



Minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 19th of January 2022
Brampton Community Centre, High Street, Brampton.
7.15pm

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

In attendance: Patricia Jordan (PJ) District Councillor, Ken Billington (KB) County Councillor, Kathryn Hornett (KH) Assistant Clerk, Lesley Morris (LM), representing the Craft Club.

01/01/22 Chairman's Opening Remarks

JMB reported that the clerk had suffered an unfortunate accident and, due to resulting injuries, was unable to attend the meeting. He sent the Parish Council's wishes for a speedy recovery. He thanked everyone for attending this meeting.

02/01/22 To Receive Apologies for Absence.

John Morris, District Councillor.

03/01/22 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.

None.

04/01/22 Village Hub

04/01/22.1 The Bramshed is now up and running in an old security building on Montague Road, Brampton Park. It appears to be going well. The original new build is no longer going ahead.

A request for a donation of £10K has been received towards adapting the premises to make it fit for purpose. JMB stated that he believes it is a worthy cause, originally the Parish Council had agreed £50K towards the provision of a purpose-built premises.

NM suggested that a breakdown of how the money would be spent, to establish how this has been costed, should be requested before fully agreeing to provide the donation.

MS took NM's point, but said it needs to be made aware that we are just asking for further information.

JMB said it would need to be made clear that accepting would be subject to the above clarification.

JC believed the Men's Shed management team had demonstrated that they had been thorough enough in the funding breakdown and rather than take it through further meetings, if agreed, they should be given the funding in full. JMB put forward two proposals – 1. To provide the Bramshed with the full sum upfront, 2. To request further breakdown and clarification of figures, with the allocation of 50% of the requested funds now and the remainder to be agreed at the next Parish Council meeting.

JC seconded proposal 1, majority were in agreement.04/01/22.2

JC informed that the Thrift Shop, the Bramshed and the Craft Club are now sharing one building on Montague Road, Brampton Park.

A funding request had been received from the Craft for £1,010 to make their area fit for purpose.

JMB asked whether the Craft Club came under the umbrella of the Village Hub?

LM told the Council she had discussed becoming part of the Village Hub in the future with Peter Menczer, but the Hub had already presented their budget for 2022/23 to the Parish Council so the Craft Club have had to request funding separately.

JMB thanked LM for the information.

JC proposed acceptance of the requested funding, AM seconded, 2 councillors abstained, 10 councillors agreed therefore the proposal was carried.

04/01/22.3 The Village Hub had forwarded a request for £1000.00 toward aiding a further 2 Afghan families to settle in the village.

JC proposed the acceptance of the requested funding, MB seconded, 2 councillors abstained, 10 councillors approved therefore the proposal was carried.

05/01/22 Youth Matters & Funding.

Peter Downes had provided a written report prior to the meeting for which JMB thanked him.

05/01/22.1 Police Constable, Jess Bianchi, had contacted the Parish Council regarding youths smoking cannabis on the playing fields, of which the Parish Council is already aware. JMB will again raise this at the regular monthly meeting with the Neighbourhood Sergeant, Dominic Carminati when discussing, as usual, anti-social behavior in the village.

PC Bianchi suggested things the council might consider as deterrents, but JMB said this was a bit of a minefield, and there is nothing we currently want to enforce. However, it's encouraging to hear that the police are doing all they can.

JRC asked that those attending the meeting with Dominic Carminati ask what it is that the police are putting in place, and if they could inform us when they are doing patrols and any results from these.

It was agreed to respond to PC Bianchi to ask what is being put into place to help and how often patrols will occur.

Action: Clerk

06/01/22 District Council Report

No report this month, as it's only been about 2 working weeks since the last meeting.

PJ reported that the next Councillor Surgery is on 5th March, the last being in January. Councillors were able to resolve all issues raised. PJ will be away for most of February but would be picking up emails intermittently.

JMB ask a volunteer to attend the March Councillor Surgery, MB agreed to.

NM thanked PJ for getting the cycle paths cleared of leaves, along with the gullies, it's a massive improvement.

07/01/22 County Councillor Report.

No written report was available. However, Ken Billington was present to give a verbal report.

He reported that drains are being cleared which should make a difference, It has been requested that the surface on Miller Way receives attention as it is very uneven. This will be considered at in the Spring, weather permitting.

Patricia Jordan left the meeting at 7.50pm

KB has a meeting with the Police & Crime Commissioner in the near future and will raise the problem of youth smoking cannabis on the playing fields. KB has received complaints from Brampton residents as, due to parking on the pavement, they are unable to get their rubbish bins to the road for collection. He confirmed this had been actioned and rectified.

At the next meeting KB will report on the meeting with the Police & Crime Commissioner.

Ken Billington left the meeting at 7.55pm

08/01/22 To Approve the Minutes of the Meeting held on the 18th of Nov 2021.

Amendments made by hand:

To those present - Malcom Beswick, should read Malcolm Beswick.

John Michael Bainbridge - Minutes should read John Michael Bainbridge.

Following which it was resolved to accept the minutes as being a true record of the meeting.

09/01/22 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.

Complete.

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.

Outstanding.

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.

Outstanding.

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.

Outstanding.

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, 7th February 2022 for further discussion.

Outstanding.

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.

- 196/12/21.8 Outstanding. **Action: JMB**
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.
- 196/12/21.9 Outstanding. **Action: JMB**
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 several occasions but has received no response. Will continue to attempt contact.
- 196/12/21.10 Complete.
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.
Complete – in minutes of the January Finance Meeting
- 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. MS to follow up.
- 196/12/21.13 Outstanding. **Action: GB/MS**
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. Campbell Buchanan sold street to another company; MS will chase up with new company.
- 198/12/21.3 Outstanding. **Action: Clerk/MS**
Clerk to advise residents of 32 Buckden Road that the land in question is to be valued. Residents informed and is due to be valued.
- 198/12/21.4 Complete.
MB, NM & JRC to discuss the fencing along the boundary of Garner Close
Complete – MB & NM met to look over boundary. Current hedge is dead and needs completely removing. After speaking to Garner Close residents MB reported that they are requesting a boundary fence that will provide privacy & security. MB has received quotes for fencing, which will be considered by the finance committee and any recommendations will be considered at the next PC meeting. Works need to commence as soon as possible due to restrictions imposed by the nesting season.
MB proposed to remove the existing dead hedgerow along the western boundary of the Memorial Playing Fields prior to nesting season.
NM seconded, and all agreed.
- 198/12/21.5 Clerk to check legislation ref the draft CCTV policy
Outstanding. **Action: Clerk**
- 198/12/21.6 Clerk to draft a Freedom of Information Act policy
Outstanding. **Action: Clerk**
- 198/12/21.7 AM to instruct solicitors to re commence the necessary work to take the project forward.
Complete.
- 199/12/21 Asst Clerk to gain clarification re application number 17/02676/TREE
Complete.
It was asked that dates for completion be kept and added to, rather than removing, to see a trail of how long things are taking to be completed.

- 10/01/22 To receive and consider recommendations from the following committee meetings**
- 10/01/22.1 Finance held on the 12th of January.
AM drew attention to item 5, the improvement needed to footpath 24 leading into Hinchingsbrooke Park. It was agreed in principle that the Parish Council would offer £10k towards the works. James Stringer, footpaths officer at the County Council, would also be putting money forward for the works.
Item 9, the £65 outstanding invoice was accepted to be written off.
Item 12, a ceiling mounted projector for the Community Room at the Memorial Centre quote was put forward by JC and accepted. MS asked whether we would need to advise our insurers, JMB said that we would.
JC proposed acceptance, NM seconded and all agreed.
- 11/01/22 Parish Council Matters**
- 11/01/22.1 A suggestion was put forward that a working party be formed to plan celebrations for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee. MB & JC agreed to form the party. JMB said an advert had been placed in the Brampton Magazine for a piper to play at the lighting of the beacon ceremony. MB said The Black Bull were having a piper next week and he would enquire of their availability.
Action: MB
- 11/01/22.2 Land valuation is with Brown & Co who will be organizing to come and value.
- 11/01/22.3 To adopt the Freedom of Information policy
AM proposed adoption of the policy, NM seconded and all agreed.
- 11/01/22.4 To adopt the Abusive, Unreasonable and Vexatious Complaints policy
AM proposed adoption of the policy, JC seconded, 1 councillor abstained, 10 councillors agreed therefore the proposal was carried.
- 10/01/22.5 Ton consider the Parish Council's ongoing policy regarding the making of donations to reputable charities.
JMB advised that the Council used to donate to larger organisations, such as Citizen's Advice, but in more recent years to local, Brampton-based charities. JRC raised personal feeling that it's odd for councillors to choose where public money is spent.
JMB advised that councillors were elected to be in this position.
JRC said that councillors are elected to look after facilities etc but perhaps not to decide how public money is spent. Should the council not split money equally between any chosen charities?
It was proposed that the council proceed as they have been, donating to local and Brampton-based charities. AM proposed, MF seconded, 1 councillor was against, 1 abstained, with remaining 10 councillors agreeing.
- 12/01/22 Planning – Monthly Report**
Circulated prior to the meeting. NM led the meeting through the report page by page. It was agreed to remove applications that have now been removed, refused, or withdrawn, as well as agreed. No further questions. MB proposed acceptance, JC seconded this, all agreed.
- 13/01/22 Parish Communications**
- 13/01/22.1 Brampton Magazine
- 13/01/22.2 Facebook Page
- 13/01/22.3 Website
- All the above are working well with nothing in particular to report.
- 14/01/22 Representatives Reports**
None received.

15/01/22 Correspondence Received

- 15/01/22.1 To consider signing up to the Armed Forces Covenant.
JMB advised the village has a long history with the Armed Forces.
JC proposed acceptance, AM seconded, 1 councillor objected, 3 abstained, 8 councillors voted to accept.
- 15.01.22.2 Public consultation – Cambridgeshire Flood Risk Management Strategy
JMB advised that as previously discussed, Brampton Parish Council take care of the first few hours offering immediate response which includes opening up the centres for shelter, offering tea & coffee etc, Huntingdon District Council (HDC) take over from there & coordinate. HDC store sand and bags, organise to deliver and where best to drop off. It must be noted that homeowners are responsible for obtaining sandbags to protect their properties.
It is proposed to keep the policy as it stands, the Parish Council to look after the immediate few hours and then HDC takeover. JC proposed, AM seconded, all agreed.

16/01/22 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.

To discuss The Lady Olivia Centre and the possibility of 'soft' opening ahead of the proposed 1st of June planned opening date.

To discuss the remaining funding to be allocated to the Bramshed.

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.

17/01/22 Confidential Matters

A brief meeting of the Personnel Working Group had taken place on the 17th of January where routine staffing matters were discussed.

The meeting was closed at 8.55pm.

Signed:
Chairman

Date: