

GREAT AND LITTLE BROUGHTON PARISH COUNCIL

**MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD
IN GREAT BROUGHTON VILLAGE HALL AT 7PM ON 9 JANUARY 2023**

PRESENT: Councillors - Geoff Ablett, Helen Eldabe, Robert Jones, Cathy Williamson and Susan Wilmot.

ALSO PRESENT: County Councillor - Bryn Griffiths. Clerk to Great and Little Broughton Parish Council: Angela Livingstone , Zzoomm representatives - Andrew Carn and Declan Gallagher.

23.1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

Apologies for absence had been received from Deborah Towler. There were no declarations of interest.

23.2 TO AGREE THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 14 DECEMBER 2022 AND ANY MATTERS ARISING

The minutes of the meeting of 14 December 2022 were proposed as correct and approved. The Chair signed the document.

23.3 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME - No residents were in attendance at the meeting.

23.4 POLICE REPORT - to 5 January - 1 violence against the person.

23.5 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

23.5.1 Councillors discussed the following information received:

22/02896/MRC-Horizons Back Lane - no objections

22/02906/FUL - Genius Gas Innovations - no objections

Planning Decisions by HDC

22/02490/FUL - Broughton Grange, High Street - granted

ACTION: Clerk

23.6 VILLAGE MATTERS

23.6.1.1 Zzoomm Full fibre upgrade - Representatives from Zzoomm attended the meeting and wanted to be able to answer any queries on the build and upgrade. Mr Carn assured that 90% of the works would be completed using existing Openreach infrastructure. He stated that there would be footpath closures and some mess with mud due to the time of the year. Permission of the Parish Council was required for works on the Village Green. Mr Carn to forward details to the Clerk and this was to be added to the next agenda for a decision. It was assured that every home in the village would be able to access the full fibre upgrade. The Chair questioned guarantees on the work and the condition of the footpaths after completion as there were many elderly residents in the village and there had been issues faced in other local villages. Mr Carn informed that Zzoomm were liable by code and would need to make good any work completed. He stated that there could be defects and that they used contractors but any issues would be progressed. Parish Councillors were informed that Ofcom had ruled that any telecom company could use the existing Openreach ducting. It was questioned if it was likely that other full fibre companies would also wish to install in the village. Mr Carn stated that this was possible however very unlikely. A Parish Councillor questioned if residents who chose to stay with their existing providers would have a weaker signal due to the new full fibre service using the same ducting. Mr Carn assured that this would have no bearing on current services. There had been reports of residents being without internet for a month due to Zzoomm cutting through cables, assurances were requested that residents would not be left without service as there were many working from home. It was advised that Openreach had been at fault in the other village for the depth of the previous cables and that Zzoomm were happy to allow access for any repairs whilst they were working. It was advised that if there were issues residents should contact their service provider who would contact Openreach and Zzoomm would also inform Openreach. It was questioned if Zzoomm could support the village with getting electricity to the site of the christmas tree and Mr Carn was to enquire if an additional duct could be added to support this whilst works were ongoing.

Zzoomm representatives left the meeting.

23.6.1.2 Cllr Griffiths advised of a large number of issues reported in other villages who had already had work completed. He advised that the clerk could gain support for reinstatement of paths/grass from Stephanie at Streetworks.

23.6.2 Playground refurbishment - update - Councillors discussed options to achieve the required gradient for disabled access, they continued to progress the refurbishment and quotations were awaited. It was agreed that ROSPA guidelines be followed. **ACTION: Cllr Eldabe / Cllr Towler**

23.6.3 Village Green - to consider village green status - Cllr Eldabe had been finding information on the previous application for village green status. RESOLVED: Councillors asked Cllr Eldabe to progress an application for village green status. **ACTION: Cllr Eldabe**

23.7 VILLAGE MAINTENANCE

Grass cutting contract - Cllr Towler had discussions with and sent tenders to four contractors to date, Councillors had been asked to forward any further contacts urgently and tenders were expected to be returned to the Clerk before the February meeting. **ACTION: Councillors/Clerk**

23.8 DEVELOPING FUTURE PLANS/PROJECTS - there were no projects discussed at this time.

23.9 PLAYGROUND INSPECTION REPORT/ROTA

Cllr Williamson advised that she had commenced the January checks, the following rota was agreed.

Cllr Jones - February

Cllr Eldabe - March

Cllr Wilmot - April

Cllr Ablett - May

Cllr Towler - June

23.10 CORRESPONDENCE TO DISCUSS

The Clerk had nothing which required discussion. Cllr Ablett informed of contact regarding storage of the Christmas tree lights, it was agreed that they could be stored in the village hall. Payment had been offered for the lights but declined. Space was also required for football nets. The storage matter would be progressed by Cllr Williamson. Councillors were reminded to advise residents to use the contact form on the website to make contact in future or email the clerk for any urgent matter. The Clerk was asked to compose a sign for the noticeboard on how to make contact. **ACTION: Cllr Williamson/Clerk**

23.11 FINANCIAL MATTERS

Financial Report – The Clerk gave information on the financial position. Payments were required for Clerk monthly salary and an invoice just received from Squeezyweb £60, these were accepted by Councillors. A transfer of £3000 to the deposit account for future projects had been suggested in the May meeting but not yet completed. RESOLVED: Councillors approved this be completed. It was questioned if an invoice for the disappointing christmas tree had been received, the clerk informed that nothing had been received. Cllr Ablett agreed to progress removal of the tree through Mr Mike Cook as per previous years, Clerk to make payment when invoice received. **ACTION: Clerk /Cllr Ablett**

23.12 COUNTY COUNCILLOR/DISTRICT COUNCILLOR AND PARISH COUNCILLOR REPORTS

Cllr Griffiths informed that a Parish Charter would be sent out and encouraged this be read. He added that green bin costs would be put onto the same footing for size and cost across the County. Taxi licensing would also have a consistent policy. The Chair questioned the high costs charged for local taxis, which Cllr Griffiths would enquire regarding.

23.13 Date of next meeting - Monday 13 February 2023 at 7pm

Adopted: _____ Date: _____

Chair of Great and Little Broughton Parish Council