

**Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting**  
**Of Broughton Parish Council**  
**Held at St Marys House, Broughton**  
**On Monday 10<sup>th</sup> April 2017 at 7.30pm**

**Present**

Mrs Leech – Chairperson, Councillors, Mr Gardiner, Mr Howarth, Mr Wolstencroft, Clerk to the Council, Mrs C Coles, Cllr George Reynolds and six members of the public.

**1. Apologies**

Cllr Byrne

**2. Minutes of previous meeting held 18<sup>th</sup> April 2016**

These were agreed and signed as a true record of the meeting and proposed by Mrs Fletcher, seconded by Mr Fletcher and duly signed by the Chair.

**3. Chairperson's Report**

The Chairperson's report was distributed prior to the meeting.

*Queens 90<sup>th</sup> Birthday Party June 2016-* This was organised by the Parish Council in conjunction with Broughton Social Group and supported by a grant from Cherwell District Council. It was the biggest turnout of any recent village event with around 100 people attending. The weather was great and a good time was had by all. Thank you again to everyone who helped make the day a success. Nathan Allan very kindly took lots of photos and has printed out two, to include everybody who came. These have been framed and will be hung in St Mary's House.

*Village Website* - All Parish Councils are now required to have a web site and the Broughton one can now be found at [www.broughton-oxon.uk](http://www.broughton-oxon.uk). Parish Council documents are on there, and eventually there will be details about the village. The Parish Councillors are not very IT minded so if anyone is able to help expand this website please let them know. Your help would be appreciated

*Planning Applications* - Applications submitted to CDC are passed onto the Parish Council who give careful consideration to the impact that the building would have on individuals and to the village as a whole. The Parish Council wish to preserve the rural character of the village.

*Highways* – The Parish Council is in regular contact with the Highways Authority advising them of works required to ensure public safety. Any potholes should be reported to the Parish Council who will endeavour to have them repaired as soon as possible. The Parish Council are very aware that as soon as the council fill in one pothole another one appears.

*Speeding* - This is still an important issue, especially on the Main Road. The Parish Council are pleased to say that Dave Yeomans was able to refurbish the Vehicle Activated flashing speed sign and fit it with a solar panel to keep the battery charged. The Councillors discuss speeding at nearly every meeting and are going to commission another speeding survey this year.

*Car Park* - At long last CDC have agreed that the Parish Council can lease the village car park for a peppercorn rent. This has the condition that we don't build any houses on it, which obviously we don't want to do. In fact the lease was signed recently so we will be putting up a car park sign shortly. Thank you to Cllr Hamish Gardiner for keeping the car park as tidy as possible.

*Bottle Bank*- Two bottle banks have recently been placed in the car park and despite a few hiccups have been working well.

*Litter*- In general the village remains litter free and thanks are extended to all for helping to keep the village tidy. However 'fly tipping' does still occur and incidents of fly tipping should be reported to the Council who will remove it as soon as possible. A recent village clean up collected 6 bags of rubbish from the surrounding roads. Thanks to everyone who helped.

*Main Road Clear up* – Thank you to everyone who has again helped to keep the footpath along the Main Road clear.

*Grass Maintenance* - The Council continue to monitor the contract for grass cutting both in the churchyard and the Jubilee Tree site to ensure that the work is carried out to a high standard. This is important as grass maintenance accounts for a substantial part of our expenditure.

In addition, the Parish Council has agreed to take over grass cutting on the verges within the 30-mph limit in Broughton. This will be done by a contractor at least once a year and to supplement these Councillors have agreed to the purchase of a strimmer to be used to keep the road junctions clear. This will be operated by Parish Councillors but if anyone else in the village would like to assist they would be very grateful.

*Church footpath* - The footpath is uneven and the council would advise continued care when walking especially during wet weather.

*Dogs* – The Parish Council thanked the majority of dog owners who responsibly clean up after their dogs and use the 4 dog bins provided by the Parish Council. People are reminded to also clean up after their dogs in the fields around Broughton. Failure to do this could result in livestock catching parasites from dogs and parasites damage farm animals that are grazing. In view of the facilities that have been provided there should be no dog mess in the village and the Parish Council would not hesitate to report anyone who is seen.

The Council extend their thanks to Lord Saye and Sele for the continued facility to the village of access to the Castle Grounds.

Thanks was given to the Parish Clerk and fellow Councillors for their continued help and support.

From the floor, Mr Fletcher suggested to the Chair that she contact Nathan Allan who may be able to help with the website.

The report was accepted, proposed by Mrs Fletcher and seconded by Mrs England.

#### **4. Financial Report**

The Clerk presented the accounts for 2016/17, circulated at the meeting and are attached to these minutes for filing. Income received was £5123.85 and expenditure £5218.28. The end of year balance was £2350.65.

It was proposed by Cllr Gardiner and seconded by Cllr Wolstencroft that these accounts should be accepted.

From the floor, Mr Fletcher asked if OCC will provide a grant to cover the grass cutting? The Parish Clerk confirmed they would but was unsure of the exact figure. Cllr Reynolds reminded the Parish Council to check the agreement before signing.

5. **Correspondence**

No letters had been received.

6. **Open Forum**

Mr Ward spoke about the car parking on Wykham Lane which is dangerous when he is trying to turn out of his drive. The Parish Council have little powers with parking issues. It is hoped that when the car park is ready more hirers of St Marys House will park there.

Cllr Reynolds confirmed that the Unitary Authority debate will be settled by the end of the year.

Meeting Closed at 7.45pm.

Signed .....

Dated .....

