

**MINUTES of a MEETING of BRINGTON and MOLESWORTH PARISH COUNCIL
held on 23rd February, 2017 in BRINGTON SCHOOL at 6.45pm.**

Present: Cllrs. Vanessa Littleboy (Chair), Simon Foulds, Rupinder Innes.

Temporary Clerk/Notetaker - Cllr. Littleboy

Parishioners: Mrs. Ann Welman

Parishioners Open Meeting:

Mrs. Welman expressed her concern about the timing of the proposed Parish Plan Update saying she felt it would be too late to gather opinions about the influx of development in the near future within the village of Brington. In particular Mrs. Welman referenced the planning application for 2 large dwellings on land at The Gables and stated that many of the current and rumoured future proposals are for housing that is not required. Whilst not against development she feels there is a great need for affordable housing and that the application should be amended to suit the needs of the community. Her family had experienced the difficulty in being able to acquire starter homes for her older children within in the village. She also pointed out that school numbers were declining, but without housing to support locals remaining local or young families being attracted to move into the area this would remain a problem.

Councillors responded with agreement and that it had been recognised the Parish Plan Update was too far into the future, therefore a dedicated survey for opinions regarding future development was being conducted in the next few weeks.

17/21 Apologies for Absence or Non-Attendance:

Cllr. Paul Naples due to work commitments. Cllr. Chirria Hutchison last minute family commitment.

17/22 Declarations of Pecuniary Interest:

There were none.

17/23 Reports from District and/or County Councillors:

Cllr. Simon Bywater was unable to attend but sent the following update which was read out by Cllr. V. Littleboy.

"Despite recent bad press locally I have been assured by the Director of Learning at CCC, Keith Grimwade, there are no concerns in how Brington School is run or managed. I have also met with the Head Mistress and Governors at Brington School to see how I could help support them in any way. It was a very positive meeting and I have been reassured the school is working hard and very well to support the children and their progress".

"Other news: CCC Members voted to increase Council Tax by 2% (ring fenced for Adult Social Care). In May there will be elections and I will be standing for re-election but in the new Division of Sawtry and Stilton which sadly doesn't include Brington and Molesworth."

17/24 Approval of the Minutes of meeting held 12th January, 2017.

These were confirmed as a true record and signed by Cllr. R. Innes.

17/25 Matters Arising:

Commemoration of Lost Soldiers in WWI – information had been received about Private Samuel Ray, who would be remembered at a church service on April 16th.

17/26 Correspondence:

All emailed correspondence had been circulated.

- i) Village Clean Up – Cllr. Foulds wondered whether it could be tied in with the Keep Britain Tidy Campaign although time was very short to organise this but he would look into it, however he would definitely set a date for the Village Clean Up which would include both Brington and Molesworth.

Action: Cllr. Foulds.

- ii) Remaining Trees from HDC – We had been notified that due to cancellations there were a number of trees that needed allocation from the recent Free Tree Scheme. Cllrs. discussed and considered that in light of intention to plant Commemorative trees and the imminent removal of

the dilapidated wooden mole on the Millennium Green that we should apply. It was felt the tree/s should be of a type that gives back to nature by producing seeds or nuts etc. Size was an issue due to limited space but it was agreed that 4 Wild Cherry trees would be requested. One to replace the wooden mole and act as the Commemorative tree and the others planted along the fence at the bottom of the Green. Plaques would need to be ordered in time and inscription decided.

Action: V. Littleboy

- iii) Huntingdonshire Health Walks – a number of booklets had been received. Cllr. Littleboy had placed a few in each of the Village Notice Boards and handed each Councillor a few to distribute.
- iv) 20mph Parking Zone – Fred Wing, a Governor of Brington School had written to ask if the Parish Council would consider applying to a 20mph zone outside the School and Pre School. Cllr. Littleboy had replied that she would raise the proposal at the February meeting and that traffic calming measures to reduce speed along High Street, Brington and congestion outside the School and St. Leonards Hall were something already being discussed and to be considered in depth. Councillors felt this issue should be included in the Parish Plan questionnaire.

17/27 Planning and Tree Works Applications:

17/00244/TREE – Willow in front of house: Prune back to previous pollard points (between 2-3 metres). Location: Molebarn, High Street, Molesworth.

Councillors had viewed the tree and felt that whilst not experts it did seem in their opinion that the tree had barely recovered from the previous severe cutting back. It was also noted that the application was accompanied by photographs that were not representative of how the tree would look in full leaf. The photographs were those taken before the last pollarding and when the tree was in need of work being done. It was agreed that the Parish Council would not support the application based on the observations noted and that an up to date photograph would be submitted to show how these were reached.

Action: V. Littleboy

17/28 Millennium Green:

Cllr. Foulds had received a cheque for £20 as donation for use as car parking area. He would attempt to wire it into the Charities account via online banking.

Action: Cllr. Foulds.

17/29 MUGA:

No noted concerns to report.

17/30 Highways and Maintenance:

- i) Grounds Maintenance Quotation – HDC had sent a quote for £155 excl. VAT per cut. The acceptance needed to be returned by 10th March. Councillors were initially confused by the maps as to how the areas had been allocated and needed clarification but agreed in principle to accept the quotation.

Following the meeting it was realised that this was the agreed plan from previous years and therefore all agreed to confirm acceptance of the quotation.

Action: Cllr. Littleboy

- ii) Adoption of Telephone Kiosks – Notifications had been received of the Draft decision by HDC in response to the proposal by BT for the removal of telephony service and adoption of kiosks in Molesworth and Brington.
- iii) Potholes – Cllr. Foulds had reported to CCC the state of the potholes in Thrapston Road.

17/31 Footpaths:

- i) Footpath 32 - Cllr. Naples had noted it was very muddy and covered with leaves and would report this.
Action: Cllr. Naples
- ii) Maps - Councillors had received thanks from 2 parishioners for the recently distributed Footpaths map.
- iii) Footpath 9 – Parish Council was informed by Andy Girvan of Campbell Buchanan of their request to extend the closure of the footpath and for public to continue to use the diversionary route. In the interests of Health & Safety the Parish Council agreed that this was acceptable as long as it was

just a temporary measure. However Campbell Buchanan were advised by CCC to withdraw their application as it would most likely be refused by the Secretary of State. They were instructed to open the footpath on or before 28th February as previously indicated in their original application. Councillors felt that for safety the public should be aware that they could still use the diversionary route and perhaps some signs should be displayed to this effect.

- iv) No Through Road, Molesworth – it had been noted that considerable work had been carried out on the ditches and the culverts cleared to alleviate water run-off from the surrounding fields.

17/32 Brook in Molesworth and Flood Risk:

It was noted that no further correspondence had been received and no evidence of clearance along the course outside the Hangars had occurred although some clearance had been carried out further along the water course where it runs alongside the B663 towards the Catworth/Brington junction. Councillors would report any updates and so it would continue to be an agenda item until the situation had been satisfactorily resolved.

17/33 CIL, Parish Plan, Neighbourhood Plan:

Notices needed to be created to put through every household to encourage people to come forward and join the Steering Group at the meeting on March 11th. It had been suggested by some parishioners that perhaps developing a Neighbourhood Plan rather than updating the Parish Plan should be considered. This would be included in the new notices and inclusion in Village Matters/Grapevine/Website and displayed by 3rd/4th March.

Action: Cllrs. Innes and Hutchison

17/34 Risk Assessment Register:

It was suggested that in order for Councillors to agree to a format an extraordinary meeting was called.

Action: All Cllrs.

17/35 Transparency Funding:

Information to be circulated to Councillors with new deadline date.

Action: Cllr. Littleboy

17/36 Finance:

- i) Bank Reconciliation for period ending 31st January, 2017 was circulated and agreed.
ii) Approval of payments to be made – proposed by Cllr. Innes and seconded by Cllr. Foulds as follows:
- £102.10 - Mrs. R. Foulds – Childrens Christmas Party. Chq. 745
 - £25.00 - St. Leonards Hall Hire – 8th February. Chq. 746

Further discussion on transferring accounts to Barclays was postponed until RFO was present.

17/37 Clerk Vacancy:

Further advertising had been done but no applicants so far. Advertising would continue.

Action: V. Littleboy

17/38 Website, Grapevine and Publicity:

Cllr. Littleboy noted that the website was being updated regularly.

Cllr. Hutchison to submit information to Village Matters regarding need for people to be interested in becoming part of the Parish Plan Update/Neighbourhood Plan process and also information about joining the Brington & Molesworth Grapevine Group on Facebook.

Action: Cllrs. Hutchison, Innes and Littleboy

17/39 Any other Business and items for Information only:

None.

17/40 Date of Next Meeting: Thursday 6th April, 2017. 6:45pm in Molesworth Village Hall.

There being no other business the meeting closed at 8:49pm