MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
HELD ON THURSDAY 17 NOVEMBER 2011
AT THE VILLAGE HALL, STATION ROAD, BROUGHTON ASTLEY

PRESENT: Councillors C Grafton-Reed (Chairman), N D Bannister (Vice-Chairman), C Golding, C Porter, D G Brown, C Evans, S Oliver, R Patrick, P Dann, M Stell J Bateman R H Capewell, and Mrs L Blockley.

Also present: County Councillor Bill Liquorish

MINUTE

1. ATTENDANCE AND APOLOGIES
Apologies were received and accepted from Councillors M Graves, S Page and R Tomlin.

2. DECLARATIONS OF MEMBERS’ INTERESTS
Councillor Bannister declared a personal interest in Item 14 of the Agenda (motion on the 2013 review of Parliamentary constituencies in England) in respect of his representation of Dunton Bassett as a District Councillor.

3. MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING – 6 October 2011
Councillor Dann moved and Councillor Porter seconded confirmation and adoption of the Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 6 October 2011 which were approved and accepted unanimously.

4. PROGRESS AGAINST PARISH COUNCIL RESOLUTIONS
A report of progress in completing Parish Council resolutions was presented and updates were provided on the progress against resolutions:

1402 – Purchase of Evergreen Tree in the Recreation Ground
Councillor Golding requested an update on progress made towards planting the Evergreen Tree. The Parish Manager reported that no progress made to date as the ground is extremely hard due to the lack of rain. This item will be progressed once the land is suitably for cultivation.

112 – Annual Audit programme
Councillor Golding commented that the Welland Audit consortium could be used to undertake an audit of the functions which could be affected by the introduction of the Localism Act. The Parish Manager responded that once she had received the information and training being disseminated by L&RALC she would have more idea of the implications and would present a report to Parish Council.

5. CHAIRMAN’S TIME
The Chairman informed and updated Members on the following items of interest:

Localism Act
The Chairman informed the meeting that the Localism Act has now received Royal Assent. The Act provides local councils and their communities with new rights, powers and freedom from government control on a range of issues including planning, housing and standards. The Localism Act will enable the Parish Council to produce its Neighbourhood Plan.

Recreation and Leisure Survey
Funding for this important has now been granted via ‘The Big Society’ fund. All being well the survey will be circulated to every home and other locations with Broughton

This document is also available in large print.
Matters on 30 November. In order to encourage residents to return their surveys promptly and in sufficient numbers (10% of population) a lucky draw will be run. The closing date is likely to be 19 December. Residents have been encouraged to return their surveys to a number of locations, including to their local Parish Councillor's home address. He asked that if Members received any completed surveys that they please ensure these are passed to the Parish Office as quickly as possible.

**Neighbourhood Plan**
On 3 November the District Council submitted an application for Frontrunners funding of £20,000 on behalf of the Parish Council. We await the result of the application. Copies of the submission were circulated at the Executive Committee meeting and will be circulated to Planning & Licensing Committee at its next meeting. He asked that anyone who had not received a copy should please see the Parish Manager of your copy.

**Parish Council precept**
In order for the Parish Council to set its Precept and to submit it by the deadline of 16 December the Parish Council Meeting on 15 December must be quorate. This means a third of Members must be present. If you know that you are not able to attend because of other commitments at this busy time of year please advise the Parish Manager as soon as possible.

**Parish Council – pre-Christmas celebrations**
To enable her to make the necessary arrangements, the Parish Manager would like to know whether Members wish to have a pre-Christmas get-together following the Precept setting on Thursday 15 December. Members were asked to ensure that they confirm whether (or not) they will be attending the meeting at least a day in advance to avoid over catering and wasting food.

**Christmas Carol concert**
Tickets for this year’s event which will take place on Friday 16 December are now available from the Parish Office. Tickets are free of charge but limited to 2 per household, and in order to ensure the comfort of the majority, tickets will not be given for under 10’s. The Chairman stressed that if anyone feels they are able to help with the various tasks involved at the Carol Concert please let the Parish Manager know (at least a day in advance).

Finally he requested anyone who has items suitable for raffle prizes, to please give to the Parish Office staff by 12 December.

6. **PUBLIC FORUM**
No members of the public were present at the meeting.

7. **COUNTY COUNCILLORS’ REPORT**
Councillor Liquorish reported on a number of issues:
- Localism Act – Councillor Liquorish reiterated that the Act will proved greater freedoms for local councils, particularly concerning planning – abolishing much of the ‘red tape’ in the process, and free the system from regional control.
- School Academy Status – Leicestershire County Council is encouraging all of its schools and colleges to adopt Academy Status, enabling them to be financially independent and have more control of their assets and resources. The local schools are likely to be considering this option over the next few months.
- Tell Us Once- the County Council are introducing this service via their Registrars. It will enable the Registrar to inform a list of public bodies and departments of a death, to prevent bereaved families from having to do this themselves.
Traffic Regulation Orders – The County Council have started the consultation process towards the introduction of the on-street parking order around the village centre.

Manton Close – An on-going dispute concerning a planning infringement and use of highway land is being discussed between the District and County Council at the present time.

Core Strategy – This important document was adopted by Harborough District Council on 14 November. It will be used to control development in the District until 2028. There is a policy specific to Broughton Astley within the document, CS16 which will ensure that more emphasis will be put on providing facilities and infrastructure to meet future development. More information will be disseminated to Parish Planning representatives in due course.

DISTRICT COUNCILLOR’S REPORTS

Councillor Dann – Councillor Dann reported that Harborough District Council is busy with business process planning, budget preparation and asset reviews at the present time; in order to produce its budgets for the forthcoming year.

Councillor Golding –

- Councillor Golding reported that because of the continuing infringement of planning regulations on deliveries a prosecution of the Co-op store was being prepared.
- The Enforcement Team will also be writing to Fellas and A Taste of Canton concerning the parking of delivery lorries in the disabled spaces in the public car park.
- The Royal Public House is closed on a temporary basis during the week whilst the new landlady applies for a licence. A special temporary license has been granted to enable her to open at weekends.
- The local Police Inspectors report details that anti-social behaviour is down by 25% across the district and other crime is down by 11% overall.

Questions to District Councillors

Councillor Brown asked where Fellas and A Taste of Canton should be unloading supplies for their premises as parked vehicles at the front of the premises prevented them from parking.

Councillor Golding responded that the introduction of on street parking orders should alleviate the problems of loading and unloading in Main Street.

8. MINUTES OF THE SCRUTINITY COMMITTEE

Councillor Porter moved and Bateman seconded confirmation and adoption of the Minutes of the Scrutiny Committee held on 31 October 2011.

Minute 253.11 - Section 17 Crime and Disorder Act 1998

NOTED

Members considered that Resolutions PC.1319 and 1320 would have a positive effect on the reduction of crime and disorder in Broughton Astley.


RESOLVED:
That the Broughton Astley Parish Council Business Plan 2012/13 – 2016/17 be accepted with the minor spelling errors and numbers of allotment plots available corrected and inserted.

Minute 255.11 – Review of the report of current and proposed cemetery charges

RESOLVED:
That the Parish Council accepts the overall charges increase of 10.2% to the cemetery prices and that they are to be implemented in April 2012.

Minute 256.11 - Review the Annual Scrutiny Works Programme

RESOLVED:
1. That the Annual Scrutiny Works Programme be accepted with the provision of items be added or deleted at the next review in 12 months’ time.
2. That, following the published results of the Scrutiny Audit by the Welland Internal Audit Consortium, the council considers an amendment to the timings of the Scrutiny meetings and alter the Terms of Reference detailed in the Standing Orders to reflect this.

Minute 257.11 - Distribution of the leaflet produced for business’ in Broughton Astley.

RESOLVED:
That Councillor Porter liaises with other Parish Councillors to get the leaflets distributed once they have been printed by the Parish Office. Advertisements resulting from the leaflet drop should be placed in the February / March edition of Broughton Matters.

Minute 258.11 – Review of the Standing Orders for Broughton Astley Parish Council.

RESOLVED:
That the Standing Orders for Broughton Astley Parish Council be accepted pending possible changes relating to Ref: 256.11 (Part 2).

9. SCHEDULE OF PAYMENTS
The Parish Manager presented the schedule of payments made since the 6 October 2011 meeting of the Parish Council, which were received and accepted unanimously.

10. REPORTS FROM OUTSIDE BODIES
No reports were received

11. PLANNING AND LICENSING APPLICATIONS
Members received the Minutes of the Planning and Licensing Committee meetings held on 22 August and 5 & 20 September 2011 and the schedule of planning applications determined since the 25 August 2011 meeting of the Parish Council.

12. BENCHMARKING EXERCISE’ ON THE RECREATION GROUND MATCH FEES AND CHARGES.
Members received the results of a ‘benchmarking’ exercise – comparing the charges made for pitch hire across the local area and further afield. The results of the exercise have shown that the Parish Council charges are in-line with those made at many venues. Councillor Golding proposed that as the majority of charges have not been increased since 2009, an increase in line with inflation (5%) and rounded up to the nearest pound would be appropriate.

On a show of hands all Members were in favour of the proposal.

RESOLVED:
That charges for the hire of pitches at Frolesworth Road Recreation Ground should be increased by 5% and rounded up to the nearest pound from 1 April 2012.

13. MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING
Councillor Bannister moved and Councillor Stell seconded confirmation and adoption of
the Minutes of the Executive Committee held on 3 November 2011.

Minute 63.11 – Business Plan

RESOLVED:
1. That the results of a benchmarking exercise the scales of charges for pitch hire with other pitch providers should be presented to Parish Council for consideration.
2. That the adoption of the Business Plan should be considered again once the results of the benchmarking exercise have been placed before Parish Council.

Minute 64.11 – Pre-budget report

RESOLVED:
That the proposed final budget for 2012/13 is considered at the next meeting of the Executive Committee prior to adoption by Parish Council.

Minute 65.11 – Broughton Hall Lighting

RESOLVED:
1. That the Parish Manager should obtain a quotation for the replacement of the lighting in the Broughton Hall from Harborough District Council, which should then be presented with the other quotations for consideration at the next meeting.
2. That if Harborough District Council is unable to provide a quotation then the Parish Manager should be delegated to appoint Leicestershire County Council to undertake the works necessary at a cost of £799.20

Minute 66.11 – Grounds Maintenance Mower

RESOLVED:
1. That the Parish Manager should attempt to procure an ‘ex-demonstrator’ Ransome Highway 2130 machine a reduced cost, and should contact a local dealer or the Ransome supplier direct, to ascertain whether this is possible.
2. That a further report on the purchase of a new Grounds Maintenance Mower should be considered at the next meeting of the Executive Committee.

Minute 67.11 – Application for Section 137 funding

RESOLVED:
That Broughton Astley Healthcheck Group should be granted £1,500 in respect of the cost of organising the Christmas Fayre under the provisions of Section 137 of the Local Government Act 1972.

Minute 68.11 – Leisure & Recreation Working Group

RESOLVED That the Parish Council allocates the remainder of the Community Development (BAIT) budget of £2,500 to support the development of the survey to be issued by the Leisure and Recreation Working Group.

14. MEMBERS MOTION 05/11 – COUNCILLOR GRAFTON-REED

The 2013 review of Parliamentary constituencies in England

That the Parish Council responds to the 2013 review of Parliamentary constituencies in England stating its formal objection to the proposal to include the 4 Broughton Astley Wards within the Daventry constituency for the following reasons:

- We consider that there is likely to be a detrimental effect on Broughton Astley’s residents who have to travel to Daventry to see their MP. With no direct public transport links, those most vulnerable and in need of support from their local MP will suffer most.
We consider that being the very northern-most tip of an oddly-shaped constituency, the make-up of which is mainly within the boundaries of Daventry District Council, could further marginalise our community in terms of having a sense of identity and also when exerting regional and national influence when necessary.

We consider that the review, which will create a cross-border constituency; will also create administrative problems when the Daventry MP will have to deal with two County and District Council’s when assisting residents with issues.

Councillor Grafton-Reed speaking for the motion, drew Councillors attention to the briefing document which had been circulated with the papers for the meeting. He felt that there were no positive aspects to the proposal for the reasons listed in the motion itself and that it could only reduced the level of representation residents would have from their MP.

Councillor Bannister seconded the motion proposed saying that he hoped that the Parish Council will consider the implications for the community, rather than on any political basis. He commented that the proposal would mean that Broughton Astley, instead of being at the heart of the Blaby constituency would be at the far end of the Daventry constituency and that in his view this meant that the Parish Council would have to work hard to make the views of residents heard. Broughton Astley’s natural affinity with Leicester and Leicestershire would be lost, if it were to be included with Daventry constituency.

Councillor Golding reiterated his view was that the decision to include Broughton Astley, Lutterworth and their surrounding villages in Daventry Constituency was made in order to achieve a balance of numbers in population across the constituencies. He added that poor public transport links would make it very difficult for any resident to attend an MP’s surgery, and further isolate those who needed help most.

Councillor Stell remarked that Broughton Astley was already on the margins of the Harborough District Council borders, and that to be in Daventry Constituency would make it even further marginalised.

Councillor Blockley concurred with this statement.

Councillor Bannister suggested that because alternative proposals were being requested by the Boundary Commission for England the Parish Council should submit the proposal that:

We consider that due to its more natural geographical fit and the natural affinity of its residents; the 4 Wards which represent the town of Market Harborough should be included in the Daventry constituency; and that Broughton Astley, Lutterworth and the surrounding Wards of Ullesthorpe, Dunton, Peatling and Misterton should remain part of the Blaby Constituency.

The Chairman seconded the amendment to the motion. Members were unanimously in their agreement to accept the amendment motion.

Councillors then voted on the amended motion and this was passed unanimously.

RESOLVED:
That the Parish Council responds to the 2013 review of Parliamentary constituencies in England stating its formal objection to the proposal to include the 4 Broughton Astley Wards within the Daventry constituency for the following
reasons:

- We consider that there is likely to be a detrimental effect on Broughton Astley’s residents who have to travel to Daventry to see their MP. With no direct public transport links, those most vulnerable and in need of support from their local MP will suffer most.
- We consider that being the very northern-most tip of an oddly-shaped constituency, the make-up of which is mainly within the boundaries of Daventry District Council, could further marginalise our community in terms of having a sense of identity and also when exerting regional and national influence when necessary.
- We consider that the review, which will create a cross-border constituency; will also create administrative problems when the Daventry MP will have to deal with two County and District Council’s when assisting residents with issues.
- We consider that due to its more natural geographical fit and the natural affinity of its residents; the 4 Wards which represent the town of Market Harborough should be included in the Daventry constituency; and that Broughton Astley, Lutterworth and the surrounding Wards of Ulesthorne, Dunton, Peatling and Misterton should remain part of the Blaby Constituency.

15. TENDERS FOR THE EXCLUSIVE SALE OF ICE CREAMS, HOT AND COLD DRINKS, SOUP AND COLD SNACKS AT FROLESWORTH ROAD RECREATION GROUND

The Chairman opened one tender which had been submitted for the sale of Ice Creams, drinks and cold snacks at Frolesworth Road Recreation Ground. The tender, submitted by Franco’s Ice Cream amounting to £600 per year, for a 3-year period from 1 January 2012 was accepted unanimously by the Parish Council.

RESOLVED:
That the tender for the exclusive sale of ice creams, hot and cold drinks, soup and cold snacks at Frolesworth Road Recreation Ground submitted by Franco’s Ice Cream amounting to £600 per year, for a 3-year period from 1 January 2012 should be accepted by the Parish Council

150 OTHER MATTERS
No other matters were raised.

151 16. MEMBERS’ MOTIONS FOR NEXT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
None received.

The meeting closed at 8.25pm

Minutes approved and accepted as correct

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Chairman

Dated .................................