

BROUGHTON PARISH

Minutes of the Annual Town Meeting held on Monday, 24th May 2021, at 7.00 pm, in the Phil Grundy Community & Sports Centre, Scawby Road, Broughton

133. Record of those Present

The following parishioners were present: - Mr P Senior (Mayor), Mrs J Lee, Mrs L Price, Mrs C Ross, Mr N Simpson, Mr P Tattersfield, Mr R Waltham and Mrs C Whittingham.

134. Apologies for Absence

There were apologies from Mr D Leitch and Mr K Portess.

135. Minutes of the Last Meeting

The minutes of the Annual Town Meeting held on Monday, 13th May 2019, were available at the meeting. **It was resolved that they be approved as a correct record.** Note: There were no minutes from last year because the Annual Town Meeting due to take place on Monday, 18th May 2020 did not do so because of the coronavirus pandemic.

136. Matters Arising

There were no matters arising from the minutes.

137. Mayor's Report

The Mayor gave a detailed report on his activities over the past two years: As someone who has lived in Broughton over 40 years, the opportunity to be the Mayor of Broughton for the last 3 years has been a highlight of my life. It has been a great honor to serve and represent the community that I have grown up in. This Annual Town Meeting is a rather unusual one, in that, with lockdown restrictions not allowing us to meet last year, we are covering the last 2 years. When I started my 2nd term in May 2019, everything looked as though it would be a normal mayoral year and the first 9 months did go as normal, with my attendance at several civic events including civic dinners, and services, attendance at the Methodists Harvest Festival, several meetings with NLC regarding sporting facilities. I also met with Wickstead along with the Clerk regarding snagging issues with the Play Park and several meetings with Clarke Telecom regarding us having a new mobile phone mast. In June 2019, we ran the annual Allotments competition and also secured a joint grant with BCSA to help purchase a new tractor and tools for maintaining the sports field. Later in the year we ran the annual Christmas Lights competition and also for the first time in many years saw the return of a Christmas tree to the Village Hall. Throughout the 2 years we continued to give out grant money supporting: Brownies, Broughton Amateur Dramatic Society, Royal British Legion, Broughton Village Hall, Broughton in Bloom & LIVES. However, in March 2020 everything changed, with the Corona Virus Pandemic and national lockdown affecting every part of our lives including how the council ran. At the March 2020 meeting of the council, we activated the Emergency Community Plan, the first time I can remember it being used, we also handed the Clerk emergency powers to enable him to run the council in the event of us not being able to meet and function. We also set up a dedicated Corona Virus website and email for residents to be able to request help with what used to be everyday tasks such as getting food, medicine, posting letters etc. Fortunately, the government pushed through emergency legislation and from April 2020 with the speedy work of the clerk we were able to continue meeting as a council, albeit remotely.

With the NLC Ward Councillor elections on hold for 12 months, we were fortunate to have the leader of NLC (Cllr. Rob Waltham) at our meetings to answer questions and keep us informed about the latest developments within the Broughton and Appleby ward.

In May 2020, we took over the cutting of the highway grass verges from NLC. We also agreed to begin a community Speed Watch led by Cllr Price.

In June 2020 again led by Cllr Price, we saw the first annual Scarecrow weekend, with many, many residents creating some amazing scarecrows.

Throughout 2020 we continued with our normal Allotments, Best Kept Garden and Christmas Lights competitions, and again in December 2020 we again have a Christmas tree, something which I hope will continue.

We can't quite finish without mentioning the MUGA. It was the councils desire to work with NLC and other interested groups to see a Multi-User Games Area built in Broughton. We spent many, many hours undertaking research and investigating how the MUGA could be run in a sustainable and financially viable way. Unfortunately, the end result was that we could not find a way of BTC running the MUGA without significant financial risk which we felt was not appropriate to lay on taxpayers. So, we had to look for another option. The good news is that BCSEA and NLC are now looking to move forward with the build in the adjacent field. I am very pleased that the MUGA still looks to be going ahead, albeit a little saddened that after so much work the Council was unable to make it happen.

Thanks

At the end of each year, it is worth looking back and thanking those who have made significant contributions to the life of the council.

Staff / Clerk / Deputy Clerk

I'd like to thank Gary and Sonia for all they do to keep the council running, especially when having to do most of it remotely and from home for the last year. I'd like to thank Gary for supporting me as Mayor for the last 3 years with his knowledge and expertise in local government helping to guide so many things.

Cllr. Price

I'd like to thank Cllr. Price for her support and encouragement, she has been an amazing deputy mayor and has often taken the lead on things.

Cllr. Rob Waltham

I'd also like to thank Cllr. Waltham for being at our meetings for the last year and standing in for our Ward Councillors. He has made himself available to give updates and take questions, which given the times we have lived through over the last 12 months has been valued.

It was resolved that the Mayor's Report be accepted.

138. Town Clerk's Report

(i) Town Clerk's Report for 2020

The Clerk said it had been a busy year for the Council with an unexpected twist at the very end of it.

In May 2019 there were local elections for the Parish of Broughton.

The number of councillors elected to represent the Parish of Broughton was reduced from 18 to 9 councillors to cover Broughton, Castlethorpe, Wressle and Waters Edge.

At the Annual Meeting of the Full Council Councillor Senior was re-elected as Mayor and Councillor Price re-appointed as Deputy Mayor, whilst later in the year Councillor Glover sadly died and Councillor Tattersfield was then co-opted onto the Council.

Mrs Ann Allcock also left the Council after more than 16 year's service as a Cleaner / Caretaker.

At the Annual Meeting the Finance Committee was done away with leaving only the General Purposes Committee, the Personnel Committee, along with the Communications Working Group and the Appeals Panel.

The Full Council had met where possible every Monday on the last week of the month, whilst committees had met throughout the year as and when required.

The General Purposes Committee had overseen the running of the Phil Grundy Community & Sports Centre, whilst the Personnel Committee had dealt with staff matters.

During the year the Council had renewed its membership of the War Memorial Trust, HWRCC, CPRE, SLCC, VANL and ERNLLCA.

The Council has also made a number of grants throughout the year including:-

2nd Broughton Brownies £250, Broughton Amateur Dramatic Society £300,

Royal British Legion £50, and Broughton Village Hall £4,890.

The Council entered the 'Best Kept Village Competition for 2019' and was 'Highly Commended' in the Small Town category, whilst Broughton in Bloom also won an 'Environment' award too.

The Best Kept Allotment was won by Miss E Dunderdale for a large plot, and Mr D Sharland for a small plot.

The Council purchased £30,132 of grounds maintenance machinery as a result of a grant of £19,132 from the Football Foundation and a £11,000 donation from BCSA.

It also installed led lighting in the Sports Hall of the Phil Grundy Community & Sports Centre at a cost of £1,706 +VAT.

Planning permission was given for a MUGA, the Council managed to obtain a grant towards it from North Lincolnshire Council, who would then put it out to tender.

It had been intended to put a Telecommunications Mast on one of the floodlights of the MUGA, however this was not possible so it was suggested that should it be located between the MUGA and the car park.

The Council arranged for the erection of a Christmas Tree with Lights outside the Village Hall with the help of local volunteers, whilst Miss Sharon Carter was the winner and Mr & Mrs Woodhouse the runners-ups of the 'Christmas Lights Competition for 2019'.

Local residents Mrs Jean Boardman and Mrs Ann Smith were put forward for the North Lincolnshire Council Community Awards, both of whom were shortlisted and then one announced the final winner.

Unfortunately, the Council was only able to hold one major civic event this year - the Civic Service went ahead as normal, but the Civic Dinner was unable to go ahead due to the coronavirus pandemic.

The pandemic would lead for a need to call an extraordinary meeting of the Full Council and major changes in how the Council operated and was staffed.

The Clerk concluded his report by saying a big thank you to the Mayor, Deputy Mayor, Chairs of Committees and all other councillors and fellow work colleagues for all their help and co-operation over the past year - especially given the twist at the end of it as a result of the coronavirus pandemic.

(i) Town Clerk's Report for 2021

The Clerk said it had been a very unusual year for the Council.

The coronavirus pandemic had a major effect on the way the Council operated throughout the whole of the year.

Initially the pandemic led to the furloughing of some staff and the closing of some of the Council's facilities, however this changed over time as each lockdown was eased, but the Council was still far from being back to normal.

One of the early effects of the pandemic was that council meetings could no longer be held face-to-face and had to be held remotely over the internet using Zoom.

At the Annual Meeting of the Full Council Councillor Senior was re-elected as Mayor and Councillor Price re-appointed as Deputy Mayor.

The Full Council had met, where possible, remotely every Monday on the last week of the month, whilst committees had also met remotely throughout the year as and when required.

The General Purposes Committee had overseen the running of the Phil Grundy Community & Sports Centre, whilst the Personnel Committee had dealt with staff matters.

During the year the Council had renewed its membership of the War Memorial Trust, 41 HWRA, CPRE, SLCC, VANL and ERNLLCA.

The Council had also made a number of grants throughout the year including:- Royal British Legion £50, LIVES £250 and Broughton Village Hall £5,367.26.

The Council entered the 'Best Kept Village Competition for 2020' and was the winner of the Best Kept Village in the Small Town category and also the winner of the Best Community Planting in the very same category, but it also managed to be the overall winner of the Best Kept Cemetery.

The Council had drawn-up a management plan for the MUGA but felt unable to go ahead with the building of such a facility due to the financial risks involved. It looked at the possibility of either selling some land at a nominal amount or leasing some land at a peppercorn rent. In order to facilitate the building of a MUGA in Broughton the Clerk was asked to contact North Lincolnshire Council and let them know that the Council was prepared to offer them a lease at a peppercorn for a part of the playing field to enable them to build a MUGA. No reply was received to this offer from North Lincolnshire Council, however BCSA then announced it was going to build the MUGA in the field next to the playing field and later submitted a planning application for it. A Telecommunication Mast was intended to go between the MUGA and the car park, however the relocation of the MUGA would leave it half-way down the field on its own, so a new location in the corner of the playing field was suggested, but this was turned down.

During the year the Council agreed to take over responsibility for the cutting of the grass verges but not the public rights of way from North Lincolnshire Council. A new noticeboard was also purchased and erected outside the Phil Grundy Community & Sports Centre for users of the facility to use to promote their activities. The Council also carried out extensive Tree Work at both St. Mary's Churchyard and at Pocket Park.

The Council again arranged for the erection of a Christmas Tree with Lights outside the Village Hall with the help of local volunteers, and also held the annual Christmas Lights Competition.

The winner of the Best Kept Garden Competition for 2020 was Mr & Mrs Smith. Unfortunately, the Council was unable to hold any major civic event this year, such as the Civic Service or Civic Dinner due to the coronavirus pandemic.

The Clerk concluded his report by saying a big thank you to the Mayor, Deputy Mayor, Chairs of Committees and all other councillors and fellow work colleagues for all their help and co-operation over the past year - which had been a difficult and challenging year.

It was resolved that both of the Clerk's Reports be accepted.

139. North Lincolnshire Councillors' Reports

A report was given by Councillor Waltham - the Leader of North Lincolnshire Council. **It was resolved that the North Lincolnshire Councillors' Report be accepted.**

140. Broughton Relief In Need Trust

Mrs Price reported that the Trust had not met since 2019, there had been no applicants in the last two years - although there may be one soon, and they were desperate for a treasurer. **It was resolved that this information be noted.**

141. Broughton Village Hall

Mrs Ross said the Village Hall Committee had not been able to have a meeting in the last twelve months and the Chairman was in hospital, and because of lockdown they had not been able to do things - although the back room had been painted and the roof mended. **It was resolved that this information be noted.**

142. Broughton Community & Sports Association

Mr Simpson gave a detailed report of what BCSA had done over the past year or so.

In planning our activities for the year, we kept in mind the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit at our General meetings. 42

The focus of our activities remains the promotion of community activities and events to benefit the inhabitants of the Parish of Broughton, North Lincolnshire.

We have successfully supported community groups such as the Broughton Runners Group. The 'Broughton Burn' (5k race) event is an example of this.

We actively promoted community participation in healthy recreation by using social media to inform the inhabitants of Broughton of groups and events which would benefit them.

We continued to offer support to community groups by offering volunteers as well as assistance in running the following competitions or displays

Scarecrow competition 20th to 21st June 2020.

Show us your tree - 1st December to 14th December 2020.

Secret Santa – December 2020.

It was resolved that this information be noted.

143. Broughton Allotment Association & Leisure Gardeners

Mrs Whittingham said that Mr Alan Curtis had retired as Chairman, the Association had over forty members and met on the internet. The main problem was with the plots not being tendered and there was a waiting list for plots. There had been a few break-ins and a need to therefore try and secure the site by putting up a new fence / repairing the gates / plugging the holes in the hedge. She was pleased to be involved with the Association who had lots of enthusiastic people. **It was resolved that the information be noted.**

144. Wressle Wellsite Community Liaison Group

Mr Tattersfield said he, along with others, had been shown around the site. The Community Liaison Group had met on 1st March. The meeting was well attended with twenty-two people in attendance - including ten residents and representatives from Egdon Resources, Broughton Town Council, North Lincolnshire Council and the Environment Agency. They answered most of the questions on the evening and promised to follow up those they could not afterwards. A draft set of minutes were sent out with answers to twenty-one written questions. The Environment Agency had approved a hydraulic fracture plan - proppant squeeze to take place over two days. **It was resolved that this information be noted.**

145. Parish Affairs

It was raised that the area of grass outside the cemetery needed cutting. **It was resolved that this information be noted.**

146. Date, Time & Place of Next Meeting

The next Annual Town Meeting is due to be held on Monday, 23rd May 2022, at 7.00 pm, in the Phil Grundy Community & Sports Centre, Scawby Road, Broughton. **It was resolved that this information be noted.**

147. Closure of Meeting

The meeting was closed by the Mayor at 7.40 pm.