

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



**Minutes of the Brampton Parish Council meeting  
held at The Memorial Centre, Thrapston Road,  
at 7.30 pm on Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> September 2022.**

**Present:** Mike Shellens, Chairman, Jon Chitty, (JC), John Childs (JRC), Margaret Footner (MF), Alan Mellor (AM), Roger Page (RP), Liz Ruston (LR), Ronald Stevenson, (RS).

**In Attendance:** Dave Shaw, District Councillor, Peter Menczer Village Hub, Maxwell Robert applicant for Parish councillor position, Tess Rogers Parish Clerk.

**126/09/22 Chairman's Opening Remarks**

Mike Shellens was chairing the meeting in Mike Bainbridge's absence. Mike welcomed attendees to the meeting thanking all for attending.

**127/09/22 To Receive Apologies for Absence**

Mike Bainbridge convalescing, Malcolm Beswick, convalescing, Catriona French, unwell, Nigel Maggs annual leave, Natasha Pope, annual leave, Patricia Jordon, Ken Billington.

**128/09/22 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 declared.

**129/09/22 Village Hub**

Peter Menczer reported on the success of the Village Hub, thanking the Parish Council and the many volunteers involved for their support, without which the Hub would cease to function.

The owner of The Dragoon public house had recently donated a sum of money to the Hub.

The Hub receives referrals from several different organisations.

129/09/22.1 Peter then put forward a proposal for the introduction of an Information /Help Centre under the management of the Hub and Brampton Community Library. The proposal had been circulated to Councillors prior to the meeting and involves removing the stage in the Community Centre and installing a transparent pod for private consultations.

Members agreed to the removal of the stage, however the floor beneath it will need to be checked for safety. The transparent pod was questioned, and MS asked if the meeting room might be used. Peter replied that this would then require two additional helpers along with current library staff who would be present whilst the information centre was open. JRC suggested that the kitchen might be redesigned to house a private consultation space. It was agreed that this would be deferred to the Village Facilities to discuss.

**Action: VF**

**130/09/22 Youth Matters & Funding**

- 130/09/22.1 Peter Menczer reported that free skateboarding lessons are currently on offer, being sponsored from elsewhere. If participants attend at least six out of the eight sessions, they will receive free kit.
- 130/09/22.2 The youth club commenced on the 26<sup>th</sup> of September, and it is anticipated that the number of attendees will grow as time goes by.
- 130/09/22.3 The surgery is seeing more young patients presenting with mental health issues and there are currently not enough resources available. Huntingdon District Council has received £250K to help with health-related resources.

**131/09/22 District Council Report**

Dave Shaw had circulated his written report (attached to these minutes) prior to the meeting. A discussion was held regarding the cancellation of certain bus services and how this will affect a number of residents reliant upon the services. The Local Authority have put the axed routes out to tender with further decisions to be by the 31<sup>st</sup> of October. MS said if it is a question of money to keep these services running then perhaps this can be looked at by the Parish Council.

Dave Shaw and Peter Menczer left the meeting at 8 pm.

**132/09/22 County Councillor Report**

Ken Billington was absent from the meeting and had not forwarded a written report.

**133/09/22 To Approve the Minutes of the Meeting held on the 27<sup>th</sup> of July 2022.**

MF proposed to accept the minutes as being a true record of the meeting. RS seconded, all agreed.

**134/09/22 To Receive an Update about the Progress of Resolutions from the last Meeting.**

- 134/09/22.1 116/07/22.1 JMB to liaise with Laura Hampshire at HE re outstanding issues relating to new bridleways and footpaths – outstanding.
- 134/09/22.2 116/07/22.2 JMB to write to Highways England regarding the unfinished footpath from West End to the A14 – outstanding.
- 134/09/22.3 To consider the quotes received for new doors and windows at the Community Centre  
The original quote received had received cost approval. However, 2 further quotes are required for comparison purposes. – outstanding

134/09/22.4 KB to raise concerns of parking and speeding on RAF Brampton – outstanding  
All other actions had been resolved.

**135/09/22 To receive and consider recommendations from the following committee meetings.**

- 135/09/22.1 Churchyard & Cemetery held on the 1<sup>st</sup> of August  
135/09/22.1.1 Since the meeting was held two quotes had been received from Richardsons Tree Works regarding items covered under items 10.1 to 10.10 of the minutes. These quotes were brought to this full council meeting to avoid a delay in the works being completed. It was agreed to accept the quote of £1090.00 plus VAT.
- 135/09/22.2 RP offered to assist with compiling a document identifying the location of graves to assist visitors to the churchyard looking to locate a specific grave(s).
- 135/09/22.1.2 LR then proposed acceptance of the minutes including all recommendations included within, seconded by RP, all agreed
- 135/09/22.2 Village Facilities held on the 5<sup>th</sup> of September.  
135/09/22.2.1 JC proposed acceptance of the minutes including all recommendations within, LR seconded, all agreed.

**136/09/22 Parish Council Matters**

- 136/09/22.1 To consider an application received for the vacancy of Parish Councillor. MS called for this item to be taken immediately following 131/09/22 and all agreed. Maxwell Roberts was asked to leave the meeting whilst his application was discussed. All agreed there was no reason for the application to be rejected and that Maxwell would be a useful addition to the Parish Council. He was recalled into the meeting and signed the Acceptance of Office form whereby he joined the Councillors at the table. He will bring his completed Declaration of Pecuniary Interests form into the office within the next week.
- 136/09/22.2 To Pass a Resolution to Sign up to the National Civility and Respect Pledge Statement through NALC & the SLCC Definition of Civility and Respect - Civility means politeness and courtesy in behaviour, speech, and in the written word. Examples of ways in which you can show respect are by listening and paying attention to others, having consideration for others.  
It was unanimously agreed to sign the statement.
- 136/09/22.3 Discussion to consider the decision taken by Stagecoach to discontinue the number 66 bus route, to be replaced by the Ting system.  
As per the District Councillor report at 131/09/22. In addition, the tender process for the take-over of the axed bus services is to end on the 6<sup>th</sup> of October following which there may be a small gap in services. Decisions are to be made by the 31<sup>st</sup> of October. The matter will be discussed further at the October Parish Council meeting.
- 136/09/22.3.1 AM suggested to advertise the ABRAMS scheme to aid people needing assistance to attend medical appointments.
- 136/09/22.4 Retrospective approval required for the quote received from Argenta Tree Surveys to undertake a full assessment of all the trees for which the Parish Council has responsibility.

A quote for £907.29 had been received. This was considered reasonable, and it was agreed by all to proceed.

136/09/22.5 To agree to a quotation received for necessary tree works in the churchyard.

As at item 135/09/22.1.1

136/09/22.6 Agreed in principle at the January meeting to provide £10K towards the improvement of footpath 24. To agree this now, in full.

Ex councillor Simon Jordan had asked for this item to be discussed once again as the County Council is putting forward funding. JC proposed that the agreement in principle be made firm as it would appear churlish to back down on the previous decision. This was agreed by all but one Councillor. Therefore, the proposal was accepted.

136/09/22.7 To consider purchasing a commemorative bench for our late Queen Elizabeth II.

Deferred to the next Greens & footpaths meeting.

**Action: G&F**

136/09/22.8 Bike/Scooter marking scheme

The proposal to take this project forward had been made by Councillor Mike Bainbridge therefore it was decided to defer this to the next meeting when it is hoped Mike will be present.

136/09/22.9 Arrangements for the Remembrance Day Parade.

The local branch of the Royal British Legion are handling the arrangements for the event. However, the Parish Council has to insure it. Another meeting is required to firm up the arrangements. The Clerk will contact those involved to agree a date.

**Action: Clerk**

136/09/22.10 Bank Balance as at 31.08.22

MF had requested this to be available at each Parish Council meeting although it is always shown within the minutes of the Finance meeting. The balance was noted.

**137/09/22 The Lady Olivia Centre**

**138/09/22 Planning – Report 28.08.22 to 28.09.22**

The report had been circulated prior to the meeting. However, Nigel Maggs wasn't present to explain any movements included in the report. He will be asked to highlight any controversial issues.

138/09/22.1 AM suggested that The Dragoon Public House be registered as an Asset of Community Value which was agreed by all.

**Action: Clerk**

**139/09/22 Parish Communications**

Website, Facebook page and Brampton Magazine all running smoothly with no issues to be reported at this time.

**140/09/22 Representatives Reports**

140/09/22.1 Roger Page offered the following report on behalf of the Speedwatch Group:

*The equipment has now been serviced by the manufacturer with a new battery.*

*Since getting the equipment back in August the group carried out checks outside Frosts in Buckden road and checked 294 vehicles. 6 were recorded at speeds between 36 and 41 M.P.H around 2%*

*Many more were braking hard having seen the high vis-jackets and sign.*

*Mike (Bainbridge and I toured the village to identify locations for the speed detection monitors purchased by the Council in 2019 and never deployed, with the help of Tess, we have located the batteries and charger and I will charge them and hope they hold the charge.*

*The locations of lamp posts need to be in a situation that will allow the equipment to be fitted and not overhang the highway or properties. Making sure they are away from any fences and walls which could provide 'would-be' vandals an opportunity to wilfully damage them.*

***The locations are in:***

*High Street x 2 (23 and 106)*

*West End (23)*

*Miller Way x 2 (70 and 21)*

*Buckden Rd x 2 Opposite Frosts and 19*

*Huntingdon Road (40)*

*Church Rd (Opposite the Black Bull)*

*Tess is applying for permission to erect the signs on the lamp posts.*

*The intention is to move them around the village to provide the largest amount of coverage.*

*If anyone feels any other locations need including, please let me know so we can assess a suitable position if possible. We can then hopefully provide information on each location and any areas above the mean average (Hot Spots) these can then be highlighted to Cambridgeshire Police.*

**Action: Clerk**

**141/09/22 Correspondence Received**

141/09/22.1 Flood resilience Day 01.10.22 – Report from Flood Forum

LR reported that she and MS had recently attended a flood forum. There had been severe flooding at Alconbury and Alconbury Weston in 2019/20. The two villages formed a flood group and put into place various actions. For example, the water that flowed through these villages originated as far back as Leighton Bromswold and balancing ponds are being put in place in order to slow the flow to Alconbury. Also, the flood group are voluntarily maintaining the local water courses with equipment obtained through a grant. FLOOD RE is a company that offer insurance to vulnerable homes and help advise on protecting homes.

Following the bad flooding in Brampton at Christmas 2020 LR questioned if Brampton should form a flood group. JC said the Parish Council was only responsible at the third level therefore to provide shelter, in the first instance, to anyone who is flooded out.

141/09/22.2 Option to opt out of the SAAA central external auditor appointment arrangements.

A communication had been received from the Smaller Authorities Audit Appointment body advising of the option to opt out of the next round of 5-year audit appointments. It was agreed, without exception, that Brampton Parish Council would not be opting out.

### **142/09/22 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.*

142/09/22.1 AM requested to consider the closure of the car park project behind the shops on the High Street, until such time as things change.

142/09/22.2 Agenda for the Project Spend Working Group.

142/09/22.3 When will the District Authority return to clear the drains?

### **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.

### **143/09/22 Confidential Matters**

143/09/22. MS commenced a discussion that, in light of the current economic crisis, the provision of 'warm spaces' may be needed during extreme weather conditions in the Winter. A working group will be set up to discuss this in greater depth.

**Action: JMB/JC/MS**

The meeting was closed at 9.25pm

Signed:  
Chairman

Date: