

**Minutes of the Meeting of Brompton Town Council held in the Methodist Church,
Brompton on Tuesday 17th June 2025**

PRESENT – Councillors Mr R Carter, Mr J Hazelwood, Mrs E Kelly, Mr M Langthorne, Mr C Potter, Mrs M Sheil Dods (in the Chair) and Mrs A Robinson.

Also present three members of the public and NY Councillor Steve Watson.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS.

Councillor Langthorne declared an interest in Accounts regarding cheque payments.

2. APPOINTMENT OF CO-OPTED COUNCILLOR.

Mr Chris Potter was interviewed on the 30th May and it was AGREED that Mr Potter be invited to join the Council at the current meeting.

Mr Potter signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office.

No residents had responded to the advertisement for the second vacancy by the closure date and it having been re-advertised to end on the 6th July two expressions of interest had to date been received.

Councillor Rolph had clarified that she had resigned from the Council and NYC would therefore commence the election procedure.

3. MINUTES.

AGREED – That the Minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Council held on the 13th May, 2025 having been having been previously circulated be taken as read and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

4. REPORT OF COUNCILLOR STEPHEN WATSON

Councillor Watson reported that he now had the contact details of the new Managing Director of Taylor Wimpey. He was liaising with NYC Waste and Street Scene about the issues on site and would be clarifying what area had been designated as a play area on the new development.

Good progress was being made as regards the potential 20mph zone and a map of the proposal was circulated at the meeting. There was now a new NYC Portfolio Holder for Transport and Councillor Watson was arranging to have a walk-round of the proposed 20mph area with him.

As regards Stokesley Road NYC Highways had indicated that it would not be possible to reduce the current 50mph areas to 40mph due to the volume of traffic.

Councillor Watson pointed out that the land that was the subject of the current consultation exercise to the west of the Darlington Road roundabout was currently designated as industrial land on the Local Plan.

Concerning the road works on Yafforth Road Councillor Watson reported that the four-way lights had all been recently changed due to defects which had resulted in severe traffic hold-ups.

To date Councillor Watson had not heard anything further about the allotments at the new development.

In answer to a question about enforcement when the 20mph speed limit came in Councillor Watson said that the Police would carry out speed checks and initially there would be a high profile.

5. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION.

- (i) Mr P Walker asked how the CIL monies would be spent for the benefit of the village. The Chairman replied that one issue was related to the play area at the BRG which was to have a safety inspection later in the week. There was also the matter of play areas on the new estates.

Details about the CIL monies would be included in the next Annual Newslettter.

- (ii) Mrs B Slater raised concerns about the current parking on the BRG car park and Councillor Watson stated that he would be keeping an eye on this and would pay the proprietor of BS Autos a visit.

6. LOCAL CRIME REPORT + INSTANCES OF VANDALISM.

Statistics taken from	01/05/2025 to 31/05/2025
Crime Type	
Anti-Social Behaviour	1 Reports
Anti-Social Personal	1 Reports
Total	2 Reports
Arson	0 Reports
Burglary Dwelling	0 Reports
Burglary Commercial/Other	0 Reports
Criminal Damage	1 Reports
Theft (inc. Theft from Shop)	1 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	0 Reports
Total	6 Reports

Information that a property in Brompton was being used for purposes of drug dealing had been passed to the Police.

7. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES.

(i) Ashes Plot in the Churchyard.

The issue of the burial of ashes in the Churchyard had continued throughout the last month.

The matter having been referred by the PCC to the York Diocese the Diocese raised objection to the burial of the relatives ashes next to the mother and father's ashes plot in the Churchyard, indicating that there was no guarantee that the new ashes would not disturb the existing buried ashes and that it was not appropriate to add a further plaque.

The Diocese indicated that they would be willing to meet the applicant but that would be at a cost - it was not clear who was expected to pay the costs of the meeting.

In the circumstances the ashes were to be buried in Northallerton Cemetery which as a current Northallerton resident, although a former very longstanding resident of Brompton, was cheaper than the double burial fee for Brompton Cemetery but the applicant had stated that cost had not come into his decision and he was disappointed by the decision of the Diocese.

(ii) Bridge Closure - Rear of The Orchards.

Following Councillor Kelly raising the matter and NYC closing off the footbridge a complaint had been received that Brompton Council was doing nothing to repair the broken footbridge at the rear of The Orchards and that it could not be used.

The complainant was referred to North Yorkshire Council.

The bridge being beyond repair and was to be replaced but this would be at some time in the future and it was likely to remain closed for some time.

(iii) North Yorkshire Local Plan.

The current Local Plan consultation had been forwarded to all Councillors to respond to individually if they so wish.

(iv) Grasscutting Issues.

Damage had occurred to a new headstone plinth and to an ashes plinth in the Cemetery on the recent grass cut. Walkers had been sent the photographs and the Clerk reported that he had spoken to Mr Walker the grasscutting contractor on the previous evening stressing the need for more care and having respect when working in the Cemetery as any damage would be very upsetting to relatives of the deceased. He had also told Mr Walker that inspections would be carried out more regularly in the Cemetery following grasscutting.

Mr Walker had responded that if the Council wanted him to work more slowly it would cost the Council more money.

In addition although the grasscutters had promised some weeks ago to trim the edge of the path alongside the Recreation Ground to the Methodist Church they had still not carried out this work and had been reminded once again that the edge of the path needed to be trimmed.

(v) Strimming of the Beck Sides.

Unfortunately when the beck sides were strimmed (not by Walkers) last month the cuttings had gone into the beck itself which gave rise to a number of adverse comments. The cuttings were subsequently removed.

Several complaints were received about the overall state of the beck.

(vi) Play Equipment Safety Inspections.

It was reported that the annual play equipment safety inspections were to be carried out on the 20th June.

(vii) Outdoor Adult Gym Equipment.

During the current long period of very dry weather the wood on the adult outdoor gym equipment had contracted so that the metal bars had loosened. The supplier of the equipment had forwarded a number of new bolt fixings free of charge and these were fitted by Mr D Langthorne who also tightened up the other fixings.

Councillor Langthorne reported that he had lined up the posts on the outdoor adult gym equipment with G clamps as much as was possible. As regards splits in the wood work Councillor Hazelwood said that these were ok so long as they were only opened up to a maximum of 6mm. The Clerk undertook to look at the guarantee that had been supplied with the equipment when it had been purchased.

(viii) Works on the Village Green.

As per the usual practice the Clerk had granted consent to MGroup Telecoms to enable works to be carried out to connections at 9A The Green.

(ix) EVCPs

Following last month's Council meeting NYC indicated that EVCPs at the Council's car park off Cockpit Hill could not be added to the Council's list at present. The following response was later received from North Yorkshire Council –

My colleague Tom responded to this enquiry with someone else (Jason) at Brompton PC. You can find that correspondence attached but in summary Tom says we are going to work with a soon to be appointed Charging Point Operator to decide where to install the charging points which may include some in the Brompton area. The previously installed EVCP's will be back up and running quickly once we are in contract. The appointment of a CPO was anticipated to be 1st June 2025 but that is no longer applicable, instead we are a month or two behind schedule and anticipate being in contract by August/September.

If you wish to pursue delivery of your own charging points that's absolutely fine and Tom has offered his support to help you do that though we do not have any funding to offer you, unfortunately.

We'd be happy to answer any further questions you have if you can respond to the EV team whom I have copied into this email.

(xi) Horse Box etc at The Green.

Two weeks ago the grasscutting contractor was unable to cut part of The Green as a quantity of horse jumps etc had been left on The Green next to the horse box.

A letter was to be sent to the owner of the horse box asking that they be removed but both the horse box and the jumps had in the meantime been removed.

(xii) Bus Shelter.

Residents had expressed concern about the state of the bus shelter. It was quite obviously being used occasionally as a toilet and people were reluctant to go inside to sit on the seat while waiting for a bus. There was also a substantial amount of overgrowth on the roof and in the guttering. The bus shelter was in need of a deep clean.

The Clerk reported that the overhanging branches above the bus shelter had subsequently been removed by Hillside Tree Surgeons.

(xiii) Gully Emptying.

The question was raised with NYC as to when gully cleaning would be carried out in Brompton. NYC responded as follows –

Highway drainage across the County is managed on a risk-based system, known as Kaarbontech, by North Yorkshire Council (NYC). This risk analysis takes account of urban and traffic densities, road hierarchy, historic flood records, network condition, silt level history, proximity to trees and other inspection history to improve the accuracy of computer modelling. The results are then used to provide a more effective solution to the management of highway drainage.

In practise, this means areas considered to need cleaning more often will receive that, while other gullies may not be cleaned as regularly. There are three cyclic treatments based on the priority and history of individual drainage systems which are 6 monthly, annual and biannual.

Please note that each time we receive a request for a non-programmed gully clean, as well as taking the gully crew away from the cyclical programme and delaying that process, it also incurs costs to the Authority by around five times as much as a cyclical clean. As a result, NYC can now only consider carrying out non-programme cleans if a blocked gully poses immediate risk of internal flooding to a property, or poses a significant hazard to the highway. The gullies reported have been inspected by one of our Highway Officers who advises me that none meet our criteria for additional cleaning therefore they will be cleaned at the next cyclic clean.

However, it must be noted that where one gully appears to be blocked this does not necessarily mean the remaining system isn't functioning. Where surface water may run over the top of one gully it will be captured by the next one in that system/ run. In addition, localised flooding after heavy rainfall does not necessarily mean that the gully is blocked. Following a heavy rain event it may be that the volume of surface water discharging into a gully is too high. Usually this is a capacity issue and not an indication that the gully is obstructed or has failed.

Please accept my apologies that I am unable to offer a more positive response on this occasion.

Councillor Carter said that the problem of blocked gullies arose from the fact that the areas around the gullies were not cleared of debris which then blocked the gullies again.

(xiv) Parking of Vehicles on the BRG Car Park.

Concerns had been raised about the manner in which vehicles were being parked on the BRG car park - in particular how close they are to the information plinth.

(xv) Marking of Grave Plot.

A disgruntled stonemason had complained that a grave plot had not been marked in the Cemetery. It was pointed out to him that he was not in Brompton on Swale.

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

The Chairman Vic-Chairman had attended the recent planning consultation event. The Chairman reported that although the land in question was designated in the Local Plan as industrial/commercial land that could change .

8. REPORTS – INCLUDING REPORTS OF WORKING GROUPS

(i) Finance Group.

The Finance Group had met on the 8th June.

Unpaid Invoices

Recommended -

That any Invoices that remain unpaid after having had a reminder with interest added at the expiration of 28 days be then referred to the Small Claims Court after the expiration of a further 28 days if still unpaid.

Purchase of Grave Spaces

That should Mr G Spence wish to purchase two grave plots at the foot of his parents grave then a discount of £200 be offered in consideration of the fact that Mrs Spence was not buried in the grave previously purchased next to her husband

Fair Rent.

That this years Fair rent in the sum of £180.00 be given to Brompton Community Primary School and that the School be asked to put this towards school trips.

Safety Inspection of Memorials in the Churchyard.

That the quotation received from David France, Stonemason in the sum of £470 + VAT for the safety inspection of memorials in the Churchyard be accepted.

Next Meeting.

Monday 14th July at 4.00pm

AGREED – That the recommendations of the Finance Group be approved

(ii) Highways/ Road Safety Working Group.

No meeting held

(iv) Joint Pedestrian/Cycling Working Group.

No meeting held

(v) New Estates Working Group.

No meeting held

10. PLANNING MATTERS.

Planning Consultation - Land West of Northallerton Road

A consultation event was held in The Rugby Club on the 12th June with regard to a potential planning application for Affordable Housing on the old farm site west of the Darlington Road roundabout.

The Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Councillor Carter and the Clerk attended the event.

It is anticipated that a planning application would be submitted to NYC in late July.

16. ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT.

Income

Crow Leisure (Rent of Church Green)	180.00
Dales of Thirsk (Memorial fee)	55.00
Barthrams Funeral Directors (Burial fee)	620.00

Payments –

CE+ CE Walker (May grasscutting)	913.20
P Atkin (Salary)	444.28
HMRC (PAYE)	111.00
P Atkin (Expenses + reimbursement of planning printing)	53.16
Hillside Tree Surgeons	810.00
Brompton Community Primary School (Fair rent donation)	180.00
Mr D Langthorne (Works at Allotments and car park)	334.00
YDS Limited (Trailer Hire)	60.00
Sam Turner and Sins (Stihl Square Mowing Line)	13.49
NYCC Yorwaste (Advance Charges) Direct Debit	30.36

Paid out of meeting –

Gallagher Insurance Brokers Ltd (Annual Premium)	893.60
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Unity Trust Bank at 6th June 2025 –

Current Account - £24,924.61.

Deposit Account - £60,995.42

Barclays Bank at 3rd June 2025

Business Premium Account - £128,547.49

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

Annual Financial Return - AGAR

Following the approval at the last Council meeting the annual financial return and supporting documentation had been sent to the External Auditors and the rights of the public to inspect the documents had also been advertised.

12. HIGHWAY MATTERS.

Councillor Carter reported on the very rough state of Northallerton Road. AGREED - That the Clerk ask NYC Highways when the works would be carried out on Lead Lane and if Northallerton Road was in the highways programme of reinstatement works.

13. GREENS INSPECTION + WILD LIFE AREA.

It was reported that the owl box would be put up at the allotments site.

AGREED - That Sammatha Rolph be informed that the Council has no problem with her continuing to help with matters related to the Wildlife Area.

14. CORRESPONDENCE.

(i) Use of Black Bins

A complaint was received from a resident that a neighbour was using two black bins but has put different house numbers on them so they both get collected. The complaint was that they were getting away with a freeby on their Council Tax bill by filling two bins.

The Clerk had referred the complainant to NYC.

(ii) Use of Property for Business Purposes.

A complaint was received about Brompton Council doing nothing about a lady running a hairdressing business on Vikings Court and clients blocking other resident's driveways.

The Clerk had referred the complainant to NYC Planning.'

15. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

(i) Date of the next Meeting

AGREED – That the next meeting of eh Council be held in The Methodist Church at 7.15pm on Tuesday 15th July 2025 an

(ii) Date of Annual Village walk-round.

AGREED – That this matter be placed on the July Council agenda.

(iii) Overgrown Hedges.

Reports were made of overgrown hedges on Northallerton Road, at The Close, at De Bruce Road and on Stokesley Road.

Councillor Potter said that the hedge on Northallerton Road was his and he would be arranging for it to be cut. AGREED - That the Clerk again write to the owner of the hedge on De Bruce Road and that the hedge on Stokesley Road be again reported to NY Highways who it was understood had already contacted the owner in recent weeks.

16. BURIAL MATTERS

Future Ashes Plots in the Cemetery

As previously circulated to Councillors.

AGREED – That in order to not compromise the use of additional full burial plots in Plots E, F and H in the Cemetery the burial of ashes be continued along the edge of Plot C when the ashes plots in Plot G are full.

Burial

The Clerk reported that a burial had taken place in last week of which the Undertaker had failed to notify the Burial Board.

AGREED - That a strong letter be sent the Undertakers concerned outlining the seriousness of the matter.

The meeting closed at 8.05pm