

Great & Little Broughton Parish Council

Annual General Meeting of the Parish Council

At Great Broughton Village Hall

Held on 13th May 2019

MINUTES

- **Present:** Parish Councillors Cllr. Mrs. S. Wilmot and Cllr. Mr.D. Moreton, Cllr. Mr. M. O'Neill, Cllr. Mr. R. Jones, Cllr. Mrs. H. Eldabe.
- **Guests:** Mr Garbutt - Resident, NYCC Cllr Heather Moorhouse, HDC Cllr Andy Wake, HDC Cllr Bryn Griffiths
- **Apologies** - None
- **To sign as a correct record Minutes of previous Annual General Meeting**-Minutes from previous AGM meeting held in May 2018 were signed by Cllr. Mr. M. O'Neill, as a correct record.

- **Election of Parish Council Chairman**

Cllr. Mr. D. Ashton nominated Cllr. Mr. M. O'Neill as Chairman.

Cllr. Mr. G. Ablett seconded.

- **Acceptance of Office of Parish Council Chairman**

Cllr. Mr. M. O'Neill accepted and was duly elected as Chair of Parish Council.

- **Election of Parish Council Vice Chairman**

It was agreed not to fill this position at this time in order to allow the new Councilor's time to familiarize themselves with the workings of the Council.

- **Election of Members of Village Hall Committee of Management**

Cllrs. Mr. D. Ashton and Mr. G. Ablett were appointed to be members of the Management Committee for 2019/2020

- **Chairman's report 2018/19**

This report refers to some of the matters dealt with by the Parish Council over the last twelve months.

General Village Maintenance

The Council have continued the contract for grass cutting in various public areas in the village. Bench repairs have been carried out as required.

Once again, the erection of the Christmas Tree on the Green by the Parish Council was well received by residents and by others from further afield.

The Parish Council thanks those residents who helped in the erection and the removal of the Christmas Tree.

Play Area

The Play Area continues to be well used and is very much appreciated by not only the children but by their parents and grandparents.

The current bark surface breaks down and becomes water logged. The need to regularly supplement the bark is becoming an increasing cost (circa £1,000 per year) and a labour burden. An all - weather surface would reduce the maintenance costs and meet the latest safety standards. Estimates put the cost of removing the existing bark surface and replacing it with a low maintenance all weather surface at circa £25,000- £30,000

Recent donations from the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) have made this project feasible, however, there is a competing road safety project - installation of Vehicle Activated Speed Sign (VASS) at the boundaries of the village. As there are insufficient funds for both projects - a decision between the competing project will be made once we have an estimate of the cost to purchase/install/maintain the VASS

Millennium Wood

The relationship with the Woodland Trust continues to be problematic. However, at the request of the Parish council they have installed a number of red painted posts to indicate alternative paths through the wood. An area of the wood has been set aside to allow the planting of commemorative trees by residents of the Parish.

The initiative to improve the entrance to the woods by upgrading the surface of the right of way leading to the entrance was abandoned by NYCC, when despite discussion with a representative of the Parish Council, the adjacent land owner objected and threatened court action should the work proceed without his agreement

Village Hall Committee of Management

Councillors David Ashton and Geoff Ablett have been our representatives on this Committee and the Parish Council have made a grant of £750 towards the upkeep of the Village Hall.

Planning Applications

The Parish Council are consulted on all planning applications in the village and we make recommendation on all of them.

HDC are developing a new Local Plan to manage housing development in the Hambleton district between 2018 and 2035. The HDC schedule for development of the plan has slipped yet again by 12 months. The local plan will now be published in June 2019 followed by a “representation” period of at least six weeks but the Plan is not expected to be adopted until the end of 2020 following examination by a Government Inspector.

Councillor David Ashton is monitoring progress on the plan and advising the PC on potential impact on the community.

Trees on the Holme Management Plan

Following completion of the original five-year management plan, a further five trees have been removed, one due to storm damage and four to stop suppression of adjacent trees and create space for four new plantings. In total since 2015 12 mature trees have been removed either due to storm damage, safety reasons or to create space for new plantings, leaving a compliment of 14 mature trees and 8 saplings. This planting of 8 saplings is intended to provide a canopy of trees along the beck side for the enjoyment of future generations as and when the inevitable happens and some of the remaining mature trees require removal.

This last year’s work completes the planned work on the beck.

Parish Council Web Site (greatbroughton.org.uk)

The web site was redesigned, rebuilt and launched this year. It is experiencing more hits and the feedback from users is positive.

Former Gypsy Site at Ings Lane

We continue to monitor HDC’s progress in ensuring the illegal building and facilities of the site are removed by the land owners and the land is returned to grazing. There is now only one family in residence and although resolution of this illegal residential occupation is taking longer than anticipated during 2019 HDC will continue to pursue a legal remedy through the courts.

Fly tipping is becoming a problem in the Lane and on the former gypsy plots. Hambleton are responding to the tipping in the lane but are reluctant to remove the rubbish from the gypsy plots as it is private land and the responsibility of the land owner rather than the district council. The Parish Council continues to urge the District Council to take action on this issue.

Holme Beck Bank Erosion

Two years on from the installation of the bank supports, fish ladders and flow direction installations they all appear to be working as designed. The beck

kept flowing despite low water volumes caused by the driest summer in the last 50 years, thus ensuring the fish survived throughout the length of the water course. Allowing the steep bank sides to grow which has encouraged the development of an ecosystem which is supporting the return of a variety of birds and other wildlife.

Road Safety

The PC has been discussing the installation of Vehicle Activated Speed Signs(VASS) with Heather Moorhouse, our NYCC Councillor. We are awaiting a policy decision from NYCC to allow Parish Councils to install VASS. The installation and maintenance of such signs would have to be paid for out of Parish Council Funds.

Acknowledgments

The Parish Council would like to thank HDC Councillor Andy Wake and NYCC Councillor Heather Moorhouse for their help and support throughout the year.

Last but not least, I would like to thank my fellow Councillors Susan Wilmot, Helen Eldabe, David Ashton, Geoff Ablett, and the Parish Clerk Louise Halliwell for all their hard work during this busy year and a special thanks on behalf of all the Councillors and residents to Ann Raw and Geoff Lamb who resigned as Councillors in May this year after decades of service to the Parish

Michael O'Neill – Chairman May2019.

- **Program of Parish Council Meetings 2019/20**

It was agreed that the Parish Council would meet at 7.00pm in the Village Hall on the following dates in 2019:

10th June, 15th July, August no meeting, 16th September, 21st October, 11th November, 16th December

- **Financial Report**

It was reported that at the end of the financial year 2018/19, Expenditure was £11792.47, Income was £12230.20, including the Precept received from HDC which was £10,800. This left a surplus of £437.73.

The current bank balance was £7,558.18

The contingency fund was £11,722.04

- **Appointment of Internal Audit Councillor**

Cllr. Mrs. S. Wilmot will continue as internal auditor.

Cllr. Mr. M. O'Neill closed the meeting.

