

**BRAMPTON PARISH COUNCIL**  
**CHAIRMAN: John Michael Bainbridge**



**Minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> of December 2021**  
**Brampton Memorial Centre, Thrapston Road, Brampton.**  
**7.15 pm**

**Present:** Mike Bainbridge, Chairman (JMB), Nigel Maggs, Vice Chair (NM), Mike Shellens, Vice Chair (MS), Malcolm Beswick (MB), John Childs (JRC), Glen Brown (GB), Jon Chitty (JC), Linda Hicks (LH), Simon Jordan (SJ), Alan Mellor (AM), Liz Ruston (LR),

**In attendance:** Patricia Jordan (PJ) and John Morris (JM), District Councillors, Tess Rogers Clerk,

**188/12/21 Chairman's Opening Remarks**

This year has proved uncertain. However, JMB wished everyone a happy Christmas, it will be interesting to see what 2022 will bring.

**189/12/21 To Receive Apologies for Absence.**

Catriona French, attending her mother's 80<sup>th</sup> birthday.  
Ronald Stevenson, work commitments.  
Margaret Footner.  
County Councillor Ken Billington, due to previous ill health.

**190/12/21 To Receive Declarations of Interests**

All dispensation requests must be made to the Clerk prior to the meeting. You must comply with the statutory and the Authority's requirements to disclose and withdraw from participating in respect of any matter in which you have a disclosable pecuniary interest.

LH, Planning at Nursery Farm

**191/12/21 Village Hub**

191/12/21.1 Mens Shed, to consider increasing the Parish Council grant by £36K. Deferred to the January meeting following the results of the tender evaluation meeting being held on the 17<sup>th</sup> of December 2021.

**192/12/21 Youth Matters & Funding.**

No report available.

**193/12/21 District Council Report**

Circulated by John Morris prior to the meeting. Taken as read.  
In addition, Patricia Jordan reported upon a successful Councillor's surgery held on Brampton Park and attended by both JMB and MB on behalf of the Parish Council. The next Councillor surgery will be held on the 8<sup>th</sup> January 2022. MB will attend.

**Patricia Jordan left the meeting at 7.55 pm.**

- 194/12/21 County Councillor Report.**  
Not in attendance at the meeting and no written report was received prior to the meeting. However Mr Billington had contacted JMB and wished everyone a happy and healthy Christmas.
- 195/12/21 To Approve the Minutes of the Meeting held on the 18<sup>th</sup> of Nov 2021.**  
Amendments made by hand:  
To those present - Macolm Beswick, should read Malcolm Beswick.  
To 174/11/21.1 .....from British Rail on whether traffic lights are to be installed at .... Should read from British Network Rail regarding ....  
Following which it was resolved to accept the minutes as being a true record of the meeting.
- 196/12/21 To Receive an Update about the Progress of Resolutions from the last Meeting.**
- 196/12/21.1 150/10/21.2 P Menczer to email John Morris re Afghan families settling into village, Outstanding. **Action: P Menczer**
- 196/12/21.2 177/11/21.1 154/10/21.2 A survey regarding youth activities is to be carried out at local schools. Outstanding. **Action: P. Downes**
- 196/12/21.3 177/11/21.2 155/10/21.4 the refuge crossing point at Saracen Gardens is too small, those that put it in did it incorrectly. The Parish Council will write to the County Council. JMB said the refuge point was the correct size when designed. The clerk will draft a letter to the County Council. **Action: Clerk**
- 196/12/21.4 177/11/21.3 Ken Billington to chase up the County council carrying out a safety audit of the access point leading from Belle Isle to West End. Outstanding, JMB will contact Mr Billington regarding the results of any action taken so far. **Action: JMB**
- 196/12/21.5 177/11/21.3, 158/10/21.2, 135/09/21.1 NM to engage with the Belle Isle Residents Association re the access point leading from Belle Isle to West End. This is proving dangerous and should, perhaps, be closed NM to attend the Belle Isle residents AGM on the 24th of January 2022. **Action: NM**
- 196/12/21.6 177/11/21.4, 158/10/21.3 138/09/21.5 Hidden milestone, action still required. To be returned to the next Greens & Footpaths meeting, 7<sup>th</sup> February 2022 for further discussion. **Action: G & F**
- 196/12/21.7 177/11/21.5 136/09/21.1 JMB to liaise with Laura Hampshire at HE re outstanding issues relating to new bridleways and footpaths. Outstanding. **Action: JMB**
- 196/12/21.8 177/11/21.6, 138/09/21.1 JMB to write to Highways England regarding the unfinished footpath from West End to the A14. Outstanding. **Action: JMB**
- 196/12/21.9 177/11/21.7, 159/10/21.2.2 Street lights at Kyle Crescent not working. JMB to deal once he receives the job number given by Amey. Has phoned on a number of occasions but has received no response. Will continue to attempt contact.
- 196/12/21.10 178/11/21.1 JC will provide a specification for a ceiling mounted projector – blue toothed enabled. JC reported prices range from £69.00 to £600.00. JRC will provide JC with the specification of the projector to be installed into the Lady Olivia Centre. JC will seek costings based on this.
- 196/12/21.11 179/11/21.5.2 A brief discussion was held regarding the lighting of the beacon at the Lady Olivia Centre and for how long it would be lit. A question was asked as to whether the land upon which the beacon stood would be owned by the Parish Council at the time of the celebrations. GB and MS will lobby the District Council regarding this using the Jubilee Celebrations as a lever. Outstanding.
- 196/12/21.12 179/11/21.5.3 The Events Group will be asked what they will be organising for the platinum jubilee, in order that any event arranged by the Parish Council doesn't clash. Information received. The Events Group will not be arranging any events for Brampton Park but would welcome volunteers from the estate approaching /joining the group and taking such events on.

- 196/12/21.13 NM reported that he had cycled past the old officer's mess in the dark and there are no streetlights. The clerk said that she had spoken to Campbell Buchanan on the matter and was told there are no plans to install lighting. However, it was agreed to write to Campbell Buchanan and will liaise with MS before doing so. Outstanding.

**Action: Clerk/MS**

**John Morris left the meeting at this point.**

**197/12/21 To receive and consider recommendations from the following committee meetings**

- 197/12/21.1 Finance held on the 1<sup>st</sup> of December.  
The meeting was held to finalize the 2022/23 budget and precept request. The finance committee would like to recommend a budget figure of £364000.00, and a precept request of 2% increase on the current year. The precept request is for £303,791.17. Based on 2477 band D homes each will pay £10.22 per month.  
MS proposed acceptance of the above figures, NM seconded this, One Councillor abstained from agreeing to acceptance, However eight approved the proposal. In addition, NM offered his thanks to those members who had worked on the figures.
- 197/12/21.2 Sports & Recreation Committee held on the 22<sup>nd</sup> of November.  
The minutes had been circulated prior to the meeting, therefore taken as read. NM proposed acceptance of the minutes, LR seconded this, all agreed. *(Note since discussion at the Sports & Recreation committee meeting it was discovered that the Ram (6.1) would be unavailable for some months therefore it has been agreed to have the floodlight lowered and the remaining CCTV affixed to it in January. Decision to purchase the Ram will be discussed once again in the future).*

**198/12/21 Parish Council Matters**

- 198/12/21.1 Queens Jubilee celebrations and road closures.  
JMB said that the Parish Council would be coordinating all road closures for any events taking place in the village. Therefore, an item had been placed in the December edition of the Brampton Magazine asking all groups anticipating organizing events which would require road closures, to advise the Parish Council of this by February 2022 as the County Council requires 3 months' notice to issue road closure permissions.
- 198/12/21.2.1 To agree the calendar of meetings for 2022.th Wednesday  
Circulated prior to the meeting. A vote was taken to agree to moving the Parish Council meetings from the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of each month to the 4<sup>th</sup>. 8 were in favour, 2 against with 1 abstention. The vote was carried.
- 198/12/21.2.2 The calendar circulated showed the above taking place from April (if agreed). A vote was taken for moving this to May following the local elections. 6 were in favour, 1 against with 3 abstentions. The vote was carried.
- 198/12/21.3 Registration of land at 32 Buckden Road.  
The original conveyance document had been found at the Council's previous solicitors. A discussion was held surrounding the sale of the land. MS proposed that the land in question should be valued, following which the matter will be returned to full council. NM seconded this and all agreed. The Clerk will inform the prospective buyers of this.

**Action: Clerk**

- 198/12/21.4 Garner Close boundary fencing.  
Following the recent clearing out of the hedgerow bordering the boundary line, concerns from residents regarding their lack of privacy have been received by the Parish Council office staff. MB has discussed possible solutions with some of the residents. It was agreed, at this meeting, that NM,

MB and JRC will work together to calculate costings of different fencing solutions which will then be discussed at the next Sports & Recreation Committee meeting before any recommendations are made to full Council.

**Action: MB, NM, JRC**

198/12/21.5 To adopt a CCTV policy  
A draft document had been circulated prior to the meeting. MS said an inclusion is needed to stipulate how long any recordings taken from the system would be held. The Clerk will enquire on the legislation regarding this and, once included in the document, will return it for adoption at a future meeting.

**Action: Clerk**

198/12/21.6 Freedom of Information Requests – charges  
The Clerk had forwarded NALCs advice regarding Freedom of Information which included approved charges to be applied when necessary. It was agreed that the advice provided was a good basis for a Parish Council policy. Therefore, the Clerk will draft a policy to be brought to a subsequent meeting for approval and adoption.

**Action: Clerk**

198/12/21.7 Update – Extension of the shop car park project  
SJ had requested that this be placed on the agenda for discussion as he felt that since the opening of the Co-Op on Brampton Park it wasn't necessary to provide further parking spaces in the car park beside the shops on the High Street. However, the car park would benefit from a sign being placed informing motorists that parking was for shop customers/ dentist patients only. Following a discussion where several councillors spoke of their continued difficulty in finding a car parking space when visiting the High Street shops, it was agreed that the project was still required. Therefore, AM will instruct the solicitors to re commence the work towards enabling the project to go ahead.

**Action: AM**

199/12/21 Planning \_ Monthly Report  
Circulated prior to the meeting. NM led the meeting through the report page by page asking for comments. Application number 17/02676/TREE page 1 requires clarification.  
No further questions JC proposed acceptance of the report, MB seconded this, all agreed.  
MS mentioned that the planning department should be fully staffed in January and then will endeavour to catch up on outstanding applications.

**Action: Asst Clerk**

**200/12/21 Brampton Park Development**  
Nothing to report.

**201/12/21 Parish Communications**

201/12/21.1 Brampton Magazine

201/12/21.2 Facebook Page

201/12/21.3 Website

All the above are working well with nothing in particular to report.

**202/12/21 Representatives Reports**  
None received

**203/12/21 Correspondence Received**

203/12/21.1 Update on The Code of Conduct Petition – the Government had provided a response to the petition received (minute 179/11/21.7). The Committee on Standards in Public Life's Review of Local Government Ethical Standards made a number of recommendations to strengthen the current standards and conduct framework and the safeguards that apply to it. The Government will be issuing its response to the Committee's report in due course.

203/12/21.2 London Luton Airport arrival routes airspace change approved by the CAA. The feedback received during the public consultation resulted in minor changes to the original proposals. These changes will reduce potential noise impacts on the residents of St Neots and Huntingdon.

203/12/21.3 Magpas, request for a donation.  
Referred to the next Finance Committee meeting.

**204/12/21 To Accept Notices and Matters for The Next Agenda**

*Please note that no decisions can lawfully be made under this item, LGA 1972 s12 10(2)(b) state therefore the Council cannot lawfully raise matters for discussion.*

None raised at this time.

**EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC AND PRESS**

That in view of the confidential nature of the business about to be transacted, it is advisable in the public interest that the public and press be excluded, and they are instructed to withdraw, Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960.

**205/12/21 Confidential Matters.**

The Clerk reported that 2 members of staff are currently on sick leave.

The meeting was closed at 9.05 pm.

Signed:  
Chairman

Date: