**Broughton Parish Council**

Minutes of the meeting of Broughton Parish Council held at Little Broughton Village Hall on Tuesday 17th October 2017 at 19:00.

**Present:** Mrs Mary Bradley (Chair), Mrs Sue Hannah, Mrs J Sewell, Mr Richard Gildert, Mr John Wilson, Mr Sam Anderson, Becx Carter (Clerk)

**Apologies:**

Cllr Steve Hannah, Cllr M Weir, Cllr A Carruthers, A/BC Cllr J Farebrother, C/CC H Graham

The Council was quorate with more than four councillors present. Due to Cllr J Wilson having to leave early matters 187/17 and 189/17 were moved up the agenda to ensure that there were sufficient councillors & signatories present to remain quorate.

**172/17 Apologies for absence**

Apologies were received and noted from the above

**173/17 Chairman’s Announcements**

Cllr M Bradley informed the meeting that she had recently been interviewed by the Times & Star regarding the traffic conditions & traffic speeds within the village. The subsequent article has been published in the Times & Star.

It was noted that Traffic Data Units are currently sited within the Parish at the same locations as they were sited prior to the introduction of the 20mph speed limits to collect data to compare to the original baseline. A request has been submitted to CCC for the siting of additional TDU’s through the village of Little Broughton to evidence the need for an extension to the 20mph speed limit.

**Action: Clerk to continue to work with CCC on the siting of these additional TDU’s.**

Cllr M Bradley informed the meeting that a request for funding had been received from Broughton Children’s Carnival, as the request was received after the papers had been issued for this meeting it will be agenda’d for consideration at the November meeting.

**Action: Clerk to contact the Broughton Children’s Carnival committee to let them know the matter will be considered at the November meeting.**

Cllr M Bradley informed the meeting that she was working on obtaining quotations for the introduction of a hearing loop into the Village Hall, once the quotations are received the matter will be brought back to the Council for consideration of how the Council could help support this.

**Action: Clerk to agenda the matter for the November meeting.**

**174/17 Requests for dispensations and declarations of interest**

None received

**175/17 Minutes of the meeting held on the 19th September 2017**

All members of the council had received a copy of the minutes.

**Resolved** by all present that the minutes be signed as a true and accurate record by the Chair Mrs Mary Bradley.

**Action: Clerk to upload the minutes to the website.**

**176/17 Application for Co-option (2 Vacancies)**

None received

**177/17 Public Participation**

None

**178/17 Police report**

It was noted that the police are proposing new ways of interacting with Parish Councils by holding meetings every 10 weeks to which all Parish Councillors in a PCSO area would be invited to enable all a real time/live flow of information between Parish Councils & the Police.

**Action: Clerk to share the date for the meeting with all Parish Councillors once the meeting is scheduled.**

**Action: Clerk to check with the Police on who should attend such meetings (Parish Councillors/Clerks etc).**

**179/17 Update on matters arising from previous meetings**

1. *Soddy Gap/Broughton Lodge*

It was noted by the meeting that the Soddy Gap Application for registration of the Soddy Gap path as a Bridleway is believed to still be going to the Development Control & Regulation Committee on the 1st November but no formal invitation to speak has been received.

**Resolved** by all present that Cllrs Sue Hannah, Cllr John Wilson, A/BC Cllr N Cockburn attend this meeting to speak in favour of the application on behalf of Broughton Parish Council. Mr Ray Dobie to also attend if he is able.

**Action: Clerk to circulate the papers & invitation to attend as soon as it is received.**

**Action: Cllrs Sue Hannah, Cllr J Wilson & A/BC Cllr N Cockburn to organise a pre DC & R meeting prior to the 1st November 2017.**

1. *Heritage Lottery Signposts Project*

The Clerk informed the meeting that Cumbria County Council have now agreed that a Memorandum of Agreement for the 4 cast iron signposts between CCC & Broughton Parish Council would be the best way forward.

**Action: Clerk to continue to work with CCC to obtain a draft copy of the proposed M of A.**

**Action: Clerk to agenda the matters for the November meeting.**

**180/17 Planning Applications**

**Ref: 2/2017/0127**

Location: 5 Irvings Terrace, Seaton Road, Broughton Moor

Proposal: Dropping of kerb to form new off road parking area.

**Resolved** by all present that the Parish Council had no comments relating to this application.

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

**181/17 Finances, Accounts & Governance**

1. Payment of Accounts

**Resolved** by all present that the below accounts be paid with cheques signed by Cllrs J Wilson & Cllr M Bradley.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| From | Reason | Amount |
| HMRC | PAYE September | £77.60 |
| Becx Carter | Salary Sept (Via SO) | £310.06 |
| BDO | Audit Fee | £276.00 |
| Alan Nelson | Post & Wire fencing (Coldgill Plot 8) | £400 |
| Jackson Hetherington | Grass Cutting for 2017 | £1470 |
| Becx Carter | Expenses | £69.94 |
| Arnison Heelis | Legal fees for Bullin Meadow | £1470 |

**Action: Clerk to pay these accounts.**

1. Approval of Bank Reconciliation & Spend against Budget for October 2017.

**Resolved** by all present that these be noted as a true & accurate record.

1. To receive & note the unqualified external audit for Y/E 31st March 2017

**Resolved** by all present that the unqualified external audit received for Broughton Parish Council for Y/E 31st March 2017 be noted as received including the minor note that the return doesn’t add up by £1 and notice displayed in compliance with the audit commission guidance.

1. Request for funding ‘Rock Challenge’

**Resolved** by all present that a donation of £150 be made to the ‘Rock Challenge’ as per the letter received by the Council in late September.

**Action: Clerk to confirm with the Rock Challenge Fundraisers to whom the cheque should be made payable and organise payment of this donation.**

**182/17 Phil Rushton- Connecting Cumbria**

Mr Phil Rushton attended the meeting in his role running a digital inclusion programme for the Connecting Cumbria Programme. The aim of this programme is to bring understanding to the wider Cumbria Population on the benefits of Superfast Broadband.

The demographic trends for Cumbria show that 31% earn less than the living wage (33% in the Allerdale Area), the research also shows that Cumbria is the only part of the UK where the population is forecast to decline over the next 20 years.

This programme is driven because the main industries within Cumbria (hospitality, tourism, & farming) are not high salary industries. More people under 30 are leaving Cumbria rather than staying to enable them to access higher value jobs & careers. The working age population in Cumbria is going to be 15% less in 20 years time than currently, yet the population over 65 is forecast to grow by 40%, with the population in Cumbria over 85 scheduled to grow by 145% in the next 20 years.

The Connecting Cumbria Project is the only major infrastructure project currently taking place in Cumbria. Currently the coverage is that 93% of properties in Cumbria can access superfast broadband, with an average download speed of around 62mb. The programme is still on-going with an estimated role out by the end of the programme in 2018-19 to circa 95-96% of all properties within the County.

The Digital Inclusion programme is focusing on showing people the benefits of Superfast broadband, not about training individuals on how to use the internet. The potential economic benefits of superfast broadband would be worth about 320million pounds a year to Cumbria. Research has demonstrated that businesses that go online grow 200% faster than others, and they area lso more likely to do business outside the region, with higher value jobs being created. Enhanced internet provision is also very valuable for ensuring the vulnerable in society can access help/support required.

**Resolved** that it be noted that whilst the benefits of Superfast Broadband appear to be valuable, local information from individuals attempting to upgrade to the service is that it is unavailable across much of the village due to the distance from the cabinets/quality of the lines (some are known to be over 80 years old).

Mr Rushton confirmed that based upon his data 851 properties across the parish are eligible to upgrade, but this doesn’t happen automatically customers have to contact their service providers and pay for the additional service. In addition Mr Rusthton confirmed that Openreach are currently rolling out a programme of upgrading degraded lines but this is not linked to the Connecting Cumbria Programme.

Mr Rushton clarified that what would be covered during a ‘digital inclusion event’ would be the benefits of superfast broadband, how to obtain help to use the service (a list of links), how to buy the service, how to ensure that the price you receive the service at is reasonable. Examples are then given of some services that can be accessed on the internet e.g. tele-medicine, libraries etc.

Mr Rushton confirmed that the support he was looking for from the Parish Council would be the provision of a room in which to hold the event (which would take 90mins-3 hours), and support with publicity of the event via distribution of postcards to every household in the Parish.

The Council thanked Mr Rushton for attending. Mr Rushton let the meeting.

**Resolved** by all present that a digital inclusion event be considered within the Parish in the spring of 2018 subject to it being part of an integrated programme of events including training/support event/s to be held to help those who may need additional help/support with using the internet.

**Resolved** that it be noted that prior to a meeting being held there needed to be clarity obtained on how the meeting would deal with the issue of those people who had been told that contrary to the Connecting Cumbria Advice

**Action: Clerk to suggest some dates for such an event in February/March 2018 with a date to be included in the late 2017 newsletter.**

**Action: Clerk to agenda this matter for the November meeting to allow the Council to take a decision on if to hold such an event.**

**Action: Clerk to check with Maria Allen regarding the deadline for submission for articles for the late 2017 newsletter.**

**Action: Clerk to contact CCC about the digital learning initiative to see if they would be willing to provide a training session in the Parish within a couple of weeks of the Digital Inclusion event.**

**Action: Clerk to contact Peter Inglis to see if he is still the Broadband Champion for the area.**

**183/17 Clerks Report**

A written copy of the Clerks report had been received by all Councillors and was noted as read.

1. Church Meadows Green Space Maintenance- The Clerk informed the meeting that Persimmon have agreed to stake the 5 trees on this site and that this work should be happening in the coming weeks.

**Action: Clerk to continue to liaise with Persimmon about these works.**

1. Graveyard Extension- The Clerk informed the meeting that the Church are still finalising their position on this matter but that it is highly likely that the Church will also be unable to take on the additional area of land due to the financial and personnel liabilities involved.

**Action: Clerk to agenda the matter for the November meeting to enable consideration to be given on next steps regarding this area of land.**

1. Bullin Meadow Land Registration- The Clerk informed the meeting that following recent dialogue between the Councils solicitor and the Land Registry the Land Registry have agreed to include to the ‘missing’ area of land in the registration. However the Land Registry have still not accepted the rationale to register the land to the centre of the watercourse for protection of riparian rights.

**Resolved** by all present that one final attempt be made to include the area of land to the centre of the water course supported by another Statement of Truth focusing on the riparian rights areas of land.

**Action: Clerk to contact Cllr J Wilson to establish if he can identify anyone that might be able to provide such a Statement of Truth.**

**184/17 Play Area**

It was noted that the new gates had now been installed.

**185/17 Reports from visiting councillors**

*A/BC Cllr N Cockburn* updated the meeting that she had recently met with the developers (Story Homes) at Strawberry How housing development. During the meeting it was noted that Story Homes were appealing the decision regarding the Broughton Park development but that the commencement date for an appeal with the Planning Inspectorate is 60 weeks.

A/BC Cllr N Cockburn noted that she has been working with ABC regarding inconsistencies in the labelling and referencing of sites within the Allerdale Local Plan Part 2 which has led to some confusion in planning decisions/dialogue particularly with regard to settlement boundaries.

The Local Plan will return for public consultation in due course. Linked to this a recent paper from DCLG have altered how the housing needs are calculated and apportioned across areas. This has identified that ABC need 125 new homes per annum to satisfy the need, however the housing targets within the ABC plan are 304 which is a significant discrepancy. In addition empty homes are increasing in the town centres.

*C/Cllr H Graham* provided an update via email due to being unable to attend the meeting. He confirmed that he was working with the Police regarding anti-social behaviour in the village.

In addition he confirmed that the A594 squatter issue is being worked on by the CCC legal team.

Finally Hugo confirmed in his email that he was still working with the Highways Team regarding the Signpost & 20mph speed limit in Little Broughton.

**186/17 Allotments**

It was noted that the meeting of all tenants is being held on the 6th November 2017 19:00-20:30.

**187/17 Parish Maintenance**

None

**188/17 Highways Matters**

Covered elsewhere on the agenda.

**189/17 Correspondence**

Unless otherwise listed below all items of correspondence were noted as received.

**190/17 Planning Decisions**

None

**191/17 Councillor Matters**

**Resolved** that items to be included on the November Agenda to include:

-Feedback from the allotment meeting

-Connecting Cumbria

-Broughton Children’s Carnival request for donation

-Hearing Loop Village Hall

-Memorandum of Agreement Fingerposts.

**192/17 Date & Time of Next meeting.**

**Resolved** by all present that the next meeting be held on Tuesday 28th November 2017 at 19:00

Meeting Closed 20:34

Signed……………………………………………. (Chair) Dated………………………………………………..