Broughton Parish Council

Minutes of the meeting of Broughton Parish Council held in a virtual meeting room via GoTo Meetings on Tuesday 21st July 2020 at 19:00

**Present:** Mary Bradley (In the Chair), Sue Hannah, Steve Hannah, Paddy Gorrill, Bill Smith

**Attendance:** Nicky Cockburn (ABC), Adrian Davis Johnston (Potential Co-optee)

**Apologies:** Joanne Sewell (Family commitments), Claire Winter (Illness), Alison Carruthers (Family Commitments)

**Absent:** Carl Jackson

With 5 Councillors present the meeting was quorate to continue.

# 55/2020 Apologies for absence

Apologies were received and accepted from the above.

# 56/2020 Requests for dispensations and declarations of interest

No declarations of interest nor dispensations were noted or requested.

# 57/2020 Minutes of the meeting held on the 23rd June 2020

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 of the meeting by the Chair, Cllr Mary Bradley

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

# 58/2020 Chairman’s Announcements

Cllr M Bradley, has spoken with two new residents to the village which has been very positive.

Allotments have been busy as normal, but all the effort is paying off with both sites looking very good and being well utilised.

# 59/2020 Public Participation

Question 1: A question was raised regarding the lack of parking on Grange Avenue. ‘With many houses having more than one vehicle, spaces are at a premium making the road extremely congested with anything bigger than a car struggling to get down. This was highlighted in January when an ambulance was required but was unable to turn around meaning they had to park up and walk to the patient’s home. I believe the solution would be turn the large wasted grassed area into additional parking & turning space’.

The Clerk confirmed that she had already sign posted the resident in question to Cumbria County Council as the highways authority as the Parish Council have no jurisdiction over parking & highways.

It was noted that the area of wasted grass may well be Home Housing and that the individual in question may wish to write to them.

**Action: Cllr Sue Hannah to have a walk up and let the Clerk know if the area of land looks like it is home housing.**

**Resolved** by all present that the Parish Council note the issues with parking across the Parish, but despite having raised various concerns in the past with CCC Highways no progress has been made. It was agreed that the Clerk would raise concerns with Cumbria County Council again.

**Action: Clerk to communicate the outcome of the Parish Council’s discussions to the member of the public who raised the question.**

Question 2: ‘As a resident on the Kirklea Estate for a number of years, I have observed a large increase in the number of vehicles from residents & visitors. Due to more and more residents turning their front gardens into driveways this has now limited spaces on the road for visitors/workmen to park. This has resulted in poorly parked cars and very congested areas which give poor visibility from both drivers and pedestrians, particularly on the school run. I have thought about the idea of making the estate a one-way system, I think this would be a simple procedure due to the layout of the estate and it would make it a lot safer for everyone’.

The Clerk confirmed that she had already sign posted the resident to Cumbria County Council as the Highways Authority.

**Resolved** by all present that the Parish Council note the issues with parking/access and have previously not only raised concerns with the Highways Authority but also held site meetings, but no progress has been made.

**Action: Clerk to write to CCC Highways raising concerns about both of these areas and asking for a traffic review when the Covid situation allows.**

# 60/2020 Applications for Co-option

An application for co-option has been received from a Mr A Davis-Johnston. The Co-option Questionnaire was circulated to all councillors prior to the meeting.

Adrian introduced himself to the meeting, noting he has lived within Great Broughton for the vast majority of his life. He was formally an ABC councillor until the last election. He lives within the Parish with his wife & his young family. He would like to give something back to the Parish

**Resolved** by all present that Mr Adrian Davis Johnston be co-opted on to the Parish Council effective from the September 2020 meeting.

**Action: Clerk to process the relevant paperwork and to update the Parish Council distribution lists & website.**

# 61/2020 Reports from visiting councillors & police

Allerdale Borough Council- Cllr N Cockburn. There have been 3 development panels held, but the vast majority of ABC business has been slowed or paused due to the impacts of Covid 19.

Cllr N Cockburn noted that Brigham Parish Council have started to object to people turning their frontages into car parking, and have recently had an enforcement notice served on someone who had done this. The rationale for this was that it was removing more on street car parking than it was generating. Which maybe useful information in relation to the public participation question (raised above).

The Chair of the Parish Council noted thanks to A/BC Cllr N Cockburn for her regular updating of social media with the bin collection dates.

# 62/2020 Update on ongoing matters

## Neighbourhood Planning

No further progress.

**Action: Clerk to agenda for the September meeting**

## Youth Shelter/Outdoor Recreation Project

**Resolved** by all present that this be deferred until the Covid 19 restrictions have significantly relaxed.

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

# 63/2020 Clerks Report

The Clerks Report had been circulated to all prior to the meeting this was noted as received.

1. Dangerous Structure 83 Main Street (entrance to the Nook)- The Clerk confirmed this had been reported to Allerdale Borough Council, who had confirmed that the building was inspected in April by ABC. The owner is regularly checking the building for movement. It has been agreed between the owner & ABC that if the cracks worsen a structural engineer would be called for a survey and preparation of a method statement for remedial works. ABC have confirmed there has been no change between the cracks observed in April and those observed in July 2020.
2. Public Meeting regarding Derwent Forest Proposals- It was noted by all that ABC have suggested waiting to hold this meeting until the ‘masterplan’ for the site has been submitted, this has been asked for by ABC as part of the two applications submitted earlier this year. ABC have asked for this Masterplan on the grounds it is necessary to meet the objectives of the bespoke local planning policy for this individual site, and to understand how this aspect of the development fits into the wider strategic development of the site as a whole.

**Resolved** by all present that this public meeting be called once this Masterplan has been received by ABC. The public meetings should include ABC officers to answer questions relating to planning matters, and CCC Highways officers given the significant local concern relating to infrastructure & access.

**Action: Clerk to continue to liaise with ABC about an appropriate date for the hosting/holding of this meeting.**

Cllr M Bradley asked if there was any update on the Broughton/Brigham/A66 roundabout. A/BC Cllr N Cockburn noted that she had not received any further updates.

**Action: Clerk to chase up the MP again to ask if this scheme has progressed any further, or could be included in one of the ‘build Britain better’ infrastructure ready schemes as part of the Covid 19**

# 64/2020 Play-area

A copy of the independent Play area inspection of the Welfare Field Play area had been circulated with the meeting papers.

**Resolved** by all present that this independent report, which notes a number of areas for ongoing monitoring but grades the play-area overall as low risk be noted as received.

Cllr M Bradley noted that she had received the fortnightly inspection report from Mr John Wilson which noted no issues other than the fact the bins aren’t being emptied.

**Action: Clerk to report this issue on the ABC portal to ask that the bin is emptied regularly.**

Thanks were noted to Steve for erecting the Covid 19 re-opening notices.

**Action: Clerk to look at obtaining a quote for the recommended signage as per the Play area Inspection**

# 65/2020 Allotments

Cllr M Bradley noted that the sites are looking really good.

The Clerk noted that there are 3 plots where tenancies have been offered but not yet accepted.

**Action: Clerk to chase these up.**

There is only one plot (Plot 1 Nook) that is lying fallow.

**Action: Cllr M Bradley & Cllr B Smith to undertake a walk around this month**

Cllr M Bradley noted that there is some asbestos bagged and stored on one of the sites, this is compliantly bagged and will be disposed when the relevant disposal services reopen. There will be a cost to incur on this at some point in the future.

**Action: Cllr M Bradley to continue to monitor/liaise on this with the relevant involved parties.**

Rats- This issue seems to have been brought under control, there was no specific location that was at fault it was an issue across the sites.

# 66/2020 Parish Maintenance & Highways

## Main Street Bus Shelter Survey

Cllr’s Hannah have been clearing the site, but they have identified an issue with stones on the site that will need to be cleared before a surveyor can be bought on site. It was noted that this is an issue with where the overgrowth has been removed there are gaps in some of the garden boundaries.

**Action: Cllr S Hannah’s to continue working on the clearance of the site and the organisation of a Survey.**

**Action: Cllr Steve Hannah to speak to the relevant homeowners to make them aware of the issue around the lack of boundary in places on safety grounds.**

Thanks were noted to Cllrs Hannah for their work on this matter.

## Footway Lighting

The Clerk updated all present that ABC are looking to devolve responsibility for the electrical costs of street lighting to Parish Councils effective as of 2021. CALC have sought legal advice which has confirmed that ABC are entitled to do this, under S.3 of the Parish Councils Act 1957 Parish Councils can provide or contract for electrical services. ABC are proposing to transfer the electrical costs of footway lighting to Parish Councils (Highways Lighting is a Statutory function that rests with CCC).

Under S.101 of the Local Government Act 1972 a local authority can arrange for any of its functions to be done by another authority, subject to an agreement being formed between those two parties.

As Footway Lighting is a power and not a duty there is no statutory obligation for ABC (or a Parish Council) to provide footway lighting. Highway Lighting is a different matter and this is looked after by the Highways Authority (Cumbria County Council) who have a statutory duty to provide appropriate highway lighting.

A spreadsheet & map of the light locations have been distributed to all Parish Councilors. Broughton Parish Council is entitled to choose to take on the responsibility for some, all or none of the footway lighting going forward. Any ABC footway light that the Parish Council choose not to take on the electrical costs for will be removed by ABC at their cost.

The cost to Broughton Parish Council would be in the region of £1350 per annum, which would equate to a precept rise of approximately £2.35 per annum per band D household.

It was noted that there are some lights that are in the Parish that are not on the map. The Clerk noted that some of them may well be ‘private’ lights installed as part of a housing estate developments as part of planning obligations.

All present noted that the residents are unlikely to be happy if the area went dark.

Cllr Steve Hannah asked for further clarity on how the costs have been calculated.

**Action: Clerk to send further information to all Councillors on the monetary calculations**

**Action: All to look at lighting in their area to identify if any can be removed**

**Action: Cllr B Smith to look at the implications on 5G network if the street lighting standards were to be removed.**

**Resolved** by all present that this matter be deferred until the September 2020 meeting, when further information has been obtained.

**Action: Clerk to convey this deferral to ABC and ask for clarity on the final deadline for a decision.**

## Concern from Local Resident regarding Speeding Moor Road

The Clerk informed all present that two items of correspondence had been received from a resident of Moor Road, regarding the perceived speeding issue in this location. The local resident has reported this issue to the Cumbria County Council Highways Department.

The Clerk noted that she had raised concern regarding this matter with both CCC Highways & the Police during the Covid 19 period, CCC are going to undertake further Traffic Data Unit Surveys when they are able to do so (restricted due to staff availability during the Covid 19 period). Cumbria Police have also confirmed they will raise the issue once more with the CRASH group.

It was noted that the TDU has to be placed in the correct place for it to show the issue which is between South Terrace and the School. Councillors are concerned that if they don’t review the speed in the correct area it won’t show an issue.

The Clerk noted that the CCC as the Highways Authority can only legally place the TDU’s in certain ‘safe’ places.

**Action: Clerk to contact CCC to ask them to site the TDU in an appropriate place.**

**Resolved** by all present that the Parish Council recognise the issue but are unsure what else to suggest.

## Replacement of Welfare Field Noticeboard

It was noted that this is starting to rot and is likely to need replaced or to be repaired in the short term.

**Resolved** by all present that Cllr B Smith identify if it is repairable if not that Cllr Sue Hannah look into obtained a new noticeboard for this area from the same company that has recently replaced the Post Office one, with a budget of in the region of £520.

**Action: Cllr B Smith & Cllr Sue Hannah to work on this matter prior to the Sept 2020 meeting.**

# 67/2020 Correspondence for discussion

## Code of Conduct Consultation

This was noted as received by all councillors.

# 68/2020 Planning Applications & Consultations

**Ref: OUT/2020/0011**

Location: Little Moor, Moor Road, Great Broughton, Cockermouth

Proposal: Erection of new dwelling adjacent to existing agricultural sheds

Application Withdrawn- Therefore no consultation required.

**Ref: HOU/2020/0101**

Location: 19 Grange Avenue, Little Broughton, Cockermouth

Proposal: Single garage on front of the property (detached) with access onto Meeting House Lane

**Resolved** by all present that the Council have no comments or objections.

**Action: Clerk to submit these comments**

# 69/2020 Planning Decisions

**Resolved** by all present that the below decisions be noted:

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Reference** | **Location** | **Proposal** | **Decision** |
| RMA/2020/0015 | Laurel Cottage, The Green, Little Broughton | Reserved matters of outline approval 2/2017/0185 | Reserved matters approved |

# 70/2020 Finance & Accounts

## Payment of Accounts

**Resolved** by all present that the below accounts be paid with cheques signed by 2 authorised signatories

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **From** | **Reason** | **Amount** |
| Becx Carter | Salary (Via SO) | £536.25 |
| HMRC | PAYE | £141.00 |
| Becx Carter | Clerks Expenses | £147.80 |
| NEST | Pension Payment (Employer & employee) | £49.40 |
| Jackson Hetherington | July Invoice | £228.57 |
| Allerdale Borough Council | Playarea Inspection | £67.20 |
| Water Plus | Coldgill Water (via SO) | £148.65 |
| Water Plus | Nook Water (via SO) | £71.09 |
| Steven Dixon | Coldgill Tap Maintenance | £98.40 |

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

## Approval of monthly bank reconciliation & spend against budget report

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

# 71/2020 Councillor Matters

Items for Sept 2020:

* Neighbourhood Planning
* Outcome of the Allotment Meeting
* Footway Lighting
* Outcome of Highways Queries

# 72/2020 Date & Time of Next meeting.

**Resolved** by all present that the next meeting date be set as 15th Sept 2020 at 19:00 in a Virtual Meeting Room.

It was noted that there is a requirement to be able to offer a blended meeting functionality until May 2021, where people can dial in as well as attend in person. As none of the venues that Broughton Parish Council meet in are digitally enabled it is likely that the virtual meetings will continue for the foreseeable future.

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