



**Minutes of the Brampton Parish Council Meeting
Held Virtually by Means of the Microsoft TEAMS Platform
on the 17 March 2021 at 7.00pm**

- Present** Jon Chitty, Chairman (JC), Nigel Maggs, Vice Chair, (NM), Mike Shellens, Vice Chair (MS), Mike Bainbridge (JMB), Malcolm Beswick (MB), John Childs (JRC), Charlotte Clayton (CC), Mike Dunn (MD), Margaret Footner (MF), Linda Hicks (LH), Simon Jordan (SJ), Alan Mellor (AM), Liz Ruston (LR).
- In Attendance** Peter Downes County Councillor (PD), Patricia Jordan District Councillor (PJ), John Morris District Councillor (JM), Tess Rogers Parish Clerk (TR), Debbie Steel Assistant Clerk (DS).
- 35/03/21 Chairman's Opening Remarks**
None
- 36/03/21 To Receive Apologies for Absence**
None
- 37/03/21 To Receive Declarations of Interest**
LH & LR Greens & Footpaths
NM Allotments
- 38/03/21 Village Hub – Update on the Mens' Shed Project**
The project has just received planning permission. The shed will be secure, when not in use, with appropriate locks on doors and windows: and will be insured. It will not be linked into the security system at the Memorial Centre. Once the Parish Council installs a more efficient CCTV system a camera will be installed to ensure constant coverage of the shed at all times.
- 39/03/21 District Council Report**
JM summarised his report circulated prior to this meeting and attached to these minutes. MF then mentioned that homeless people are sleeping in the doorway near to the café opposite Burtons in Huntingdon. JM is aware and replied that the District Council is looking into finding more permanent accommodation for the homeless but there are some that don't want it. They have found a way of life living on the streets and don't want this to change.
- 40/03/21 County Councillor Report.**
PD was not present at this point but joined the meeting later. JC summarised the report circulated prior to the meeting and attached to these minutes. When PD managed to join the meeting unfortunately his connection was bad and he was incoherent so asked that any

questions be directed to him after the meeting. As PD is not standing for re election in the May elections the Parish Council wished for a formal vote of thanks to be recorded for all he has done for the village during his time as the County Councillor representing Brampton.

- 41/03/21 To Approve the Minutes of the meeting held on the 17 Feb 2021
It was resolved to accept the minutes as being a true record of the meeting. NM proposed, JMB 2nd. All were in agreement.
- 42/03/21 To receive an update about the progress of resolutions from the last meeting.**
- 42/03/21.1 24/02/21 To create a causeway in place of footpath 24 - remains outstanding until the ease of Covid restrictions.
- 42/03/21.2 24/02/21.3 Provision of new CCTV - remains outstanding until the ease of Covid restrictions allows for meetings on site, to take place.
- 42/03/21.3 Footpath at Hansells Way. Planning application refused therefore it was agreed, at the recent Greens & Footpaths meeting, to complete the footpath with a hardcore finish. It is not known who owns the piece of land upon which the unfinished area of the footpath lies.
- 42/03/21.4 24/02/21.5 Purchase of a defibrillator for the Lady Olivia Centre – The Clerk advised that the price being offered by the London Hearts charity is very competitive. It was agreed for this item to be dealt with at the next meeting of the Village Facilities committee. **ACTION VF**
- 42/03/21.5 Land East of Silver Street. NM advised that comments are being made regarding a planning application and he will report back at the next meeting. **ACTION NM**
- 42/03/21.6 Hidden milestone at the entrance of the disused Brampton waste disposal site. Remains outstanding until the ease of the Covid restrictions but there is a concern that nothing will be done now that the A14 team have left site.
All other action points have received the appropriate action or are covered further down in these minutes.
- 43/03/21 To accept the minutes of the following:**
- 43/03/21.1 Allotments Meeting held on the 24.02.21 – JMB said the meeting was held, in the main, to discuss the arrangements for the new allotments on Brampton Park. Unfortunately, since the meeting, a leak had occurred in a water pipe near the allotments and during the repair water had been diverted onto the allotments thus causing them to be water logged and therefore unusable, until the ground has dried out. This has affected the early transfer of the allotments to the Parish Council and it is unknown at this stage when they will be fit for use. Andy Girvan of Campbell Buchanan is investigating a solution and will keep the Clerk informed.
A decision has yet to be made regarding any visual division of the allotments other than the concrete posts already in place.
MF proposed acceptance of the minutes, CC seconded, all were in agreement.
- 43/03/21.2 Greens & Footpaths meeting held on the 103.21 – NM summarised the minutes. MF pointed out at para 5.1, the tree on Green Lane, – it is

Layton Crescent not Leyton Crescent, the Clerk will correct this.

ACTION: CLERK

As the previous chair of the Greens & Footpaths committee had resigned SJ said that he would put himself forward at the next meeting. MB proposed acceptance of the minutes SJ seconded, all were in agreement.

43/03/21.3 Village Facilities extra ordinary meeting held on 10.03.21 - JRC summarised the meeting which was held, in the main, to discuss the arrangements regarding the Lady Olivia Centre once it is transferred to the Parish Council.

There are two recommendations being made to the Parish Council. These being to accept the quotes forwarded for a) the replacement of the two boilers in the Memorial Centre. These have been switched off, following a maintenance visit, as they are unsafe and 2) The reflooring of the foyer and office at the Memorial Centre. The recommendations were set down in the minutes. It also makes sound sense to redecorate the office at this time as it will need clearing for the new flooring to go down.

LR asked that the spelling of her name on the minutes be corrected.

ACTION: CLERK

AM proposed acceptance of the minutes, NM seconded, all were in agreement.

44/03/21 Parish Council Matters.

44/03/21.1 To review the Media Policy

JC said that he and the Clerk had reviewed the policy and were asking for this to be accepted by the Parish Council. JMB proposed this, MD seconded and all were in agreement.

44/03/21.2 To review the Emergency Response Plan. Changes need to be made to the contact for the internal electrics and heating and plumbing. SJ pointed out that the contact number for external electrics is now 105. A question arose as to whether the plan should provide for cover of the care home on Brampton Park and if the Lady Olivia Centre should be incorporated as being an Emergency Rest Centre. It was agreed for the Village Facilities to consider these issues and make any necessary additions to the plan where necessary.

ACTION: VF

44/03/21.3 Update on the shop car park extension.

AM reported that the solicitor was having difficulty in contacting the shop owners to confirm the change to the lease agreement is what they wish to happen. The owner of the chemist is asking who will be responsible for the maintenance of the car park if the work is done? The Parish Council agreed that the extension would provide additional parking which will increase the number of customers to the shops. In addition, it will be much more aesthetically pleasing than that already in place. This is all to the benefit of the shop owners therefore they should, as now, be responsible for the maintenance. The Clerk will relay this response to the shop owner.

ACTION: CLERK

44/03/21.4 To receive an update from the recent meeting held with the Neighbourhood Sergeant (DC) on the 12.03.21. Attended by MS and

the Clerk. The Clerk reported that discussions had covered the recent use of the skatepark prior to it being formally opened and the fencing still in place with signs advising that the park is not yet ready for use. Regardless of the Parish Council having employed security and the police calling by when passing, youths and adults are removing the fencing to gain access. There appears little that can be done.

DC reported that once the school reopens patrols would visit to check on any illegal parking and the correct use of the one way system. Once the shops reopened foot patrols will take place along the High Street. The Clerk expressed concerns about ASB on the playing field during the coming Summer months also suspicious comings and goings of certain cars in the car park which may be pointing towards drug use. DC said any such suspicions should be reported to the police as soon as they occur. MS said that 30% of drivers are ignoring the speed limits in the village and he will, once the weather improves, take his speed gun and undertake further checks.

The next meeting will take place at 1 pm on Thursday 15 April 21.

44/03/21.5 To clarify procedure for the repair to the church wall to include responsibility for cost and acceptance of a quote for the repair. It had been clarified that the wall had been in place for some time before the cottages were built, therefore would belong to the church. In turn the Parish Council is now responsible as it assumed responsibility for the closed churchyard. 2 quotes have been received for the rebuild of the wall. It was agreed that a List B permission would be sought from the Diocese before the rebuild takes place. **ACTION: CLERK**

44/03/21.6 To consider setting up a working group to consider the Parish Council's Carbon Footprint/Climate Change.

It was agreed to defer this for six months.

44/03/21.7 To discuss arrangements for the Annual Parish Meeting.

The meeting is scheduled to be held virtually and immediately before the April meeting of the Parish Council. This being the 21 April 2021. Committee Chairs should submit their annual reports to the Clerk no later than the 7th April. It was agreed that the meeting should be held using the Zoom facility rather than TEAMS. The next committee meeting due to be held before the 21 April will trial the Zoom facility.

45/03/21 The Lady Olivia Centre

45/03/21.1 Update on the Land Transfers –As per 43/03/21.1, unfortunately the early transfer of the allotments has been delayed. The Clerk reported that, as was her understanding, the transfer of the community building itself was now purely dependent upon the signature block on the document being completed and she will check the current position with the solicitor. **ACTION: CLERK**

45/03/21.2 To consider the early transfer of the allotments
As above.

46/03/21.3 Planning – Monthly Report

NM led the meeting through the report page by page asking for any questions on each. He reported that there had been fifteen applications, three decisions, two accepted and one refused.

MF said that there had been decking placed in front of The Willows café, had planning permission been received? DS said she will query this with the planning office. **ACTION: DS**

MF proposed acceptance of the report. MD seconded, all were in agreement.

47/03/21. A1/A14 Scheme

47/03/21.1 Noise Survey Required – SJ had previously highlighted the noise coming from the surface of the new road. JC had contacted Highways England to ask if the noise had been assessed and received a reply that this would be done following a year of the scheme having been fully opened to traffic. SJ asked if any sound barriers had been considered or could be installed. JC said he would write again asking this question. **ACTION: JC**

(Post meeting note: JC has further reviews the Highways England report contained in the reply and determined that all noise mitigation measures had been assessed – all Councillors advised by email: no further action necessary).

47/03/21.2 Litter Pick – further equipment required? – The litter pick is to take place on the 25th April. The Parish Council has purchased a further three litter pickers. In addition, the District Council has been asked to provide a further twenty packs of litter picking equipment. JC asked the Clerk to order some heavy duty black bags, tabbards, protective glasses and gloves. **ACTION: CLERK**

48/03/21 Parish Communications

48/03/21.1 It was agreed to commence the publishing of the Brampton Magazine in May. This will be the June issue.

At this point JC called an extension to the meeting having run for two hours, all agreed.

48/03/21.2 Website – JC said this is working well. There will be a requirement for someone to volunteer to take this over.

48/03/21.3 Face Book – JC said that he has removed himself from the Village Friends Facebook pages. JMB continues to update the Parish Council page.

49/03/21 Representatives Report

49/03/21.1 MB reported that he had attended the Cricket club's Annual General meeting. The football and cricket club's fixtures for the 2021 season shouldn't clash.

50/03/21 Correspondence Received

50/03/21.1 Circus Visit 13th to 20th June 2021 – the circus had requested to set up on The Green for this week. Concern was raised that the Covid restrictions wouldn't have been completely lifted by this time. The meeting was reminded that the circus had visited in 2020 when certain restrictions had been in place and they had acted professionally with regard to the rulings in place at that time. It was resolved to allow the visit to go ahead.

50/03/21.2 Great Ouse Valley Trust – Chairman's Report.

Noted.

51/03/21.3 To accept notices and matters for the next meeting

51/03/21.4 JMB asked if a footpath could be put in at the speed ramp near Bernard Road and The Green. NM suggested that the dragon's teeth be re instated along this area and near The Hare on the Green. The County Council will be approached and this issue discussed at the next meeting.

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.

52/03/21 Extension to the Cemetery – Additional

A discussion was held and it was resolved to accept the generous offer made by the land owner of the area of land to the left of the current cemetery. The Parish Council will bear the legal costs involved in transferring the land.

53/03/22 To receive a report from the Personnel Working Group

MD had previously circulated his report which was accepted. He said this would be his last report as he would be resigning from the Parish Council as he was moving away. Everyone wished him well and JC, as at the February meeting, once again thanked him for all his work since joining the Council.

The meeting was closed at 9.10 pm.

Signed:
Chairman

Date: