

**MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
HELD ON THURSDAY 27 FEBRUARY 2020
AT THE VILLAGE HALL, STATION ROAD, BROUGHTON ASTLEY**

PRESENT: Councillors: G Brown, R Capewell, R Davis, D Glenis, C Golding, C Grafton-Reed, M Graves, D Howe, G Mallaghan, S Oliver, R Patrick, C Porter, P Shipman, Mrs M Stell and M Swinfen

ALSO PRESENT: 3 representatives from Parkwood Leisure, a representative from Broughton Open Spaces, a representative from Community Against Litter and a resident of the Parish.

CLERK: Mrs D Barber – Parish Manager

APOLOGIES RECEIVED: Cllr Gahan – Prior work commitment
Cllr Dann – Prior engagement
County Councillor Liquorish – Recent house move

APOLOGIES NOT RECEIVED:

Due to the attendance of representatives of organisations who have items to be heard on the agenda, it was agreed at the start of the meeting to take those items out of sequence to the agenda to accommodate them earlier. The minutes will be produced following the agenda sequencing.

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies were received and accepted from the following:
Councillor Gahan– prior work commitments, District Councillor Dann – prior commitments and County Councillor Liquorish – recent house move.

2377/02/2020

RESOLVED: That the Members of the Parish Council request that the Parish Manager writes to County Councillor Liquorish asking that he attends the next meeting of the Parish Council in March.

2378/02/2020

2. DECLARATIONS OF MEMBERS' INTERESTS AND REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATIONS

A non-pecuniary declaration of interest was declared by Councillor Mrs Stell on agenda item 18 as a member of the Twinning Association and Councillor Dann on agenda item 20 as a member of Broughton Open Space Society.

2379/02/2020 **3. PARKWOOD LEISURE GROUP**

The Chair welcomed Alex Godfrey, Mike Price and Francois Smitt from Parkwood Leisure Group who were invited to address the Parish Council on the details of the performance, membership numbers, feedback, building snagging issues etc since the leisure centre opened its doors to the public on 10 December 2019.

A short presentation was given showing the site before, during and on completion. Current membership sales were given which were above target; information was also provided on any issues the centre had experienced since opening and what they are looking to do over the next six months. Assurances was given that regular monitoring meetings will be held between Parkwood and the Parish Council going forward as part of the contractual agreement.

4. MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Members confirmed that the Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 16 January 2020 to be a true record by a unanimous show of hands.

2380/02/2020 **RESOLVED: That the minutes of the Parish Council held on 16 January 2020 are accepted as a true record.**

2381/02/2020 **5. PARISH COUNCIL RESOLUTIONS**

PC 2170 – the Parish Manager confirmed that an application made to Harborough District Council by the Police for CCTV to be placed on the car park at the recreation ground was refused.

The report of progress in completing Parish Council resolutions was accepted.

2382/02/2020 **6. CHAIRS TIME**

WW1 TOMMY SOLDIER

The Tommy soldier silhouette that stands in the Memorial Gardens was broken at the base recently in the high winds over the weekend of 8/9th February. Sapcote Engineering based on the Swannington Road Industrial Estate has agreed to weld it back on to its base for the community free of charge. The Parish Manager will write a letter of thanks once this has been completed.

LEICESTERSHIRE WOMBLES

This group of volunteers are beginning to undertake a growing number of litter picks within the Parish, the most recent being on Wednesday 19 February where they cleared a large amount of litter from around the industrial units on Swannington Road and also on Cottage Lane. The Parish Manager has been in contact with one of the members of this group and has agreed to support them with any kit, collection of rubbish and advertising for forthcoming events.

LOCAL POLICE BEAT TEAM

The Parish Office has recently been working closely with the local beat team in being able to distribute shed alarms, number plate anti-theft kit and carbon monoxide detectors to members of the public. Regular updates are also provided, much of which is of a confidential nature on such things as ASBO's, incidents which are being investigated etc. Anything to be shared with either Parish Councillors or members of the public, the Parish

Office will do so on its website or other social media forms.

WOODLAND TRUST – FREE SAPLINGS

Members will recall that the Parish Manager has been able to secure 60 hedge saplings from the Woodland Trust free of charge. These will be delivered sometime between 28 February and 13 March and will be used to make repairs and restoration to the boundary hedge of the recreation ground and the properties on Six Acres. The Parish Council have been approached by one of the local Cub Groups who are looking for some community work they can undertake in the village and the Parish Manager will approach them to see if they would like to carry out the hedge planting.

LEISURE CENTRE

Saturday 29 February 2020 sees the official opening of the new Community Leisure Centre. The ceremony will commence at 10am and the centre will be open to the public free of charge for them to look round and take part in the many activities planned throughout the day.

ALLOTMENT BANNER

A banner advertising vacant plots has been put in place on a temporary basis on the boundary of the Western Willows Allotment site.

3G FOOTBALL PITCH

Due to the recent inclement weather the development of the 3G pitch has put the build behind schedule by approximately three weeks.

2383/02/2020 **7. PUBLIC FORUM**

The Chair opened the public forum at 8.02pm and invited the resident of Broughton Astley to address the Members. The resident expressed his concern over the over reliance by the Parish Council to communicate to its residents by its website and social media particularly since Broughton Matters no longer was published. He complained that the Parish Council website was out of date as Broughton Matters is still listed on it. The Chair thanked the resident for his comments and closed the public forum at 8.07pm

2384/02/2020 **8. DISTRICT AND COUNTY COUNCILLORS REPORT**

Councillor Golding –

- *Informed Members that Harborough District Council has liaised with 3 CCG's across the district regarding Scraftoft and Lutterworth East. Suggested that the Parish Council write to the Leader of Harborough District Council outlining the land available and the history of discussions that have taken place in Broughton Astley for medical provision and ask that this be raised during their discussions going forward.*
- *CCTV has been installed by Harborough District Council following issues of anti-social behaviour in an area on my Ward. I have details which I will pass to the Parish Manager to circulate to all Members.*
- *To confirm that Harborough District Council has made available by way of a grant to each Parish Council £500 for the use on VE Day events. The grant will have to be applied for by the Parish Council.*

Councillor Graves –not much to add but would like to share the following.

- *Following Councillor Goldings comments about the Districts communication with the CCG, I strongly suggest that due to the serious issue we have in Broughton Astley we request that we are included in the discussion with District.*
- *Open Spaces – I am close to reaching and obtaining conclusive proof of the District Council's failure and responsibilities as to why Broughton Astley is in the position it is with open spaces.*
- *Budget – the Opposition mentioned the rapid use of reserves at the recent meeting (estimated 4-5 years remaining at the current usage rate) and would suggest that in the coming years severe cuts may have to be implemented.*
- *Traffic Order –The B4114 will see a 30 mile per hour speed restriction in place due to the impending Mill on the Soar junction improvement works which are to commence on 1 April 2020*

Councillor Dann - has sent apologies and the following report was submitted:

- *The District Council Budget – was duly accepted on Monday of this week and after a consultation period and scrutiny. The underlying message is that there is no increase to the rate payers of the District Councils portion of the overall Council Tax. There is no diminution of services. Despite the fact that many questions were asked and answered there was no alternative budget proposed.*
- *The Bin Policy- following my indication that prices for new bins maybe introduced (ref my last report), this has proved to be incorrect. Following a review, NO new pricing structure is being introduced. The only change is that any new black bins will be 240 litre not 360 litres, hopefully this may lead to more recycling.*
- *VE Day Celebrations – the District Council is making £20,000 available for Parish Councils to help mark the occasion. This will equate to £500 per Parish. Details to follow.*
- *Ward Issues – Flooding on Frolesworth Road; along with the rest of the County we are experiencing some quite extraordinary rainfall. Two back to back named storms within a week were exceptional. I did take the time to go and look over that weekend, the amount of water running from the farm field next to the Recreation Ground was eye-opening. The water the next day had largely gone from the road but was continuing to run from the farm field. I have to say that in the not too dim and distant past the mere mention of rain would have caused a flood, I do not think this is the case now. Over my time as a Parish Councillor and beyond, gullies and drains has been the subject of report by the Parish Council. We should not lose sight of the fact that we are likely to get more of the same sort of weather and we should be as prepared as we possibly can. However, you cannot legislate for every eventuality. I notice that you will be debating this issue. Let me know if I can help in anyway.*

Councillor Liquorish – has sent apologies and the following report was submitted:

- *I would like to give an update on environmental matters concerning the County, during the weekend of Storm Ciara, Highways responded to 170 call outs, mainly for fallen trees and branches which caused disruption to the network.*
- *Storm Dennis followed on, this storm brought with it heavy rainfall and high winds causing even more disruption on the network, there was a total of 82 call outs over that weekend. The Highways Control room remained open throughout these weekends with 13 gangs responding to 124 incidents which again were mainly related to trees/branches down and flooding issues. The increased rainfall*

resulted in 65 residential properties and 9 commercial properties being flooded throughout the 'County based on current information. So, during all of this adverse weather, the Highways teams' main activities were dealing with flooding, signing flooded areas, providing sandbags, dealing with fallen trees and the closure of 33 roads across the County due to floodwater. In summary all of the water is bound to have an effect on the state of the roads with more potholes developing.

The Members of the Parish Council have requested the Parish Manager to write to Councillor Liquorish requesting that he attends the next Parish Council meeting on Thursday 19 March 2020.

2385/01/2020 **9. REPORTS FROM OUTSIDE BODIES**

Councillor Mrs Stell was unable to provide much information on the Twinning Association other than to confirm that there will be visit at Easter by representatives from Geveze. Councillor Dann informed the Members that he recently attended a Rural Crime Event which provided some interesting facts and figures about farm thefts etc. He also informed the Members on the increase in County Lines drugs issues, what this was and what to look out for. Councillor Dann also stated that he would be able to deliver some training on this matter should it be required.

10. SCHEDULE OF PAYMENTS

The Parish Manager presented the schedule of payments made for the period to 31 January 2020. The schedule of payments and the month end statement were received and accepted unanimously by the Members with a show of hands. The Chair signed the Schedule of Payments on behalf of the Parish Council.

2386/02/2020 **RESOLVED: That the schedule of payments and the month end statements for the period 31 January 2020 were received and accepted unanimously. The Chair signed the Schedule of Payments on behalf of the Parish Council.**

11. FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The Parish Manager presented the financial statements for the period ending 31 January 2020. A show of hands accepted the Financial Statements unanimously.

2387/02/2020 **RESOLVED: That the financial statements for the period to the end of 31 January 2020 are accepted.**

12. SECTION 106

The Members were presented with a statement as at 31 January 2020 detailing the S106 payments and expiry dates allocated to Broughton Astley Parish Council

2388/02/2020 **RESOLVED: That the statement as at 31 January 2020 detailing s106 payments and expiry dates for Broughton Astley Parish Council are accepted.**

13. ROSPA INSPECTION REPORT

The Members noted the outstanding issues and new issues arising from the recent inspection detailed on the RoSPA report.

2389/02/2020 **RESOLVED: That the review of the outstanding RoSPA report is accepted.**

14. PLANNING AND LICENSING MINUTES

Members received the minutes from the Planning and Licensing Committee meetings held on 2 February 2020 and noted the schedule of planning decisions made since the Parish Council meeting held on 16 January 2020. The Chair thanked the Members of the Committee for their continuing hard work on the deliberation of planning applications.

1436.20 - 20/00002/FUL

Location: 1 Baldwin Rise, Broughton Astley, Leicestershire
Proposal: Erection of a single and first floor side extensions

2390/02/2020 **RESOLVED: Committee Members after carefully reviewing the proposed planning application, noted that all materials match existing and as the property is set back from the road can see no impact on neighbours or the street scene so, therefore, had no objections.**

1438.20 - 20/00024/FUL

Location: 34 Devitt Way, Broughton Astley, Leicestershire
Proposal: Erection of a 2-storey side extension, single storey rear extension new parking area and footway crossing.

2391/02/2020 **RESOLVED: Committee Members can see no impact on the street scene or neighbours and have noted that all materials will match existing so have no objections.**

1439.20 - 20/00063/FUL

Location: 67a Dunton Road, Broughton Astley, Leicestershire
Proposal: Installation of a drop kerb

2392/02/2020 **RESOLVED: Committee Members feel that a drop kerb is acceptable in the position shown on the plan and have noted there is sufficient space in front of the property for parking so have no objection.**

1440.20 – 20/00064/FUL

Location: 10 Old Rectory Close, Broughton Astley, Leicestershire
Proposal: Erection of a two-storey rear extension, part garage conversion, render to front elevation, porch extension and installation of roof lights to side and rear.

2393/02/2020 **RESOLVED: Committee Members after reviewing the proposed plans can see no impact on the street scene or neighbours so have no objections.**

1443.20 It was noted that the Planning Committee were becoming increasingly frustrated at being asked to comment on planning applications and in particular when referring to the Broughton Astley Neighbourhood Plan having their objection overruled. The latest is an objection by the Parish Council where a resident have moved his fence line beyond his boundary and also enclosing a fire hydrant behind a picket fence. It is felt that if approved, it would signal to other parishioners that it is acceptable to move their boundaries and take over land adjoining their properties to then only seek approval retrospectively.

2394/02/2020 **RESOLVED: That a letter is sent to County Councillor Liquorish to make enquiries on behalf of the Parish Council on this matter.**

15. ANNUAL INTERNAL RETURN AUDIT PROVIDER FOR 2020-21

Members received a report from the Parish Manager informing them that having used GreenBiro Audit Services for several years; an opportunity has arisen for them to use a similar service being provided via Leicestershire and Rutland Association of Local Councils. Having been charged in the region of £700 (Exc. VAT) by GreenBiro, the new service will be in the region of £400 (Exc. VAT). The level of service provided will remain unchanged. Councillor Grafton-Reed proposed, and Councillor Porter seconded that the Parish Council should employ the services for the Annual Internal Return Audit service being provided by Leicestershire and Rutland Association of Local Councils at a cost of £400 exclusive of VAT.

2395/02/2020 **RESOLVED: That detailed the Parish Council join the Internal Audit Service Scheme provided by Leicestershire and Rutland Association of Local Councils at a cost of £400 exc. VAT.**

16. CONTRACT EXTENSION FOR RPT LTD

A report was provided to Members detailing the background to the Project Manager and his role in relation to the development of the new Community Leisure Centre. Due to delays in the planning process and recent inclement weather, the development of the 3G all-weather pitch and associated infrastructure has put the schedule behind and therefore has resulted in a delay of its expected deliver. This then has had an impact on the the Parish Council to receive support and assistance to the project end, the Project Manager provided a quotation of £500 (Exc. VAT) per month with any additional expenses limited to £100 (Exc. VAT) per month to continue to deliver support up to 31 August 2020 which is the expected completion date. Councillor Grafton-Reed proposed, and Councillor Glenis seconded the quote for £500 (Exc. VAT) is accepted from RPT Ltd to provide a further six months support on the final elements of the Leisure Centre and 3G all-weather pitch builds. A show of hands carried this proposal unanimously.

2396/02/2020 **RESOLVED: That RPT Ltd services are retained for a further six month (March – 31 August 2020) whilst establishing the final elements of the Leisure Centre and 3G all-weather pitch builds at a cost of £500 (Exc. VAT) per month and expenses limited to £100 (Exc. VAT) per month.**

17. BROUGHTON ASTLEY CRICKET CLUB

The Parish Council has received a request from Broughton Astley Cricket Club to establish a designated storage space on Frolesworth Road Recreation Ground for their mobile covers when they are not in use.

The Members noted that the club stated that they are causing damage to the playing surface over long periods of time and that they are difficult to move before and after every match as they are heavy due to the anti-vandal nature of the design especially for the older grounds men. The Parish Council did seek advice from both the Local Planning Authority at Harborough District Council and Leicestershire and Rutland Sport on the proposal received. Although no reply has been received to date from the Planning Authority, Leicestershire and Rutland Sport replied with a mixed response. Taking the response into consideration and following a lengthy debate, the Parish Council concluded that they were reluctant to approve a permanent area for storage particularly that of a hard-standing surface as this would have an impact on the visual aspect of the area as well as reducing the available green recreation space. However, a suggestion was made that the Cricket Club should investigate the possibility of replacing the existing wheels with something that makes these heavy covers more manoeuvrable and continues to store the covers when not in use where they can

without compromising either their playing space or that of adjacent football pitch. Refusal to grant permission to create a designated storage area for the cricket covers on the Frolesworth Road recreation ground was pass by a unanimous show of hands.

2397/02/2020 **RESOLVED: That permission is not granted to Broughton Astley Cricket Club to create a designated storage area on the Frolesworth Road recreation ground for the cricket covers.**

18. BROUGHTON ASTLEY TWINNING ASSOCIATION

The Parish Council have been approached by the Broughton Astley Twinning Association to place an A5 sized plaque in the foyer of the Village Hall commemorating their forthcoming 25th anniversary. It has been agreed that they and the Parish Council exchange their items in the display cabinets to either side of the Broughton Hall doors to provide space on the wall for the plaque then be placed next to their memorabilia and gifts from Geveze to the right-hand side. Councillor Graves proposed, and Councillor Swinfen seconded that the Parish Council approves the request for an A5 plaque to be placed in the foyer of the Village Hall.

2398/02/2020 **RESOLVED: That approval is given to the Broughton Astley Twinning Association to place a 25th anniversary commemorative plaque on the wall next to the right-hand side display cabinet in the foyer of the Village Hall.**

19. SUTTON IN THE ELMS BAPTIST CHURCH

The Parish Manager received a request from the Sutton in the Elms Baptist Church to place a safety traffic mirror on the allotment car park barrier post to assist with drivers leaving their car park to see any oncoming traffic along the track between the two car parks. A short discussion was had discussing the merits of trying to improve the safety and awareness of drivers leaving the Churches car park. Councillor Graves proposed, and Councillor Shipman seconded the approval of a traffic mirror to be erected on the allotment car park barrier post and that they be responsible for all costs involved in the erection and future traffic maintenance or repairs. A show of hands carried this proposal unanimously.

RESOLVED:

- 2399/02/2020
- 1. That approval is given to Sutton in the Elms Baptist Church to erect a traffic mirror to the car park barrier at the Western Willow Allotment car park.**
 - 2. That all costs involved in the erection and future maintenance or repairs will be the sole responsibility of the Baptist Church.**

20. GRANT AID APPLICATION

The Parish Council received an application from Broughton Open Space Society to assist with the purchase of litter picking equipment which will be provided to volunteers to take part in the Community Against Litter campaign. Members noted that as this application was for equipment, should the organisation cease to function or is wound up the equipment must be returned to them and that the Parish Council are permitted to request evidence of the expenditure against this application.

Councillor Grafton-Reed proposed that an amount of £320 should be made available by way of a grant to Broughton Open Space Society for the purchase of litter picking equipment and Councillor Swinfen seconded this proposal. A show of hands approved this unanimously.

2400/02/2020 **RESOLVED: That Broughton Astley Parish Council award a grant to Broughton Open Space Society for £320 for the purchase of litter picking equipment and that a copy of**

the expenditure against this application is supplied for Council records.

21. MEMBERS MOTION

01/20 – Councillor Graves

*The Community of Broughton Astley notes that for many years there has been flooding on Frolesworth Road after periods of prolonged rain.
The flooding has caused damage to nearby properties (notably a children’s nursery) and is a major inconvenience for many residents.
It causes significant difficulties for pedestrians on Jubilee Road and severely slows down traffic on Frolesworth Road.
The floodwaters do not appear to drain properly through a deficient or possibly blocked road drainage system, with huge areas of water left for a very long time draining away very slowly.
The main escape route for excess levels of flood water is known to flow through the War Memorial Gardens and then into the brook via a sluice.
The flooding takes place a very short distance from the brook, where the water can naturally be routed to via corrective drainage works. This strongly indicates that the flooding could be easily resolved if authorities added extra capacity drainage at appropriate locations.
In short, this issue does not seem difficult to solve.
It also would not appear to be too expensive to resolve.
If there are any reasons why the works should not be carried out, Leicestershire County Council should explain to the Parish Council and affected nearby resident why the works should not be done.
Otherwise, Broughton Astley Parish Council calls upon Leicestershire County Council to expedite a survey of the area with a view to completing flood alleviation works as soon as possible.*

Councillor Graves presented his motion which was seconded by Councillor Grafton-Reed and a debate followed amongst the Members.

It was agreed that Councillor Graves, Porter and Glenis form a working party to gather evidence and facts together to be collated in a report to support the request for a survey of the area to be carried out by Leicestershire County Council. Councillor Liquorish is to be copied in as the local County Councillor for Broughton Astley.

2401/02/2020 **RESOLVED: That Councillors Graves, Porter and Glenis form a working party to gather evidence together to be collated in a report to Leicestershire County Council requesting that a survey is carried out on Frolesworth Road / Jubilee Road in respect of the flooding issues experienced in that area.**

2402/02/2020 **22. MEMBERS MOTIONS**

No Members motions were received.

2376/01/2020 The meeting closed at 9.21pm
Minutes approved and accepted as correct
.....Chairman
Dated.....