

BROUGHTON TOWN COUNCIL



MINUTES OF ANNUAL TOWN MEETING

Minutes of the Annual Town Meeting for the Parish of Broughton held on **Monday, 11th April**, at the **Phil Grundy Community & Sports Centre, Scawby Road, Broughton**, at **7.00pm**.

1. **Record of those Present**

To record details of those present.

The following Cllrs were present:

Cllrs Lee, Price (Chair), Portess, Ross, Senior & Tattersfield.

2. **Apologies for Absence**

Apologies for absence received from Cllrs Simpson & Taylor.

3. **Minutes of the Last Meeting**

Resolved - approved as a true and correct record the minutes of the last annual town meeting with the exception of the report from Rob Waltham which has not been recorded in the minutes.

4. **Mayor's Report**

Cllr Price read out her report as detailed below:

It was an honour to be elected as Mayor last May just as things were getting back to some kind of normality. I would like to thank Councillor Senior for being Mayor the previous 3 years during some very difficult circumstances. I would also like to thank Councillor Simpson for being the Deputy Mayor and Councillor Senior for all his advice, support and encouragement. Over the last year we have lost two Councillors. Cath Whittingham resigned and was replaced by Councillor Lee. Dan Leitch resigned and was replaced by Councillor Taylor. I would like to thank Cath and Dan for their service and welcome Councillors Lee and Taylor to the Council. I was absolutely over the moon to find out early summer that for the second year running Broughton had won 'Best Kept Small Town' Award. The group of Bloomers led by Roger Bonnett worked so hard for this award and really deserved it. I must mention the Wombles too because without a shadow of a doubt, Wayne Gammon and his team of Wombles make a huge difference as well. The competition is now open for 2022 and I have to confess I am nervous! Plans include new displays at the entrance sign to Broughton on Appleby Lane, the telephone box on Brigg Road and at the end of Greyfriars. I was a pleasure to attend the presentation in October and collect the Award with Roger Bonnett on behalf of Broughton.

Broughton is very lucky – the community spirit here is unbelievable. The amount of work volunteers put in to providing opportunities for residents of all ages and to keep Broughton at its best is second to none. There are too many clubs and groups to mention for fear of missing one, but I would like to thank them all.

Halfway through my term of office, the Clerk informed me of his intention to hand me his resignation as he had applied for and been successful with a post at Epworth Town Council. I would like to thank Gary Johnson for his commitment to Broughton over the past 13 years but

also like to welcome Deb Hotson as our new Town Clerk. Deb has a wealth of experience in Parish Councils and will be a great asset to the Council. I would like to also thank Sonia Baig, our Deputy Clerk for her work during the transition. The Personnel Committee worked tirelessly on the recruitment of a new Clerk, and I would like to thank them. We are very lucky to have the staff we have at Broughton Town Council.

I have had the pleasure of attending many Civic functions over the last 11 months including many Civic Services and Civic Dinners. It is great to mix with members of other Councils – the topic of conversation at the table is always interesting. I would like to thank Councillors for supporting the recent Civic Dinner in Broughton where we raised £400 for Brain Tumour Research.

Plans for the Jubilee celebrations are coming together. We will have a new beacon on the field and along with the BCSA, we have planned a few events.

There is never a dull moment for the life of a Broughton Town Councillor. It's not always an easy job and we don't always agree but we are a great team and long may that continue.

The report was received and accepted by those present.

5. North Lincolnshire Councillors' Reports

To receive a report from the North Lincolnshire Councillors.

Carol and I feel we have had a very productive first year as your ward Councillors.

Since becoming Councillors we have been involved with the planning application to change the Red Lion on the High Street. An appeal has been lodged to revert the decision and we have put in a submission for the appeal expressing the thoughts of our parishioner's.

We have had 3 successful telephone surgeries for parishioners to speak with us on the telephone about any issues they would like to raise or report to us, and we are pleased that all of these have been resolved.

As required Carol and I have visited and met with parishioners' where and as requested. Some of the issues where we have followed up requests and been and talked to people are the:

Planning for the Red Lion

Complaints about the neighbours

The sink hole opening in the road outside the Co-Op

Tackling access to the Ancholme Path

Repairing potholes and footpaths

Dealing with issues from KCom installing cable

Pocket Park Issues

Thickett Issues

Grass mowing

Parking on verges

Assisting in getting grab rails installed for a resident

Regular updates on Covid

We have both been involved in the Broughton and Appleby NATS meeting which has proved to be an asset for everyone to put their views to our local police and get assistance as required.

We were both very pleased to be part of Broughton Armistice Day and pay our respects on behalf of Broughton parishioner's by laying wreaths and attending the Church Service.

We were also pleased to attend the Broughton Civic Dinner and were delighted with the amount raised for the Mayor's charity.

We have enjoyed our first year and look forward to continuing serving the residents to the best of our ability.

The report was received and accepted by those present.

6. Broughton Relief in Need Trust

To receive a report from the Trust.

The Broughton Relief in Need Trust has not been able to meet since before the pandemic, but the Trustees are looking to arrange a meeting in May.

No grant applications have been submitted in the past year.

The report was received and accepted by those present.

7. **Broughton Village Hall**

To receive a report about the Hall.

Cllr Portess congratulated Carol Ross, who has stood in while Cllr Portess has been unable to attend. Cllr Portess went on to say that Rachael and the Committee should also be congratulated too.

Cllr Ross circulated the following report prior to the meeting.

Since reopening following the last Covid lockdown some groups were understandably a little slow in starting their activities again, but we appear to be at full group strength now.

There has been a steady stream of new bookings, some on a regular basis, others as one offs but it seems that word is getting around as to what a perfect venue the hall is, for all types of gatherings, we have hosted, Christenings, Wedding parties, the Mayors Civic Dinner, McMillians Giant Coffee Day just to name a few.

We have had the roof repaired and although it has taken some considerable time to get the rear toilet ceiling to dry, we are now in a position to appoint a builder to complete the repairs.

New security gates have been erected at the rear of the building, thanks to receiving a grant secured by our MP Andrew Percy and these appear to have been successful in stopping youths from being able to climb onto the roof and causing more damage.

A new large cooker has been installed in the main kitchen and this has greatly improved the facilities we can offer.

Due to the increase of bookings, we have increased the Caretakers contracted hours to accommodate the extra work.

We have in excess of 15 regular group bookings per week, some having more than one session per week.

we continue to strive to maintain a warm and friendly meeting place for all ages, and I think the diverse cross section of the Community that use the Hall each week shows that we are succeeding in this respect.

The report was received and accepted by those present.

8. **Broughton Community & Sports Association**

To receive a report about the Association.

In the absence of Cllr Simpson, he provided the following report prior to the meeting.

BCSA Charity Summary which was submitted for 2021/22.

In planning our activities for the year, we kept in mind the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit at our General meetings.

The focus of our activities remains the promotion of community activities and events to benefit the inhabitants of the Parish of Broughton, North Lincolnshire.

We have successfully supported community groups such as the Broughton Runners Group. The 'Broughton Burn' (5k race) event is an example of this.

We have continued to support the Broughton Walking Group, Broughton in Bloom and have set up a new community group: Broughton Wombles.

We have reached out more to the younger generation of our community and have successfully run several children's disco events.

We have also set up a "Boomer's chat group" aimed at those members of the community who are single and felt isolated after Covid-19 lockdowns.

We reintroduced the 'Broughton Bulletin' to help raise awareness for community groups share information and promote community activity to the wider community, particularly those who do not have access to digital media.

We actively promoted community participation in healthy recreation by using social media to inform the inhabitants of Broughton of groups and events which would benefit them.

We continued to offer support to community groups/events by offering volunteers.

In addition, we have also continued to provide a link between the major users of the recreation field in order to ensure that the facilities remain in the best condition possible.

A more in-depth report is available should anyone wish to read it.

The report was received and accepted by those present.

9. Broughton Allotment Association & Leisure Gardeners

To receive a report about the Association.

Cllr. Catherine Whittingham who continues to work tirelessly for the people of Broughton sadly left Broughton Town Council in the Autumn of 2021 and as result left her role as the Council's liaison to the Broughton Allotment and Leisure Gardeners Association. Since then, I have been honoured to have been appointed by the Council as the new liaison. I have attended two ordinary committee meetings and the AGM where committee members and allotment holders not only made me very welcome but also provided some fantastic homemade cooking.

The Association's Annual Christmas Dinner organised by Catherine Connah was held at the Red Lion Inn and by all accounts was a successful and enjoyable evening not to be missed. The AGM was held on 15th March at the Methodist Chapel. The event was well supported, and a new committee was duly elected; Tony Morris (Chair), Christian Hilton (Secretary), Sue Turner (Treasurer), Catherine Connah, Dianne Woodward, Hazel Wynne, Sue Whitehall, Aaron Connah, Brian Turner, Dave Whitehall, Henry Nesbit and Pete Martin.

Throughout the year the security of the site has been a concern, so I am pleased to report Broughton Town Council completed a new section of fencing to secure the southeast corner of the site and 50 hedging plants, 25 canes and guards were kindly donated to help fill any other smaller gaps in the hedges around the site especially the southern boundary with the remainder planted alongside part of the new fence. Planting took place very late in the season and several holders have kindly agreed to water the plants as and when necessary, during the drier months of the first few seasons.

The Council's handymen John Lancaster & Paul Marsden replaced deteriorated timbers on the main entrance gates and installed a new concrete base as suggested by allotment holder Alwyn Higginson. The Council has to balance the spending of public money between what is functional and what is ideal. As such the Council has kindly agreed to supply additional timber to improve the gates further, the construction work for which allotment holders Brian Turner and Dave Whitehall have kindly agreed to undertake at no cost to local taxpayers.

Finally, the Safer Shed's North Lincolnshire advice document has been circularised to allotment holders and I am pleased to report that I am not aware of any recorded thefts this year.

Allotments are one of the most valuable assets of the Town Council as they provide a unique sense of community and purpose for many holders in a tranquil and beautiful oasis away from life's other tribulations. Not to mention the really helpful food they produce for the holders and their families.

Sonia Baig, the Deputy Town Clerk has worked closely with allotment holders and Brian Turner from the Association to ensure the continued efficient operation of the site. Sonia's experience and dedication have proved invaluable as she loves the allotments enough to know that people's other commitments and ableness varies at different times in their lives and she has been successfully able to reflect the Council's wishes that it supports all allotment holders in enjoying their allotments.

The current waiting list is much smaller (10 persons) and shorter (11 months longest) than many other councils and a proposal has been placed before the Council to reduce this further to allow the next two plots coming vacant to be divided into three new third plots or four new quarter plots to help new holders get started.

Christian Hilton has kindly provided a tailored welcome pack to the Town Council to help provide answers to the many questions people wonder about who have never had an allotment

before. The Council's webmaster has kindly added this valuable resource to the Council's allotment enquiry page <https://www.broughtontowncouncil.co.uk/your-council/facilities/allotments/>

Diane Woodward of the War Memorial sub-committee, Brian Turner and I met with the Town Council's new clerk Deb Hotson to consider the backdrop to the War Memorial. North Lincolnshire Council has kindly gifted a new traditional style lamp head. Broughton Town Council have agreed to paint the post and check with the tree specialists to ensure all the trees are safe. The homeowners of the adjacent properties have welcomed the trimming of any overhanging branches and thanked the Town Council's handymen for the neatly maintained smaller hedge shrubs that afford them their highly valued privacy. Even in March the garden at the war memorial looked impressive and A red, white and blue planting theme is planned to mark HM The Queen's Platinum Jubilee.

An open day at the allotments is planned for Saturday 4th June 2022 as part of the Queen's Jubilee celebrations and the Association is planning to attend the Platinum Jubilee event at the Recreation Ground on the Sunday too, where they are going to offer any children the chance to make a newspaper plant pot and plant a free easy to grow seed e.g., sunflower, runner bean, radish etc.

The report was received and accepted by those present.

10. Wressle Wellsite Community Liaison Group

To receive a report about the community liaison group.

The Wressle Oilwell Community Liaison Group has met four times on Microsoft Teams since our last annual parish meeting, the most recent being on the 01/02/22. The meetings have been well attended by high level representatives usually all including Mark Abbott (Managing Director), Martin Brooks (Operations Director), Martin Durham Technical Director from Egdon Resources. Helen Renshaw & Howard Golborne from the Environment Agency and Andrew Law from the North Lincolnshire Planning Department, and facilitated by Rachel Smith (Community and Communications) at Egdon

This has provided an excellent information conduit with all of the questions raised by the community competently answered by people with specialist technical knowledge and also involved in the actual processes to bring the oilwell into production.

Egdon have recently confirmed production continues at the site and there have been no health and safety, environmental or security incidents or issues. Work on upgrading the permanent facilities continues. A new flare stack has been installed and commissioned to ensure that there is no potential for visible flame, which could have a detrimental visual impact on local communities. Studies are nearing completion to determine the best method of using the gas and a decision is expected on either electricity generation or gas export to the local gas grid within the next few weeks.

Groundwater and surface water monitoring continues to be undertaken. The latest round of third-party sampling during February 2022 has again shown that there are no impacts from the operations. All of these independent analyses are published on the Egdon community website on a quarterly basis.

Ad-hoc awards including litter picking equipment for Broughton Wombles and the funding of The Queen's Jubilee Beacon and its installation at the end of the overflow carpark for the Phil Grundy Sports Centre, continue to be made in relation the community fund whilst progress is being made on establishing longer term administration of the fund via the BSCA.

All the operations have gone very smoothly, and the only immediate questions are whether the Council can do anything to support the implementation of the administration of the community fund mechanism and whether to continue the schedule CLG meetings or move to an as-and-when needed basis?

The report was received and accepted by those present.

11. Open Forum

To discuss any items raised by Parishioners.

Cllr Tattersfield informed those present that he had been emailed by a resident who had concerns about speeding and parking. Although there is little the council can do other than forward to NLC the item will go onto the next agenda.

Cllr Price stated that Speed Watch is active, but more volunteers are required.

12. Closure of Meeting

To note the time the Annual Town Meeting closed.

The meeting closed at 7.31pm.