

Minutes of the Meeting of Brompton Town Council held in the Methodist Church, Brompton on Tuesday 21st November 2023

PRESENT – Councillors Mrs S Briggshaw, Mr R Carter, Mr J Hazelwood, Mrs E Kelly, Mr M Langthorne (in the Chair) and Mrs A Robinson, Mrs M Shiel Dods (in the Chair), Mrs R Smith .

There were two members of the public present at the meeting.

1. APOLOGIES AND DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS.

An apology for absence was received NY Councillor S Watson.

The Clerk reported that Councillor Steve O’Sullivan had resigned from the Council due to moving out of the area. NY Elections had been informed and the notice of vacancy would run from 20th November until 8th December.

Councillors Hazelwood and Langthorne declared interests in Accounts regarding cheque payments.

Councillor Langthorne also declared an interest in planning application ZB23/02179/FUL.

2. MINUTES.

AGREED – That the Minutes of the meeting held on the 9th October, 2023 having been having been previously circulated be taken as read and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

With regard to Item 11 relating to Installation of Outdoor Adult Gym Equipment at the Recreation Ground Councillor Hazelwood undertook to forward to the Clerk the wording that he considered had been omitted from the Minutes.

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

(i) Remote Council Meetings.

The Clerk reported that the House of Commons on the 18th October had voted against Councils being able to hold remote Council meetings in the future.

This had had the support of the House of Lords but had now been overruled.

This therefore brings any debate on the matter to an end.

(ii) Road Sweeping.

As raised at the last Council meeting – response from NYC –

We can arrange a mech sweep no problem. We have been plagued with some resource issues – driver and vehicle, fortunately we are coming through these now and this was the reason for some delays in service.

(iii) Road Markings.

Received from NY Highways in response to matter raised at the last Council meeting –

Unfortunately I have been unable to locate any works order to have this lining refreshed. However in light of your concerns the lining has been inspected today by one of our Highway Officers, who has taken the attached photos. The Highway Officer who carried out this inspection advises me that the

lining is currently in very good condition and therefore does not meet our criteria for the refreshing. Please be assured that the lining will be monitored, during routine safety inspections, and should this deteriorate to actionable levels in future then we will arrange for them to be repainted.

Councillor Kelly undertook to check if the road markings at the School had been renewed.

(iv) Blockages at Bowe Bridge.

Blockages at Bowe Bridge were reported to the Environment Agency on the 30th October and were cleared by a Field Team on the morning of the 31st October.

(v) Repair of Leaky Dams.

Works were now complete on farmland just outside of Brompton Village to which made substantial repairs to the leaky dams that hold back flood water and prevent properties in Brompton from flooding and further downstream.

The Article that appeared in the Darlington and Stockton Times on 3rd November is in the Monthly Update.

(vi) Website

The Clerk reported that the Councils web site had been substantially updated in the last month.

(vii) Remembrance Sunday.

The Clerk had attended the 11.00am service and the Chairman Vice-Chairman had attended the 4.00pm service.

A Councillor expressed concerns that no-one from the Churches had contacted the School about the arrangements for the Remembrance Sunday Events.

The morning Remembrance Service at the War Memorial had been attended by 14 persons and there had been around 20 present for afternoon service.

(viii) Overgrown Hedge. Little Lane/Stokesley Road.

Following concerns from residents the overgrown hedge at the Little Lane junction belonging to the Fieldfare property had been reported to NY Highways.

(ix) National Lottery Funding.

The Clerk reported that the National Lottery had increased its grassroots funding (Community Fund) from £10,000 to £20,000 in June 2023 and this had just been brought into effect this Autumn.

This was part of the National Lottery's new strategy for funding grassroots projects as part of its new 2030 Strategy.

The new provisions were contained in a document titled "The 2030 Strategy".

In addition the period for completion of projects had been increased from one year to two years and the information had been passed onto the BRG.

(x) Repairs to the Church Wall.

The meeting was informed that the stonemason had reported that works were likely to start in the next two weeks.

(xi) Blocked Gullies – Water End.

Substantial amounts of water had been flowing into a gully adjacent to 112 Water End due to blockages elsewhere. NY Highways had therefore been asked to investigate.

4. REPORT OF COUNCILLOR STEPHEN WATSON

Councillor Watson had sent the following report to the Clerk prior to the meeting.

As regards the Brompton sign he would be raising the matters with NY Highways rather than with Taylor Wimpey as he considered that this would be the quicker route.

Standing water was one of the areas being resolved by Taylor Wimpey as part of the site handover.

Bus and Transport funding – he had emailed all parties involved for an update as the last activity was August. Had also pointed out the increase in the number of occupied properties and residents expectations along with the school and retail sites progress.

Councillor Smith referred to potential issues with regard to flooding on the Thurston Park estate due to the overgrown drainage channel. It was suggested that the probable resolution would be bi-annually cleaning out of the gully however as the estate had not been adopted it was not known as to whether the Environment Agency would carry out these works.

AGREED - That Councillor Watson be asked to meet with Councillor Smith to explore possible solutions.

Councillor Carter reported that a number of houses on the new housing estate were not connected to the main sewer and that the drainage sump into which they were connected had to be regularly emptied by gully emptying tankers. AGREED - That the Clerk raise this matter with Councillor Watson.

5. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

(i) Mrs B Slater reported that a Christmas Fair would be held at Weavers Pavilion on Saturday 3rd December.

(ii) Mrs B Slater reported regarding the issues of rubbish being collected from Weavers Pavilion as Yorwaste had said there was more frequently side-waste being left at the litterbin, recently up to 6 sacks, all believed to be from activities relating to the club house. Adding that this waste should be dealt with appropriately with a schedule 2 contract and bin.

However the rubbish concerned was actually in half size bags.

The alternative was to provide a bin at the front of the Pavilion as Yorwaste would not collect it from the car park. Currently the rubbish was being taken home and it was AGREED - That the Clerk enquire further into the matter.

(iii) Mrs Slater reported that Brompton Football Club had agreed to make payments to the BRG on a quarterly basis.

6. LOCAL CRIME REPORT.

Statistics taken from	01/10/2023 to 31/10/2023
Crime Type	
Anti-Social Behaviour	0 Reports
Anti-Social Personal	0 Reports
Total	0 Reports

Arson	0 Reports
Burglary Dwelling	0 Reports
Burglary Commercial/Other	1 theft of boilers from new build properties
Criminal Damage	2 Reports
Theft (inc. Theft from Shop)	0 Reports
Violence against the person	3 incidents relating to same crime 3 Reports
Other crimes inc. Drugs	1 Reports
Hate Crime	0 Reports
Robbery	0 Reports
Fraud	0 Reports
Auto Crime / SMV	1 theft of work Ford van
Total	11 Reports

The report of the Police Independent Advisory Panel held on the 26th October 2023 is in the Monthly Update.

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

The Chairman reported that bulb planting would be taking place soon.

8. REPORTS.

(i) Finance Working Group.

The Finance Group met on the 20th November.

Points raised -

1. In view of Councillor O'Sullivan's resignation from the Council Councillor Carter to be asked if he wished to join the Finance Group as he was now a signatory to the cheques.
2. A holding letter be sent to Sue Butler-Smith in response to her query about spending CIL monies (referred to under AOB on the agenda) that no decisions can be made at the present time as the new development has not been handed over by the developer and also that a decision is still awaited from NYC as regards the applications for NYC CIL grant monies.
3. The Group analysed the reasons as to why there had been overspends above the budget allocations for the adult gym equipment scheme and for flood relief.
4. The Clerk to enquire further about the content of the invoice submitted by FNB Design.
5. As regards the level of the Precept for the financial year 2024/25 which will be determined at the December Council meeting the Finance Group is minded to work towards an increase in the Precept aligned to the current level of inflation. This would give a precept figure for 2024/25 of £76,000.
6. It was noted that Councillor Langthorne had collected the fencing from Allerton Steel that would house the new flood meter box and that the cost of manufacture was being met by the Environment Agency.

The Clerk reported that matters relating to the invoice from FNB Design had been resolved.

Councillor Carter had agreed to join the Finance Group and it was AGREED – That Councillor Carter be added to the membership of the Finance Working Group.

(ii) Highways/ Road Safety Working Group.

The Highways Group had not met during November,

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

On-going work throughout the month.

(iv) Joint Pedestrian/ Cycling Working Group.

No meeting has been held this month.

A meeting of the Joint Working Group was planned to be held in December.

The Clerk reported that positive meetings had been held with NYC Officers and a public event would be held in the Town Hall in the New Year to outline proposals.

9 PLANNING.

(i) Decisions.

None received.

(ii) Applications.

ZB23/02055/FUL - Single storey rear extension and part roof replacement at 21 Mill Hill Close – No Objections submitted out of meeting

ZB23/01926/FUL – Installation of solar panels to roof and outhouse to rear of dwelling, Greenview, 7 The Green – No Objections submitted out of meeting

ZB23/01925/LBC – Listed Building Consent for addition of solar panels to the roof at the rear of the property Greenview, 7 The Green – No Objections submitted out of meeting

ZB23/02179/FUL – Retrospective application for the extension to existing conservatory, 13 Lead Lane – That the Planning Authority be recommended to refuse the application for the following reasons -

The Council is very concerned that not for the first time a planning application for this address is retrospective.

No application for Building Regulations for this development has been made.

The works that have taken place impinge on the boundary of the adjoining property.

There are no foundations constructed.

ZB/23/02225/FUL – Conversion of Garage to form additional living accommodation, 5 Carmelite Close - No objections

ZB/23/02270/FUL – Proposed single-storey extension to dwelling and conversion of outbuilding (no change of use) to create additional residential accommodation at 35 Northallerton Road – No objections

The Clerk reported that several emails had been received objecting to proposals by Aldi to develop land off Darlington Road however to date no planning application has been received for consultation and it would appear that the major proportion of the site was within the Northallerton Parish boundary.

10. ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT.

Receipts –

Nil

Payments –

Coxon Brothers (Flood defence works)	30,876.00
Mrs C Huang (Sweeping)	90.00
P Atkin (Expenses)	59.29
P Atkin (Salary – including National pay award from 1 April 2023)	744.48
HMRC (PAYE)	186.20
CE+CM Walker (October grasscutting)	1,004.40
Hillside Tree Surgeons (Various tree works)	2,108.60
FNB Design (Works in connection with the adult gym equipment)	641.45
The Play Inspection Co Ltd (Independent Gym equipment inspection)	420.00
RGPS (Signs for Water End)	72.00
Pennine Playgrounds (2 nd payment on completion of installation)	2,792.99
Pennine Playgrounds (Additional security fencing)	234.00
Sam Turner ad Sons (Refuse bags and cable ties)	13.44
Les Sutton-Haigh (Dismantling of climbing frame)	150.00
Mr D Langthorne (works at allotments, moving waste bin + safety tiles)	274.00
YDS Ltd (Trailer Hire)	60.00
*NYCC Yorwaste (Advance Charges)	27.41 *

*Paid by Direct Debit

Bank Balances at 3 November

Current Ac't - £200.00

Business Premium Ac't (i) - £72,655.48

Business Premium Ac't (ii) - £141,697.51

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

The Clerk reported that VAT was being reclaimed in the sum £7,523 with a sum of around £6,000 being eligible to be reclaimed after 31st December.

11. INSTALLATION OF OUTDOOR GYM EQUIPMENT AT THE RECREATION GROUND.

Planning Complaint Brompton Outdoor Gym Northallerton Road Brompton - 23/00358/CAT3

The Planning Enforcement Officer visited the Recreation Ground on Thursday 19th October where access was provided to the site to measure the gym equipment as NYC had received a complaint from a resident that the outdoor gym equipment did not comply with planning requirements as it was too close to residential properties and was too high.

Rope Frame (Northallerton Road end 390cm other end 386cm) Climbing wall (305cm field side and 302cm Pasture View end) slight variation due to ground level and rubber matting installed around base, but all under max 400cm height.

The Enforcement Officer would be advising the resident concerned that the Outdoor Gym is allowed under permitted development Schedule 2, Part 12, Class A, and would close the case.

The article which appeared the Darlington and Stockton Times on the 10th November is in the Monthly Update

The issue of future maintenance of the outdoor gym equipment was raised especially the grasscutting contractor to trim the grass without damaging the wood and for the contractor to be liable for any damage caused,

Councillors suggested that there was a need for a maintenance programme but Councillor Hazelwood remarked that the equipment was relatively maintenance free.

The state of the surface beneath the equipment was raised as it was currently very muddy and it was suggested that the safety mats be lifted and soil be added and the mats put back or alternatively it be filled with bark. AGREED - That Councillors Hazelwood and Langthorne discuss the situation.

The Chairman thanked Councillors Hazelwood and Langthorne and the Clerk for the work that they had carried out in getting the gym equipment opened for use by the public.

12. EMERGENCY/RESILIENCE PLAN – TO CONSIDER THE WAY FORWARD.

The YLCA Branch held its meeting with NYC Emergency Planning Officers on the 18th October.

Only 7 Parishes were present - including Brompton, Bedale, Northallerton, Appleton Wiske and Romanby.

Some months ago the Clerk had emailed all Councillors about the intention to update the Brompton Flood Plan to include other emergencies and to update the Plan with regard to contacts etc.

The YLCA meeting was scheduled for July but didn't take place and at that time Councillor Carter said that he would be interested in helping to take the matter forward.

The Plan did not have to come under the Council but can be written up by another Group, eg residents.

After which there would need to be a face to face meeting with the Emergency Planning Officer.

AGREED – That the Council take the matter forward with North Yorkshire Council.

13. TO DECIDE ON A LOCATION FOR THE LINEN MILL CHIMNEY PLATE.

Councillors had given the following as possible sites for the Linen Mill Chimney Plaque - The BRG car park + The Church wall at the Linen Way entrance

AGREED – That - (i) the preferred location be at the BRG car park on an angled plinth next to the existing information plinth and (ii) Councillor Langthorne prepare a drawing and then the BRG be informed so that a site meeting can be held.

Councillor Smith left the meeting at 8.10pm

14. HIGHWAY MATTERS.

Road Closures

PLANNED ROAD CLOSURE NOTIFICATION - A167 Darlington Rd - Hutton Bonville to Deighton

The Closure took place for a period of 1 night between 19:00hrs on 2nd November 2023 and 06:00hrs on 3rd November 2023 for carriageway maintenance works.

PLANNED TEMPORARY SPEED NOTIFICATION - SW-42680-Brompton Lane, Brompton

The temporary 40mph restriction will be in place for a period of 3 days between 11th December 2023 and 13th December 2023 to allow for works to install a new water supply connection on behalf of Yorkshire Water

The Road Closure and any associated Diversion Routes can be viewed using this URL link <https://one.network/?tm=136457993>

20's Plenty

The report of the meeting held on the 17th October is in the Monthly Update.

Councillor Carter reported that he still had spare 20mph banner. AGREED - That Councillors give consideration as to where this should be located.

15. GREENS INSPECTION + WILD LIFE AREA.

Councillor Brigginsshaw reported that she would be contacting those on the volunteer list about the daffodil bulb planting which need to be carried out soon and then there would be the snowdrop planting to do in January.

The intention was to concentrate on the Wildlife area and then to start to extend down the Greens particularly around the trees.

16. TO AGREE ARRANGEMENTS FOR ON LINE COUNCILLOR TRAINING.

The Chairman pointed to the need for Councillors training especially for finance matters.

The Clerk suggested that the training be undertaken in 3 or 4 on line sessions with the Councillors who were to attend at each particular time – AGREED.

17. GRASSCUTTING CONTRACT 2024 GRASSCUTTING SEASON.

To agree the specification for the 2024 grasscutting season

Grasscutting 2024 Season

Parish -14 to 15 cuts

Church - 14 to 15 cuts

Cemetery -14 to 15 cuts

Verges - 14 to 15 cuts

Weedkilling - at least twice a year as follows -

Path alongside the Recreation Ground

Base of Church wall all round

Kerbed graves in the Cemetery

(Further weed spraying if deemed to be necessary)

Notes -

A one metre all round strip to be left uncut at the base of trees on the Greens except for those trees on The Green adjacent to The Methodist Church.

No cutting is to take place of the Green north of the Water Splash

In October the wildlife area north of the Water Splash is not to be cut

No strimming to take place in close proximity to the wood adult gym equipment in the Recreation Ground and that the Council would expect recompense for any damage caused to the equipment.

Any accidental damage to headstones or to flowers in the Cemetery or the Churchyard to be reported to the Clerk immediately

To blow the paths in the Churchyard clear of grass cuttings on every occasion of a cut

18. CORRESPONDENCE.

(i) Highways Team Support Request.

Received from a resident –

This note is to let you know that I have raised a formal Highways Team support request (Report number 101010207113). This relates to the incidence of HGV's entering the Northallerton Road cul-de-sac from the roundabout at Stone Cross and then being unable to exit the road other than by performing a very tight reverse turn into Portland Road.

You are probably aware of this issue as it has been a problem for over two years now.

I raised this support request yesterday following the latest incident that has once again messed up the grass verges on both sides of the road (photographs attached).

This situation is:

- *Dangerous for pedestrians and other road users*
- *Damaging - for both the verges and also the road surface - some of these vehicles are enormous and the tyres are grinding the road surface which will ultimately need to be replaced.*

The outcome that we are looking for and that we have discussed with the council is significantly improved signage at Stone Cross roundabout, making it clear that Northallerton Road is a cul-de-sac and unsuitable for HGV's.

I hope you agree that this issue needs to be resolved as soon as possible and that the Parish Council will support our case.

Response made –

Brompton Council has been referring similar complaints from residents in your vicinity to its North Yorkshire Councillor Steve Watson for quite some time.

At the Council meeting held on the 19th September Councillor Watson reported that having referred the matter to NY Highways an Inspector came out to look at the situation and had decided that the signage at Stone Cross was correct and was more than adequate.

19. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

(i) Date of Next Meeting.

AGREED – That the next meeting of the Council be held on Tuesday 19th December 2023 at 7.15pm.

Councillor Robinson submitted her apologies for the December meeting.

The Chairman pointed out that if Councillors were to be significantly late for a Council meeting or would need to leave during the meeting then they should send their apologies to the Clerk, the Council having already changed its commencement time to 7.15pm to accommodate Councillors. AGREED - That Council meetings continue to be held on Tuesday evenings and to commence at 7.15pm.

(ii) CIL Monies.

Received from a resident after circulation of the agenda –

“It will soon be the anniversary in December when you received the CIL money for Brompton Village. I have yet to see any mention of asking residents for ideas to spend the money so it benefits them. At the original meeting many years ago lots of good ideas were put forward, eg. a mini roundabout at the crossroads at Cockpit Hill, making it safer for school children outside the school and many others. Like many other residents I am very concerned that the huge amount of money is just sitting in an account not being used for the benefit of the village residents. When are you thinking of putting a leaflet through people’s doors to give ideas of how this should be spent, bearing in mind the longer you leave it, the less the money is worth? Also it will soon be Xmas so if it’s not addressed soon it will into another year!”

AGREED – That a holding letter be sent indicating that no decisions could be made at the present time as the new development had not been handed over by the developer and also that a decision was still awaited from NYC as regards the applications for NYC CIL grant monies.

Also AGREED - That the Councils website be updated to inform on the current position as regards the receipt of CIL monies.

(iii) Leaves on the Pavement.

Attention was drawn to the difficulties when walking especially along the side of Church Green particularly for parents with children going to and from the School due to the wet leaves having been deeply compacted. AGREED - That the Clerk raise this matter with NYC and with Councillor Watson.

(iv) Hedge on Junction of Little Lane/Stokesley Road.

Attention was drawn to the fact that the overgrown hedge belonging to Fieldfare was now obstructing the view of motorists turning out of Little Lane in a southerly direction. The Clerk stated that he had reported this matter to NY Highways twice recently and had also asked them to write to the occupiers of Fieldfare to ask them to get the hedge cut back as it was causing a danger.

(v) Exiting of Danes Crest Estate.

Concerns were expressed about children on bikes riding straight out from the Danes Crest Estate onto Cockpit Hill without stopping as the road markings had worn away. It was also commented that road markings in general were poor in the area. A Councillor commented that a Stop sign may help the situation. AGREED - That the Clerk raise the matter of road markings at the location with NY Highways.

(vi) Blockage in the Beck at North Northallerton.

It was reported that there was a tree in the beck at the new housing estate which would cause a blockage if not removed and the Clerk undertook to contact the Environment Agency so that its removal could be arranged. Councillor Carter undertook to send the Clerk photos of the obstruction so that they could be forwarded to the Environment Agency.

(vii) Allotments at the Sports Village.

It was suggested that the sheds at the new allotments site had most probably been blown over in the recent high winds rather than having been vandalised.

20. BURIAL MATTERS.

The Clerk reported that no burials had taken place during the past month.

The meeting closed at 8.45pm

