

**Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting**  
**Of Broughton Parish Council**  
**Held at St Marys House, Broughton**  
**On Monday 15<sup>th</sup> April 2019 at 7.30pm**

**Present**

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

The Chair thanked everyone for coming and introduced the new Councillors, David Hands and Haden Mills.

**1. Apologies**

None.

**2. Chairperson's Report**

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

This has been a busy year for Broughton Parish Council (BPC). BPC have said goodbye to Councillors Alan Wolstencroft and Hamish Gardiner and would like to thank them both very much for their contributions to the village. BPC welcomed two new councillors Dave Hands and Haden Mills who joined in January 2019. With the help of many volunteers from the village BPC have helped keep the area neat and tidy and they were thanked.

*Church footpath* – It was noted that the footpath had got very narrow coming up to the Main Road from the church. In April BPC were helped to widen this and it has made it easier for people with wheelchairs or buggies to get past. However it should be noted that the footpath is still uneven and BPC would advise continued care when walking especially during wet weather.

*Notice boards and bench*- At the last Annual Parish Meeting members of the public noted that the Parish Council Notice Boards and the bench in Jubilee Gardens were looking tatty. These have now been varnished and look smart. This made BPC think about the notice board outside St Mary's House and the Councillors have agreed to pay for a new one to be fashioned like the Parish Council ones.

*Car Park*- As you will be aware BPC took over the car park from CDC last year and have been working to make it look better so that more people will use it. In the summer over 20 people came to help shift a huge pile of gravel and level the surface. It only took 40 minutes in the end. BPC had a car park sign made and Hamish very kindly put it up together with a one way sign as you leave. Thanks to Haden for painting the pole. BPC hope that everyone will encourage visitors to use the car park and that people using St Mary's House will also use it.

*Glass bins*- Due to high demand two further glass bins have been located in the car park and BPC have had no reports of full bins recently.

*Grass Maintenance* – BPC would like to thank the team of volunteers who have used the strimmer that was bought last year to help keep the verges tidy. It has made a difference being able to do it when needed rather than wait for Highways. In addition BPC have cut back trees and discovered a wall in the Main Road that they didn't know existed before.

BPC 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 expenditure.

*Main Road Clear up* – Thank you to everyone who has again helped to keep the footpath along the Main Road clear, including sweeping up lots of leaves in the Autumn.

*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 CDC who will remove it as soon as possible. You can do this through [www.fixmystreet.com](http://www.fixmystreet.com). A recent village clean up collected 6 bags of rubbish from the surrounding roads. Thanks to everyone who helped.

*Tree of Remembrance*- BPC accepted the offer of a Silver Birch sapling and commemorative plaque from the Woodland Trust to remember those fallen in the 1<sup>st</sup> World War. This was planted on Remembrance Sunday by Edward with Lord Saye in attendance.

*Speeding*- This continues to be a major concern. Together with Hornton, Swalcliffe and Tadmarton Parish Council's, BPC have purchased "Speed Watch" equipment. During the week of 25<sup>th</sup> March a team of volunteers enabled BPC to cover the periods 8am to 9am and 5pm to 6pm to obtain data. They recorded 187 people doing over 34mph with the maximum speed recorded being 45 mph. In future the PCSO Peter Sanford will be able to send letters out to people. He is also concerned about the amount of speeding through the village and is looking for ways to help.

*PCSO* - Peter is also keen to help with crime prevention advice and is happy to work within the community. If you have a non-urgent problem you can contact him through the 101 number or his email address is [Peter.Sanford@thamesvalley.pnn.police.uk](mailto:Peter.Sanford@thamesvalley.pnn.police.uk). For all urgent calls it is obviously 999.

*Defibrillator and first aid*- In January Broughton had its very own referendum as to whether to purchase a defibrillator or provide First Aid training for those who wanted it, paid for by the Parish Council. 68% were in favour of the defibrillator and 81% in favour of first Aid with some people voting for both. On 6<sup>th</sup> April 2019 14 villagers attended a basic First Aid course provided by Oxford College of First Aid. They found it very useful and it is hoped that they will let their neighbours know that they have done the training. The subject of purchasing a defibrillator remains on the Council's agenda due to the number of people who voted for one.

*Village Website* – This can be found at [www.broughton-oxon.uk](http://www.broughton-oxon.uk). You will find all Parish Council documents on there, and you will find information about the village on there. BPC would like to thank Nick Jesson who has taken on the job of keeping the website up to date. If there is anything you think should be on there but isn't please let BPC know.

*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. BPC wish to preserve the rural character of the village.

*Highways* – The Parish Council are 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](http://www.fixmystreet.com) and this is a very easy process. BPC are very aware that as soon as the council fill in one pothole another one appears.

*Dogs* - BPC 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. James Taylor has asked that dog walkers keep to footpaths and not to walk where there are sheep.

In view of the facilities that have been provided BPC feel that there should be no dog mess in the village and would not hesitate to report anyone who is seen. In fact there was a recent spate of fouling in the residential part of Wykham Lane. The Parish Council put up orange signs to point this out but it took signs warning of a £1000 fine, provided by the dog warden to send the message home.

BPC extend their thanks to Lord Saye and Sele for the continued facility to the village of access to the Castle Grounds. The Chair thanked her Parish Clerk and fellow Councillors for their continued help and support.

**3. Financial Report**

The Clerk presented the unaudited accounts for 2018/19, circulated at the meeting. Income received was £6652.24 and expenditure £6905.65. This left a deficit of £253.41.

**4. Correspondence**

No letters had been received.

**5. Open Forum**

Jubilee Gardens was discussed as a resident has offered to help with the planting of shrubs.

Mrs Knight asked about the location of the wall in the Chairs report? BPC were clearing up to the 30mph sign on the Main Road and found the wall by Vic Lays Field. The verge is now much wider and looks cared for. The Main Road is being kept clear of weeds and strimming should start soon. It was noted how lovely the path looks to the Church. Some hedges are overgrown and a note will be put in the next newsletter reminding villagers to keep them trimmed back.

A couple of highway issues were noted. The village sign at the Tadmarton end is dirty. The no entry road markings and signage at the top of Wykham Lane have been reported to OCC but with no action taken yet. There has been an increase in motorists driving the wrong way since the road markings have become faint. Cllr Reynolds agreed to speak to Highways.

Any matters raised tonight would be taken to the next meeting.

Meeting Closed at 8pm.