

**Minutes of the Meeting of Brompton Town Council held in the Methodist Church, Brompton on Tuesday 19th December 2023**

PRESENT – Councillors Mrs S Briginshaw, Mr R Carter, Mrs E Kelly, Mrs M Shiel Dods (in the Chair) and Mr M Langthorne.

There were three members of the public present at the meeting including NY Councillor Steve Watson.

DEATH OF FORMER COUNCILLOR

The Clerk reported that former long-standing member of the Councillor Reginald Collins had died unexpectedly on the 1<sup>st</sup> December and that his funeral would take place on the 20<sup>th</sup> December and would be attended by the Chairman, Vice-Chairman and the Clerk.

VACANCY ON THE COUNCIL

The Clerk reported that North Yorkshire Council had advised that an insufficient number of electors had requested that an election be called to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation of former Councillor Mr S O'Sullivan. The vacancy would therefore be filled by way of co-option in due course.

1. APOLOGIES AND DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS.

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Mr J Hazelwood, Mrs Robinson and Mrs Smith.

Councillor Langthorne declared an interest in Accounts regarding cheque payments and Councillor Carter declared an interest in planning application ZB23/02506/MRC.

2. MINUTES.

AGREED - That the Minutes of the meeting held on the 21st November, 2023 having been having been previously circulated be taken as read and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

3. MATTERS ARISING.

- (i) Compacted Leaves on the Pavement Opposite the Bus Shelter.

The Clerk reported that the leaves had been cleared by NYC shortly after the last meeting.

- (ii) Household Waste Recycling Centre (HWRC) Consultation.

The Clerk had submitted a response to the consultation on behalf of the Council. Some Councillors had also completed the consultation.

- (iii) Tree in Beck at new Development North Northallerton.

The Environment Agency had been asked to remove the tree. Councillors thought that the tree was still there.

A Councillor reported that it had been a resident who had removed the fallen tree from underneath Bowe Bridge.

- (iv) Container at the BRG Field.

Following a meeting with the representatives of Brompton Junior Football Club the BRG had been asked if it would be possible to remove the left hand container on the field and replace it with a container which had been given to them by the Army free of charge as the original container had leaks and holes in. It was also in a position where part of it is hanging over the beck side.

The replacement container would be turned so that the doors would face the field and free up car parking spaces.

Councillors had been asked for comments and the Chairman was to check whether any planning consents would be required. It was also suggested that the container should be dark blue, dark green or dark grey so that it blends in.

(v) Coathams Bus Services.

The Clerk had been contacted by a satisfied resident informing him that Coathams Buses were picking bus users up at the bottom of Danes Crest without any problems.

(vi) Rabbits in the Cemetery.

The Clerk reported that the rabbits in the Cemetery were infected with Myxomatosis. The RSCPA wildlife division had been contacted and had advised that as they were not inoculated they could not be saved. However if anyone did catch one they could be humanely euthanised if taken to a local vet without any charge as they were wild animals. An article had been placed on Facebooks Northallerton Noticeboard warning people living nearby to keep any pet rabbits indoors for the time being and this had been very well read.

(vii) Northallerton Sports Village – Progress Update.

Report received from NYC -

The capital works on the first phase of Northallerton Sports Village had been completed in July.

The site remained closed to the public to allow the recreational grassed areas to establish.

Opening of the site was then further delayed due to a delay in the transfer of the land from the developers to the Council.

Although the transfer of the land is still not complete, we are now able to allow public access onto the site which includes the one-kilometre circuit, amenity grass and car park. This area is due to be opened imminently. However, organised activity, that would require a licence, is not currently permitted.

A planning application is also currently under consideration to create a pedestrian access from the Brompton end of the site (north of the bridge).

Outstanding Works -

The land that includes the grass-crete access road providing access to, and underneath the bridge, and the area within this (bridge, pillars, banking, fencing and gate) remains the responsibility of the developer.

NY Council is aware that there are still works to be undertaken by the developer, which includes the removal of the graffiti underneath the bridge. The Council will screen as much as possible until it is removed and is working with the Police and other agencies to consider ways to prevent further occurrences of graffiti in the future.

Hedge Maintenance -

NY Councils parks and ground staff have recently been undertaking maintenance works to the hedge along Northallerton Road. They advised that the hedge needed to be cut back to approximately 7 metres high to allow the bottom of the hedge to flourish and create a safer habitat for nesting birds.

Allotments –

As part of the sports village development 18 small allotment plots have been created, which are enclosed with fencing. Each plot has a water collection point and shed. Once the land has been transferred into the ownership of North Yorkshire Council the management of the allotments will be passed to Northallerton Town Council.

Future plans –

The new North Yorkshire Council's Sport and Active Wellbeing Service is now tasked with completing a major Strategic Leisure Review which will include the production of a new county wide Playing Pitch Strategy. These strategies will be used to help inform future phases for this site.

The Northallerton Environmental Enhancements Project (phase 1) is part funded by the European Regional Development Fund with a grant of £503,706.

As regards the height of the hedge Councillors questioned whether this should be 7' and not 7 metres high.

(viii) Defibrillator – Thurston Park Estate.

The Council had previously decided to see if a defibrillator could be installed at the Thurston Park Estate. Whilst there were several locations from which it would be obvious that there was a defibrillator situated there none of them had access to an electricity supply which was necessary as defibrillators did not perform to 100% if temperatures fell below 5 degrees C. Hence the reason why defibrillators were found outside public houses, shops and the Town Hall etc as they were connected to an electricity supply.

AGREED – That consideration be given as to the siting of defibrillators at the new Supermarket when built, at the Sports Village or on the wall of the NHS building.

(ix) Church Wall.

The Clerk reported that reinstatement works to the Church Wall had started.

The Clerk added that the contractor intended to remain on site until the works were all complete.

(ix) Main Drainage, North Northallerton Development.

A Councillor reported that the houses that were currently draining into a soakaway at the new development were to be connected to the mains system in the forthcoming week.

#### 4. REPORT OF COUNCILLOR STEPHEN WATSON.

Councillor Watson reported that the Sports Village was now partially opened as the land had not yet been handed over therefore organised games could not be played at present until the land belonged to NYC.

The Chairman commented that a planning application had been received for a gate on Northallerton Road and Councillor Watson said that he would chase up this pedestrian gate variation to the planning application.

The obscene graffiti under the bridge had been temporarily covered up and when the site was opened professional cleaners would clean the whole of the affected area.

Councillor Watson also reported that the Area Constituency Committee held on the previous day had viewed presentations about the large developments at Scotch Corner where improvements to the road junction was necessary.

The electric charging points in the Applegarth were currently covered over as the company that had installed them had gone bankrupt.

A question was asked as to whether when the Sports Village was opened dog walkers had to keep their dogs on leads. Councillor Watson responded that there was a sign at the entrance but there would need to be more on the site.

A Vibrant Markets Town presentation had also been made to the Area Constituency Committee by Peter Cole which showed that the footfall in the market towns had just about returned to per-Covid levels and Northallerton visitor levels had increased due to its coach policy.

NYC had appointed a Hambleton Climate Change Champion but achieving the Councils goals would be costly.

A cross-Party group of Councillors was also looking at the revision of North Yorkshire Plan.

Councillor Watson also reported that he was still looking into the whereabouts of the monies for local bus services from the Section 106 Agreement and had asked why bus stops had been provided and agreement had been made to divert bus services if there had been any issues with funding and was awaiting a reply. There was also reference to local bus services in the current planning application for the Aldi site. Councillors Watson had also spoken to former HDC Councillors and the former Leader of HDC who had no recollection of any change to the S106 Agreement and the Chairman confirmed that there had been no variation.

Councillor Kelly arrived at 7.30pm and asked if the road traffic survey results that had been taken at the new housing development were yet available. Councillor Watson undertook to follow this up and agreed that a further survey should be carried out when the development was complete. He added that he considered that as regards traffic speeds the limits were being complied with more as drivers got used to the new road.

Councillor Watson also reported that as regards road safety he would ask if a speed monitoring van could attend the area on occasions in the next year.

## 5. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION.

No questions were raised by the public under this agenda item.

## 6. LOCAL CRIME REPORT.

<b>Statistics taken from</b>	<b>01/11/2023 to 30/11/2023</b>
<b>Crime Type</b>	
Anti-Social Behaviour	0 Reports
Anti-Social Personal	1 Reports
Total	1 Reports
Arson	0 Reports
Burglary Dwelling	0 Reports
Burglary Commercial/Other	1 Reports
Criminal Damage	0 Reports
Theft (inc. Theft from Shop)	1 theft of electricity

Violence against the person	2 Reports
Other crimes inc. Drugs	0 Reports
Hate Crime	0 Reports
Robbery	0 Reports
Fraud	0 Reports
Auto Crime / SMV	0 Reports
Total	4 Reports

### **Police Community Drop-ins**

Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> December 2023 between 10:00hrs to 12:00hrs Fraud awareness, Barclays Bank, High Street, Northallerton.

Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> December 2023 between 15:00hrs to 17:00hrs at Sainsburys, Northallerton

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

The Chairman recorded thanks to the Vice-Chairman for all the work he had done with the Environment Agency behind the scenes which had resulted in the EA supplying and paying for a new water meter and railings which worked off solar panels, the meter having been painted green to match the railings.

The readings from the meter proved that the leaky dams were working well in the recent inclement weather.

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

(i) Finance Working Group.

The following are the Finance Groups recommendations from its meeting held on the 18<sup>th</sup> December -

#### **Precept.**

That the Precept for the financial year 2024/25 be set at £76,000 - ie an increase of 3.42%.

#### **Recreation Ground**

That a sum of £20,000 (exclusive of VAT) be placed in the budget for 2024/25 for new swings and remedial works in the Recreation Ground.

#### **Flood Protection.**

That an annual sum of £2,000 + VAT be placed in the budget for annual inspection and maintenance works to the leaky dams.

#### **Grit bins**

That an additional grit bin be provided for Danes Crest estate.

#### **Christmas Tree**

That a larger 18" Christmas tree be purchased for 2024 at an approximate additional cost of £60.

#### **Sweeping and Gully Emptying.**

That in view of forthcoming staffing changes at NYC the Clerk enquire as to the frequency of both gully emptying and road sweeping in the village currently, especially due to the current state of footpaths in some locations in the village.

### **Banking Arrangements.**

That the Council move towards on-line banking, with the preference being for Unity Trust Bank but that monies be also left in the deposit account at Barclays Bank.

### **Allotments.**

The Council pay the cost of the transportation of three 1000 litre water tanks for the allotments site.

### **Chimney Plate.**

That at an approximate cost of £500 the plate off the Linen Mill chimney be cleaned and a frame made for it to be displayed; with installation coming out of the 2024/25 budget.

AGREED – That the recommendations of the Finance Working Group be approved.

(ii) Highways/ Road Safety Working Group.

No meeting of the Group has been held in the past month.

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

The Working Group met on the 5<sup>th</sup> December - see recommendation under agenda item 13 below.

(iv) Joint Pedestrian/ Cycling Working Group.

In August the Chairman of the Group submitted the views of the three Local Councils to NYC in response to the Transport Plan review. Over the subsequent months discussion were held with the Local Transport Plan team and officers of the Council. This has been every positive and the officers are keen to work with the Group to develop their plans.

A meeting of the Joint Working Group was held on the 12<sup>th</sup> December in Northallerton Town Hall when it was agreed to prepare for a proposed Transport Event on the Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> February 2024 in Northallerton Town Hall. The members of the Working Group are currently working on drawing up a list of invited attendees and to agree the exact format of the event and how to publicise it widely as a cross parish event to include the whole of Northallerton, Brompton and Romanby.

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

(i) Decisions

ZB23/01973/FUL - Application to replace damaged ridge tiles, parapets and replace flash banding material with lead flashing – 10 Lead Lane – Granted

ZB23/01973/LBC – Listed Building Consent to replace damaged ridge tiles, parapets and replace flash banding material with lead flashing – 10 Lead Lane – Granted

ZB23/02055/FUL - Single storey rear extension and part roof replacement – 21 Mill Hill Close – Granted

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 – Refused

ZB23/02179/FUL – Retrospective application for the extension to existing conservatory at 13 Lead Lane - Granted

(ii) Applications

ZB23/02459/REM - Application for approval of reserved matters with access, appearance, landscaping, layout and scale to be considered relating to planning application 15/01083/HYB and associated with Phase 1 of the Neighbourhood Centre comprising foodstore and retail unit (Class E(a)) (formerly Class A1), restaurant and coffee shop with drive thru lanes (Class E(b)) (formerly Class A3) and associated car parking.

LOCATION: Taylor Wimpey North Northallerton Phase 2 TW Land At Darlington Road Northallerton

The Clerk outlined the latest information on the application as available from the NY Planning Portal.

Whilst noting the concerns of residents it was AGREED - That no objection be made to the application subject to the lighting being sympathetic to nearby housing and that no pedestrian access be made at the entrance of Greggs to discourage stopping and parking on North Moor Road.

ZB23/00938/FUL - Revised application for construction of 38no. residential dwellings with associated access, parking, landscaping and infrastructure - OS Field 6504 Northallerton Business Park Thurston Road – No Objections.

ZB23/02506/MRC - Variation of conditions attached to Planning Consent- 2147- The occupation of the dwelling shall be limited to a person employed locally in agriculture or forestry as defined in section 290 of the Town and Country planning act. 1971 or the dependents of such a person residing with him but including a widow or widower of such a person. - Northfields Bungalow Long Lane – AGREED - That the Planning Authority be recommend to refuse the application as the reasons submitted for the removal of the condition are not considered to be adequate and it has not been shown that there is no demand for the dwelling from agricultural workers in the general locality.

9. PROPOSED DIVERSION OF PUBLIC FOOTPATH Nos 10.19/8, 10.19/22 & 10.19/26, Moor House & Moor House Farm - Consultation for Section 119 Highways Act 1980 Public Path Order HAM/2022/22/DO

Councillors had been emailed for their comments about this proposed Diversion Orders prior to the meeting.

AGREED – That the Planning Authority be recommended to refuse the application as the footpath is part of a well-used significant network.

11. ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT.

Receipts –

Nil

Payments –

Mrs C Huang (Sweeping)	45.00
P Atkin (Expenses)	34.59
P Atkin (Salary)	429.18
HMRC (PAYE)	131.23

Sam Turner and Sons (Christmas tree)	132.98
Mr D Langthorne	210.00
YDS Ltd (Trailer hire)	60.00
*NYCC Yorwaste (Advance Charges)	27.41 *

Bank Balances at 1<sup>st</sup> November

Current Ac't - £200.00

Business Premium Ac't (i) - £44,697.51

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

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

VAT Reimbursement.

The Clerk reported that HMRC had paid in full the VAT claims put in for January - end of September 2023 in the total sum of £7,523.

The calculation was that when another claim was submitted at the start of January for the period October - end of December 2023 this would amount to a further £6,381.

AGREED - That where possible VAT be reclaimed on a two or three monthly basis.

12. SETTING OF PRECEPT LEVEL FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR 2024/25.

AGREED – That the Precept for the financial year 2024/25 be set at £76,000 and that the Clerk inform NYC accordingly.

13. INSTALLATION OF OUTDOOR GYM EQUIPMENT AT THE RECREATION GROUND AND PROVISION OF NEW PLAY EQUIPMENT DURING THE FINANCIAL YEAR 2024/25.

AGREED -

That HAGGS be added to the list of companies requested to tender for the following project in the Recreation Ground as follows –

Prelims - Site set-up, welfare, heras fencing

Site clearance - remove and dispose of double bay cradle swing

Groundworks - PCC edge and MOT 1 base to Proludic Springer

Additional baseworks to swing

Supply and install new double bay cradle swing

Supply and install powder coated self closing steel gates - Two of

300mm cutback and repair to perimeter of basket swing surfacing

Overlay to basket swing surfacing

Wet pour to Proludic spinner



300mm cutback and repair to perimeter of see saw surfacing

Overlay to see saw

#### 14. HIGHWAY MATTERS.

##### Road Closures

PLANNED ROAD CLOSURE NOTIFICATION - SW-42915-Brompton Lane and Station Rd, Brompton

The Closure will be in place for a period of 8 hours between 2nd March 2024 and 3rd March 2024 to allow for inspection works on behalf of Network Rail (22:00-06:00 only)

The Road Closure and any associated Diversion Routes can be viewed using this URL link <https://one.network/?tm=136675917>

#### 15. LEAKY DAMS - FUTURE MAINTENANCE PLAN.

It was reported that the estimates received from Coxon Bros for the proposed leaky dam maintenance across the Brompton Beck and Ings Beck catchment were as follows -

- (a) Debris clearance across the eight leaky dams

*Supply a two-man team with hand tools to clear the leaky dams as a one off.*

*Total excluding VAT £670.00*

- (b) *The dams would need checking following any significant rainfall, I will discuss this on site with you as we work across the district clearing structures before and after rainfall events for the IDB.*

*If budgeting, I would estimate £1,675 + VAT, this allows up to 25 hours per year to visit the dams. When planning for future structural maintenance, the initial leaky dams were installed in 2014.*

*The larch piles have an estimated life span of 15 years; therefore, the original dams have been in position for nearly 10 years.*

*Predicting forward, I would estimate £2,000 + VAT per year is saved for the ongoing and future maintenance of the structures.*

*It's easy for me to recommend, but if £5,000 + VAT per year could be budgeted, it would hopefully give an excess over the years for both for regular & long term maintenance.*

AGREED – As per the Recommendation of the Finance Working Group an annual sum of £2,000 + VAT be placed in the budget for annual inspection and maintenance works to the leaky dams.

#### 16. GREENS INSPECTION + WILD LIFE AREA - Including Future Management Programme for the Wildlife Area.

The Clerk reported that MAB Environmental and Ecology from Thirsk had been asked to provide costs of them drawing up a management plan for the wildlife area.

AGREED - That in the next planting season bulbs be planted where the plate off the Linen Mail chimney is to be sited and also along the railway line side of the BRG field.

Planting of Bulbs at Thurston Park Estate.

AGREED - That the Clerk ask Councillor Smith if all of the bulbs had now been planted at Thurston Park estate and if there were any surplus these be returned and planted along Stokesley Road.

Caretakers Garden at Brompton Primary School.

The Chairman reported that the Allotments Group was willing to supply plants for the old caretakers garden at the School

AGREED- That – (i) Councillor Kelly ask the School if it is happy for the project to grass and plant the area of the former caretakers bungalow, including wildflower planting, to proceed with raised beds being used for the planting of vegetables; and that (ii) if it is ok with the School then costings for the next financial year be worked up.

It was also suggested that an area of eh BRG field that was formerly raised and used for golf could benefit from the planting of bulbs.

17. CORRESPONDENCE – Other than referred to elsewhere on the agenda.

(i) Proposed Closure of Barclays Bank.

The Clerk reported that this matter was being taken forward by Northallerton BID.

(ii) Grit Bins

(a) Thurston Park Estate.

The Clerk reported that a request had been received for grit bins to be placed on the Thurston Park estate. However this cannot be done at present as the estate has not been adopted.

(b) Danes Crest Estate.

Three requests have been received for new grit bins on the Danes Crest estate.

AGREED – That a new grit bin be provided for the new houses at Danes Crest.

(c) Domestic Disturbance.

The Clerk reported that a resident had contacted the Council to report that she had gone to the Police regarding a domestic incident near to where she lived. It was alleged that the incident had caused distress to neighbours over a period of time. It was also reported that the incident had been reported to Broadacres Housing who had failed to respond. In the circumstances the matter was not within the remit of Brompton Council.

(d) Sports Village.

A resident emailed a number of concerns about the Sports Village after the last Council meeting. There were very similar to those raised at the last Council meeting and were forwarded to Councillor Watson.

18. 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 on Wednesday 24th January 2024 at 7.15pm.

(ii) Christmas Tree – 2024.

AGREED –That a 18' Christmas Tree be purchased for Christmas 2024.

(iii) Mud and Grass in Gutters.

A Councillor drew attention to the amount of mud in road gutters through the village in which grass was growing in quite a few of them. It was pointed out that the last time they had been cleared out was manually with a spade about four years ago and this had taken weeks to do. The street sweeping machine was unable to pick up compacted mud from the gutters. AGREED - That the Caretakers Budget be looked at to see if some of this mud and grass could be manually removed.

#### 19. BURIAL MATTERS.

(i) Setting of Burial Fees from 1 January 2024

AGREED – That burial fees for the forthcoming calendar year be as follow -

- £400.00 per burial plot
- £180.00 per interment in a burial plot
- £60.00 for Memorials (half size headstones – half fee)
- £120.00 for the purchase of ashes plot
- £60.00 for interment of ashes
- No fee for deceased persons under 16 years of age.

Fees are doubled where the deceased person did not reside within the Parish boundary but in such cases proof is required that the person still had immediate relatives in the Parish, unless they had moved out of the Parish within a period of less than 12 months.

(iii) Burials.

The Clerk reported that one burial was scheduled for the coming week.

The meeting closed at 8.10pm