

BROUGHTON TOWN COUNCIL



MINUTES OF ANNUAL TOWN MEETING

Minutes of the Annual Town Meeting for the Parish of Broughton held on **Monday, 17th April 2023**, 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, Simpson, Taylor & Tattersfield.

One resident present.

2. **Apologies for Absence**

No apologies received.

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 Price read out her report as detailed below:

It has been an honour and privilege to have been the Chairman of the Council the last two years.

It does not seem long since our 2022 Annual Town Meeting and here we are in 2023! I am very proud of our Council, Councillors and Staff. We all work well together to the benefit of the parish of Broughton and its residents. I am pleased that we have Councillors covering all areas of the Parish including Wressle, Castlethorpe and Waters Edge.

Since our last meeting, the Council has worked on the Jubilee celebrations in the town, securing funding for new outdoor gym equipment which is now in situ, worked on a feasibility study for improvements to the Community Centre, carried out safety checks at the Cemetery, continued the maintenance of the Church yard and closed cemetery and supported Broughton in Bloom by providing further planters and hanging baskets for the town and other volunteer groups along with many other projects.

The work of the voluntary groups in Broughton are second to none. To win the Best Kept Small Town Award for the third-year running was amazing and it was an honour to collect the prize last October.

I would like to thank the Clerk and Deputy Clerk and all the Council staff for their hard work. I would like to thank Councillor Senior as Deputy Mayor for always being there when needed and a top-class Deputy Mayor.

I have had the pleasure of attending many Civic events over the last 12 months and would like to thank Brigg, Kirton in Lindsey, Winterton, Immingham, Barton and Hessle Town Council

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plus North Lincolnshire Council for their hospitality and friendship. The money raised at these Civic Events has benefited a lot of local charities. This year we raised over £400 for Lindsey Lodge Hospice. Further funds were raised at the Civic Service which were donated an split between Stillbirth and Neonatal Death Charity and St Marys Church.

5. North Lincolnshire Councillors' Reports

To receive a report from the North Lincolnshire Councillors.

Cllr Lee read out the following report: -

Carol and I have enjoyed the past year working with Broughton Town Council, and feel we have had a very busy year as your ward Councillors. We have been involved in a lot of activities within the village such as the proposed development of the 4G football pitch at the Phil Grundy Centre, our late Queen's Jubilee celebrations including the lighting of the Beacon at the Phil Grundy center with very good fireworks. The Jubilee Quiz held by Roger and Val Bonnett was held in support of the Jubilee celebrations at the working men's club.

The plays that the Broughton Dramatic Society have been holding at the village hall. The fashion show at Broughton Village Hall. Attending the Broughton Agricultural Show on a lovely day attracting a good number of people.

We have had many 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. One we can note is the moving of a bin on the High Street from one side of the road to the other that took a while to complete.

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

- Where people want to move into a large house
- Problems with neighbour's and complaints about drug incidents
- Speeding traffic
- Hedges not being trimmed back correctly
- Removal of dumped waste
- Dog fouling issues
- Street parking issues
- Thicket issues and mowing of grass areas
- Any KCom issues.
- Repairing potholes and footpaths
- Regular updates on Covid and how things are proceeding.

We have both been involved in the Broughton and Appleby NATS meeting which Carol has 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.

This year we were both delighted to be involved in the Broughton Armistice Day and pay our respects on behalf of Broughton parishioners by laying wreaths and attending the Church Service and talking to all those who took part.

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

We have enjoyed our year and hopefully if we are successful at the elections in May look forward to continuing serving and assisting the residents of Broughton to the best of our ability.

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6. **Broughton Relief in Need Trust**

To receive a report from the Trust.

Although the Clerk has tried several times no report or information has been received from The Broughton Relief in Need Trust.

Cllr Price stated that it is very disappointing that no information has been received to date at the Town Meeting and further meetings of the Trust should be called as they have not met since before Covid.

7. **Broughton Village Hall**

To receive a report about the Hall.

Cllr Portess stated that there is an excellent Committee in place with Cllr Ross taking over the position as Treasurer from April 1st and Cllr Lee taking on the Secretarial duties. Cllr Portess also thanked the staff too.

Cllr Ross read out the following report.

It seems to have been quite an eventful 12 months at the Village Hall

We have encouraged 4 new committee members from the user groups, bringing the total number up to 11. There are 14 regular user groups ranging from Parents and Toddlers to Wednesday Pensioners so we can truthfully say that we cater for all ages.

In October 2022 we closed the hall for 7 days to enable the main hall floor to be repaired and sealed, which has been very successful and looks great. We are hoping to be able to have the small hall floor looking as good by this time next year, funding permitted.

The closure of the hall in late summer was sadly unavoidable due to the discovery of a giant Queen Wasp Nest in the loft space of the main hall, but fortunately it was expertly dealt with, and we were able to reopen without too much inconvenience to the user groups.

We have struggled with the escalating fuel prices and are hopeful that once the Solar Panels are installed and working, this will assist immensely, and once the new Treasurer is able to deal with the current Utility Companies a new deal can be worked out.

We have been able, with some financial assistance from the group known as The Village Hall Helpers to purchase new cooking equipment and utensils, together with the purchase of a new hot water urn, and general items like tea towels coffee mugs have also been replaced thanks to their fund being available.

We have managed to secure a grant fund of £13,801 from SSE through the MP Andrew Percy's bid writing service for the Solar Panels and associated works and the new Treasurer is at present investigating the possibility of applying for further grants towards the installation of wi-fi and subsequently CCTV

With the very grateful assistance of Cllr Senior, we are in the process of installing wi-fi by K COM so hopefully we will be up and running very soon.

Bookings at the hall have seen a steady increase this year and we also are receiving a few Corporate enquiries this year with 3 confirmed bookings.

Unfortunately, this year we have had to impose a No Dogs policy (except Guide and Assistance dogs), and this led to the loss of one monthly user group however their booking slot was very quickly filled so no deficit was noticed.

Here's to the next 12 months

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8. **Broughton Community & Sports Association**

To receive a report about the Association.

Cllr Simpson read out the following report:

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 across our parish with support for events and funding where necessary.

We have continued to support the Broughton Walking Group, Broughton in Bloom and the Wombles as well as the Bloomers Chat Group and when other groups have requested assistance, we have done our best to help.

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

The reintroduction of 'Broughton Bulletin' has helped raise awareness for community groups and shared information and promoted community activity to the wider community, particularly those who do not have access to digital media. It's now had 4 editions.

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.

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

The charity commission will have a more in-depth report should anyone wish to read it.

9. **Broughton Allotment Association & Leisure Gardeners**

To receive a report about the representative of the Association.

Cllr Tattersfield read out the following report:

In May I was honoured to be appointed as the Council Representative to the Broughton Allotment and Leisure Gardeners Association. I have attended the Association's ordinary committee meetings, the AGM and an extraordinary meeting 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 again by Catherine Connah was held at the Sutton Arms in Scawby and was a very successful and enjoyable evening. The AGM was held on 21st March at the Methodist Chapel. The event was well supported, and a new committee was duly elected; Tony Morris (Chair), Catherine Connah (Secretary), Sue Turner (Treasurer), Christian Hilton (Webmaster), Dianne Woodward, Hazel Wynne, Sue Whitehall, Brian Turner, Dave Whitehall, Derek Sharland, Henry Newbitt and Pete Martin.

Sonia Baig, the Deputy Town Clerk has continued to work closely with allotment holders and Brian Turner from the Association to ensure the continued efficient operation of the site.

Sonia's experience and dedication has again 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 Council has reduced its waiting list and has posted on social media for residents interested in becoming new plot holders. Consents were successfully obtained from the owner of the allotments for the construction of a toilet, the introduction of bees, raised beds, associated wheelchair friendly running surfaces, car parking areas and the repositioning of the entrance gates. The gates and posts have been relocated inwards so a plot holder arriving or leaving by car can safely lock and unlock the gates without their vehicle being partially on the public road.

After a huge amount of work Derek Sharland was sadly unsuccessful in obtaining funding for the raised beds with associated wheelchair access and car parking areas. Derek has now submitted an application on behalf of the Association to the Egdon Community Fund administered by the Broughton Community and Sport Association.

The Council brought forward a new style allotment agreement which was discussed at the extraordinary meeting and the annual general meeting, the outcome of which will lead to a new approach to the management of the site going forward.

The Association has held a variety of educational courses at no cost to plot holders to help share the extensive knowledge some of the plot holders have learned over many years. Sue Whitehall & Derek Sharland provided courses for new plot holders and Christian Hilton provided updates to the welcome pack for new plot holders.

The annual best kept allotments awards were reinstated for 2022. Best large plot was awarded to Phillip Smith (plot 4), winning a prize of £100 in garden centre vouchers. The small plot prize of £50 in vouchers was awarded to Roger Wilkinson (plot 10a). The largest pumpkin winner was Sarah Barnes, (162cm), with Phillip Smith taking second (144cm) closely followed by Trevor Oades (143cm).

The War Memorial looked incredible this year, especially for H.M. The Queen Elizabeth Platinum Jubilee Celebrations and the war memorial sub team were saddened to learn that war memorials were not judged in the 2022 Best Kept Small Town Awards. The sub team is now very pleased to note a new sponsor has been found and the War Memorial will be judged in 2023.

In December association committee member Diane Woodward successfully arranged for excess produce from the allotments to be taken to the Brigg Food Bank even outside the main growing window. The Association has now put in place arrangements to provide a significant amount of produce to the Brigg Food Bank each month throughout the 2023 growing season.

10. Wressle Wellsite Community Liaison Group

To receive a report about the community liaison group.

Cllr Tattersfield read out the following report:

The Wressle-1 well has continued to flow oil and associated gas at production rates above forecast expectations made ahead of the Proppant Squeeze operation in August 2021. In January, Egdon reported that production from Wressle had exceeded 341,000 barrels of oil. Oil production is limited by the amount of associated gas that can be incinerated. This is governed by the Environment Agency Permit which restricts incineration of the associated gas via the onsite flare to 10 tonnes per day.

In the spring of 2022, Egdon replaced its original flare with a more efficient unit. In order to optimise the layout, the site was reconfigured in the summer of 2022 with the construction of a new concrete bund that now accommodates the production separator. In December 2022, Egdon took delivery of three microturbines on the Wressle site. These turbines are to be used to generate electricity to provide power to run the production site displacing a diesel generator.

The three microturbines were connected during January and February and are now fully operational. The Environment Agency continues to monitor Egdon's production operation through regular visits to the Wressle site, the most recent being on the 22 February. Importantly, no issues have been identified to date by the Regulator. There have been no accidents or spills since the start of production on the Wressle site. Groundwater and surface water monitoring has continued and latest results up to end December 2022 have been published on Egdon's newly revamped community website.

During the second half of 2022, Egdon undertook an exercise to reprocess its 3D seismic data. The new data has been interpreted and mapped with the objective of identifying possible targets that could be considered for drilling an additional well or wells in late 2023 early 2024 subject to receipt of regulatory approvals. Should the Wressle Joint Venture come forward with plans to drill a new well or wells, this will likely be from the existing Wressle wellsite.

Egdon and its Joint Venture partners are very proud of the production site at Wressle. At the latest Community Liaison Group (CLG) meeting Mark Abbot (Managing Director of Egdon Resources) expressed how pleased he is that the local community has also benefited from the Wressle development, that the Wressle site has become the industry standard for onshore oil and gas operations and kindly extended an invitation to the CLG for a site visit later in the Spring once the weather had improved.

The Wressle Community Fund has been operating since early 2022 with Egdon providing ad hoc awards to community groups and funding for H.M. The Queen Elizabeth Platinum Jubilee Beacon, the lighting of which was a very successful community event attended by hundreds of residents.

In August last year, the operation of the fund was transferred to Broughton Community and Sports Association (BCSA). Whilst the BCSA runs the fund to meet the needs of local charities and community groups, groups which are outside the remit of the BCSA can still apply directly to Egdon Resources for funding from a smaller pot which is retained to meet these needs. As a reminder Egdon is making £100,000 a year available to local groups though these two funding pots.

The first window of the Egdon Community Grant closed on the 31st of December. There were 12 applications in this window amounting to £42,029.60 and Egdon provided additional funding of £5,529.60 to allow all eligible applications to be granted. Awards made to: Team BR (Broughton Runners), Broughton Guides, Brigg & District Rangers, Broughton Town Council (Outside Gym), BCSA (This award was approved by Egdon due to the conflict of interest), Broughton Cricket Club, Broughton Primary School, Broughton Ravers, Broughton Dramatic Society, and the Purple Pineapple Theatre Academy (A new group that was awarded start-up funding).

The current second funding window closes at the end of next week. I understand the current applications exceed the £30,000 allocation and there are already applications pending for the third window which runs from 1st May to 31st August 2023.

In closing the Wressle well has been an incredible success.

Cllr Price also attends these meetings too.

11. Open Forum

To discuss any items raised by Parishioners.

Cllr Price had been approached by a resident who was unable to attend but requested that Broughton Town Council provide a report on the following items:

1. Telecom Mast.
2. Update on the construction of the MUGA.

Clerk to arrange.

The one resident present asked why there had been a drop in the precept to which he was told the precept had remained the same, but it was the way it was calculated on the Council Tax information from NLC.

Cllr Tattersfield stated that the Council had asked NLC if they could also freeze the budget which they had.

12. Closure of Meeting

To note the time the Annual Town Meeting closed.

The meeting ended at 7.29pm.