

Draft Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting
Of Broughton Parish Council
Held at St Marys House, Broughton
On Monday 16th April 2018 at 7.30pm

Present

Mrs Leech – Chairperson, Councillors, Mr Byrne, Mr Gardiner, Mr Howarth, Clerk to the Council, Mrs C Coles, and seven members of the public.

The Chair noted that an invitation had been given to everyone and she thanked those for coming.

1. Apologies

Cllr Wolsencroft and Cllr George Reynolds

2. Chairperson's Report

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

Snow in Broughton – The Parish Council would like to thank all villagers who helped clear snow last December and this February. It was good to see people helping their neighbours. Although snow doesn't happen that often the Parish Council are going to purchase a small grit spreading device. (This is the size of a small line marking machine. However they have nowhere to store it. If anyone has somewhere suitable please contact the Chair).

Village Website – This can be found at www.broughton-oxon.uk. You will find all Parish Council documents on there, and eventually there will be details about the village. The Parish Councillors are not very IT minded so if you are able to help the Parish Council 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 can be reported to the Parish Council who will endeavour to have them repaired as soon as possible. However it is possible to report them yourself by going to www.fixmystreet.com and this is a very easy process. 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 fitted it with a solar panel to keep the battery charged and continues to maintain it. The Councillors discuss speeding at nearly every meeting and are considering purchasing Speed Watch equipment in conjunction with Hornton, Tadmarton, Swalcliffe and Shenington.

Car Park - At long last the Parish Council have heard back from CDC and it has been agreed that the Parish Council can lease the village car park for a peppercorn rent. This has the condition that the Parish Council don't build any houses on it. In fact the lease was signed recently so the Parish Council 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 the expenditure.

In addition the Parish Council has taken over the cutting of the verges within the 30 mph limit in Broughton. A small annual grant is received from OCC. A strimmer has been purchased and the Chair would like to thank the team of people who helped keep the grass looking neat and tidy during the year. The Parish Council also trimmed back trees and bushes to improve visibility at junctions, and even discovered a wall that hadn't been seen for years! If anyone else would like to assist they would be very grateful. The verge along Sandfine Road from the Saye and Sele Arms down to The Castle Lodge has been cleared by a contractor. The Parish Council would like to keep it cut several times a year and are looking for a new contractor to do this.

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

Elections - Broughton Parish Council has an election this year and a notice will be published on 27th March. There are five seats to fill. If there are no more than five candidates, they will be elected unopposed. If there are more than five, there will be an election on 3rd May. If you would like to stand you can obtain nomination papers from the Parish Clerk, Mrs Christine Coles, broughtonpc@btinternet.com or 01295 276229. The deadline for nominations is April 6th.

Dogs - The Parish Council would like to say a big thank you to 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 the Parish Council feel that there should be no dog mess in the village and 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. The Chair thanked the Parish Clerk and to fellow Councillors for their continued help and support.

3. Financial Report

The Clerk presented the unaudited accounts for 2017/18, circulated at the meeting. Income received was £6899.34 and expenditure £5710.26. The end of year balance was £3539.73.

4. Correspondence

No letters had been received.

5. Open Forum

It was reported that recently the school bus has not been able to get up Wykham Lane to collect the children. There is a sign on the wall asking drivers not to park beyond that point.

A minibus has been sent out separately to take the children to school. The Parish Clerk to ask OCC if they will paint double yellow lines. A letter will also be sent to Sarah Cocks to remind the residents of the Almshouses to park correctly.

The village signs have been cleaned.

The bench and notice-boards require some attention.

Cllr Gardiner reported that he has plant bulbs to give away and they could be planted in Jubilee Gardens. A planting party could be arranged.

There was no further business to discuss and the Chair thanked everyone for coming. Matters raised would be carried over to the next Parish Council meeting.

Meeting Closed at 7.50pm.