**Broughton Parish Council**

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

**Present:** Mrs Mary Bradley (Chair), Mr Steve Hannah, Mr Richard Gildert, Mr Sam Anderson, Mrs Alison Carruthers, Cllr J Wilson, Ms B Carter (Clerk), C/C Cllr H Graham, 3 members of the public

**Apologies:**

Cllr Sue Hannah, Cllr Joanne Sewell, A/BC Cllr N Cockburn, A/BC Cllr J Farebrother, PCSO Clare Parker

The Council was quorate with more than four councillors present.

**152/17 Apologies for absence**

Apologies were received and noted from the above

**153/17 Chairman’s Announcements**

Cllr M Bradley informed the meeting that herself and Cllr Sue Hannah had recently been interviewed by BBC Radio Cumbria regarding Soddy Gap. The final decision regarding the registration of the Public Rights of Way on the site is on the agenda for the Development Control & Regulation Committee on the 1st November 2017.

Cllr M Bradley informed the meeting that she was still working to get a meeting with Mr Malcolm Wilson regarding his plans for the site.

**154/17 Requests for dispensations and declarations of interest**

None received

**155/17 Minutes of the meeting held on the 26th July 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.**

**156/17 Application for Co-option (2 Vacancies)**

None received

**157/17 Public Participation**

Cllr M Bradley informed members of the public present that this was their opportunity to speak, and each member would be allocated 3 mins to speak if they wished.

2 members of the public attended to speak to Planning Reference 2/2017/0411. The third member of the public indicated full support for the reasons laid out by the speaking parties.

A summary of the issues raised is provided below:

* It has always been understood that the fence around Hobcarton was the village boundary since it was built in 1952, it is the natural start and end of the village. If this development were approved it may set precedent for ‘village creep’. As per the current approved Allerdale Borough Council Local Plan Part 1 the boundary of the settlement is at the edge of the Hobcarton Curtilage.
* Highways Safety- the proposed entrance & exit increase the dangers on an already hazardous stretch of road. It was noted that CCC Highways have submitted an objection to the proposal.
* Countryside amenity, the proposed development site is good agricultural land, and not a brownfield site (there are a number of these in the village that have not yet been developed). This site has amenity value.

Cllr M Bradley thanked the members of the public for attending and for their thoughts on the planning application.

Two questions were posed to the members of the public by councillors present:

Q: Have you witnessed highways difficulties on this stretch of road?

A: Yes, if the residents in question wish to access the bridge on foot they walk either down Craggs Road or through the field to avoid being on Harris Brow given its safety issues. In addition the residents have witnessed both accidents & near misses.

Q: How difficult is it for you to exit your property in a vehicle?

A: Very difficult and if visitors are staying they need to be guided in and out of the drive with informal traffic control.

**158/17 Police report**

It was noted that the website was still over 2 months out of date and that there were 5 incidents reported in July.

**Resolved** that it be noted that there on-going concerns regarding not only the anti-social behaviour problem within the Parish but also how calls (when answered) are dealt with on the 101 number.

It was noted by the Council that the Clerk escalated the concern regarding how the call to the 101 number was handled to Inspector level.

On-going concern continued to raised regarding the issue of parents being observed dropping car loads of young people off in the village for the ‘evening’ which is seriously contributing to the issue.

**Action: Clerk to continue to work with Cumbria Police & Inspector Rachel Gale regarding this matter.**

**Resolved** by all present that concern be raised with Cumbria County Council as owners of the ‘Quarry’ regarding its highly unsafe and dangerous condition, and notify them that young people are gathering in this area after dark and the risk of some harm occurring would be classed as high.

**Action: Clerk to write to CCC & copy CC/Cllr Hugo Graham stressing the risk of harm.**

**Resolved** that it be noted that there have also been local reports of a ‘night prowler’/person trying doors at nights, the Council urged local residents to exercise caution and check that doors are locked etc.

1. Police & Crime Commissioner response to concerns raised June 17

The Clerk informed the meeting that following that a response had been received from Mr P McCall (Police & Crime Commissioner) to the concerns raised, noting that the specific issue regarding anti-social behaviour has been passed on to an Inspector.

Regarding the 101 issue Mr McCall noted that he was aware of this issue and that the Chief Constable is being held accountable for this. With a balance needing to be struck between staff doing call handling and those on the frontline. An external review has also been commissioned of the service. In the meantime the Police & Crime Commissioner requested that people continue to either call 101 or report matters via 101emails@cumbria.police.uk.

**Resolved** that this response from the Police & Crime Commissioner be noted as received.

C/Cllr H Graham informed the meeting that he was aware there was an issue across the division in terms of Policing with a different attitude to rural policing over town policing. He is aware of the issue and will continue to raise this whenever he can.

1. Community Speedwatch

It was noted that following the initial enquiries that Cllr Wilson had undertaken an insufficient number of people were willing to commit to volunteering for such a group and as such no further progress could be made.

**159/17 Update on matters arising from previous meetings**

1. *Soddy Gap/Broughton Lodge*

A number of evidence forms have been submitted in support of the other footpaths (over 17), the matter has been agenda’d for the 1st November 2017 Development Control & Regulation Committee.

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

1. *Heritage Lottery Signposts Project*

The Clerk informed the meeting that no further progress has been made regarding the preparation of an Memorandum of Agreement. Cumbria County Council want to go down the route of a Permitted Works Agreement but it appears that if this were followed that the grant funding would have to be paid to CCC to pay the contractor which would be ineligible in terms of most grant funding.

**Resolved** that the Clerk continue to pursue an M of A from CCC for these finger posts to enable a heritage application to be submitted.

**Action: Clerk to continue to liaise with CCC on this matter and copy C/Cllr H Graham in on all correspondence.**

**160/17 Clerks Report**

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

**161/17 Play Area**

**Resolved** that it be noted that the installation of the new gates is still delayed.

**Action: Clerk to continue to chase Playdale for the installation dates for the new gates.**

1. Report of damage to Baby Cradle Swing

**Resolved** by all present that the damage to the Baby Cradle Swing be noted. This has been reported to Playdale who will attend to the damage when on site to install the gates.

**Action: Clerk to continue to pursue this with Playdale as a matter of urgency.**

**162/17 Reports from visiting councillors**

C/CC Cllr H Graham introduced himself and updated the Council on a number of matters:

1. Squatter living on the A596- C/C Cllr H Graham is working with a number of other agencies to move this matter to an appropriate legal conclusion.
2. ABC has bought out a free app for a Smartphone to allow the reporting of flytipping/needles etc.

C/C Cllr H Graham informed the meeting that whilst he may not be able to be present at all meetings due to work commitments but that he is fully available on email.

**163/17 Allotments**

1. *Consideration and resolutions relating to pre-circulated Allotment Paper.*

Cllr M Bradley informed the meeting that the purpose of this pre-circulated paper was to detail the work that has been ongoing by the Allotment Sub-Committee over the past months and to provide an overview of the timescales going forward.

This paper has been prepared based upon all comments that have been provided to date, and the paper covers issues such as fencing/plot sizes/water/waiting list/weeds/management of fallow plots.

The paper also details options for future management.

If the paper were approved by the Council this would form the basis of a presentation at a public meeting to which all Allotment holders are invited on the 24th October 2017 19:30-21:00 (subject to room availability). This meeting would provide an update on the work to date, work still to be undertaken, and timescales going forward.

It is crucial that any new tenancy agreement address all issues, and an allotment handbook be prepared including updated versions of procedures e.g. waiting list policy, fallow plot management etc.

It was noted by all present that the work currently involved in the Allotments takes up a significant proportion of the Clerks hours. A review of the Clerks hours to provide additional capacity & budget for allotment time would be required once the outcome of this process is known.

**Resolved** by all present that the paper as circulated be approved and all actions associated within it be actioned.

**Action: Clerk & Allotment Sub Committee to continue working on these issues.**

**Action: Clerk to produce a finalised new tenancy agreement for approval by the Allotment Sub Committee prior to the 24th October 2017.**

**Resolved** by all present that a meeting of all Allotment Tenants be convened for the 24th October 2017 at 19:30 in the Broughton Village Hall

**Action: Clerk to book the room & draft an invitation for approval by Cllr M Bradley prior to sending.**

**Resolved** by all present that the Clerk be paid appropriate additional hours at her standard hourly rate over and above her contracted hours for Allotments Work.

**Action: Clerk to contact Cumbria Payroll Services to organise the appropriate PAYE for an additional hours payment to be made at the November meeting.**

1. *Authorisation for pollarding of tree between Plots 13 & 18 on the Nook Site.*

Correspondence has been received from the tenant of Plot 13 on the Nook Site requesting council authorisation to pollard a large tree which is overshadowing a large proportion of the growing area on their site.

**Resolved** by all present that these works be approved subject to consent from the tenants of Plot 18 and the works being undertaken by a qualified tree surgeon with no cost bourne to the council.

**Action: Clerk to contact the tenant of Plot 18 regarding this matter.**

**Action: Clerk to communicate the decision to the tenants of Plot 13.**

1. *Splitting of Coldgill 8*

**Resolved** by all present that this plot be split into 4 sites for re-letting with a post and two wire fence in line with the Allotment Sub Committee Paper.

**Action: Clerk to instruct a contractor to under take these works ASAP and allocate the new plots to those on the waiting list.**

It was noted that there appears to be on-going abuse of the water provided on the Allotment sites with possible evidence of those that are not allotment holders using the free stand pipes for water. Cllr M Bradley confirmed that water is one of the things encompassed within the Allotments Paper and it will be one of the issues for Allotment holders to take decisions regarding if they wish to continue to receive this non statutory provision or if they would prefer to have reduced costs with no water provision.

**164/17 Parish Maintenance**

1. *Footpaths where works are required*

**Resolved** by all present that the Council grass cutting contractor be requested to strim around the two benches on the Bridleway up from Church Meadows to Soddy Gap (one on the left as you reach the top of the hill before the farm equipment yard and one further on as you reach the top from the Soddy Gap direction).

**Action: Clerk to contact the grass cutting contractor and arrange for these additional areas to be strimmed with an additional invoice to be submitted if required.**

**165/17 Highways Matters**

1. *20MPH Speed Limit*

**Resolved** that it be noted that this matter has been raised with CCC and is being looked into by an officer called Matt Reeves. However the KSI statistics don’t suggest that this is a problem area.

**Action: Clerk to pursue this with CCC and report back on locations and results of the surveys at the October meeting.**

It was further noted that the flashing sign on Moor Road is still flashing at 30mph despite being in very close proximity to a 20mph speed limit sign. The clerk confirmed this was first reported to CCC on the 28th April 2017 and chased again on the 30th June 2017.

**Action: Clerk to chase this matter with CCC again.**

1. *Request for Highways Issues by C/Cllr H Graham to be added to a ‘wish’ list by CCC*

**Resolved** by all present that a Footpath/Pedestrian provision on Main Street/Harris Brow,around Millennium Gardens & junction, and footpath provision to link Little Broughton to Soddy Gap (in front of the Hollies). In addition exploration of the possibility of a box junction being created between Harris Brow/Main Street to force ALL traffic to stop. Also a 20mph speed limit through Little Broughton & junction safety/road markings at the Kirklea/Main Street Junction by the Village Hall.

**Action: Clerk to confirm all of these items to C/Cllr Hugo Graham.**

**166/17 Correspondence**

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

1. Digital Inclusion Event BT

**Resolved** by all present that Mr P Rushton of Connecting Cumbria be invited to the October Parish Council meeting prior to a decision being taken on if to hold a digital inclusion event within the Parish.

It was noted that not all of the parish has access to superfast broadband due to the condition of the lines/wires.

**Action: Clerk to invite Mr P Rushton to the October Broughton PC meeting.**

1. Cumbria Design Guide

**Resolved** that no feedback be provided due to the complex and specialist nature of this document.

**167/17 Planning Applications**

**Ref: 2/2017/0411**

**Location: PT Field 0038, Harris Brow, Great Broughton**

**Proposal: Outline application for new dwelling.**

**Resolved** by all present that the Council had strong objections to this development on the following grounds:

1. Pedestrian & highway safety due to the location of proposed access/egress point on a narrow and already identified dangerous stretch of road with very limited visibility. In addition there is no pedestrian provision for safe access either up into the village/down towards the bridge, increasing the safety concerns about this stretch of road.
2. Expansion of the Village Boundary- This proposed development is outside of the current approved settlement boundary as part of the Allerdale Local Plan Part 1 (the currently adopted version) and as such should be refused.
3. Loss of amenity land & environmental benefits- The proposed development site is on good quality agricultural land which is used by locals for access to the bridge to avoid the aforementioned dangerous road. This land was recognised in the Allerdale Local Plan as ‘land important for recreational & amenity use’.
4. Local knowledge suggests that a mains sewer for part of the Parish runs either under or near to the proposed development site- United Utilities Opinion to be sought by Allerdale as part of the planning process, as it is contrary to standard UU policy to allow development over the top of a mains sewer.
5. Increase pressure on A66 Broughton/Brigham Junction- This development would add additional vehicles to the already under pressure A66 junction, which is recognised as a problem junction by Highways England.
6. Construction Access- If this application were to be approved there is NO safe location for the stopping of construction/delivery traffic. Any delivery to this site would effectively block & close the main access/egress road for Great & Little Broughton which would be unacceptable in terms of emergency services provision/diversions in the event of an issue elsewhere on the A66/A595.

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

**Ref: 2/2017/0402**

**Location: 91 Main Street, Great Broughton**

**Proposal: New Dwelling**

**Resolved** by all present that the parish council have no comments or objections relating to this application.

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

**168/17 Planning Decisions**

**Resolved** that the below decisions were noted as received:

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Ref** | **Location** | **Proposal** | **Decision** |
| 2/2017/0337 | Glenfield, The Green, Little Broughton | New Dwelling | Approved with conditions  |
| HOU/2017/0136 | Lawson Garth | Proposed placement of shipping container on property (retrospective) | Approved with conditions  |

**169/17 Finance, Accounts & Governance**

1. *Payment of Accounts*

**Resolved** by all present that the below accounts be approved for payment and were signed by Cllr J Wilson & Cllr A Carruthers.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **From** | **Reason** | **Amount** |
| HMRC | PAYE August | £77.60 |
| Becx Carter | August Salary- Via So | £310.26 |
| Steve Dixon Plumbing & Heating | WRAS Compliant Valves both Allotment Sites | £1014.94 |
| CALC  | Common Land Training Course | £37.50 |
| HMRC  | PAYE September  | £77.40 |
| Becx Carter | September Salary-Via SO | £310.26 |
| Becx Carter | Expenses | £158.68 |
| Jackson Hetherington | Installation of walkway at Nook Site | £430 |

**Action: Clerk to pay accounts**

1. *Approval of Bank Reconciliation and Spend Against Budget*

**Resolved** by all present that the Bank Reconciliation for September be signed as a true and accurate record by Cllr Steve Hannah

**Resolved** by all present that the Spend against Budget report be noted as received.

**170/17 Councillor Matters**

**Action: Clerk to research if Parish Councils can fund works to PROW signs.**

**171/17 Date & Time of Next meeting.**

**Resolved** by all present that the next meeting be held on Tuesday 17th October 2017 at 19:00

Meeting Closed 20:30

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