

Minutes of the Meeting of Brompton Town Council held in the Methodist Church, Brompton on Tuesday 24th January 2024

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

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

1. APOLOGIES AND DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS.

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Carter, Hazelwood and Smith.

Councillor Langthorne declared an interest in Accounts regarding cheque payments

2. MINUTES.

AGREED – That the Minutes of the meeting held on the 19th December, 2023 having been having been previously circulated be taken as read and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

3. CO-OPTED VACANCY.

As there were insufficient electors who had come forward to call an Election following the resignation of Mr S O’Sullivan the vacancy would be filled by way of co-option.

AGREED – That the co-opted vacancy be advertised.

4. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES.

(i) Grants of Permission Various Streetworks.

As per the Councils usual practice the Clerk had granted permissions for various street works comprising a Virgin Media cabin next to the BT one on the Green near the bus shelter and for the replacement of various poles around the Greens and adjacent to the Recreation Ground. AGREED – That the actions taken by the Clerk be endorsed.

(ii) Bollards Outside The Three Horse Shoes and at Cockpit Hill.

The Clerk reported that the works to install bollards on the corner outside the Three Horse Shoes and at the crossing point at Cockpit Hill had been delayed by two weeks.

(iii) Damaged Public Right of Way Stile.

The damaged stile on the footpath west of The Orchards had been reported to NYC Countryside Services for repair.

(iv) Bulb Planting at the BRG Field.

The BRG Committee did not feel that it would be beneficial to plant bulbs in the area that had been suggested by Councillor Carter at the previous months Council meeting. They had however suggested that the area fronting the pavilion could be planted however all bulbs had now been used up for this season and this would have to wait until next winter. AGREED – That bulb planting in the next season also take place around the Linen Mill Chimney plinth at Weathers Pavilion.

5. REPORT OF COUNCILLOR STEPHEN WATSON

Councillor Watson reported that whilst the North Yorkshire Council budget for 2024/25 would be challenging the situation was not as bad as some other Councils. The anticipated NYC Council Tax increase was planned to be 4.9% but it was hoped that that would set up the Council for the following year so that the next increase would not be as high as 4.9%. The Council had also drawn funds from its contingency fund. The 4.9% was similar to that planned by other Councils.

NYC was also looking at withdrawing its Locality Budgets which it currently made available to all Councillors in the sum of £10,000 a year. However this had met with some resistance by Councillors who considered that such funding was very good for local bodies to be able to gain access to other funding sources.

On behalf of the BRG Brompton Council had submitted an application for £2,000 of Locality Fund monies so that the BRG would purchase its own goalposts and therefore extend the use of the facilities to the community instead of being tied to Brompton Junior Football Club.

Councillor Watson referred to the Transport Event being held in Northallerton Town Hall on the 10th February which would include a review of local bus services adding that he was still trying to find out what had happened to the Section 106 monies for new local bus services especially as this had been referred to in the recent North Northallerton ALDI retail development planning application.

The Chairman asked if it was known if any progress what been made on the two applications made by BTC to NYC for CIL grant monies and again Councillor Watson reported that he was awaiting a response on this matter. The strength of the Councils case was in the fact that recent flooding would have occurred if the works to the leaky had not been carried out. The Clerk added that he had been informed by NYC that this matter could not move forward until a process had been established for dealing with such funding applications of which there were several across the County made by local Councils.

A Councillor said that there may be joint funding opportunities to be drawn on from Persimmon Homes funding initiatives and in the future any such local scheme adopted by Aldi with the two organisations possibly being able to work together jointly as regards local funding availability.

Councillor Watson also agreed to chase up the "Brompton" signs and it was suggested that they should say "Welcome to Brompton" with one being on the new road and the other being sited on the other side of Darlington Road.

Councillor Watson left the meeting on the conclusion of the above item.

6. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION.

- (i) Mr P Walker asked what was the current position about the solar panels on the roof of No 1 Cockpit Hill as they were still in place even though planning permission had been refused. The Chairman replied that the matter was now the subject of enforcement action. AGREED - That the Clerk write to the Planning Authority and ask when it was anticipated that the panels would be removed.
- (ii) Mr F Pacey asked about solar panels at Water End and was informed that these would not be allowed on the front of a property as they were within the Conservation Area but could be permitted to the rear of the houses.

7. LOCAL CRIME REPORT.

| | |
|-----------------------|--------------------------|
| Statistics taken from | 01/12/2023 to 31/12/2023 |
|-----------------------|--------------------------|

| Crime Type | |
|------------------------------|-----------|
| Anti-Social Behaviour | 0 Reports |
| Anti-Social Personal | 1 Reports |
| Total | 1 Reports |
| Arson | 0 Reports |
| Burglary Dwelling | 0 Reports |
| Burglary Commercial/Other | 0 Reports |
| Criminal Damage | 2 Reports |
| Theft (inc. Theft from Shop) | 0 Reports |
| Violence against the person | 4 Reports |
| Other crimes inc. Drugs | 0 Reports |
| Hate Crime | 0 Reports |
| Robbery | 0 Reports |
| Fraud | 0 Reports |
| Auto Crime / SMV | 1 Reports |
| Total | 7 Reports |

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

The Vice-Chairman reported that over the past three days he had been helping the tree contractor with removal of a large Sycamore tree in the Churchyard.

The question was raised as to whether the tree should remain at the current reduced height or be taken down to stump level and it was AGREED – That the height of the tree be reduced as far as possible in order to reduce any future maintenance costs.

9. REPORTS – INCLUDING REPORTS OF WORKING GROUPS –

(i) Finance Working Group.

Summary of meeting held on Monday 23rd January –

VAT has been claimed in the sum of £6,395 from HMRC for the period October - December 2023.

The Clerk is pursuing obtaining the sum of £1,870 held by HSBC Bank since the closing down of the Middleton Whittaker Charity.

The Clerk is to apply for a sum of £184.40 from NYC as a contribution towards the cutting of highway verges in the 2024 grasscutting season.

As regards Forestry Grants under item 15 on the agenda it is RECOMMENDED that this matter be not proceeded with as it would require the purchase of approximately 44,000 trees to meet with conditions of the grant scheme.

As regards Bank Accounts it is RECOMMENDED that the everyday working account be moved to the Unity Trust Bank but that the bulk of the Councils monies be left on deposit at Barclays Bank in view of the interest rates obtainable.

An application for a donation towards works to the entrance of the Methodist Church has been received and will be considered when the Finance Group reviews the Councils budget for the financial year 2024/25 in March.

The Clerk to liaise with Councillor Watson regarding the siting of two “Brompton” signs.

AGREED – That the Recommendations set out above be approved.

ALL COUNCILLORS TO CONSIDER MATTERS FOR BUDGET EXPENDITURE FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR 2024 - 25 AND INFORM THE CLERK OF THEIR WISHES PRIOR TO THE NEXT MEETING OF THE FINANCE GROUP WHICH IS TO BE HELD ON THE 5th FEBRUARY

With reference to the Wildlife Areas Budget the Chairman asked Councillor Brigginslaw to email the Clerk with details of what monies would be required in the 2024/25 financial year.

(ii) Highways/ Road Safety Working Group.

No meeting had been held this month.

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

No meeting held in the past month.

The Clerk reported that the works for the replacement toddler swings and remedial works in the Recreation Ground were out for tender.

(iv) Joint Pedestrian/ Cycling Working Group.

See under agenda item 14 below.

9. PLANNING MATTERS.

(i) Decisions.

ZB23/02270/FUL - Proposed single-storey extension to dwelling and conversion of outbuilding (no change of use) to create additional residential accommodation at 35 Northallerton Road - Granted.

ZB23/01925/LBC - Listed Building Consent for the addition of solar panels to the roof at the rear of the property, Greenview, 7 The Green - Granted

(ii) Applications.

ZB23/02518/FUL – Retrospective construction of a shed at 65 Northallerton Road – AGREED – That the Planning Authority be recommended to Refuse the application for the following reasons -

The Council is concerned that the application is retrospective.

To describe the building as a shed, which is normally defined as a simple structure to store such as garden implements is in itself misleading.

The building is greatly oversized and is not in keeping with the surroundings and other neighbourhood structures that can more properly be regarded as sheds.

ZB23/02516/FUL – Installation of a dropped kerb to allow access to driveway at front of dwelling, 24 Corber Hill – No objections

ZB23/02492/FUL – Application for a detached dwelling and garage, Land adjacent to 53 Water End – AGREED – That the Planning Authority be recommended to Refuse the application for the following reasons -

Whilst the Council has no objections in principle to development as an infill site in this case the applicant has failed to address the flooding issues that were the subject of the refusal of a previous application for this site at Appeal.

ZB23/02494/FUL – Application for construction of replacement dwelling, Southolme Farm – No objections.

10. 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 – To reconsider the Councils Decision.

Received from NYC -

Thank you for your email dated 9/1/2024 and I acknowledge receipt of Brompton Town Council's objection to these proposed diversions.

However, I would like to take this opportunity to provide some further information, which I hope will address the Town Council's concerns regarding these proposals and hope that you might consider withdrawing your objection:-

The aim of the diversion are to move the public right of way onto the currently used route of the Coast to Coast National Trail. The proposals would avoid paths having to go through a private garden, through farm buildings and across arable fields. Also, we believe the proposed diversions are for the public's benefit, as well as the land owners' interest.

The increase in length is negligible, when taking into account the total individual path length, and recent diversion appeals have found this not to be a sufficient reason to outweigh the benefits described in 1.

Our experience is that the public would much prefer to walk along a well-maintained grass field edge, rather than use what will often be a muddy cross-field path.

If it would be helpful to the Town Council, we would be willing to meet any interested Councillors on site, to look at the proposed routes on the ground, if they haven't had the opportunity to do so already.

AGREED – That the Council withdraw is objection to this proposal.

12. ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT.

Receipts –

| | |
|--------------------------------|--------|
| Coop Funeral Care (Burial fee) | 165.00 |
|--------------------------------|--------|

Payments –

| | |
|--|--------|
| T P Jones & Co LLP (Quarterly payroll) | 59.40 |
| Sam Turner and Sons (Road salt) | 48.00 |
| P Atkin (Expenses) | 23.65 |
| P Atkin (Salary) | 429.38 |
| HMRC (PAYE) | 107.20 |
| Mrs C Huang (Sweeping) | 55.00 |
| Mr D Langthorne (Grit Bins) | 172.50 |
| YDS Ltd (Trailer hire) | 60.00 |

*NYCC Yorwaste (Advance Charges)

27.41 *

Bank Balances at 3rd January

Current Ac't - £200.00

Business Premium Ac't (i) - £39,910.80

Business Premium Ac't (ii) - £142,190.93

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

VAT Reimbursement.

The Clerk reported that a claim had been submitted to HMRC for the period 1st October – 31st December 2023 in the sum of £6,395.41.

Former Middleton Whittaker Charity.

The Clerk was in discussions with the HSBC Bank in an endeavour to get the Bank to release to the Council the sum of approximately £1,800 that has been deposited at the Bank since the Charity was wound up on the expiration of the deposited War Stock and Bonds.

13. HIGHWAY MATTERS.

PLANNED ROAD CLOSURE NOTIFICATION - SW-18890-Bullamoor to Kirby Sigston, Northallerton

The Closure will be in place for a period of 6 hours between 1st February 2024 and 1st February 2024 to allow for pole replacement works on behalf of BT (09:30-15:30 only)

The Road Closure and any associated Diversion Routes can be viewed using this URL link <https://one.network/?tm=137026051>

PLANNED ROAD CLOSURE NOTIFICATION - SW-18948-Viking Court, Brompton

The Closure will be in place for a period of 5 days between 19th February 2024 and 23rd February 2024 to allow for fibre installation works on behalf of Avonline Network Services Ltd

The Road Closure and any associated Diversion Routes can be viewed using this URL link <https://one.network/?tm=137111394>

20mph Zone Traffic Regulation Orders

Received via Councillor Watson from NYC Transport Portfolio Holder Councillor Keane Duncan which addresses the Council's concerns about the costs of making a Traffic Order for a 20mph speed limit scheme -

There is no requirement for a Parish or Town Council to fund any part of the application assessment nor the TRO or physical measures such as signing, road markings and traffic calming features should the application be successful.

The Council has a budget fund a number of schemes each year and they will be prioritised to ensure the best value is achieved. Should it be the case that an approved application isn't prioritised for funding in year and potentially in future financial years depending up the size and scale of other approved schemes, then Parish/Town Councils can provide funding should they wish to.

A prioritisation matrix is currently being developed, which when finalised, will be taken through the formal governance approval process. For reference the matrix will score the type of scheme i.e. a low cost signed only speed limit or if it's a traffic calmed multi-street zone, the size of the residential population, current speeds, the number of collisions and other public health data sets for example.

I trust the above information alleviates any concerns regarding costs and that the council is working to ensure schemes are delivered to benefit local communities.

14. LOCAL TRANSPORT EVENT – NORTHALLERTON TOWN HALL SATURDAY 10th FEBRUARY.

A Local Transport Event is to be held in the Town Hall on Saturday 19th February to engage with local residents regarding the future of transport in North Yorkshire to feed into the local plan process.

Invitations will be sent to organisations, North Yorkshire Mayoral Candidates and key Councillors at NYC to encourage attendance.

This is a joint venture between Northallerton and Brompton Town Councils and Romanby Parish Council to see what people would like to see change around town.

North Yorkshire Council is currently preparing a new Transport Plan and the election of a new Mayor for North Yorkshire and York in May 2024, who will have responsibility for transport, means that the views of the town are needed.

Officials and members from NYC as well as the mayoral candidates are being invited to hear people's views about buses, trains, walking, cycling, driving, taxis, parking, congestion, level crossings and anything else transport wise residents are urged to come along to share their thoughts so that they can be used to help shape plans for the next few years.

AGREED – That the Clerk ascertain the time of the event on the 10th February and also circulate Councillors regarding their availability to help at the event on the day.

15. GREENS INSPECTION + WILD LIFE AREA - Including Future Management Programme for the Wildlife Area and White Rose Forestry Grants for planting woodlands.

MAB Ecology of Thirsk were currently looking at the wildlife area at Water End.

Information received from Councillor Brigginsshaw from the White Rose Forest agency which provides grants for planting woodland/ tree/scrub had been circulated to all Councillors. AGREED – That the Chairman and Vice-Chairman meet with MAB Ecology and that Councillors Brigginsshaw and Kelly also meet at the Wildlife area and at the School respectively on the day of the meeting.

Also AGREED – That no action be taken as regards the White Rose Forest tree grant scheme as the minimum number of trees required to be planted to qualify for the funding was 44,000 trees.

16. CORRESPONDENCE.

- (i) Moles at Water End Green.

A complaint had been received about the number of moles this year at Water End Green and asking what action the Council intends to take. It was considered that there were fewer moles than in previous years and the mounds of soil would probably be taken by residents for gardens and the Green would make a full recovery. AGREED – That as in previous years the Council take no action.

17. ANY OTHER BUSINESS.

- (i) Date of Next Meeting.

AGREED – That the next meeting of the Council be held in The Methodist Church on Tuesday 20th February 2024 at 7.15pm

(ii) Lifting of Prohibition of Funds Churches.

As from 26th December the Government lifted the prohibition under the Local Government Act 1894 on Councils which prevented them from providing funding to Churches - ie allowing contributions to be made towards the execution of works to Churches.

The prohibition was put in place so that Councils could not be seen to favour any one religious denomination.

In the past BTC has had to turn down requests for funding from St Thomas' for roof repairs and towards a new boiler.

(iii) The Methodist Church – Funding Application.

The Chairman reported that a letter had been received from The Methodist Church asking if any funding would be available for works to the entrance of the Church and added that this would be considered at the next meeting of the Finance Group/

(iii) Parked Vehicles.

A discussion took place about vehicles parked around the village especially along Northallerton Road near the bus shelter and near the school, in particular a camper type van that had been parked opposite the entrance to The Green for quite a long period.

AGREED – That (i) as had been done previously the Clerk ask the Police to carry out a sweep of the village to ensure that all parked vehicles were properly taxed and insured and (ii) that the Clerk ask Councillor Watson to ask the School if any parked vehicles were currently causing access/safety problems.

(iv) Linen Mill Chimney Plaque.

Councillor Langthorne displayed a drawing of the metal frame that would house the plaque to be erected near the existing plinth at Weavers Pavilion and agreed to meet with Mrs Slater in due course to determine the exact siting.

(v) Flood Group.

In answer to a question by a resident reported that a new Flood Group could be established but to date no-one had come forward but if they did the Council would do what it could to assist a new group as such a group would be able to get access to funding streams.

18. BURIAL MATTERS

The Clerk reported that one burial had taken place in the past month.

The meeting closed at 8.15pm