lane.

(ii) Northallerton and Villages Community Forum.

The next meeting of the Forum was to be held at 4pm on Wednesday 25th May. Further details about the meeting would be circulated nearer the time.

(iii) Concerns of a resident.

The concerns received from a resident were reported in full at the meeting of the Annual Parish Assembly.

12. ANY OTHER BUSINESS.

(i) Date of the Annual Meeting of the Council.

AGREED – That the Annual Meeting of the Council be held in The Methodist Church at 7.00pm on Tuesday 17th May 2022.

13. BURIAL MATTERS.

It was reported that there has been one burial this month in a pre-purchased grave and a burial of ashes in a pre-paid for plot.

The meeting closed at 8.40pm