

# BRAMPTON PARISH COUNCIL

CHAIRMAN: John Michael Bainbridge



Minutes of the meeting of the **Finance Committee meeting** held on  
**Wed 9<sup>th</sup> of February 2022 at 7.00pm**  
at the Memorial Centre, Thrapston Road, Brampton.

**Present:** Alan Mellor, Chairman, (AM), Mike Bainbridge (JMB), John Chitty (JC), Nigel Maggs (NM), Mike Shellens (MS), Malcolm Beswick (MB).

**In Attendance:** Tess Rogers, Clerk (via TEAMS), Malcolm Beswick, Councillor (MB).

**1. To receive apologies.**

None

**2. Declarations of Interest.**

None

**3. To discuss the fencing requirements and quotes for the boundary of the Memorial Playing Field with Garner Close.**

3.1 MB was present at the meeting to discuss two quotes which he'd received, although both were from one company. Following a discussion, he was asked, as was protocol, to find another quotation. MB said he would approach the company, Panadine, for an alternative quote as a comparison. These will then be taken to the main Parish Council meeting on the 16<sup>th</sup> of February for a decision.

**Action: MB**

3.2 A discussion followed regarding how the work, to remove the current hedging and to put in the new fencing would be done. The Clerk thought she could remember receiving a quotation for clearing the boundary hedging from a company contracted to remove some trees from the same boundary line in 2020. She was asked to contact the company for an updated quotation.

**Action: Clerk**

Approval in principle was agreed by all present to allow for the groundwork (hedge removal) in order that this could be planned to occur before the deadline date imposed by the Bird Nesting Season start date.

A rough calculation of how much the project would cost was averaged at £5k. NM proposed to recommend this figure to the Parish Council, again, in principle. JC seconded the proposal, and all agreed. MB said the clearing of the hedgerow needed to be completed by the 28<sup>th</sup> of February to avoid the nesting season and recommended that the fencing be erected as soon as the hedgerow was removed, to ensure the privacy of the residents of Garner Close. He said that the lead time from the company, already having quoted, could fulfil this deadline. If the Parish Council's usual contract groundsman undertook the work of clearing the boundary line, then that would also be completed in time.

The Clerk was asked to suggest to the occupants of the property whose garden runs in parallel to the boundary line, that the work would be commenced and completed by the 28<sup>th</sup> of February. It is MB's intention to meet with these neighbours before the work commences.

**Action: Clerk/MB**

**4. To discuss the purchase of a new photocopier for Memorial Centre office.**

The service contract on the current machine is due to finish at the end of February. The lease agreement was completed at the beginning of 2021. The machine is now old and not working very well. Two quotes for a new machine have been received. These were discussed. JC proposed

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the outright purchase of the Kyocera copier from Automated Services Ltd. To purchase the machine outright would save the Parish Council a considerable amount of money. NM seconded the proposal, and all agreed. A service contract will be taken out, the Clerk was asked to confirm the length of such a contract and if there is any assistance with disposing of the old machine.

**Action: Clerk**

MS left the meeting at 7.25 pm.

## **5. To discuss the requirements and quote for the drainage works at the Brampton Park Allotments**

The Clerk reported a telephone conversation on the morning of this meeting with the contractor A&A Lammie, specialists in drainage work who will attend the site on the 23<sup>rd</sup> of February to offer advice and provide a quotation for any works deemed necessary. One quotation has already been received. The provider of this quote will be asked to provide a sketch of how the work would be undertaken.

MB asked why this work is falling to the Parish Council, JMB replied that the allotment site had been accepted from the developers by Huntingdon District Council (HDC) and the Parish Council accepted the site from HDC being unaware of the drainage issues covering 3 of the allotments. JMB said the main concern is getting the work done in good time as the allotment holders are wishing to get on with planting up for the coming season.

The allotments committee will consider the outcome of the drainage company's visit and will make further recommendations to the Parish Council.

The meeting was closed at 7.35pm.

Signed:  
Chairman

Dated:

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