

**Minutes of the Annual Brompton Town Parish Assembly held in the Methodist Church,
Brompton on Tuesday 15th April 2025**

PRESENT – Councillors R Carter, M Shiel Dods (in the Chair), J Hazelwood and M Langthorne.

There were 3 members of the public present at the meeting together with Councillor Steve Watson.

1. MINUTES.

The Minutes of the meeting of the Annual Parish Assembly held on the Thursday 16th April 2024 had been circulated prior to the meeting.

AGREED – That the Minutes of the meeting of the Annual Parish Assembly held on Thursday 16th April 2024, as circulated, to be taken as read and be confirmed and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

2. CHAIRMAN'S ANNUAL REPORT.

The Chairman thanked Councillors, the Clerk and Mr John Robinson for their service to the Council over the past year.

The Chairman reported as follows.

The year has ended at exactly the same stage as it started last April.

Heavy tractor and trailer movements to and from Lowfield Farm on Fullicar Lane were a major concern at this time last year. Recent events at the dairy farm have meant that this has again been a major disruption for the village.

Damage had occurred to the wall on Cockpit Hill and a gas pipe explosion disaster was averted by mere inches after being hit by a tractor. The Village Greens had once again been churned up and the local highway network was not designed to cope with this heavy traffic. Damage to the drainage system below the carriageway surface on Lead Lane was also a major concern.

The Council had erected fencing along part of the Wildlife Area to stop the tractors using the Village Green as a passing point and it was planned to extend this fencing along the remainder of the side of the Wildlife Area.

The farmer had an alternative route but there was little evidence that he was making efforts to use it to relieve the village of this disruption.

Once again the Council had written to the landowner and had also asked the local MP Rishi Sunak for his support in the matter.

Substantial drainage works had recently taken place in the Cemetery which would hopefully resolve regular flooding in part of the Cemetery after heavy rainfall. During the works a number of graves had been topped up and re-seeded. Further works were being carried out to the top path in the Cemetery.

The Council continued to press Royal Mail for a new post box on the new estates. The post box which was recently removed from a wall on Northallerton Road was to be replaced by a post box to be sited on the corner of Hilton Close/Northallerton Road on the verge near the notice board.

Works were also being carried out at the Councils car park at the bottom of Cockpit Hill, including fencing off a walkway so that pedestrians did not have to walk on the road along the edge of the car park. The laying of stone to provide more car parking spaces in the car park should be completed shortly.

The Council had tidied up an unsightly area of land outside nos 51 and 53 Cockpit Hill, the ownership of which was unknown.

Parking around the village, especially in the vicinity of the School had been a major concern all year. The Police had made visits to Brompton to check on the legality of parked vehicles and North Yorkshire Council was taking action with regard to the number of vehicles parked permanently in the BRG car park by a local business operator.

Parking was also affecting the bus stops and buses and emergency vehicles being able to travel along Station Road past the school.

The Council had provided financial assistance to the BRG for new goalposts so that it was able to attract new teams to play at the BRG football pitches since Brompton Junior Football Club had decided to move elsewhere at the beginning of the 2024/25 football season.

A new slide and new junior swings had been sited in the Recreation Ground together with new swings to replace the current ones at Water End.

Speed monitoring had taken place in recent weeks throughout the village and the results were currently awaited. It is hoped that this information would provide evidence to North Yorkshire Council to implement a 20mph speed limit throughout the village.

The Council was pressing for an allocation of land to be given over for allotments on the Brompton side of North Moor Road. This had been in the original North Northallerton Development Plan but the original location allocated was unsuitable and a substitute area of land was being pursued with the developers.

Brompton Council had agreed to pay for a new street light to be located on Northallerton Road between the Rugby Club and the corner of Hilton Close as this is an extremely dark area at night.

Regular concerns had been raised at Council meetings about the erosion of white lines and the bus stop signs on the carriageways around the village but North Yorkshire Council seemed to be reluctant to renew these.

Local crime remained at a low level, however a Closure Order was obtained for a property on Hilton Green and the Courts had recently extended the period of the closure. Danelaw Gardens still remained covered by CCTV following a number of serious incidents in December and January in relation to a property and in respect of which a number of people were in Police custody

Very high winds in January had resulted in additional unplanned for expenditure in removing uprooted trees and dangerous branches from trees around the Greens. Tree works would continue all year round year on year and accounted for a substantial amount of the Councils budget.

It was hoped that having received funding from our local North Yorkshire Councillor's Locality Budget a new Vehicle Activated Sign would appear on North Moor Road in due course.

The Wildlife Area continued to progress with various breeds of wildlife currently nesting along the beck sides. Planting had recently been carried out by the children from Brompton Primary School. A management plan for the Wildlife Area had been adopted and more bird boxes had been put up in the trees at the Wildlife Area.

The Council during the past year had raised objections to two significant planning applications - one being for the construction of four dwellings on land adjacent to Lead Lane and the other being a Reserved Matters planning application for 90 houses on land north of Mowbray Road, east side of Stokesley Road.

The Council hoped to make progress with North Yorkshire Councils Highways to alter the metal barrier at the end of the cycle lane on Northallerton Road past the Rugby Club so that only mobility scooters and push chairs can get through.

Finally there are currently two vacancies open to be filled for the co-option of new Councillors onto the Council.

3. ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORT.

The Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer reported that the Councils financial position was as follows –

The first half yearly Precept for 2025/26 in the sum of £39,000 was expected in the next few days.

The Total Expenditure for the year just ended had been £83,251 compared with £121,773 in the previous financial year. The income received in the last financial year had been £131,218 compared with £82,551 in 2023/24.

The Precept had increased from £68,000 to £76,000 – again no increase to residents due to the increased number of dwellings in the Parish,

The VAT reimbursement from HMRC had seen a significant increase from £7,523 in 2023/24 to £16,554 in the last financial year.

Burial fees saw a return to the more normal level at £3,335 compared to the previous years very low figure of £880.

Bank interest had also increased.

The reduction in expenditure came from lower expenditure in the Recreation Ground – the current new play equipment works would be included in the 2025/26 accounts.

Tree works had substantially increased from £7,227 to £12,348, these could not be accurately estimated a year in advance.

A large drop in expenditure had been in regard to repairs to the Church wall which had amounted to £13,000 in 2023/24 but which had been only £2,432 last year.

Highways expenditure was zero last year compared with £2,382 the year before.

The biggest difference however had been the reduction of flood prevention works from nearly £31,000 to £804.

4. PUBLIC QUESTIONS.

No questions were raised by the public.

The meeting closed at 7.25pm