

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON WEDNESDAY DAY 18 MAY 2011 AT THE VILLAGE HALL, STATION ROAD, BROUGHTON ASTLEY

PRESENT: Councillors C Golding, P Dann, Mrs L Blockley, D G Brown, R H Capewell, C Evans, N D Bannister, C Grafton-Reed, M Graves, R Patrick and Mrs M Stell.

Also present: Mr C Porter, Mr J Bateman, Mr R Gahan, Mrs S Parkinson, Mr S Oliver, Mr P Chaplin, Mr R Hancock and Mr P Whiffin all residents of Broughton Astley.

Prior to the meeting all Councillors present sign their Declaration of Acceptance of Office and undertaking of observance of the Code of Conduct 2007.

MINUTE

01

1. ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN OF PARISH COUNCIL: 2011-12

Councillor Golding welcomed all present to the meeting. He announced that he would not be seeking re- election as Chairman of the Parish Council for the municipal year 2011-12, and requested nominations for a new Chairman.

Councillor Bannister proposed and Councillor Brown seconded the nomination of Councillor Grafton-Reed as Chairman of the Parish Council for the municipal year 2011-12.

The proposal was carried unanimously and there were no other nominations

02

RESOLVED: That Councillor C Grafton-Reed should be Chairman of the Parish Council for Broughton Astley for the Municipal year 2011-12.

Councillor Grafton-Reed signed his declaration of acceptance of office of Chairman of Broughton Astley Parish Council for the municipal year 2011-12.

03

2. ELECTION OF VICE-CHAIRMAN OF PARISH COUNCIL: 2011-12

Councillor Dann proposed and Councillor Stell seconded the nomination of Councillor Bannister as Vice-Chairman of the Parish Council for the municipal year 2011-12. The proposal was carried unanimously.

04

RESOLVED: That Councillor Bannister should be Vice-Chairman of the Parish Council for Broughton Astley for the municipal year 2011-12.

Councillor Bannister signed his declaration of acceptance of office of Vice-Chairman of Broughton Astley Parish Council for the municipal year 2011-12.

05

3. PARISH COUNCILLOR VACANCIES – CO-OPTION

Councillors considered applications from 6 suitably qualified candidates to fill the seats which were uncontested at the Parish Council election in two of the Broughton Astley Wards. Three seats remain vacant.

- One vacancy in Primethorpe Ward
- Two vacancies in Astley Ward

All candidates present were offered the opportunity to address the Parish Council. Stuart Oliver, Colin Porter, Sandra Parkinson and Bob Gahan all took the opportunity to relate information on their personal background circumstances, employment status and reasons for seeking co-option to the Members of the Parish Council.

Questions to candidates

Councillor Dann asked Stuart Oliver why he had not stood as a candidate at the recent

This document is also available in large print.

local election to represent Astley Ward. Stuart Oliver responded that it had been a busy time and that he had missed the deadline.

A vote for the co-option to the 3 remaining seats on the Parish Council was taken by secret ballot and the votes counted. The result of the vote enabled Jonathan Bateman, Colin Porter and Stuart Oliver to be co-opted to serve on the Parish Council. Stuart Oliver and Colin Porter agreed to represent Astley Ward and Jonathan Bateman to represent Primethorpe Ward until the next election in 2015. Councillors Bateman, Porter and Oliver signed their Declaration of Acceptance of Office and undertaking of observance of the Code of Conduct 2007 and joined the meeting.

06 **RESOLVED:**
That Councillors Jonathan Bateman, Colin Porter and Stuart Oliver should be co-opted to serve on the Parish Council until the next election in 2015.

07 **4. ATTENDANCE AND APOLOGIES**
 Apologies were received and accepted from Councillors R Tomlin and County Councillor Bill Liquorish.

08 **5. DECLARATIONS OF MEMBERS' INTERESTS**
 Declarations of personal interest were received from Councillors C Golding, L Blockley, C Grafton-Reed, P Dann and D G Brown in relation to Agenda item 16 (application for Section 137 grant funding) due to their membership of Broughton Astley Gardeners Association.
 Declarations of personal interest were received from Councillors C Grafton-Reed, C Evans, C Porter and D G Brown in relation to Agenda item 17 (application for Section 137 grant funding) due to their membership of Broughton Astley Healthcheck Action Group. A declaration of personal interest was received from Councillor S Oliver in relation of Agenda item 18 (Members motion) due to his residence in Murray Close.

09 **6. APPOINTMENT OF COMMITTEES 2011-12**
 Members considered the individual written preferences formally submitted by individuals. There were 11 nominations for the 6 remaining seats on the Executive Committee, therefore an anonymous ballot was held to decide which Members should take the seats. Members then agreed the following Committee structure:

Executive Members required: 6 Plus Chairman and Vice-Chairman	Councillors: C Grafton-Reed, N Bannister, L Blockley, R Capewell, P Dann, C Evans, C Golding and Mrs M Stell
Scrutiny Members required: 8	Councillors: J Bateman, D G Brown, M Graves, S Oliver, S Page, R Patrick, C Porter and R Tomlin,
Planning and Licensing Members required: 6	Councillors: D G Brown, Mrs L Blockley, R Capewell, R Patrick, C Porter, Mrs M Stell

10 **7. APPOINTMENT OF REPRESENTATIVES ON OUTSIDE BODIES 2011-12**
 Members considered the preferences indicated by individual Councillors and unanimously agreed the following representation on outside Bodies:

Volunteer Bureau (V.A.S.L.)	
------------------------------------	--

Members required: 1	D G Brown
B.A.T.O.N. Members required: 1	Mrs M Stell
Citizens Advice Bureau Members required: 1	Mr N Bannister
Council for the Protection of Rural England Members required: 1	Mrs M Stell
Leicestershire & Rutland Association of Local Councils. Members required: 1	N Bannister
Market Harborough District Sports Association (Harborough District Leisure Trust) Members required: 1	C Grafton-Reed M Graves
National Association of Leisure Gardeners Members required: 1	S Page
Broughton Astley Community 'Bus' Members required: 1	D G Brown
Broughton Astley Rural Healthcheck Action Group / BAIT (merging group) Members required: 1	Mrs L Blockley
Neighbourhood Watch Members required: 1	Mrs L Blockley
Stepping Stones Leicestershire County Council Environment Group Members required: 1	Mrs L Blockley

11

8. MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING - 28 APRIL 2011

Councillor Dann moved and Councillor Stell seconded confirmation and adoption of the Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 28 April 2011 which following minor amendments were approved and accepted unanimously.

Amendments:

Page 285 [1401] remove sentence beginning 'Councillor Evans'

page 287 [1409]include 'Your Voice your Choice'

page 289 [1407] include 'against'

12

9. PROGRESS AGAINST OUTANDING RESOLUTIONS

A report of progress in completing Parish Council resolutions was presented and Members were updated on the several issues:

1214: Councillor Graves is liaising with a resident in order to identify an additional site on Byre Crescent where the Vehicle Activated Sign can be used.

1281: Councillor Golding relayed to the meeting with the seeding of the Wildflower meadow would not now be carried out until the autumn in cooler and wetter conditions.

1354: Councillor Porter has produced the flyer which promotes advertising in Broughton Matters and is examining ways of getting it delivered to businesses.

1403(2): Councillor Golding provided additional background information on the problems surrounding the public footpath at the rear of Brooklands Close. He informed the meeting that he, not the Parish Manager, will produce a report for Executive Committee to consider on the costs and responsibility for erection of a gate and palisade fence behind garages at Brooklands Close to prevent in being used for anti-social behaviour; as he is aware of all the facts and issues involved.

The Chairman requested that Councillor Golding a fully costed proposal should be presented to Executive Committee for their consideration.

Councillor Dann observed that the issues surrounding graffiti and antisocial behaviour at the location had been raised in previous Ward 'patch walk' and that reports should be provided on progress when issues are reported.

1394: Councillor Bateman enquired whether any progress had been made with the installation of the office door security system. The parish Manager reported that none had as yet.

13

10. CHAIRMAN'S TIME

The Chairman requested that his profound thanks to Councillor Golding for his service as Chairman over the past 9 years should be recorded in the minutes, and that Councillor Golding's efforts to provide facilities for the community during that time should be commended.

The Chairman updated Members on the following items of interest:

Councillors information pack:

Councillors have all been given a pack containing the latest versions of important documents, which they should study and keep for their reference. New Councillors have been provided with a number of additional important documents and will be contacted by the Parish Manager as soon as possible to arrange an induction session. The on-line 'Learning Pool' system will be demonstrated to Members at a session to be organised in the near future.

Register of Interests

Contained in the Councillors pack is a green 'Register of Interests' form which MUST be returned to the Monitoring Officer at Harborough District Council within 28 days of election or co-option to the Council. If you would like to Parish Manager to return them for you they must be handed in at the Parish Council office by Friday 27 May.

Ethical Conduct training

He reiterated that if any Councillor wishes to attend either of the Ethical Conduct / Localism Bill training sessions being offered by Harborough District Council they should please let the Parish Manager know.

Councillors photographs

The Chairman issued a reminder that a photographer has been booked to update Councillors photographs prior to the Parish Council meeting on Thursday 7 July. The photographer will be in the Sutton Lounge from 6.30pm and the meeting will start as usual at 7.30pm.

Queens Diamond Jubilee

The Chairman informed the meeting that Broughton Astley Heritage Society has requested that the Parish Council give consideration to the support it might offer to local working group to be formed to organise village celebrations to mark that Queens Diamond Jubilee in early June 2012.

This document is also available in large print.

14

1. PUBLIC FORUM

Public forum opened at 8.32pm

The Chairman invited all residents present to address the Parish Council if they wished. None wished to do so.

Public Forum closed at 8.33pm

15

2. COUNTY COUNCILLORS' REPORT

The Chairman relayed a short written report which had been submitted by Councillor Liquorish.

"A briefing paper of the future of Harborough District Community Forums has been circulated to County Council Members by the officer responsible for their management. The recommendation is that the Forums are reduced in number and that the Parish Councils play a more active role in their organisation. A Community Forum Task Panel will be set up to review the structure and Terms of Reference of the Group.

My own views on them is that they have not been a success, they duplicate the work already carried out by the Parish Councils and Parish Meetings involved, they have caused embarrassment due to the numbers attending, this has been remarked on by different bodies including the Police. My feelings are that they are an unnecessary duplication of our services to the public, and I shall be making this point at a meeting at County on Wednesday morning regarding Harborough District issues."

16

DISTRICT COUNCILLOR'S REPORTS

Councillor Dann

Councillor Dann reiterated that until the Members have been appointed to their new positions at Harborough District Council there would be nothing of significance to report.

Councillor Golding

Councillor Golding concurred that the Parish Council was now in a strong position to influence decisions at district level, with 5 Members also serving as District Councillors.

Councillor Graves

Councillor Graves said that he was dealing with several issues on behalf of residents in Astley Ward at present. Monitoring of the use of Pickering Road open space, parking around Hallbrook School, raised ironworks in Streamside Close and speeding traffic at Byre Crescent.

17

3. SCHEDULE OF PAYMENTS

The Parish Manager presented the schedule of payments made since the 28 April 2011 meeting of the Parish Council, which were received and accepted unanimously.

18

4. PLANNING AND LICENSING APPLICATIONS

Members received and accepted the Minutes of the Planning and Licensing Committee meetings held on 3 May 2011 and the schedule of planning applications determined since the 28 April meeting of the Parish Council.

19

5. ANNUAL REPORT 2010-11

Members examined the draft Annual Report produced as part of the Parish Council's Community Engagement Strategy. Members noted a couple of minor spelling mistakes, but agreed that once amended the document was fit for purpose. They recommended that when published it should be made available to all residents and circulated to community partners and principal local authorities.

Councillor Bannister proposed that the Annual Report 2010-11 should be published by the Parish Council. The proposal was seconded by Councillor Golding. All members

This document is also available in large print.

voted in favour of the proposal.

20 **RESOLVED:**
That the Annual Report 2010-11 should be published and made available to all residents and circulated to community partners and principal local authorities.

21 **6. APPLICATION FOR SECTION 137 FUNDING – BROUGHTON ASTLEY GARDENERS ASSOCIATION**

Members considered an application from Broughton Astley Gardeners Association for funding via Section 137; which had been re-submitted following with failure to agree a decision at the last meeting due to the lack of Members present [PC.1417.April 2011].

Opening the discussions Councillor Stell expressed concerns over the reasons why the Parish Council needs to continue to fund the feeding of wild birds and the costs of doing so. Councillor Graves was also concerned that many residents were not aware that there is a Wildlife Garden that they are helping to support and Councillor Evans considered that the need to spend such a large amount of money being requested should be reviewed – are there birds being fed at the right time of year and too much.

Councillor Bannister supported the observation by Councillor Graves that residents did not know that they had a valuable asset in the Wildlife Garden and an article should be published in Broughton Matters address this.

Councillor Porter proposed an amendment to the amount which should be provided via the Section 137 grant funding of £200 rather than £500. The proposal was seconded by Councillor Capewell. Members voted on the amendment with the result of 7 votes for and 2 against. All Members who had declared a personal interest abstained from the vote.

22 **RESOLVED:**
That the Parish Council makes a contribution of £200 to Broughton Astley Gardeners Association for the supply of Wild Bird Food to be used by volunteers who feed the birds at the Wildlife Garden; via Section 137 of the Local Government Act.

23 **7. APPLICATION FOR SECTION 137 FUNDING – CARNIVAL COMMITTEE**

Members considered an application submitted on behalf on the Carnival Committee and Broughton Astley Healthcheck Group for funding of £50 for prizes for a literacy competition which would involve children from the 3 local primary schools.

Members considered unanimously that this was an appropriate use of grant funding under Section 137 of the Local Government Act 1972 which would benefit the wellbeing of many people who live in the community.

24 **RESOLVED:**
That the Parish Council makes a contribution of £50 to Broughton Astley Healthcheck Group for prizes for a literacy competition; via Section 137 of the Local Government Act.

25 **8. QUOTATIONS FOR PICNIC BENCHES**

Members examined quotations received for the supply for 3 additional picnic benches for the play area at the Recreation Ground. They recalled that a capital sum of £1,500 had been allocated in the budget 2011/12 for this purpose.

Members agreed that based on the price of the quotations received Marmax Products Ltd are appointed to supply three picnic benches at a cost of £1,112.40 + VAT.

25 **RESOLVED:**
That based on the price of the quotations received Marmax Products Ltd are

This document is also available in large print.

appointed to supply 3 picnic benches at the cost of £1,112.40+VAT.

27

9. MEMBERS MOTION 02/11

Members considered the Member Motion tabled by Councillor Graves.

“That prior to the submission of a detailed planning application by the developers of the Crowfoot Way housing site; as a matter of urgency, the Parish Council should enter discussions with both Harborough District Council and the developer in order to ascertain the viability of the construction of a dual use Scout/Community building on either of the two District Council owned open spaces near to the Devitt Way shops as part of the planning permission agreement.”

Councillor Graves opened the discussion by reiterating the main objections that residents had expressed about the construction of a new Scout Hut/Community Building as part of the proposed housing development off Crowfoot Way. Generally residents, whilst accepting that the village needed new facilities had deep concerns about the amount of additional traffic which would be generated through the estate; particularly around Hallbrook School and the small ‘Closes’ off Pickering Road if a large community facility were to be constructed as part of the planning agreement. He considered that in light of speculation that a detailed planning application is likely to be submitted in the near future that it is important for the Parish Council to express positive support for other more suitable locations for the Scout Hut, and that these should be strongly re-inforced to Harborough District Council prior to the submission of a full planning application. Councillor Golding reminded the meeting that the Parish Council had already objected to the construction of the Scout Hut on land off Crowfoot Way.

The Chairman stated that the Parish Council had resolved at its last meeting [PC1400. April 2011]

That any discussions on the Parish Councils support for and involvement in a new Scout/Community building should be deferred until detailed planning permission is granted on the Crowfoot Way site and the Local Development Framework is approved.

He explained the Parish Council Standing Orders do not allow for the rescission of a previous resolution within 6 months except by special resolution which contains the names of at least 5 Members of the Council; and that this was to prevent decisions being overturned on a frequent basis. However, he pointed out that because the legal agreements would need to be in place prior to full permission being granted, it was important for the Parish Council views on more suitable locations for the Scout Hut to be expressed and considered by the planning authority.

Councillor Graves tabled an alternative which was seconded by the Chairman.

“That the Parish Council should write to Harborough District Council to re-iterate its objection to the siting of the Scout Hut on land at Crowfoot Way as part of the proposed housing development; and would request the earliest opportunity to discuss and consider alternative and more appropriate locations prior to the submission of a full planning application”.

Members were unanimous in their support for the motion.

28

RESOLVED:

That the Parish Council should write to Harborough District Council to re-iterate its objection to the siting of the Scout Hut on land at Crowfoot Way as part of the proposed housing development; and would request the earliest opportunity to discuss and consider alternative and more appropriate locations prior to the submission of a full planning application.

29

OTHER MATTERS

No other matters were raised.

30

10. MEMBERS' MOTIONS FOR NEXT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

None received.

The meeting closed at 9.17pm

Minutes approved and accepted as correct

.....
Chairman

Dated