**Broughton Parish Council**

Minutes of the meeting of Broughton Parish Council was held at Little Broughton Village Hall on Tuesday 21st February 2017 at 19:00.

Present: Cllr Sue Hannah (In the Chair), Cllr Steve Hannah, Cllr S Anderson, Cllr R Gildert, Cllr M Weir, Cllr A Carruthers, Cllr J Wilson, Cllr M Bradley

In Attendance: B Carter (Clerk), C/Cllr A Clarke, 3 members of the public.

**23/17 Apologies for absence**

**Resolved** that apologies be noted from; Cllr J Sewell, Cllr R Mawdsley, PCSO C Parker, A/BC Cllr N Cockburn, A/BC Cllr J Farebrother.

**24/17 Chairman’s Announcements**

*Soddy Gap*

Cllr Sue Hannah updated the meeting on the on-going progress regarding the Soddy Gap Public Right of Way (PROW) Application. Research has been commenced by Cllr Sue Hannah at the Carlisle Archives Centre to try and locate suitable evidence to demonstrate that the Rights of Way (RoW) in question were in existence prior to the Open Cast Quarrying on the site and hadn’t been captured by the Definitive Rights of Way process.

The history of the Soddy Gap site appears to be that it was originally forestry or rough grass land/common access land. Following the Enclosure Acts the area was sub-divided. Within the boundaries of the area there were 2/3 public access (non commercial) quarries where villagers could obtain stone for private projects, there was also a public access watering hole/pond.

The origins of the RoW in question appear to be that they were occupation roads used to access the field parcels after the Enclosure Acts. Though at this stage the ‘smoking gun’ hasn’t been located stating that the RoW in question were registered as PROW.

Cllr Sue Hannah agreed she would continue her research at the Archives Centre & by contacting the Forestry Commission for help/guidance on any information they may retain on the site.

It was noted by the meeting that more evidence forms had been received, including a written statement from Ms P Harkness regarding the route her Uncle used to take to Bertha Pit.

**Action: Cllr Sue Hannah to continue work on this matter.**

*Cumbria Community Foundation Play-area Drainage Grant*

**Resolved** that it be noted that Cllr Sue Hannah’s application to CCF on behalf of Broughton Parish Council has been successful in obtaining grant funding for the installation of drainage within the Children’s Play-area on Welfare field.

**25/17 Requests for dispensations & declarations of interest**

None

**26/17 Approval of the Minutes of the meeting held on 24th January 2017**

**Resolved** by all present that these minutes be accepted as a true and accurate record and be signed as such by Cllr Sue Hannnah in her role as Chair (proposed Cllr R Gildert, seconded Cllr J Wilson).

**Action: Clerk to circulate minutes to all and upload them to the website.**

**27/17 Public Participation**

3 members of the public were present and offered the opportunity to speak by Cllr Sue Hannah in her role as Chair, two issues were raised by those present:

Planning Application Ref 2/2017/0009 (Scout Hut)- Serious concerns raised by member of the public regarding the potential parking/access/egress issues that this proposed development would cause. There are already problems in the Coldgill area on Scout meeting nights due to the volume of traffic/inconsiderate parking by Scout attendees, resulting in accesses being blocked (especially the one way exit from the rear of the properties). **Resolved** that these concerns be received by Councillors.

Future Planning for Allotment Management. Queries were raised regarding the Councils reactiveness relating to the future management/maintenance on the Allotment Sites, and the lack of an allotment committee/club with reference to the large amounts of capital expenditure that has been required this year.

Cllr Sue Hannah confirmed for the benefit of the member of the public that the Council were attempting to get to a position of being able to forward plan and accrue appropriate reserves to undertake necessary repairs but the Council are in the position of trying to resolve historic issues e.g. Asbestos disposal that has to be undertake by a registered and qualified contractor. Cllr S Anderson confirmed that the Council do issue termination notices and the Council have terminated in excess of 20 tenancies over the last 3 years. But on occasion people appeal these decisions and this has to be taken into account by the Council. To try and improve the turn-around on these matters the Council are looking to agree a new tenancy which will be more enforceable in the near future.

**Resolved** that the comments made by the member of the public regarding allotment issues be noted as received.

**28/17 Applications for co-option**

None received.

**29/17 Police Report**

**Resolved** that it be noted that the Police Report is still directing Parish Councils to the ‘Crime Map’ website which is currently at least 8 weeks out of date and doesn’t detail all incidents.

**30/17 Update on matters arising from previous meetings**

i)*Broughton Lodge/Soddy Gap.* The Clerk informed the meeting that she had been continuing to work with CCC on the legalities/enforceability of the unilateral agreement relating to this site, and investigations/legal opinions are still on going. CCC have confirmed at this juncture no further information is required from Broughton PC.

**Action: Clerk to continue to work with CCC on this matter.**

It was noted by the meeting that Broughton Parish Council feel that Cumbria County Council Officers have been less than supportive to the Councils application, in terms of guidance provided on evidence required etc. It appears to Broughton Parish Council that the evidential burden has been high and the boundaries have shifted on a number of occasions making it very difficult for Broughton Parish Council to produce the relevant evidence.

Broughton Parish Council are trying to protect this valuable public open access space for the current & future generations, rather than ending up in a situation of having to fight a potentially ‘closed site’ when any new landowner takes possession.

ii)*Cemetery Extension.* As per minute 8/17II the Council continue to feel that the costs & timescales likely to be incurred in this project are prohibitive. The Clerk noted that whilst the land in question is currently ‘allocated’ as a cemetery both in the current and the proposed Allerdale Local Plan Part 2 this confers no obligation/responsibility on anyone (including ABC) to actually create a cemetery.

**Resolved** that the current state of this piece of land is now causing local concern as it is no longer being managed

and is now becoming an eye-sore. The Clerk is to contact Persimmon and ask them to continue the management of this piece of land as part of the environmental land management they undertake out of fees paid by local residents.

**Action: Clerk to contact Persimmon and raise this issue.**

iii) *Emergency Planning-next steps.* **Resolved** that this matter be deferred until the March meeting.

**Action: Clerk to agenda this matter for the March meeting.**

iv) *Heritage Lottery Signposts Project.* Cllr Sue Hannah informed the meeting that an application has been submitted to the Allerdale Area Local Committee for funding to support this project. But further match funding would still be required.

**Resolved** that grant funding continue to be pursued, and if the total is not obtained by April, Cllr M Bradley to look at the preparation and submission of a larger project bid to the Heritage Lottery Foundation.

**Action: Clerk to add this matter to the March Agenda**

**31/17 Clerks Report**

A Clerks report had been received by all councillors in advance of the meeting, **resolved** that this report be noted as received.

*Parish Land Registration*

The Clerk informed the meeting that correspondence had been received from the Land Registry confirming that the notice period had now ended and an objection in part had been received from Lord Egremont relating to the ‘under land’ mineral rights on the site. The legal advice provided by the Councils solicitor is to proceed with the registration for the surface rights whilst recognising Lord Egremont’s caution on the Mineral Rights. **Resolved** to proceed on this basis to enable the possessory title for this area of land to be obtained by the Council.

**Action: Clerk to agenda prioritisation of Land registration for the March meeting.**

**32/17 Playarea**

*Damage to play-area Surface*

Cllr S Anderson informed the meeting that he had met with Mr M Marsden regarding the problems with the surface under the swing. Playdale still feel that the issue is more likely to be vandalism but have agreed to replace the surface for labour costs alone at £300.

**Resolved** that due to the successful grant application for the drainage of the site, that the drainage works take place first as these may alleviate the need for this surface to be raised, and it may just need to be resurfaced.

**Action: Clerk to pursue a final quote from Mr J Elliot to estimate the costs.**

**Action: Clerk to liaise with Playdale on the timescales for this work**

**Resolved** by all present that the Clerk authorise the drainage works by Mr Elliot up to a maximum fee of £2500, if the quote is larger than this the matter to be brought to a future meeting. The Council agreed that where possible Mr Elliot undertake the works as he installed the drainage on the Football pitch which this drainage will link into.

**33/17 Allotments**

1. Allotment Measuring. **Resolved** by all present that this meeting take place on Monday 27th March 2017 at 17:30 on site commencing at the Nook site. Cllrs M Bradley & S Anderson to attend the meeting with the Clerk.

**Action: Clerk to liaise with Mr D Pugh & Cllrs regarding this meeting.**

1. Access Conditions Nook Allotments. **Resolved** by all present the clerk continue to pursue a cheaper/free option using recycled gravel and Mr Grouts offer regarding the collection of the gravel. If no progress is made on this matter by the end of February the Clerk to pursue a quote for these works.

**Action: Clerk to continue to work on this matter.**

1. United Utilities Billing Issues. **Resolved** by all present that the £150 credit note that has been applied to the account by United Utilities for their billing failings.

**Action: Clerk to continue to monitor this matter and ensure that bills continue to arrive in a timely fashion.**

1. Tree Pruning on Nook Plot 1. **Resolved** that it be noted by all present that concern had been raised regarding the pruning of a tree on this site without council permission. Any tree pruning works not on a tenants own allotment (where works would be covered by the relevant section of the tenancy agreement) to be approved by Broughton Parish Council in writing prior to works taking place.

**Action: Clerk to thank the tenant for the letter and update them on the Councils position.**

**Action: Clerk to contact the person that had undertaken the pruning and note the concerns raised and state that all pruning works should only be undertaken with formal written permission from the Council.**

1. Ivy Clearance Nook Plot 1. **Resolved** by all present that Mr M Grout’s offer to clear the Ivy from the wall along the lonnin side of Nook Plot 1 be accepted, and permission granted in writing for this clearance to take place in compliance with the RSPB time periods on nesting bids. It was noted by the meeting that clearance of this ivy may result in repair works being required on this wall.

**Action: Clerk to write to Mr M Grout to authorise these works in compliance with the RSPB guidance.**

**34/17 Parish Maintenance**

1. Gates at Welfare Field- **Resolved** that it be noted that no response has been received from the contractor regarding the sub-standard works on the pedestrian gates on the Welfare Field Play-area, and as such the invoice has not been paid. It was agreed the Clerk should write to the contractor again re-iterating these points and asking for the sub-standard areas of work to be fixed by the 20th March 2017, if no response is received by this date the gates will become the property of the council to repair in an appropriate manner.

**Action: Clerk to prepare and send such a letter**

**Action: Clerk to consider obtaining quotes from local colleages/Gen2 for repair works if no response is received from the original contractor.**

1. Grass Cutting Meeting date. **Resolved** that a meeting be organised with the grass cutting contractor on the 8th March at 17:30 meeting at the fingerpost on the Bridge/Papcastle junction to discuss the concerns prior to the season commencement.

**Action: Clerk to liaise with the contractor & cllrs Sue Hannah, M Bradley & S Anderson regarding this meeting.**

**35/17 Highways Matters**

1. Broughton Bridge Road Closure- **Resolved** by all present that the update from the Clerk be noted as received. Stating that Northern Gas will be off site by Friday 24th March, the re-surfacing works will then need to be completed by the CCC.

**Action: Clerk to continue to liaise with the CCC regarding the timescales/dates for this work to be completed and keep all councillors & residents up to date.**

1. Road Sweeping- **Resolved** that the Clerk request that Allerdale Borough Council sweep both Craggs Road & Papcastle Road once the Bridge is reopened to remove the mud/damage from the road that has occurred during the diversion being in place.

**Action: Clerk to action this.**

**36/17 Correspondence**

Unless otherwise noted below the council **resolved** that no response was necessary.

1. Letter from Brockbanks re land adjacent to Birchlees house. **Resolved** that this letter be noted as received but no progress has been made with the registration of this piece of land due to Land Registry delays.

**Action: Clerk to respond to this letter & continue to prepare documents for first registration.**

1. Letter from Mr Palmer- The Clerk read out a letter received from Mr Palmer raising ongoing concerns regarding the aesthetic appeal of the Coldgill Allotments and the Environmental Health Concerns regarding the asbestos/waste on the site. **Resolved** that the content of the letter be noted as received and a response be sent stating that he be thanked for this letter, and that Environmental Health is the responsibility of Allerdale Borough Council and outwith the remit of Broughton Parish Council so the matter will be left with them.

**Action: Clerk to send a response.**

1. Meeting re Encampment at Linefoot. **Resolved** that it be noted that a multi-agency meeting is being held to discuss this matter w/c 27th February. Cllr Sue Hannah to attend on behalf of the Council.

**Action: Clerk to send response to meeting invitation & agenda this matter for an update at the March meeting.**

**37/17 Planning Applications.**

Ref: 2/2017/2009

Location: Land at Coldgill Avenue, Great Broughton

Proposal: Application for proposed construction of a new Scout Hut.

A lengthy discussion was held regarding this application due to conflicting interests between the fact that the land was sold to the Scouts by Broughton Parish Council & Cumbria County Council in a tripartite transfer for use as a Scout Hut (protected by covenants on the land) and serious and ongoing concern regarding the access/egress/parking issues that this development might create.

In addition it was noted that the access track doesn’t belong to the applicant and that some form of maintenance/upkeep maybe required if the upper part of this track is to be heavily trafficked by parties to the development.

**Resolved** that due to the complex nature of this application a site meeting be requested between Broughton Parish Council, the planning department and a representative of the Highways Department.

**Action: Clerk to organise such a meeting and circulate to all.**

**Action: Members present at the meeting to submit a response to the application via the Clerk following the meeting.**

Ref: 2/2017/0051

Location: Land to rear of Thorndene, Moor Road, Great Broughton

Proposal: Erection of detached dormer bungalow.

**Resolved** by all present that Broughton Parish Council have no objections relating to this proposal.

**Action: Clerk to submit these comments.**

**38/17 Consultations for consideration**

1. ABC Local Plan Part 2 Consultation

The Clerk circulated to all the relevant maps to all Councillors. It was **resolved** by all present that this is an extremely complex consultation with potentially significant impacts for the villages of Great & Little Broughton. To allow time for proper consideration this consultation to be circulated to all via email and all to prepare comments for the March meeting.

**Action: Clerk to circulate to all**

**Action: All to raise any queries with the Clerk ASAP to ensure these are answers to allow a decision to be taken at the March meeting.**

**Action: Clerk to query the status of the ‘blue’ area on the amalgamated map above Rose Farm.**

**Action: Clerk to agenda for the March meeting.**

1. Derwent Forest Great Broughton- Woodland Creation Consultation. **Resolved** by all present that Broughton Parish Council support this proposed woodland creation, and look forward to being further consulted regarding public access/status of public access routes.

**Action: Clerk to submit these comments.**

1. Electoral Review of Allerdale: Draft Recommendations. **Resolved** by all present that this consultation be noted as received, and that the Broughton St Bridgets Ward is being proposed to retain two councillors, with a minor change to its Eastern Boundary to include the more urban area of Papcastle in the Cockermouth Ward. Due to no changes affected the Broughton Parish Council area, no comments to be submitted.

**39/17 Planning Decisions**

None received.

**40/17 Finance & Accounts**

1. *Payment of accounts*

**From Reason Amount**

Becx Carter Expenses £53.87

HMRC PAYE £77.60

National Allotment Association Subscription £66.00

Becx Carter Salary £310.26 (Via SO)

United Utilities Coldgill Water £58.54 (Via DD)

United Utilities Nook Water £523.16 (Via DD)

**Resolved** by all present that the above accounts be paid, these were signed by two signatories Mr J Wilson & Mrs A Carruthers (Proposed by Cllr R Gildert, Seconded by Cllr M Bradley)

1. *Approval of Bank Reconciliation & spend against budget reports.*

**Resolved** by all present that these reports be received as a true and accurate record . Cllr S Hannah signed the Bank Reconcilliation as such.

1. *Request for funding- Punch Bowl*

**Resolved** that whilst the pub is a community run organisation, the building is privately owned and contains flats and other space that would benefit from these works. As such this would be funding a private organisation and would be ineligible.

**Action: Clerk to convey this decision to the applicant.**

1. *Request for funding- Churchyard Maintenance*

**Resolved** that a donation of £114.08 be made to Christchurch for Graveyard maintenance as under S.214 (6) LGA 1972. The amount funded is that which has been evidenced by receipts. If further receipts are provided the Council could consider a further grant.

Cheque signed by Cllr A Carruthers & Cllr M Bradley.

**Action: Clerk to organise the payment of this grant.**

**41/17 Councillor Matters**

None raised

**42/17 Date of next meeting.**

**Resolved** by all present that the next meeting take place on Tuesday 21st March 2017 in Little Broughton Village Hall.

Meeting closed 21:02.

Signed…………………………………………………………………………………………..