

BROUGHTON PARISH COUNCIL.

Chairman: Cllr P.A. Scouse.

Parish Clerk: Alison McDaid.

Email: broughtonparishclerk@gmail.com

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Minutes of the Broughton Parish Council Meeting held at Broughton Chapel Room, 7pm, Thursday 21st November 2024

Note: The clerk attended meeting remotely due to personal circumstances and the meeting was recorded for minute purposes only.

Councillors Present:

Cllr P. Scouse (Chair)

Cllr R. Shrive

Cllr. H. Bull

Cllr M. Gray

Cllr B Davies

Cllr M. Rose.

Ward Councillors present:

None were present

121/24. Apologies.

Cllr C Taylor

Cllr A Evelyn

122/24. Declarations of Interest.

None

123/24. Minutes to be resolved.

Draft minutes of the Parish Council meetings held on 17th October 2024 and copies were circulated. The minutes were approved by members after an amendment to the date, October, not September and was authorised for signature by the chair. **RESOLVED.**

BPC - Broughton Parish Council.

NNC - North Northamptonshire Council.

SID – Speed Indicator Device

124/24. Public right to speak.

No members of the public were present

125/24. Reports from NNC Councillors.

None were received

126/24. Report from clerk & correspondence

Clerk Report

The resident of 64 Northampton Road emailed the clerk and sent a photo to dispute that their hedge was obstructing the pavement and fire posts after a complaint was received. The chair sort advice from NNC and the fire department who were not overly concerned. **Action: Clerk to reply to resident to let them know of outcome. Completed and polite reply received. Resident requested if any other issues arise, to visit them at property.**

The clerk emailed PS Quinlan and Matthew Mumford, Safer Road Team Enforcement Supervisor as residents have been experiencing some excessive speed in the village around Glebe Avenue, Wellingborough Road, Cransley Hill and Church Street to ask if they could provide some more patrolling around the village.

Speed data was collected between 18/10/2024 – 25/10/2024.

Church Street facing Glebe Avenue – 1256 vehicles recorded. Exceeding limit 1%. Exceeding NPCC threshold 0%

Glebe Avenue facing Church Street – 2357 vehicles recorded. Exceeding limit 2%. Exceeding NPCC threshold 0%

Cransley Hill facing High Street – 10061 vehicles recorded. Exceeding limit 10%, Exceeding NPCC threshold 2%

21/11/2024 - The clerk along with Richard Marlow (NNC) and Rosie Wighting MP was cc'd into a letter from a resident to Louise Johnson (NNC) demanding an explanation regarding the planning approval of the removal of trees NK/2024/0586 and has asked for the current application to reduce the significant Holly by 2 metres to be revisited.

Items reported to NNC by councillors

- Grass encroachment onto footpath, Church Street Ref 6654982 - **Investigation Completed (No Action Necessary)**
- Weeds causing trip hazard, bus stop to St Andrews sheltered housing Ref 6654962 – **Completed**
- Slippery path High Street Ref 6654936 – **Investigation completed. No action necessary**
- Pot hole - Large hole exposing the base road layer. It is adjacent to 15 Kettering Road. Ref 6672694. **Investigated – No action required**

The clerk received correspondence from a resident regarding an application for a TPO on a Poplar tree in Northampton Road. The application was made prior to their arrival and the tree officer has now visited the property. As the property is within a conversation area, a TPO will only be considered if unacceptable works were carried out in the future. The resident has confirmed they will have the trees professionally inspected to identify any levels of risks.

November 2024 correspondence

- Leaders update 18/10/2024, 01/11/2024, 15/11/2024
- Facing the Planning Challenge – CPRE Roadshow 31/10/2024
- Northamptonshire ACRE October Newsletter
- The Rural Bulletin - 29 October 2024
- Invite to Safe and Sound - a new mission for public safety in Northamptonshire - via Teams with PFCC Danielle Stone on Tuesday 3rd December at 6pm.
- Kettering East and Kettering West LAP Area profiles – Thursday 7th November

- LAP Partner Network Update
- Winter Readiness: Helpful Links and Advice

127/24. Reports from external meetings

See below 128/24

128/24. Report from meeting with NNC corporate leadership team regarding delivery of services

Notes from NNC meeting with Graham Kane and BPC were thanked for their concise agenda.

BPC explained their frustration of the following issues which were discussed:

- Points and examples of miscommunication and conflicting advice from different departments within NNC to BPC were noted. Example given was differing advice on adoption of new playground equipment.
- NNC Customer services – Disjointed at the moment as Customer Services do not seem to know the names of officers and which department they work in. **Action: Feedback to be passed onto Simon Mills**
- Highways – The traffic calming measures that had to be abandoned after years of work because another department approved a dropped kerb in the middle of the scheme were looked at in detail prior to meeting. NNC admitted lessons had been learnt and new measures have now been put in place. **Action: Future applications will be shared with other relevant departments before decisions are made.**

BPC, as value stakeholders, asked for the following to be taken into consideration:

- Asset transferring – Needs clarity. Challenges would be ongoing maintenance. It was noted that transfers would not be possible as a blanket approach and would need to be made on an individual basis. Legacy issues could prove problematic. Considerations would need to be made as Parish councils are volunteers so in essence, assets would be passed onto a voluntary group. Possibly NNC could act as a management company.
- Potholes – BPC asked if West Northants would be sharing their new pothole machine to cover North Northants area. Residents and councillors alike are becoming increasingly frustrated with the fact that if a pothole is repaired, any holes adjacent are not fixed at the same time. Repairs are shoddy and do not last. BPC asked if anyone checks the works to sign off.
- S106 – BPC spoke on behalf on Broughton Playing Fields and Village Hall Association and reported their frustration at the lack of response from this department as the spend by date was drawing ever closer.

NNC now have a dedicated portal for ward councillors. It was suggested a parish council portal would also be a good idea.

Summary: BPC considered NNC to be listening and it was a constructive meeting.

Actions: Clerk to find NNC finance budget for this year.

Clerk to ask NNC how ward councillors are monitored for effectiveness in their role as they do receive an allowance and expenses.

Clerk to note at next meeting how many times ward councillors have not been present at meetings in Broughton.

129/24. Graffiti

There has been a rise in graffiti around the village. It was decided that Cllr Bull will monitor and report all issues to Fixmystreet using the clerks email address.

130/24. – Pocket Park maintenance – To visit quotes

Castletree were asked to carry out the works they quoted for but BPC are waiting for a date for this to commence. **Action: Cllr Scouse to contact Mark Baines.**

Cllr Scouse has made contact with Head Squared Aquatics and Fish and Pond Centre for additional quotes.

A quote from Pond Aquaserve Maintenance received so far for winter maintenance is £822.31 exc VAT and April package is £499.74

131/24. – High Street playground project – adoption of new equipment

An email from Steve Benamore, NNC Grounds Manager confirmed NNC's position regarding the installation of new play equipment in the Public Open Space (POS) located at Broughton.

We are currently reviewing play equipment provision, inspection and maintenance across the entirety of the North Northamptonshire Council portfolio. Work is currently ongoing with the production of a new North Northamptonshire Council Policy covering play equipment and POS.

We will continue to seek opportunities for new play equipment working with the Planning team in connection with Developers off-site contributions liabilities and engaging with all possible external funding streams where applicable and available.

The ongoing inspection and maintenance for additional play equipment is not included within the current financial resourcing model and would need to be funded externally to North Northamptonshire Council. Where appropriate, North Northamptonshire Council would consider an arrangement where a maintenance fee for inspection and minor repairs is agreed as part of a Service Level Agreement (SLA) between funders and the Council. Like for like replacement of old equipment will be considered if the design is of a similar size and nature to a new install, limiting future increased liabilities and burden on limited financial resources.

We would welcome discussions from interested Parties should they wish to explore the possibility of a Community Asset Transfer of North Northamptonshire Council land, further information can be found at

<https://www.northnorthants.gov.uk/community-assets/community-asset-transfer>

132/24. – Winter lights project and electricity for High Street park

It was noted on a clerk forum that SSE are no longer offering unmetered electricity supplies so the clerk has contacted the National Grid for guidance.

133/24. – Village Map project

Cllr Scouse will approach a known resident to see if they could help design the map.

It would need to be interactive with QR codes which would link to the website and display images of significant historical buildings within the village.

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Landmark Solutions.*

134/24. Housing Needs Survey

A copy of the new Housing Needs Survey was circulated.

It was agreed that this version was more comprehensible and it was **resolved** to ask Phillippa to proceed with the addition of a covering note from BPC to be included. **Action: Cllr Bull to forward onto clerk.**

135/24. – Hugo Fox – gov.uk domain

The domain Broughtonparishcouncil.gov.uk has successfully been received back from the CDDO and the address is now live.

Ten email addresses have also been applied for through the webpage but a new payment scheme needs to be set up first.

136/24. Development control / Planning Report.

Planning applications

NK/2024/0605

LOCATION: 12 Northampton Road

PROPOSAL: Full Two storey side extension.

No comment

NK/2024/0601

LOCATION: St Andrews Church, Broughton

PROPOSAL: Full Planning Permission: Installation of new air source heat pump with timber canopy in rear churchyard.

No comment

NK/2024/0587

LOCATION: Village Hall, Gate Lane, Broughton

PROPOSAL: Non-Material Amendment: NK/2022/0691 (Front, rear and side extensions and re-modelling to provide for a pre-school, changing facilities, community room with hospitality areas, additional facilities and extended stage area): Reduction in size of rear changing rooms

No comment

Note: North Northamptonshire Council has not been able to make the “made” Neighbourhood Plan for the Kettering area available as a download on its website as they do not meet accessibility standards.

Planning Decisions

NK/2024/0586

LOCATION: 58 Glebe Avenue, Broughton

PROPOSAL: Notification of Works to Trees in Conservation Areas: T1 Willow, T2 Maple and T3 Cherry - remove; T4 Holly - crown reduce and reshape to 2.0 m.

Comment: The willow is a significant tree within the village and has been easily visible from the street for decades, would a sympathetic pruning be a better solution.

Approved

NK/2024/0530

LOCATION: Paston House, Kettering Road, Broughton

PROPOSAL: Application for Works to Protected Trees: T1 Yew - remove 2 no. branches to thin out and maintain tree.

Approved

137/24. Finance Report - to note expenditure for November

November 2024 statements

Nationwide 125-day saver - £17,093.18

Nationwide 35-day saver - £5,030.29

Community - £20,669.17

Credits to Nationwide 125 day-saver account

Interest		£0.00
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Credits to Nationwide 35 day-saver account – 3.20%

Transfer		£0.00
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Credits to Community account

		£0.00
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Payments issued from Community account.

Payee	Method	Amount
Salary - mth 8 including £162.75 back pay from April 24	Bank transfer	£563.57
HMRC income tax	Bank transfer	£140.80
A McDaid home working, webpage, phone, batteries	Bank transfer	£286.64
Castletree	Bank transfer	£300.00

Cllr Shrive to authorise payments this month.

The National Unions and the National Employers' body have finally reached agreement on local government pay. Spinal Column Points (SCP) for clerk is increased by 4.49%. The increase is backdated to 1 April 2024.

The clerk is currently on LC1 SCP17.

Back pay is £162.75 before tax.

The Nationwide 35 day saver annual interest rate will reduce to 3.20% from 3.35% from 1st November 2024.

The clerk confirmed that the new employees NIC which will be implemented in April 2025, will cost BPC around £300 extra per year.

It was resolved for the clerk to apply to Barclays for a business card for current account.

138/24. To resolve the budget and precept for 2025-26

It was **resolved** to submit a precept of £14k for 2025-26. It was noted that this amount has not increased for many years.

Budget and Precept 2025/26

PAYMENTS	Agreed Budget 2025-26	Agreed Precept 2025/26
Pocket Park maintenance - Commons Act 1899, s.4 & 5		£2,500.00
Salary		£7,500.00
Employees NIC		£300.00
Room Hire		£200.00
Utilities		£12.00
Stationary	£50.00	£20.00
Sundries		£25.00
Telephone		£80.00
Website hosting		£400.00
Internal audit fee		£300.00
Playground	£3,536.00	
Bus shelter - Local Government Act 1953 s.4		£65.00
xmas lights	£973.02	
Printing (newsletter s142 LGA 72)		£500.00
Insurance	£992.41	£800.00
NACRE Sub	£58.00	£50.00
Chairmans allowance (earmarked)	£240.00	
High Street/Road safety - LG and Rating Act 1997, s26	£2,516.01	
Unitary	£15,000.00	
SLCC		£200.00
CPRE Subscription		£36.00
Elections	£3,000.00	£500.00
Training - LGA 1972. s175	£1,000.00	
Garden Memorial	£525.68	
Warm Room s2 LGA 2000	£250.00	
Miscell	£5,000.00	
ICO Registration		£40.00
New projects		£300.00
	£33,141.12	£13,828.00
	Precept	£14,000.00

139/24. Grant policy

It was agreed to carry forward to January

140/24. Items for consideration at next meeting

141/24. Date of next meeting.

The next meeting will be on Thursday 19th December 2024

The meeting was closed at 8:37pm

Signed:

Dated: