

**MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING  
HELD ON THURSDAY 25 AUGUST 2011  
AT THE VILLAGE HALL, STATION ROAD, BROUGHTON ASTLEY**

**PRESENT:** Councillors C Grafton-Reed (Chairman), N D Bannister (Vice-Chairman), C Golding, C Porter, Mrs L Blockley, D G Brown, R H Capewell, C Evans, S Page, S Oliver, R Patrick and R Tomlin.

Also present: PCSO Martin Doyle, Leicestershire Constabulary

MINUTE

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**1. ATTENDANCE AND APOLOGIES**

Apologies were received and accepted from Councillors P Dann, M Graves, J Bateman, M Stell and County Councillor Bill Liquorish

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**2. DECLARATIONS OF MEMBERS' INTERESTS**

No declarations of interest were received.

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**3. PCSO MARTIN DOYLE**

PCSO Doyle explained that he was attending the meeting of the Parish Council in order to provide an update of recent Police activities and initiatives in the Broughton Astley area:

- As a result of the evening of criminal damage in early July a number of people were arrested and interviewed. Unfortunately due to lack of forensic evidence and inability to make positive identifications no charges could be made, and the cases have been filed.
- In relation to this damage there were a number of complaints from residents that they could not see the perpetrators due to the lack of street lighting. On contacting Leicestershire County Council the residents were informed that LCC will not consider the reinstatement of lighting unless an application is made by the Police or the Parish Council.
- Police are monitoring the parking problems reported in Blenheim Crescent where the numbers are fluctuating depending on time of day. Consultation with residents is ongoing on this issue.
- Following a number of problems concerning parking on land in front of the Chip shop it has been established that the area in front of the shops to the bollards is privately owned by each shop but the area beyond the bollards is public highway. If vehicles are parked on this area they are likely to be fined for obstruction of the highway.
- There has been an increase in 'car key burglaries' in several other areas whereby thieves are breaking into homes with the specific purposes of stealing the keys to high value cars.
- On a positive note there has been a significant decrease with the levels of vandalism and anti-social behaviour in the Swannington Road area over the past few months.
- The latest crime figures show that reported crime in Broughton Astley is down. There were 74 incidents – and many of these relate to the single night in early July (mentioned above).

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**Questions to PCSO Doyle**

Councillor Tomlin said he understood that the spate of criminal damage in early July was attributed to students celebrating the end of their exams, and asked whether any special measures were being put in place to address potential problems this weekend when the results are announced.

PCSO Doyle responded that the Police will be monitoring activity during their patrols over

the weekend, and added that whilst there had been no convictions relating to the previous incident the shock of being taken into custody may well have a positive effect on the perpetrators.

Councillor Brown commented that the speed of vehicles in the village appeared to have increase since the road humps had been reduced in height, particularly along Main Street/Orchard Road.

PCSO Doyle responded that monitoring over the past 2 months had shown that the number of speeding drivers in the village was quite low, and that the percentage of speed over the limit was also small. However the Police will continue to monitor specific areas of concern.

Councillor Porter asked in relation to the recent theft of lead from the Village Hall whether there was a high number of theft of items containing precious metals such as Catalytic Converters in Broughton Astley

PCSO Doyle responded by saying that the theft of items containing precious metals was common to most areas, and not specifically to Broughton Astley.

Councillor Golding commented that the problems caused by the lack of lighting should be taken seriously, and that if there are specific areas where crime can be attributed to lack of lighting the Parish Council should address this with the County Council. He also added on a positive note that due to the reduction in crime Broughton Astley was not now in the 'top 10' of crime spots across the district.

Councillor Bannister added that he was pleased to note the reduction in crime figures for the area, particularly when so many could be attributed to one occasion.

The Chairman closed the questions session by thanking PCSO Doyle for his attendance at the meeting; adding that it had been beneficial to hear a first-hand update of Police activities in Broughton Astley

**PCSO Doyle left the meeting.**

71            **4. MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING – 7 JULY 2011**

Councillor Bannister moved and Councillor Golding seconded confirmation and adoption of the Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 7 July 2011 which were approved and accepted unanimously.

72            **5. PROGRESS AGAINST PARISH COUNCIL RESOLUTIONS**

A report of progress in completing Parish Council resolutions was presented and accepted unanimously.

73            **6. CHAIRMAN'S TIME**

The Chairman updated Members on the following items of interest:

**Executive Committee 22 September**

The Chairman alerted Members to a clash of meeting on this date, whereby the 3 Councillors who are also District Councillors will be attending a meeting a HDC. In view of this he proposed that the meeting should take place on the previously day (Wednesday 21 September). All Executive members present were in agreement.

**AGREED: That the next meeting of the Executive Committee will take place on Wednesday 21 September at 8.00pm.**

### **Invite from RCC – 22 September**

The Chairman informed the meeting that following its entry into the 'Best Community Hall' award in June this year the Parish Council has been invited to send 2 representatives to the Presentation Evening on Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> September, 7pm at the Rothley Centre. Following the AGM of the RCC, the results of this year's Achievement Awards will be announced. He requested that anyone who wishes to attend on behalf of the parish Council should inform the Parish Office as soon as possible.

### **Core Strategy – extraordinary Parish Council meeting**

The Chairman reminded the meeting that a number of emails have been circulated by the Parish Manager concerning the changes agreed to the Core Strategy at the suggestion of the Inspector following his examination. The consultation period for the amendments runs until 30 September and it is important for the Parish Council to make its stance on the need for a Policy on facilities and amenities for Broughton Astley clear.

In order to produce an agreed resolution on our comments there is a need to hold an extraordinary Parish Council meeting –the suggested date is Thursday 8 September.

The documents are available on HDC website but the Parish Manager has produced a number of copies of the suggested amendments (marked with references to Broughton Astley). She has also requested HDC to provide additional copies of the Core Strategy which in all is 155 pages long as the 2 documents really have to be examined together. He suggested that those Members who wish to make specific points to add to the Parish Council's statement should forward them to the Parish Office for collation and distribution prior to the meeting to enable them to be considered by all concerned.

### **AGREED: That an extraordinary meeting of the Parish Council will take place on Thursday 8 September to discuss the Parish Council's response to the changes to the Core Strategy.**

In response Councillor Golding reminded the meeting that the consultation was only on the changes made to the Core Strategy; and that they should concentrate on the key issues relating to Broughton Astley which are:

- The time frame for the strategy has been changed from 2026 to 2028.
- Broughton Astley will be developed as a key centre providing new housing and improved range of facilities, shops & employment
- Broughton Astley allocation of housing has increased to at least 400 (over the longer period) which leaves a further 283 properties to be built in Broughton Astley
- Improvement and expansion of retail provision will be supported
- Principal shopping area will be maintained. Where additional development can't be accommodated sites will be allocated in conjunction with housing
- Desire to make Broughton Astley more balanced community – housing will help deliver new facilities
- Need for 4-court community hall highlighted

### **Community Forum dates**

The Chairman informed the meeting that new arrangements are now in place for the Community Forums with Leicestershire County Council facilitating the meetings over 3 areas in Harborough District. Broughton Astley is in Rural West area.

- The first meeting is at 7pm on Wednesday 21 September at The Memorial Hall, Husbands Bosworth
- The Community Forum budget round meeting is at 7pm on Tuesday 1 November at

the Village Hall South Kilworth.

- On 26 September an event will be held explaining the Community Forum budgets and the Big Society Grant Fund. The event will be take place between 4 – 6pm at VASL in Market Harborough.

A letter providing more details was circulated and information will be placed on the website.

### **Parish Manager – Annual Leave**

Finally the Chairman informed the meeting that the Parish Manager is on annual leave from 7 – 16 September inclusive. During this time the Deputy Clerk will also be unavoidably absent for a few days – so asked the Members please bare this is mind when making requests for information etc.

## 74            **7. PUBLIC FORUM**

Public forum opened at 7.59pm

*No members of the public were present at the meeting*

Public Forum closed at 8.00pm

## 75            **8. COUNTY COUNCILLORS' REPORT**

Councillor Liquorish was not in attendance

The Chairman informed the meeting that In his absence Councillor Bill Liquorish has asked to comment on the last meeting (minute 36 public Forum) that he wrote to Mr Norman on all the issues he raised 1.Green Spaces. 2 The new zebra crossing. 3 The 40mph signs. The only matter requiring an update for him on now is the final outcome of the Green space policy which he will do in due course.

## 76            **DISTRICT COUNCILLOR'S REPORTS**

*Councillor Golding*

Councillor Golding informed the meeting that HDC had served an Enforcement Notice on the Co-operative store which relates to parking of vehicles on the access road. The Co-operative has 4 weeks to comply with the notice. He requested that Members inform the Parish Office of any breach of the notice, as this issued had caused problems for some considerable time.

Councillor Golding also notified the meeting that HDC were intending to take enforcement action against Jelson Ltd concerning the lack of maintenance of land they own in various areas of the Ward.

Councillor Golding mentioned that Smart Water signs for erecting on lamp columns are available to purchase via the Community Safety partnership if required.

## 77            **9. MINUTES OF THE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

Councillor Porter moved and Patrick seconded confirmation and adoption of the Minutes of the Scrutiny Committee held on 25 July 2011.

Minute 232.11 - Section 17 Crime and Disorder Act 1998

## 78            **NOTED**

**Members considered that Resolutions PC.1293, 1302, 1303, 1307 & 1308 would all have a positive effect on the reduction of crime and disorder in Broughton Astley**

Minute 233.11 - Quarterly Mini Audit of Financial Transactions.

## 79            **RESOLVED: That the report of the Internal Mini Audit of Financial Transactions carried out on 5 July 2011 by Councillors Brown and Page be accepted by the Parish Council.**

Minute 234.11 – Review of Health & Safety Policy  
80 **RESOLVED: That the Parish Council Health & Safety Policy 2011 should be adopted by Broughton Astley Parish Council.**

Minute 235.11 – Results on the Ward Environmental Audit 2011  
81 **RESOLVED**  
**1. That the relevant spread sheets from the Environmental Audit should be sent to the appropriate agencies**  
**2. That a progress report is provided at each Scrutiny Committee**  
**3. That a copy of each updated progress report should be made available for all Parish Councillors**

Minute 236.11 – Use of former Neighbourhood Office  
82 **RESOLVED: That the costs involved, possible income and the viability of each of the 5 options considered as suitable uses for the use of the Neighbourhood Office should be reported to the next meeting of the Scrutiny Committee.**

Minute 237.11 – Distribution of Broughton Matters flyer  
83 **RESOLVED:**  
**That once the flyers promoting the opportunity to advertise in Broughton Matters have been printed the Members of the Scrutiny Committee will undertake their distribution to business around the village.**

84 **10. MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**  
**Councillor Golding moved and Councillor Bannister** seconded confirmation and adoption of the Minutes of the Executive Committee of 11 August 2011.

Minute 53.11 – Financial Statements  
85 **Noted**  
**That expenditure for the year is in line with budget and there were no unexplained debtors or creditors outstanding.**

Minute 54.11 – Charge for website provision  
86 **RESOLVED: That the Parish Council agrees to the proposal by Leicestershire County Council to introduce a levy of £375+VAT to provide support for the Leicestershire Parish Council local council website; and that this amount is included in the budget for 2012/13.**

Minute 55.11 – Parish Office staffing levels  
87 **RESOLVED:**  
**1. That the Administration Assistant is granted a reduction of her working hours to 10 per week effective from 3 November 2011.**  
**2. That a new Administration Assistant with a mirror job description is recruited to work 10 hours per week on Thursdays and Fridays on a temporary contract until 31 March 2013 and starting at salary point 13 (sc13-17)**

Minute 56.11 – Cottage window replacement  
88 **RESOLVED:**  
**That SW Property Repairs are appointed to install the new windows in the Cottage at a cost of £1,200.00 Inc. VAT.**

Minute 57.11 - planning application 10/01579/OUT  
89 **RESOLVED: That that Adrian Eastwood the Development Control Manager should**

be invited to attend a meeting of the Planning Committee (and the newly formed Leisure and Recreation Working Group) in order to discuss alternative sites for development around the village.

Minute 58.11 – Leisure & Recreation Working Group

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**RESOLVED:**

1. That the Parish Council submits a bid for Big Society grant funding to Leicestershire County Council of a maximum of £10,000 to support the Leisure and Recreation Working Group.
2. If the bid for funding is unsuccessful the Parish Council should then consider the possibility of meeting the costs involved with the use of the professional consultant from its reserves and also allocate a budget to support the work of the Leisure and Recreation Working Group.

Minute 59.11 – Cricket Club lease

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**Noted**

That discussion on the renewal of the lease agreement with Broughton Astley Cricket Club will need to take place after the 2012 season.

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#### **11. SCHEDULE OF PAYMENTS**

The Parish Manager presented the schedule of payments made since the 7 July 2011 meeting of the Parish Council, which were received and accepted unanimously.

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#### **12. REPORTS FROM OUTSIDE BODIES**

Councillor Porter reported that with Councillor Brown and Stell he had attended an event on Affordable Rural Housing. The training session provided information on amongst other things the need for affordable housing and how it is allocated in the planning system.

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#### **13. PLANNING AND LICENSING APPLICATIONS**

Members received the Minutes of the Planning and Licensing Committee meetings held on 11 & 25 July and 8 August 2011 and the schedule of planning applications determined since the 7 July meeting of the Parish Council.

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The Chairman observed one correction which was required to the minutes of the meeting of 11 July [293.11] that the meeting to discuss the preferred development sites and Localism Bill will now take place on 20 September 2011.

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#### **OTHER MATTERS**

No other matters were raised.

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#### **14. MEMBERS' MOTIONS FOR NEXT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING**

None received.

The meeting closed at 8.18pm

Minutes approved and accepted as correct

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Chairman

Dated .....