

## **Monthly Update – June 2023**

### 1. APOLOGIES AND DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS.

No apologies for absence have been received from Councillors.

**Councillor Langthorne to declare an interest in Accounts regarding cheque payments.**

### 2. MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 16<sup>TH</sup> May 2023.

**To approve as a correct record the Minutes of the meeting held on the 16<sup>th</sup> May 2023.**

### 3. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES – FOR INFORMATION ONLY.

#### (i) Leaky Dams and Drainage Channel.

Coxons Ltd have confirmed that the digging out of the drainage channel at Water End is programmed to start on Tuesday.

The application for a licence to repair the leaky dams is with the Internal Drainage Board who have agreed to fast-track the application so that the works can all be completed by the Autumn.

#### (ii) Boulders alongside the Green at Fullicar Lane.

Following representations from a member of the public concerning the dangers of the boulders alongside the wild life area of Water End Green adjacent to Fullicar Lane it has been decided that these boulders be removed as they are serving no worthwhile purpose and be repositioned at other parts of the Village Green where they are needed.

The boulders have been strimmed round until they are removed.

#### (iii) Allotments.

Messrs D and M Langthorne have renewed the water meter at the allotments site as the original had been there for ten years and was found to be faulty.

#### (iv) Annual Newsletter.

Councillors have been consulted on the Annual Newsletter and it will be ready for printing and circulation shortly.

#### (v) Middle Bridge.

A meeting was held onsite on the 1<sup>st</sup> June with the NY Corporate Director of Environment, the NY Senior Technical Officer and the Councils Commons Registration Officer. The meeting was also attended by County Councillor Watson.

Subsequently NYC forwarded the Council a copy of a letter that it had sent to Rushi Sunak MP.

A letter was also received from a resident about this matter and after Councillors had been consulted a response was made to the resident concerned.

- (vi) Painting of Bridge at The Ford.

As the bridge at the Ford comes under NYC the painting works to be carried out by BTC will only be on the approaches to the bridge which do not form part of the bridge itself.

- (vii) Dead Birds on Church Green.

On the 13<sup>th</sup> June it was reported that there were 17 dead birds near the Lychgate area, these included 6 crows, 2 goldfinches and 9 pigeons. The Clerk reported these to the Gov Uk site that deals with occurrences of dead birds.

- (viii) Weeds in the Beck at Water End.

Following the last meeting the Clerk took a comprehensive series of photographs of the whole length of the beck along Water End and sent them to the Environment Agency. The EA responded that in view of what it had seen they did not intend to carry out any weed spraying works at the present time and were pleased to see that the water in the beck was in flow.

- (ix) Scot Pit Lane.

Having consulted Councillors the Clerk has written to the Planning Inspector to inform her that in BTCs view it is absolutely imperative that she carry out a personal visit to the site prior to making her decision on the matter.

- (x) New Primary School Name.

The Council has been informed that the new Primary School is to be called Oakbridge Church of England Primary School. The oak tree represents knowledge, understanding, what is right and true, strength and power, all integral values which align to the schools' Christian ethos.

- (xi) 20's Plenty Banners.

Unfortunately the new 20's Plenty banner near the Rugby Club was again vandalised very shortly after being put up. A newly designed banner which has a metal backing has now been put in place.

- (xii) Battle of the Standard Memorial Site.

The Battle of the Standard site has recently been strimmed.

- (xiii) Donation to Brompton Community Primary School.**

**The £330 donation is to be used towards the cost of school bus trips. A trip coming up is going to cost £700 for the bus to Saltholme. The School do trips each Summer term for whole school to different places.**

#### 4. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION.

The meeting will be opened for a maximum of 10 minutes for Members of the public who wish to speak regarding items within the remit of the Council.

## 5. REPORT OF COUNTY COUNCILLOR STEPHEN WATSON

Issues raised –

1. New roundabout on Stokesley Rd – grass was cut on the 23<sup>rd</sup> June by Taylor Wimpey. They have unfortunately decided that the damaged lamppost(Cotswold St) is not their responsibility now and we have escalated this to NYC Highways. I will pursue this and the damaged road signs if I hear nothing back from Highways by close of play next Monday.
2. Large signs – only scheduled cleaning etc will be carried out as the signs are in an acceptable condition.
3. Additional Brompton signage is being progressed.
4. Gate into wildlife area – currently no plans exist to add any further access. This is to limit the impact on the habitat.

On another note work is progressing on the new planned school off North Moor Road and its opening September 2023 is on track with a number of key appointments being made. Also the C of E are working on its name etc.

Portacabins on Orchard Grove to the rear of Northallerton Road residents. The issue has now been resolved after I spoke to Broadacres chief executive and the height reduced.

County Councillor Watson to update at the meeting.

## 6. LOCAL CRIME REPORT.

The Police report for May 2023 is set out below.

Anti-Social Behaviour	2 Reports
Anti-Social Personal	3 Reports
Total	5 Reports
Arson	0 Reports
Burglary Dwelling	0 Reports
Burglary Commercial/Other	0 Reports
Criminal Damage	1 Reports
Theft (inc. Theft from Shop)	0 Reports
Violence against the person	2 Report
Other crimes inc. Drugs	0 Reports
Hate Crime	0 Reports
Robbery	0 Reports
Fraud	0 Reports
Auto Crime / SMV	0 Reports
Total	3 Reports

### Community Messenger

A polite reminder to join our Community Messaging Service! Yorkshire Community Messaging is a free email messaging service from North Yorkshire Police and the Office of

the Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner, providing news and updates on policing matters that are relevant to you and your local community.

Sign up and receive email alerts about policing activity and initiatives in your local area as well as crime prevention advice and information. You will also have the opportunity to reply directly to your neighbourhood team and provide feedback via surveys.

If you'd like any further information or if you'd like to join please email PCSO Stokes [carly.stokes@northyorkshire.police.uk](mailto:carly.stokes@northyorkshire.police.uk)

### Independent Police Advisory Panel – 15<sup>th</sup> June 2023

Much of the meeting was around Hate Crimes which gained significance after the Macpherson report arising from the murder of Stephen Lawrence.

On a quarterly basis the figures for the County have changed very little from this quarter in 2022.

Throughout the County there have been 254 hate crimes (the average is around 1,200 each year) however for both the Richmondshire and Hambleton areas these have once again been very low at 5 and 13 (5%) respectively.

Every crime is reviewed and all victims are provided with an enhanced service of support.

These crimes involve prejudice with regard to Race, Disability, misogyny, Sexual Orientation, Religion and Gypsies/ Travellers.

There are no particular patterns, trends or concerns and none of the incidents are linked.

Passing through visitors to York and Scarborough affect the numbers of such crimes and peak in the Summer so it is not just the residents of York and Scarborough who account for the higher figures in those areas.

There has been positive action reported about ASB at such places as Richmond Falls, Aysgarth Falls and Masham and Public Spaces Protection Orders have been issued.

It is for the local Councils to look to the Police for support however the Police cannot patrol these areas and can only respond to occurrences. Unlike Darlington there are no Street Warden for enforcement matters who can issue penalty tickets etc.

The aim is to try and appease those who may act unsocially rather than to fight them and perhaps specified concretes area may be provided for those who wish to have BBQs.

In Catterick a number of expensive ornamental public benches have been unbolted from their bases and stolen however a person has since been apprehended.

A spate of Range Rover and Jaguar thefts took place in the Nothallerton area and 5 people from Teesside have been arrested in connection with these thefts.

Locally, diversionary tactics are being used to cut down ASB by youngsters, for example a 12 week boxing course has had a dramatic beneficial effect on the fall of ASB instances in Bedale.

As regards Northallerton 67 balaclavas were seized from youths whose parents have met with Police and there has been a big reduction of ASB in the town since April with there being no ASB related incidents recorded at the annual May Fair in town.

A drug warrant was executed in Welbury in respect of a woman who was manufacturing drugs from home.

The Fire Brigade is concentrating during the Summer on Water Safety and Wild Fire Safety, in particular to reduce the incidents of cold water shock and drug and alcohol use around water particularly by way of presentations made to schools and the ad hoc engagement of people at Aysgarth Falls and Cod Beck which is the greatest risk locally in Hambleton.

A dementia friendly Breakfast Club is held at Northallerton Fire Station once every month - the next ones being Friday 23rd June and Friday 21st July from 10am until late morning.

There will be an Open Day at Northallerton Fire Station from 10am to 2pm on the 8th July.

A question was asked as to whether the lack of a custody facility in Northallerton has increased Anti - Social Behaviour? It has however been reported that closing the custody suite has not affected anything, especially as the marker for the arrest of young people is now quite high with the Government having raised the national threshold. Reference to the Youth Panel is hoped to divert youngsters from making them offend again.

Police training in relation to Aspergers and Autism will be covered at the next meeting.

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

To be reported to meeting.

#### 8. REPORTS – INCLUDING REPORTS OF WORKING GROUPS –

##### (i) Finance Group.

It was reported that payment was forthcoming from the Allotments Group in the sum of £1,200 for annual allotments rents.

Mr Robinson undertook to contact Restarting Hearts about the unrepresented cheque for the maintenance of the defibrillators.

**The Finance Group considered the AGAR Return for the financial year ended 31 March 2023 and the Report of the Internal Auditor and RECOMMENDS both for approval – see separate item on the agenda below and that the AGAR be signed the forthcoming Council meeting.**

The Group agreed that expenditure on a bridge information board/poster be allocated to Village Caretaking and that the metal 20's Plenty sign be allocated to Highways.

##### (ii) Highways/ Road Safety Working Group.

No meeting held this month.

##### (iii) Play Equipment/Adult Outdoor Gym Equipment Working Group.

No meeting held this month.

9. PLANNING MATTERS – To consider the applications for planning permission received since the last Council meeting –

ZB23/00922/FUL - Retrospective application for a replacement building for two buildings for housing dairy cattle, Lowfields Farm Fullicar Lane.

ZB23/00919/MRC - Retrospective modification of condition 2 (approved drawings) of previously approved application 20/02582/FUL - increase in height of building from approved drawing, Lowfields Farm Fullicar Lane.

ZB23/00796/MRC - Modification of condition 2 (Plans) from previously approved application 22/01443/FUL- Construction of agricultural building for the rearing of livestock, Lowfields Farm Fullicar Lane.

ZB23/01076/FUL - Change of use of part of camp site and construction of Facilities block including retrospective permission for five extra caravan pitches and twenty tent pitches, Lenthor Farm Stokesley Road.

ZB23/01271/TPO - Works to fell tree subject to a Tree Preservation Order 1990/14

**The views of the Council are required in respect of the above planning applications**

#### **Planning Appeal – 1 Cockpit Hill - Dismissed**

#### 10. ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT.

##### Receipts –

William Crow and Sons (Rent of Green)	185.00
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##### Payments –

Mrs C Huang (Sweeping)	30.00
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P Atkin (Expenses)	****
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P Atkin (Salary)	384.24
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HMRC (PAYE)	96.00
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Mr R Carter Reimbursement for metal backed 20's Plenty banner)	182.40
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YLCA (Flying Start Councillors course Parts 1 & 2)	66.80
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Mr D Langthorne (Various works)	****
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<b>Brompton Community Primary School (Donation)</b>	<b>330.00</b>
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*NYCC Yorwaste (Advance Charges)	27.41 *
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\*Paid by Direct Debit

\*\* Paid out of meeting –

NYC (Printing of Tree Plans)	32.40
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Mr R Carter (Reimbursement for two 20's Plenty Banners)	57.54
YLCA (Village Greens Course)	33.40
CE+CM Walker (May grasscutting)	1,648.80
Mrs P M Watt (Internal Audit)	180.00
Hillside Tree Surgeons (Various tree works)	930.00
Sam Turner & Sons (Water meter adapter etc for Allotments)	71.76

### Bank Balances

Current Ac't - £200.00

Business Premium Ac't (i) - £75,853.25

Business Premium Ac't (ii) - £141,024.82

As at 2 June 2023

**RECOMMENDED - That the accounts listed above be approved for payment.**

The Bank Reconciliation appears on the last page of the Monthly Update.

## 11. INTERNAL AUDIT REPORT.

### Internal Audit of the Council's Accounts – Financial Year 2022– 2023

I can confirm that I have carried out a spot check for Internal Audit of all the financial records and other necessary documentation of Brompton Town Council for the Financial Year 1 April 2022 through to 31 March 2023.

### **Cheques**

On the checks being made there were no instances that were found of any cheques having been issued that were not duly authorised in the Minutes. Cheques were correctly dated as to the date of issue and countersigned on the rear of each stub by the required two Councillors. The Clerk also notes on the cheque stub the date on which a cheque has been presented at the Bank by the recipient. It is therefore quite easy to ascertain without reference to the Bank Statements whether a cheque has been presented or is still outstanding.

I have noted 2 cheques that have not been presented at the bank.

- Restarting Hearts – Cheque Number 102900 - £150.00 (25/10/22)
- NYCC – Cheque Number 102822 - £50.37 (19/04/22)

Outstanding cheques at year end mainly arise when they are paid at the Councils March meeting but then not presented until after the 31st of March – i.e., in the next financial year; this is common and unavoidable. However, in the instances above

these were dated well in advance of the year end. It is not for the clerk to chase unrepresented cheques; I know the clerk is aware of the 2 that I have stated above.

### **Invoices.**

All payments are supported by the supplier Invoices, they are recorded in the monthly council Minutes, and all invoices are filed in date order.

No payments have been made that do not match with the content of the Council's Minutes and the monthly schedule of approved payments contained under the agenda item "Accounts for payment".

### **Income**

All income is properly recorded.

The increase in income will need to be noted in the statement of Variances and an explanation provided to external auditors.

No problems arose during the year with the Banks Automated banking system.

### **Expenditure**

I understand that the Council is no longer involved in payments about of grants paid to other organisations.

### **Bank Statements.**

There is clear evidence that the Bank Statements are checked by the RFO as entries are highlighted on each one and entries noted on the Statement sheets for both income and expenditure. This area is cross referenced well.

I am aware the Clerk sends copies by email to all members of the finance group, and all figures are presented in each council meeting.

### **Letting of Contracts and Tenders.**

All Minutes recording the submission of tenders and estimates are duly recorded.

### **Assets Register.**

The Councils assets remain as the previous financial year.

### **Receipt of Wayleave Monies.**

Wayleave monies are received annually from NEDL.

### **Rent of Greens.**

Payment received from Mr G Crow 03/07/22

### **S137 Expenditure.**



Other than the grant to Brompton Recreation Group for £494.95, no other grants or donations were made in the financial year. Permissible expenditure is limited to instances where there are no other powers and secondly, they must benefit the community.

#### **Investments.**

I have found no references to any Investments and have again assumed that the Council does not have any.

#### **Contingency Sum.**

I understand that the council has substantially increased its contingency sum in comparison to the previous low level. Providing an adequate contingency sum year on year.

#### **Precept.**

The Precept received from Hambleton District Council corresponds with the required amount as in the Budget Minutes and is recorded in the Cashbook.

#### **Standing Orders/Financial regulations.**

I noted the council revised its financial regulation's during the financial year. These will be reviewed until in 2024.

#### **Unusual Financial Activity.**

On a spot check of the Minutes, I did not find any unusual financial activity during the financial year.

#### **Financial Risk Strategy.**

The Council put in place a Financial Risk Strategy in 2022 which will be reviewed in 2024.

#### **Income and Expenditure**

All receipts and payments are recorded and tally with the Bank Statements.

I can confirm that the records that I have inspected included the following –

The Councils Minutes (spot check only), Bank Statements, The Income and Expenditure Accounts, Cheque Books, Bank Paying in Book, The Monthly Expenses Return Claims, and the Cash Book records.

#### **Observations**

05/12/22 – The interest has been logged as £43.36 but is in fact £43.35 1p out.

In the February 2023 meeting the balance of the bank was noted as follows:

Current bank - £200.00  
Business Premium A/c - £217,170.08  
Business Premium A/c - £13.21

when the bank statement states

Current bank - £1040.00  
Business Premium A/c - £212,696.47  
Business Premium A/c - £13.21

I believe this to be a typing error as the figures match the month before, however a note within the minutes to confirm this would be helpful and emailed to all councillors so that a paper trail is evident of the error.

Might I suggest that the heading title for bank balances in the paperwork also reflects a date?

e.g – Bank Balances as of: 03/02/23

Again, as I said last year, overall, this is a massive improvement and evident again this time round regarding the logging and presenting of all finance. These figures are also presented alongside each council meeting to all present.

As I observed last year. The accounts are better managed and recorded. Showing full transparency.

Pamela Watt

Internal Auditor

1 June 2023

## 12. AGAR – ANNUAL FINANCIAL RETURN – YEAR END 31 MARCH 2023.

**To approve the Annual Financial Return for the Financial Year ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2023 for submission to the External Auditors as follows –**

	31 <sup>st</sup> March 2022	31 <sup>st</sup> March 2023
Balances brought forward	- £5,642	£35,212
Precept	- £54,000	£62,000
Total Receipts	- £23,936	£162,826
Staff Costs	- £4,876	£5,831
Loans	- 0	0
All Other Payments	- £43,490	£54,065
Balances carried forward	- £35,212	£200,142
Total Value of Cash	- £35,212	£200,142
Fixed Assets	- £75,500	£75,500
Total Borrowings	- 0	0

**+ that the advertisement to the public of the Audit be from 3 July to the 10<sup>th</sup> August 2023.**

### 13. HIGHWAY MATTERS - Including Notification of Road Closures and 20's Plenty.

#### Road Closures

PLANNED ROAD CLOSURE NOTIFICATION - SW-40259-Brompton Lane & Station Road, Brompton

The Closure will be in place for a period of 8 hours between 13th July 2023 and 14th July 2023 to allow for Network Rail works for Annual Level Crossing Testing (22:00-06:00)

The Road Closure and any associated Diversion Routes can be viewed using this URL link <https://one.network/?tm=134557088>

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PLANNED ROAD CLOSURE NOTIFICATION - SW-40203- Cockpit Hill, Brompton

The Closure will be in place for a period of 5 days between 24th July 2023 and 28th July 2023 to assist with Yorkshire Water works on private land.

The Road Closure and any associated Diversion Routes can be viewed using this URL link <https://one.network/?tm=134519154>

#### 20's Plenty

The local Branch of 20's Plenty met on Thursday 15th June.

Councillor Stewart Barber representing Northallerton Town Council was attending his first meeting and outlined NTCs intention to see 20mph outside all Schools and for the streets around the schools used by pupils to get to and from school each day. He did however point out that NTC had not as yet carried out any public consultation on default 20.

It was suggested that a good starting point for any consultation would be to talk to parents at schools and find out what they saw the issues to be and also to include Active Travel in the process.

It was also reported that recently one of the 20's Plenty banners in Brompton had been damaged on two occasions but it was hoped that printing the banner onto a metal backboard would rectify this.

NY Councillor Mike Jordan had recently left the ruling Conservative Group and had become an Independent Councillor and had quoted the lack of support from the Conservative Group for 20's Plenty as one of the reasons for his decision.

It was also pointed out that the majority of cyclists felt unsafe riding on roads that had greater than 20mph speed limits.

Currently there are 27 campaigning groups across the County.

Recently 20mph had had publicity on TV on Look North and Radio 4 was to hold an Any Questions event at Malton at which questions would be raised about 20mph.

The County Councils review of its Policy would end on the 26th June and would be submitted to the NY Executive Committee on the 4th July at which the local branch organiser would be tabling questions.

This would then be referred to the County Council meeting on Wednesday 19th July.

If the review did not support default 20 then this would give the Opposition Councillors an opportunity to put their own motion to the County Council meeting.

A named vote on the matter could also be requested.

A demonstration was being planned to be held at County Hall from 9.30am to 10.30am on the 19th July.

14. GREENS INSPECTION + WILD LIFE AREA.

‘ 15. CORRESPONDENCE – Other than referred to elsewhere on the agenda.

(i) YLCA Hambleton Branch Meeting.

To be held at Welbury on Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> June.

**(ii) Caravan parked at the Car Park.**

**A large caravan has been parked adjacent to the fence at the Councils car park some time.**

**Complaints have been received that this contravenes the car park rules and is unfair on other caravan owners who have to pay storage fees.**

**RECOMMENDED – That the owners of the caravan be informed that should the caravan be not be removed within 14 days then Council will arrange for it to be moved into storage and will charge the owner any resultant removal and storage fees incurred.**

16. ANY OTHER BUSINESS – Including (i) Date of Next Meeting of the Council – Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> July 2023.

17. BURIAL MATTERS.

<b>Bank Reconciliation to 2nd June 2023</b>			
<b>Income</b>			
Income reported at last meeting		£34,165.00	
<b>a) Receipts in the period:</b>			
	£0.00		
Total income for the period		<u>£0.00</u>	
Revised 2023/24 income to 2nd June 2023			£34,165.00
<b>Expenditure</b>			
Expenditure reported to last meeting		£2,755.63	
<b>b) Payments in the period:</b>			
Yorewaste	£27.41		
P.Atkin - Expenses	£29.65		
Mrs C Huang	£40.00		
P.Atin - Salary	£384.24		
HMRC	£96.00		
D Thangthorne	£220.00		
CE&CM Walker	£1,648.80		
Sam Turner & Sons	14.96		
Gallagher Insurance Brokers	812.74		
Playequip - Outdoor Gym	6,255.00		
Hillside Tree Surgeons	£1,770.00		
YLCA - Membership	£759.00		
YDS Ltd - Tractor Hire	<u>£60.00</u>		
Total expenditure for the period		<u>£12,117.80</u>	
Revised 2023/24 Expenditure to 2nd June 2023			£14,873.43
<b>c) Funds:</b>			
Surplus/(Deficit) for Period (Income less Exp)		-£12,117.80	
Funds B/Fwd From last meeting		<u>£233,195.87</u>	
Funds C/Fwd to next meeting		<u>£221,078.07</u>	
<b>Represented by:</b>			
<b>Balance of Barclays Community Account a/c</b>		£200.00	
<b>Balance of Barclays Business Premium a/c</b>		£79,853.25	
<b>Balance of Barclays Premium Savings a/c</b>		<u>£141,024.82</u>	
Total Funds as at 2nd June 2023			£221,078.07
<b>Unpresented Cheques</b>			
NYCC - Microsoft Licence (chq 822)	50.37		
Northallerton Mens shed	40.00		
Restarting Hearts (chq 900)	150.00		
MacVenture - Deposit for Springers at Rec (chq 981)	2520.00		
Wallace Fabrications Ltd - Bridge removal & fencing (chq 972)	3,900.00		
RGPS - signage for allotments (chq 976)	108.00		
(chq 983)			
		£6,768.37	