

**MINUTES of a MEETING of BRINGTON and MOLESWORTH PARISH COUNCIL  
held on 12th January, 2017 in BRINGTON SCHOOL at 6.45pm.**

**Present:** Cllrs. Vanessa Littleboy (Chair), Paul Naples (Vice Chair/RFO), Simon Foulds, Chirria Hutchison  
Rupinder Innes.

Meeting chaired by Cllr. Naples. Temporary Clerk/Notetaker - Cllr. Littleboy

Parishioners: Mr. Matthew Healey, Mr. Simon Paddick

**Parishioners Open Meeting:**

Messrs Healey and Paddick had written to Cllr. Hutchison asking if they would be able to attend this meeting to seek clarification on the issue regarding the use of the Play Area and Courts on Hill Place. They had noted the announcements placed in Village Matters stating the facilities were open for all Brington residents to use. However they were not clear how the Parish Council had come to that conclusion especially as they were under the impression that the facilities were for Hill Place residents due to the fact a maintenance and management fee was charged to those residents. They also stated that there was no mention of the wider use in any of the legal documents related to the purchase of their houses. A question of insurance was also raised as a concern. Cllr. Hutchison stated that she had checked this with the management company and was told that anyone is covered.

Cllr. Naples read out the chain of emails between himself and Andy Girvan , Land and Planning Manager for Campbell Buchanan, and the main contact to the Parish Council on all matters relating to the development. In July 2016 Cllr. Naples had written asking that confirmation be given that the recreational facilities were available for use by the whole Brington community as was outlined in the Planning, Design and Access Statement (May 2013) which formed part of the approved application to construct 56 new dwellings on Hill Close. Assurances were made by Andy Girvan that this was so and it was then that the Parish Council made announcements to the effect in Village Matters. Both Mr. Healey and Mr. Paddick felt that this information from Andy Girvan was incorrect so Mr. Healey requested a copy of the relevant sections taken from the PD & A Statement in order they may take up the matter with Campbell Buchanan.

*Messrs. Healey and Paddick left the meeting.*

*Action: V. Littleboy*

**17/1 Apologies for Absence or Non-Attendance:**

There were none.

**17/2 Declarations of Pecuniary Interest:**

There were none.

**17/3 Reports from District and/or County Councillors:**

There were none.

**17/4 Approval of the Minutes of meeting held 8th December, 2016.**

These were confirmed as a true record and signed by Vice Chairman P. Naples.

**17/5 Matters Arising:**

- i) Precept Notice - had been received and placed on Notice boards and Website.
- ii) Parish Logo - Cllr. Hutchison showed an idea she had designed. All councillors were happy with it and so she will now format it for use.

**17/6 Correspondence:**

All emailed correspondence had been circulated.

- i) Huntingdonshire Local Plan to 2036: Wind Energy Developments Consultation – this had been circulated to all councillors 28 Nov, 2016. The Parish Council had also received a letter from parishioners Mr. Colin Watters and Mr. Geoff Burn asking that we responded to this consultation. Having previously read the options it was discussed and decided that the Council would Recommend Option 3 as being the most relevant for our community.

*Action: V. Littleboy*

- ii) Commemoration of Fallen Soldiers 1914-18 - Mr. Geoff Burn wrote saying he noted that no trees were requested from the HDC scheme but wondered if we should request trees this year to be planted in commemoration of the 7 soldiers from the Parish who had lost their lives in WW1. This was discussed as a worthy gesture but it was felt that the lack of suitable spaces meant that rather than 7 trees being planted that just one in each village would be more easily accommodated. It was noted that the carved wooden mole on the Millennium Green had now deteriorated considerably and needed removing and this could be discussed as a possible location for the Molesworth tree. Mr. Burn also mentioned he had previously spoken to Andy Girvan with regard to possible planting of the trees in the orchard area on Hill Place. It was decided that Mr. Burn should be asked to follow up his conversation with Andy Girvan as the area did seem the most appropriate location for the Brington tree.  
*Action: V. Littleboy*
- iii) DLP – had asked for another meeting in January with Cllrs. Littleboy and Naples. As it had been decided at the first meeting with them that schematic plans were submitted in the second quarter of 2017 a letter politely declining their request would be sent and suggestion to follow the agreed timescale.  
*Action: V. Littleboy*
- iv) Planning Application: 16/02679/FUL – received too late to be included in the Agenda and so moved to be discussed under next item.

**17/7 Planning and Tree Works Applications:**

16/02679/FUL Proposal: Erection of two detached residential dwellings.

Location: Land South of The Gables, High Street, Brington

The application and plans were studied and discussed at length. Several observations were noted:

The scale of the building is not proportionate to the size of the plot which shows that little to no outdoor amenity space is allowed for either dwelling.

A narrow and limited shared access for properties of this size is a potential safety and annoyance issue.

The Public Footpath is routed through the whole northern part of the plot which highlights several problems. The proposed northernmost dwelling is very close to the footpath and the access driveway runs some way along it which may be a deterrent to its use by the public often uneasy about entering private residential property, even if clearly delineated. Health and safety concerns were noted over the visibility of footpath users to motorists on the access driveway.

The proximity of the footpath to the northernmost property and its very limited outdoor space raises serious privacy issues for potential occupants.

The access drive to The Hawthorns runs right against the western boundary line of the site so any privacy screening could cause light and shading issues to the rear of both dwellings and the very limited outdoor space.

It was noted to define if this is considered a Greenfield site.

Councillors were mindful that there are already several properties of this size with approved planning, so question whether there is a need for more when recent surveys show there is a need for smaller more affordable housing in the village. It was also noted that Brington is a small settlement that has seen huge growth in a very short period of time yet still remains an unsustainable village due to there being no shop, very limited public transport services, no Public House, limited public recreational facilities etc.

There is also an increased flood risk for properties downhill from this proposed development with flooding issues being reported since work has commenced on the nearby Hill Place development and the amount of land able to soak up rainwater has been reduced.

It was unanimously agreed the Parish Council should recommend refusal of this application on the above points.

*Action: V. Littleboy*

As a result of this discussion, the recent planning applications for residential dwellings that had been dealt with and the potential development of the village, it was felt that councillors needed to ask to meet with Planning Officers at HDC to better understand what are the expected and acceptable changes to such a small village .

*Action: Cllr. Naples*

- 17/8 Millennium Green:**  
Cllr. Foulds had dealt with the missing fence/gate.
- 17/9 MUGA:**  
No noted concerns to report.
- 17/10 Highways and Maintenance:**
- i) Mud on Road - In the late morning of 15 Dec, 2016 Cllr. Innes had taken photos of excessive mud on the road caused by contractors on the Hill Place development and then spoken to the Senior Site Manager Peter LeMoel. He said it was usually dealt with at the end of each working day. Cllr. Innes pointed out that it was already a danger to drivers travelling at 60mph around the bend and requested the mud was dealt with straight away and suggested that signs were put up warning of potential hazard due to slippery roads. Cllr. Innes is continuing to monitor the situation.  
*Action: Cllr. Innes*
- ii) Adoption of Telephone Kiosks – Cllr. Hutchison has been dealing with this and as instructed by BT had notified the relevant bodies of our intention. In progress.
- 17/11 Footpaths:**
- i) Cllr. Naples had found a very reasonable price for printing the maps and would distribute to Cllrs. Littleboy and Hutchison who had volunteered to deliver them to all houses in the parish.  
*Action: Cllr. Naples*
- ii) It had been brought to the attention of Cllr. Naples that some of the bridleways in this parish and byways in other neighbouring parishes were being ridden on with motorbikes out of season. He is monitoring the situation and questioned whether notices of use were present at the beginning of the footpaths and bridleways in our parish.  
*Action: Cllr. Naples*
- 17/12 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. Councillors would report any updates and so it was to be left as an agenda item until the situation had been satisfactorily resolved.
- 17/13 CIL, Parish Plan, Neighbourhood Plan:**  
A further meeting to encourage and create a working party for updating the Parish Plan had been arranged for Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> March in Brington School at 3pm. Advertising would be needed and discussed meanwhile.  
*Action: Cllrs. Innes and Hutchison*
- 17/14 Risk Assessment Register:**  
Cllr. Foulds had conducted the assessment of the Millennium Green and would circulate to all councillors.  
Cllr. Hutchison had researched on the internet for specific information on Health and Safety for councils and identifying what the Parish Council is responsible for. The various areas needing to be assessed were shared out between all councillors to conduct in the next few weeks.  
*Action: All Cllrs.*
- 17/15 Transparency Funding:**  
Application to be discussed at next meeting.
- 17/16 Finance:**
- i) Bank Reconciliation for period ending 31<sup>st</sup> December, 2016 was circulated and agreed.
- ii) Approval of payments to be made – proposed by Cllr. Innes and seconded by Cllr. Hutchison as follows:
- £930.00 - HDC - Grass Cutting Services. Chq. 743
  - £50.00 - Brington School – Hire for meetings 8 Dec & 12 Jan. Chq. 744
- Awaiting invoice from Mrs. Foulds for Childrens Party contribution.
- iii) New Millennium Green Charity account still in progress due to further requirements of Trust documents being approved by Barclays Bank.
- iv) It was decided to defer discussion on transferring all accounts to Barclays until the Charity account is successfully opened and the Precept had been lodged into the existing account.

**17/17 Clerk Vacancy:**

Further advertising to be done in local shops, post offices etc.

*Action: V. Littleboy*

**17/18 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 process and also information about joining the Brington & Molesworth Grapevine Group on Facebook.

*Action: Cllrs. Hutchison, Innes and Littleboy*

**17/19 Any other Business and items for Information only:**

Cllr. Naples mentioned the need for cleaning up the spamming of 'seen' emails. Cllr. Littleboy said she had found it useful but realised she had not marked many those needing no response with FYI which would go some way to reducing the number of notifications everyone received.

**17/20 Date of Next Meeting: Thursday 23rd February, 2017. 6:45pm in Brington School.**

**There being no other business the meeting closed at 8:54pm**

Vanessa Littleboy. These minutes are considered draft until approved at the next Parish Council meeting.