

BROUGHTON TOWN COUNCIL



MINUTES OF ANNUAL TOWN MEETING

Minutes of the Annual Town Meeting for the Parish of Broughton held on **Monday, 22nd April 2024**, 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 Harness, Lee, Price, Ross, Senior (Chair), Simpson & Taylor. 8 residents and Rachel Smith – Egdon were present.

2. **Apologies for Absence**

Apologies and reasons for absence received from Cllr Portess.

3. **Minutes of the Last Meeting**

Resolved - approved as a true and correct record the minutes of the last annual town meeting.

4. **Mayor's Report**

Cllr Senior read out his report as detailed below:

It has been an honor to be appointed the Mayor of Broughton and Chairman of the Council again, having previously had the role for 3 years between 2018 & 2021. I am very proud of our council, for all the work we achieve together, the staff and the Councillors, we have a great bunch of people working hard for Broughton. Since the last Town Meeting, for me, there have been many highlights in the year: - The Best Kept Village Competition, East Midlands in Bloom Competition and Allotments Competitions - Meeting with many volunteers across various groups - The incredible Fireworks display in November To name a few. My highlights are always the ones where I get to meet some really great people. We have also started or progressed various projects, including looking at a renovation of the Phil Grundy Centre, and something that I know will please a lot of people, getting the new Mobile Phone Mast almost over the line. We have also been working hard on our new website which will be launched very soon and have done work to fix and repair many of the old or dangerous gravestones in the cemetery. I look forward to the next 12 months and all that we can achieve together. I would like to end by saying some thank you's. To all the amazing volunteers in our community, we have so many, and they all contribute to making Broughton a great place to live. Whether they are picking up litter, creating or managing the raised beds we see in the street, running clubs like Brownies/Guides, or running the Village Hall to name a few. There are so many, and as with previous years it was great to show our appreciation to Ann Wood who won this year's Community Service Award at the Mayors Civic Dinner. I would also like to thank the Clerk and Deputy Clerk and all the Council staff for their hard work throughout the year, their cheery smiles when you meet them are always nice. I would finally like to thank Councillor Price, our Deputy Mayor, for always being there.

5. **North Lincolnshire Councillors' Reports**

To receive a report from the North Lincolnshire Councillors.

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Cllr Lee read out the following report: -

Carol and I enjoy working with Broughton Town Council, and feel we have had a very busy year as your re-elected ward Councilor's and worked well with the constituents.

We have gone through the election process and were successfully re-instated as your Ward Councilors, this time joining up with Scawby who replaced Roxby cum Risby and Appleby Wards. Both of us have been involved in a lot of activities within the village and look forward to the development of the MUGA and 4G football pitch at the Phil Grundy Centre and proposed work on updating The Phil Grundy Centre. The firework night on the 5 November 2023 was very well attended and enjoyed by all and we look forward to holding another event this year.

The loss of our late Queen Elizabeth II in September affected a lot of people who came out to remember her, and then leading on to the coronation of the new King and the celebrations that ensued and were supported in Broughton.

Carol and I are avid supporters of the Imagination Library and we have had an excellent uptake and response from Broughton residents.

Carol and I are pleased with the updating of the floor at Broughton Village Hall. The plays that the Broughton Dramatic Society have been holding at the village hall. The concerts that have been held at the Village Hall.

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

Carol has also been attending coffee meetings and talking to elderly residents over their concerns.

Carol and I have visited and met with parishioners' where and as requested, and assisted with items such as: -

Problems with neighbors and complaints about drug incidents

Youngsters vaping near to the church

Speeding traffic, of which some people have been stopped by the police and not all young people as would be expected.

Planning Issues

Street parking issues

Thicket issues and mowing of grass areas

Proposed road repairs being delayed

Repairing of potholes and footpaths

- To name just a few of the items that we have dealt with

We have both been involved in the Broughton and Scawby NATS meetings which I have chaired for the past year, which has proved to be an asset for everyone to put their views to our local police and get assistance as and where required.

Carol and I were delighted to attend and be involved in the Broughton Armistice Day and pay our respects on behalf of Broughton parishioners by laying wreaths and talking to all those who took part.

Carol and I were also delighted to attend the Broughton Civic Dinner and pleased a large amount of money was raised for the Mayor's charity. All those in attendance were delighted with the new caters and the food they provided.

Carol and I have enjoyed our year and look forward to continuing serving and assisting the residents of Broughton to the best of our ability.

6. **Humberside Police Report**

Cllr Price read out the following report received from PC Hickson & PCSO Moody.

Statistics from previous 12 months for anti-social behaviour show the following:

- o Anti-social behaviour trends as follows:
- o There have been 31 anti-social behaviour incidents reported between January 2023 to January 2024 within the Broughton ward area. Last year there were 4 reported anti-social

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behaviour incidents for the month of January. This January this was reduced to 0 incidents reported.

- The busiest day of the week for anti-social behaviour was shown as Wednesday with the weekend following closely behind.
- Comparing 1 year's statistics for January 2022 to January 2023 there were 49 incidents within 2022 there was a reduction of 18 calls for service throughout the year 2023 with a total reported number of 31.
- The main hotspot areas for anti-social behaviour for the previous year were the Phil Grundy Centre and the High Street this is a common trend for the area due to it been populated with shops and a play park whereby the children interactive with one another.
- Several youths were identified and placed on the youth justice partnership program to educate their behaviors and reduce reoffending.

Statics from previous 12 months for crime show the following:

- Crime trends as follows:
- There have been 258 reported crimes for the Broughton area for the year of 2022 and 279 reported crimes for the year of 2023. This shows an increase of 21 crimes reported.
- The busiest day of the week for crime was shown as a Thursday followed closely by the weekend.
- Crimes of significance to the community are as follows: Burglary, vehicle crime and drug offences.
- Burglary – The Broughton area does not usually get targeted via offenders for Burglary however this is often sporadic and travelling criminals who usually target a wide range of areas for a short period of time do at times attend. IF this does occur there is a positive wrap around service to ensure that the public is aware of the incidents including intended target if known, door knocking within the area, public appeals and information passed out via social media and my community alert networks.
- Vehicle crime – Vehicle crime naturally goes up due to proactive policing within the locality there has been no known spates of vehicle crime up until January however in March 2024 there was a slight increase of attempted theft from motor vehicles whereby the intended target was vans and tools. Enquiries are currently ongoing in relation to this, and several positive leads have been identified.
- Drug offences – This is another crime which naturally goes up due to proactive policing as this incorporates stop searches, targeted stops on vehicles and warrants. There have been several drug offences dealt with proactively and several highlights have been listed below.

Highlights from Local policing team:

- Due to local community concerns, there has been several reported issues one of which highlighted HGV drivers contravening the local 7.5t weight limit on Ermine Street and Appleby Lane in response to these 5 drivers have already been reported for the offence in the year 2024.
- There have been several vehicles stop days completed in partnership with Brigg Neighbourhood policing team, traffic officers from Humberside Police, DVSA and environmental health department at the local authority in relation to concerns raised about the condition and usage of vehicles on the roads. This is generally carried out every 2-3 months in the ward area based at the Ancholme Leisure Centre, Scawby Brook.
- There has recently been an increase in patrol officers who are now based in Brigg. This adds a 24-hour 7 day a week response for the local area which has a positive impact on the policing response for the community.

- There has been a number of wrap around services been given to those who have experienced burglaries, domestic abuse and fraud within our area this helps to support those who are in need and vulnerable due to circumstances at the time of the incident and follow-up.
- We have worked jointly with several outside agencies for a variety of different things this has included licensing checks on businesses, school patrols jointly with the school crossing patrol and safeguarding visits in schools and at home addresses with numerous leads.
- Drug warrants have been carried out and intelligence will be gathered, and positive action will remain to be taken in the local area with the intention to carry out further warrants at identified properties.
- Residents have recently raised concerns in relation to e-scooters in the local area following this information been passed to us we are positively engaging with those involved and relevant actions are being taken several verbal warnings have been given and riders have been educated. Following this if there are any further incidents these will be seized under the road traffic act.
- The local policing team have also introduced several patch walks and attended numerous community engagements at varying times of the day to best reach the hard-to-reach community and to gain feedback on local issues.
- Local officers can be contacted at any point via email should they wish (Please pass over our email addresses where applicable)

The local team are always happy for suggestions should you wish to discuss anything. This could include suggested times for beat walks, surgeries or any upcoming events you wish for us to look at taking part in. We will do our best to accommodate what we are physically able to in your local community.

7. **Broughton Relief in Need Trust**

To receive a report from the Trust.

The Clerk read out the report from Rev Eames.

The Broughton Relief in Need Trust has not met since the pandemic, though we aim to meet again sometime this year. No applications for grants have been received.

8. **Broughton Village Hall**

To receive a report about the Hall.

Cllr Ross read out the Trustees Report as follows:

Broughton Village Hall – Registered Charity number 521902

Annual report for 1st August 2022 to 31st July 2023

Committee members as of 31st July 2023

Mr D.K. Portess – (Broughton Town Council) - Chair (Appointed)

Mrs C.E. Ross (Broughton Town Council) – Treasurer (Appointed)

Mrs J Lee (Broughton Town Council) – Secretary (Appointed)

Mrs A Smith representing Wednesday Pensioners and WI (Appointed and Elected)

Mr I Showler _ representing Old Time Dance Group (Elected)

Miss S Ibbottson representing Amateur Dramatic Group (Appointed)

Mr J Kitwood – (Co-opted)

Email : broughton_villagehall@outlook.com

Bookings telephone no: 07928 209581 or Email: rachaelwatchorn7@gmail.com

Broughton Village Hall is established as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation and is registered as such with the Charities Commission under number 521902.

The operating name of the CIO is Broughton Village Hall.

Land and building

The hall was built in 1959 and on completion was conveyed to be held in trust by the Official Trustee of the Charity, namely Broughton Parish Council (now Broughton Town Council)

Appointment of Trustees

The Constitution governs the appointment of Trustees and the management of the charity.

Under the Constitution there are nine Elected Members and nine Appointed Members.

The Appointed Members must be representatives of one of the following organisations:

The Parish Council (Broughton Town Council), The Committee of the Royal British Legion, The Trustees of the M Methodist Chapel, The Parochial Church Council, The Committee of the Youth Organisation, The Committee of the Cricket Club, The Committee of the Football Club, The Committee of the Amateur Dramatic Group and the Committee of the Women's Institute. The number of Members that shall form a quorum at meetings of the Committee shall never be less than one third of the total number of members registered at that time.

Village Hall Trustees are elected at the Annual General Meeting usually held in September of each year : each Trustee serves for one year and can stand for re-election at the AGM. In addition, approved regular user groups are permitted to appoint one Trustee. The Trustees form the Management Committee of the Village Hall which has the power to co-opt further Trustees on an annual basis to fill vacancies.

Policies and Procedures

To guide the Management Committee in exercising its duty of care to Members, Employees and users of the hall, the following Policy "Statements have been adopted :

Health and Safety Policy

Children's safeguarding policy

Young Person and Vulnerable Adults Safeguarding Policy

Equal Opportunities Policy

The covid 19 guidelines and policies are no longer a requirement and have therefore been removed.

Hiring Agreement

The use of the Village Hall by non-regular groups is now strictly subject to a formal Hiring Agreement which must be signed by the hirer at the time of booking.

Contact details of all regular user groups are now also kept by the Booking Officer.

Insurance

The Hall is insured with respect to property damage (building insurance) by Allied Westminster Insurance. The Management recognises that it is under a legal obligation to protect the building, its employees and users through adequate and appropriate insurance. Employee Liability Insurance is also supplied by Allied Westminster at this time.

Building and land issues

All Gas appliances and all portable electrical appliances kept in the hall are tested by qualified personnel annually or three yearly as required (this also includes any electrical equipment stored in the hall by the various regular user groups)

The mains electrical installation is checked by a qualified engineer every 5 years and a Fire Risk Assessment is reviewed and a full Fire Safety Check is carried out by the company Right Action annually and all extinguishers and other equipment is checked.

Other safety and maintenance checks are carried out on a regular basis by the Caretaker.

Objective

The objective of the Trust is to establish and run a Village Hall, to promote it for the benefit of the residents of the parish of Broughton and its surrounding neighbourhood without distinction

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of sex, sexual orientation, age, disability, nationality, race, or political, religious or other opinions, the provision of facilities for meetings, lectures and classes and for other forms of recreation and leisure time and occupation with the object of improving the conditions of life for the said residents.

Funding Strategy

It is the strategy of the Trustees to manage the revenue budget on a self-financing basis. The contributions made by the users of the hall are set to achieve this along with an annual grant from the Custodian Trustee (Broughton Town Council) The sources of income include the hiring fees from users of the hall, funds raised by various coffee mornings and any other donations which may be received.

This has been very difficult to achieve this financial year due to the extreme hike in the cost of Gas.

2022/2023 Achievements

Due to the restricted financial climate and the severe increase in outgoings, the Hall has not been able to realise everything that was planned but we were able to secure grant funding via North Lincolnshire Council from the Local MP Andrew Percy in order to provide much needed new security fencing and gates to the rear of the hall and new equipment purchased by the group known as The Village Hall Helpers together with the provision of a new catering cooker for the main kitchen kindly provided by the Town Council.

Community involvement and support

The hall continues to be a key asset for the local community and the Trustees work hard to ensure that it is kept available for the local people to hire and use while also taking advantage of additional hire income from people and organisations from outside the parish, but while we have been forced to increase our hire rates within the past year our charges are still very attractive and we are attracting interest from other groups hoping to be able to become regular users.

The Trustees give their time and effort free of charge and are grateful to all who support the hall in terms of hiring, helping, attending events, running events and sessions and to the additional donations however small we have received.

Our sincere thanks go to Broughton Town Council for our Annual Grant and special thanks must go to the organisers of the regular coffee mornings which also benefit other local charities throughout the year.

In May/June Mrs Carol Ross and Mrs Janet Lee had to take over the roles of Treasurer and Secretary respectively following the departure of Mr. Benson they have had to take some time in making sure everything was up to date and running as it should and hopefully now things are back on track and running smoothly.

Declaration

The Trustees declare that they have approved the Trustees report above and the accounts available to go with this declaration.

9. Broughton Community & Sports Association

To receive a report about the Association.

Cllr Simpson read out the following report:

Summary of the Main Activities Undertaken for the Public Benefit in Relation to the Charity's Objects:

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

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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' (10k race) the new 'Colour Burn' event are examples of this.

We have continued to support the Broughton Walking Group, Broughton in Bloom, Broughton Wombles and Broughton Boomers chat group.

We have continued to reach out to the younger generation of our community, successfully running several children's disco events.

The 'Broughton Bulletin' has continued helping to raise awareness for community groups to share information and promote community activity to the wider community, particularly those who do not have access to digital media.

We have managed the 'Wressle Oil Community Fund' by granting monies to local group.

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.

Summary of the Main Achievements of the Charity for the Year:

Community Projects/Events:

Discos:

During 2023 BCSA hosted 3 family discos: Easter, Halloween and Christmas.

On average 30 families attend each disco with the Halloween disco selling out again this year for the 3rd year in a row.

The Easter disco saw Scunthorpe United's Scunny and Hunny Bunny visit to hand out Easter eggs to the children who attended.

Unfortunately, our summer disco had to be cancelled due to other commitments at the club following a bereavement in the community.

Halloween was a massive success, there were prizes award for best dressed and everyone made an amazing effort.

At Christmas, Father Christmas and Mrs Claus visited and handed out Selection boxes for the children who had attended.

Broughton Primary School Year 6 Leavers Event:

In July 2023 we also supported a group of parents to facilitate a leavers event for the year 6 children at our local school.

The year 6 parents approached BCSA to support the year 6s leavers party which then became known as Leaversfest. The BCSA supported up-front payments for services and support with planning. The parents fundraised to cover the costs and it was agreed any additional money would be donated to BCSA general funds. The event was a huge success with around 180 people in attendance. Including the children, parents and caregivers as well as staff from the school. The children were able to have a disco, photobooth, leavers t shirts, sweets, a glitter tattoo artist and the most amazing decorations. The feedback from the children and adults was positive and they all had a night to remember.

Broughton Bulletin:

This year we produced two bulletins for the Broughton community.

They debuted a new easier to read format, so they could be accessed by even more people and featured a variety of different community groups giving more local people a chance to share their stories and promote activity in the community. We printed 1000 copies of each publication and distributed them around various Broughton hotspots and through the doors of the elderly. We also released digital versions to those wanting to access from the comfort of their own home to lessen the environmental impact.

Broughton in Bloom:

Broughton in Bloom has had a very busy year developing new floral areas and improving the existing flower beds. Broughton was runner up in the Campaign for Rural England small town

category in this area and also received a visit from East Midlands in Bloom and was granted a silver award from the judges. Here are some of this year's additions to Broughton in Bloom. At the request of local residents, we created a new bed on the grass circle on Windsor Way and this has been planted. We have also been asked for a bed at the end of St Bernard's Close and we have asked for funding for this one as a volunteer has come forward to look after it. We have also replanted the herb bed at the Village Hall, as it had become quite overgrown. Our Toddler Group also wanted to branch out and be involved so we built another new bed at the Village Hall where the children meet each week. This bed will surely be very different from the others, but we aim to get the children started young and enjoy the success of planting seeds and watching things grow.

We had already experimented with a drought tolerant bed as one of our members could no longer commit to watering. In the heat wave of last year, it was only watered three times. We soon realised that in some areas of the Town, where water was not readily available, the way forward would be to create more drought-tolerant beds. Our next two beds were either side of the bus shelter in the middle of the Town.

Plants like grasses, lavenders and flowering herbs were chosen and a mulch of pebbles was spread over the top to keep the moisture in. We still wanted lots of colour, so we chose to add osteospermums as these like to be fairly dry. We felt that not only would we be using less water, but also, we wouldn't have to replace all the plants at the end of the summer. This would mean that next year fewer plants would be needed in these beds. There was quite a lot of positive feedback, and several residents came to photograph the beds.

The Red Lion, our local pub, has also become involved and has filled window boxes and planters to brighten up the front entrance and several other businesses and organisations along the High Street have put up hanging baskets.

Broughton in Bloom was asked to place some flowerbeds in Castlethorpe, a small hamlet within the parish of Broughton. So, we have already prepared three more drought resistant beds on a prominent corner in Castlethorpe. Again, we have chosen to really prepare the beds well so that they can withstand long periods of drought and will plant them this year when the weather is more suitable for growing new plants. We have already added the weed membrane and a mulch of pebbles, and a local resident has already agreed to weed and water these three beds when necessary.

We hope to transition to more drought tolerant plants in other beds but still keep some colour from bedding plants. This will mean less water usage and less waste because the beds will not be just bedding plants. A few years ago, we bought heucheras from a local market stall and these still haven't needed replacing. They give all year round colour and coverage and don't need throwing away after three months like summer bedding does.

This year our winter season was quite different. Broughton Bloom members visited all the beds and made plans for the winter season. Instead of winter planting we decided to feed all the beds with blood, fish and bone, chicken pellets and horse manure ready for summer planting and hopefully enabling a more spectacular display.

Our strength as a group lies in the fact that we are determined to do things ourselves. All the individual volunteers together make up a formidable team who work together for no other reason than they want Broughton to look better and be a place where people are proud of their town.

Running Group:

On 18th June we held the Colour Run which is a family orientated event which we hold on Father's Day. It is the second time we have held this event and it attracted over 170 out of a possible 250. The event was really well received, and we plan to run this event again in 2024. On 3rd September we held our annual Broughton Burn 10k event. The 6th year in a row. Numbers were low but we still attracted 220 people to the event raising £500 for Alzheimer's Research UK.

The Sports Specific sub-group:

We continue to work with North Lincolnshire Council to deliver the 3G Astro turf facility and associated extra land for extra grass sports pitches.

In October we signed a long-term lease agreement for the land to build the 3G Astro turf, carparking and extra space for recreation.

We were successful in securing the Recreation Field maintenance contract for the fifth year. We have continued to work collaboratively with Broughton Ravers JFC and Broughton Cricket Club to improve the facility. Alongside Broughton Town Council have all been working on a project to help improve the auxiliary facilities on the site.

We were again successful in securing a Football Foundation grant to help us maintain the facility.

We continue to be recognised nationally for our progress and work closely with the Grounds Management Association (GMA) and Football Association as part of the Pitch Improvement Programme.

We were also successful in obtaining a Football Foundation grant to part fund a new piece of maintenance equipment (deep slitter).

Broughton Wombles:

We have 152 members. Various picks are undertaken on a regular basis with Wombles taking action as required. We have recently welcomed some junior members. We have attended a leader four where NLC have continued to offer support. A group pick was organised at the end of March as part of the great British spring clean.

It has been a steady year for the Wombles this year, feeling very proud to have helped achieve a third best kept small town award.

Wressle Oil Community Fund:

In September 2022 we started the process of managing the Community fund for Egdon Resources PLC. They have committed to donating £100,000.00 per year for us to use our grant process to distribute.

This was split into 3 application windows (1st September to 31st December 1st January to 30th April and 1st May until 31st August). Approximately £30,000.00 available in each window. £10,000.00 to be kept by Egdon themselves to distribute to worthy projects that do not meet our grant process.

Our committee members meet with a representative from Egdon to make the decisions on the grants at the end of each window.

We are pleased to say that during 2023 we granted £76,061.28 to 18 different organisations from our community.

In September 2023 the second year of this process started again with grants to be awarded early in 2024.

10. Broughton Allotment Association & Leisure Gardeners

To receive a report about the representative of the Association.

Sue Turner read out the following report:

The Annual General Meeting of Broughton Allotment Association is on Wednesday 3rd April at Broughton Methodist Chapel at 7p.m. there will always be tea and cake and a warm welcome to anyone who would like to attend.

We still have fifty-eight members and hope we can maintain this number after the AGM.

Membership will be rising to £5 per year and the Association intends to join the National Allotment Association after the meeting so that we can offer our members personal liability insurance for their plot at an additional cost of £3 per member. The committee believed that this was a very small price to pay for peace of mind. The committee has also updated its own insurance policy so that any association events are covered, and we also now have cover for any work that volunteers undertake.

The raised bed project is almost complete and has been visited by officials from Egdon who provided the funding. The final £250 of the grant will be spent this week as the Association has had six elasticated tarpaulin covers made at a cost of £300 so that any unused raised beds will be kept tidy. So, the whole project has been completed at a cost of £50 to the Association. A copy of the expenditure accounts for this project can be sent to Broughton Town Council if required.

The entrance gates are now secure. The wet weather made the gate posts unstable so a bracing bar has been fitted that is hinged and can be removed if necessary. All the materials used were repurposed and two allotment holders did the work so there was no cost.

There have been lots of complimentary comments about the boundary hedge cutting and we would like to thank Broughton Town Council for this.

Contributions to the local food bank will begin again next month when more fresh produce is available.

Finally, we have been busy this weekend. The Association has paid for the services of a local digger driver who has finally cleared the eyesore of the unworkable plot that is 40A. The plot has been flattened and scraped and we intend to create Broughton's first wildflower meadow and do our bit for the environment. We hope that this will be successful, and you will take the time to come and look at it when it is in full flower. While the digger was on site the driver also flattened the mound that had been left on plot 36A – the plot holder was highly delighted, as she had found it tough trying to dig it by hand. He also cleared and flattened plot 30A so this plot is now workable and ready to be let to a new tenant. It was the end of our financial year and we felt that it was £250.00 well spent.

11. Wressle Wellsite Community Liaison Group

To receive a report about the community liaison group.

Rachel Smith read out the following report:

Production operations continue onsite with no accidents, nor environmental incidents. The site is well maintained and is recognised by the regulatory authorities as the standard by which other projects can be measured by.

Ground and surface water analysis (tested by a third party) is ongoing with no contamination evident and there have been no issues raised by the Environment Agency during their inspection process.

The site produces oil through a surface jet pump system and during the first quarter of 2024, production averaged 530 barrels of oil per day. round 3-4 tankers per day take the oil to the Conoco Phillips refinery at Immingham.

Three gas micro turbines have been used to utilise produced gas to generate electricity for site use.

Future Plans

Rachel thanked those who came to our drop-in session at the end of last year and explained there are plans for the site currently going through the planning process.

Egdon are planning to develop the site by drilling two additional production wells and a third to reinject any water produced.

One of these wells will target a gas formation and the gas will be exported to the local gas network via a new 600m underground pipe.

The Environmental Permit application will be submitted within the next week or so to facilitate these planned new wells.

The planning application was supported by a series of environmental and ecological studies that were carried out over a six-month period in the second half of 2023.

The Planning Application is publicly available as will be the EA Permit Application. Rachel provided some copies of the booklet which supported the event.

Following the conclusion of the statutory consultation period (10th May), Egdon hopes to receive planning consent by 17th June. The next phase of drilling could start in Q1 of 2025.

Wressle Oil Community Fund

The fund has supported local charitable groups with around £130,000 worth of funding.

The fund provides £100,000 per year - £90,000 of which is managed through the BCSA and a further £10,000 directly administered by Egdon for projects which fall outside Broughton parish.

Rachel explained that Egdon was proud to support some great projects locally and she bought a few pictures taking recently of recipients.

There is still time to get a bid in for the latest round which closes at the end of April. Bids in this round include an outdoor classroom facility for the primary school. Finally, anybody who wants a site tour, let Deb Hotson know and we'll try to co-ordinate one for local people.

Cllr Senior added that a lot of groups had benefited from this fund.

12. Open Forum

To discuss any items raised by Parishioners.

Cllr Ross stated that if any of the children's groups wanted to take on a raised bed at the allotments, she had gardening equipment. Brian Turner and Cllr Ross to look into this.

A resident who lived adjacent to the field asked about ownership of some trees. The Town Clerk will look into this.

A resident stated that she was overwhelmed with how many people volunteer in the Town and wasn't aware of the work that was carried out. She was pleased she had attended the meeting.

One of the residents thanked Cllr Ross for the help she had provided as a Ward Cllr.

A resident stated she would like to see the police on the beat more to which Cllr Price advised that they are on the beat, particularly regarding the increasing issues with HGV coming through the town.

13. Closure of Meeting

To note the time the Annual Town Meeting closed.

The meeting ended at 7.29pm.