

BROCKHAMPTON GROUP PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES of the meeting of Brockhampton Group Parish Council held on Thursday 19th March 2015 at 7.30pm at Bromyard & Winslow Town Council Chamber, Old Vicarage, Rowberry Street, Bromyard

Present: Cllr J Fellows (Chairman), Cllr P Friend (Vice Chairman), Cllrs S Simpson, D Cave, K Young, G Williams, C Brazier, B Omar, R Steeds, D Boddington, G Swinford.

In attendance: James Hawkins (Chairman of the BDCA), Hannah Welsh (Project Manager BDCA), Laurie Barrett (Footpaths Officer), Mrs M Seldon (Clerk) and one member of the public.

- 15/15 To accept **Apologies for Absence**
Apologies had been received from Cllr H Allan, K Rock and S Brace.
- 15/16 To receive **Declarations of Interest**
None were declared
- 15/17 To approve the **Minutes of the Meeting:**
Thursday 19th February 2015
Proposed Cllr Cave, Seconded Cllr Brazier, **AGREED** by all and signed by the Chairman as a true record.
- 15/18 To discuss **progress and developments with the BDCA.** Hannah Welsh (Project Manager) and James Hawkins (Chairman) were in attendance to give an update on progress and discuss ways of better communication in the future.
Summary of conversations:
- Delivery of funding
 - Litter pick and lots of other activities, events and activities
 - Fencing - stock coming onto common
 - Need to work on the communication between the two
 - Sharing of minutes and agendas - reports on both sides
 - Works - these need planning more in advance - problem with the speed of work - contractors need to get in touch with either Hannah Welsh or James Hawkins. A phone call is all that's needed.
 - BDCA born out of council - and has the full support of BGPC - but must communicate effectively
 - Wildlife Trust - very concerned about the ecological side of the recent cutting
 - James Hawkins for contract work
 - Lauren Smith - formal paper work
 - White railings (safety bar) - these need straightening and painting
 - Lengthsman scheme - not all money on Common - should be used elsewhere in the parish
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- Dog poo bag dispensers - these need siting
 - Delegate siting and erection - to Cllr Brazier and James Hawkins
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- Benches - these have permission
 - Hay cutting - Cllr Boddington liaising with Hannah Welsh about certain plants
- 15/19 To receive a report from Laurie Barrett: **Volunteer Footpaths Officer** for BGPC
Mr Barrett reported that he had walked all the paths, renewed signage and been to see land owners and farmers. Good liaison with Cathy Berkeley who also sends through complaints. Mended gates and stiles. Hereford Council give furniture (stiles, etc) and landowners do the work.

Cllr Steeds reported that the stile which has long been in need of repair has now been fixed, but the cross bar is too high - a kissing gate would be better.

Contact Laurie Barrett through Clerk

15/20 Clerk's Report: Update on discussions from the **February meeting** and other matters for information only:

- PC Website
- Milestones
- Speed camera and Stoke lacy - next time, and talk to John Meek too.

15/21 **Public Participation** – members of the public are allowed 10 minutes to address the Council
John Sallis - from Linton Industrial Estate Unit 15 was invited to speak. Mr Sallis reported that many items were being stolen from the Industrial Estate and the police did not appear to be assisting in any way. Although the perpetrators have been caught on CCTV and finger prints found there have been no convictions and crimes were now not being reported. It was believed that residents from the travellers' site were causing this problem and Mr Sallis asked that BGPC and HC try to put a stop to this.
Cllr Fellows and Cllr Williams reiterated the message from PC Meek that all acts of crime must be reported and a crime number obtained.
Cllr Swinford to talk to police and Hereford Council at a senior level as damage had been done to the travellers' site since it has been refurbished.
Cllr Fellows suggested Mr Sallis attend the next meeting.

Councillors asked about the dumping on the rail track as this was felt to be a health and safety issue and a danger to Environmental health. The Clerk was to report this issue again.

15/22 **Report from the Ward Councillor** - Cllr Gary Swinford

- Core Strategy
- Speculative application in Pencombe Lane refused
- Layby in need of proper blocking-off now
- Thanked everyone for progress made during the last four years

15/23 To receive **reports** from:

Police Liaison Group – Cllr Williams did not attend the last meeting.

Bringsty Common – Cllr Friend gave a report:

- Quiet woodlands - court threw out claim and costs awarded against complainant
- George Thompson and NT finding it difficult to maintain tracks
- Layby opposite Live and Let Live - could this also be blocked off
- Paws for a Walk - SUNDAY 12th April
- Tiblands motor x event - Easter Saturday

15/24 a) To receive an update on the **Scheme of Work** identified by the Working Party.
Work had been identified - and this would be scheduled for next year. There was ditching work to do and this needed to be sympathetic to wildlife and so would be co-ordinated with the BDCA.
Cllr Williams reported a problem between Rookery Wood and Sandy Cross - where water was eroding the road in places and ditches were blocked. The Clerk to report to Balfour Beatty.
The verges on the A44 from the Blacksmiths forge to the Live and Let Live were also identified as requiring work.

15/25 **Financial Matters:**

i) To approve **accounts for payment:**

Mary Seldon Net Salary 12: £220.53

HMRC PAYE 12: £13.60

JRB Enterprise Ltd: £714.96

APPROVED by all.

ii) To approve **Bank Reconciliation** to 19th March 2015

- iii) To approve **Income and Expenditure** to 19th March 2015
APPROVED by all.
- iv) To review the **Clerk's salary scale** for the year 2015/16
The Clerk was awarded a increment to SP23 (10.836 per hour)
- v) To approve **internal audit** arrangements for the end of the financial year 2014/15
It was AGREED that the Clerk would ask Overton Associates in Much Cowarne to be the council internal auditor again this financial year.

15/26 To discuss the possible extension of the car park adjacent to Brockhampton Primary School and the Downs.
In light of the recent resignation of the headmaster at the school it was felt that the council needed to wait for this to settle down at the school. The Clerk was asked to leave this item off the agenda until Cllr Friend had obtained the necessary agreements and arrangements.

15/27 Matters for **future consideration**
Arrangements for annual meetings