

Brompton-on-Swale Parish Council

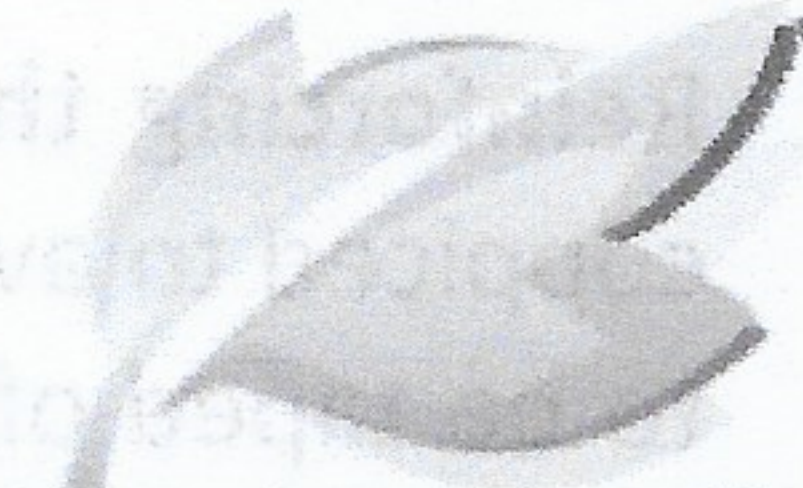
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**Brompton on Swale
Parish Council**

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held Thursday March 14 2024 at 7.00pm at the Community Sports Hall, Honeypot Road, Brompton-on-Swale

Present:

Councillors S Rudge (Chair) A Guest, A Lerigo, L Addington, D Dempsey, J Weatherby, R Allinson and Adam Lowery

1. **To receive apologies and approve reasons for absence:** Councillor Car Les and PCSO Elliott Brown
2. **Declaration of Interest:** Councillors Weatherby and Dempsey declared an interest in item 5.1 and Councillor Addington on item 5.7.
3. **Public Participation:** Members of the public who wish to speak regarding an item within the remit of the Parish Council may do so. PLEASE NOTE: Total time limit for this item is 30 minutes, each speaker limited to a 5-minute slot.
 - 3.1 Adam Lowery attended the meeting, following his attendance at the previous meeting to consider joining the council. The council agreed to co-opt Adam onto the Parish Council, all councillors approved the co-option. Declaration of Acceptance was signed and the clerk will forward to NYC Elections office. **Action The Clerk**
 - 3.2 Several residents attended the meeting to discuss the ongoing issues on Parkgate Lane. Due to the number and size of lorries using the lane to supply goods to the new Skeeby Solar Farm, the road has deteriorated to such an extent that the surface has broken up, drainage ditches have been damaged and cables have been exposed along the grass verge. Residents also complained about the attitude of some drivers and that they have been using residents drives as passing places. It was agreed that the Clerk would write to Harmony Energy, and copy to Carl Les and planning enforcement officer. **Action The Clerk**
 - 3.3 A resident attended to raise the issue of speeding drivers in the village. A letter was sent to the local MP to seek assistance with dealing with the issue. The matter is being closely monitored by local police and the PCSO will be attending the next Village Society coffee morning to talk with the group.
4. **To confirm the Minutes** of the Last Meeting held on 18 January 2024.
Resolved to accept the minutes of the meeting as a true and accurate record. Proposed Councillor Guest, seconded Councillor Addington.
5. **Matters Arising**
 - 5.1 **Augustus Gardens** – Persimmon Homes sent their apologies as they were unable to attend this evening, they hope to attend the next meeting.
It was reported that several trees have recently been felled to the back of Caxton Close and that the land has now been left open at the end of the road. The Clerk to write to Persimmon and the Planning Officer to check if planning permission was granted for the removal of the trees. Also to ask Persimmon to close off the access to the land. **Action The Clerk**
Various other issues were discussed, including the playpark areas, the watercourse issue, and the current planning application. It was agreed that the Clerk would write to Persimmon to ask for detailed updates on all the issues and for paper copies of the new revised plan for both developments. **Action The Clerk**

- 5.2 **Reinforcing the Riverside** – The agreed work was undertaken on the riverside, several trees were coppiced to avoid the possibility of them taking away further areas of the footpath. The old footpath to be taped off and people redirected to the alternative path. This should be completed next week.

Action The Clerk

Councillor Guest has spoken to Chas Long to ask if they are able to assist with rocks for supporting and strengthening the riverbank. They will get back to him.

It was agreed that the current proposals are not feasible due to the cost of over £95k.

A discussion was held about the riverside area and whether some areas could be cut back and returned to grassed areas. It was felt this could jeopardise the integrity of the riverbank and may not be feasible. It was agreed that a rolling programme of coppicing should take place every 2-3 years.

- 5.3 **Allotments Site** – The area has been cut back by the contractor. No further updates at this time, but funding options are still being investigated.

- 5.4 **School Project** – The event at the school was a success and well received. It was suggested that another event be organised next year, possibly with a theme of the railways.

- 5.5 **Tree River Lane** – It was confirmed the tree will be removed this weekend.

- 5.6 **Cemetery Issues** = A cost to repair the gate has been received £162.00 inc VAT, it was agreed to proceed with the work proposed Councillor Rudge, seconded Councillor Lerigo. The Clerk to contact the company to arrange for the work to be completed.

Action The Clerk

A plaque will be installed at the entrance to the cemetery, confirming that 2 war graves are sited in the grounds. This will be installed by the Commonwealth War Graves Commission at no cost to the Parish Council.

- 5.7 **Parkgate Lane** – This matter was discussed under item 3.1 and the Clerk to deal with the matter. A replacement dog waste bin has been re-installed.

6 Reports:

- 6.1 Report from NYC – Councillor Les

Councillor Les was unable to attend the meeting

- 6.2 Report from Police – PCSO Elliot Brown

The last month's report was discussed at the meeting. No comments received.

- 6.3 Report from the Village Society

Still looking to arrange an event for D-day celebration, which will include the lighting of the beacon.

Looking at some repairs to the hall and the heating system needs to be looked at.

A netball team will be using the hall and the line dancing group will be moving from the church hall, while work is undertaken at the church.

The coffee mornings continues to be run every fortnight and are proving popular.

It was reported that someone is using the sports field to walk their dog and not clearing up after them.

Councillor Rudge will let the clerk know details of the owners so he can contact them.

The Village Society will not be organising the Christmas tree this year. To approach The Crown to ask if they would be willing to take it on. It was agreed that the Parish Council will continue to support the purchase of a tree each year, proposed Councillor Lerigo, seconded Councillor Dempsey.

7 Current Issues

- 7.1 **Telephone Box Donations** – Donations from the book kiosk total almost £200, as previously agreed this will be donated to BOS primary school. The school have suggested attending on 12 April to present the cheque. The Clerk and a councillor will attend.

Action The Clerk

7.2 **Best Kept Village** – Information received from The Rotary Club asking if we would be entering the competition. The matter was discussed and was decided it was not possible to enter this year, but it will be given serious consideration next year. The Clerk to respond. **Action The Clerk**

7.3 **Proposed Solar Farm** - Notification was received from Harmony Energy confirming a proposal to build a new solar farm off Gatherley Road. An open meeting has been arranged by the company, this will be held at The Sports Hall on 20 March. Not all residents have received the notice that was supposed to be distributed by the company. The Clerk to contact Harmony to find out why. **Action The Clerk**

7.4 **Website** – The Clerk attended a meeting with a team from the Cabinet Office to discuss moving the parish council to a more secure '.gov' domain for website and emails. This is being encouraged by central government to make information held more secure. There will be some initial and ongoing costs associated with the move. The matter was discussed and agreed that we should look at moving to the new domain, especially as the council will receive funding from central government. The Clerk will take this forward and bring more details to the next meeting. **Action The Clerk**
The existing website needs to be updated and this will cost £50. It was agreed to accept the cost and proceed with the update. Proposed Councillor Weatherby, seconded Councillor Dempsey.

8 **Parish Finances**

8.1 **To receive and note payments previously authorized and receipts (circulated prior to the meeting)**
It was resolved to receive and accept the payments and receipts. Proposed Councillor Lerigo, seconded Councillor Guest.

8.2 **To Receive a Bank Reconciliation and Budget Comparison for the year to date (circulated prior to the meeting).**
It was resolved to receive and accept the bank reconciliation and budget report. Proposed Councillor Dempsey, seconded Councillor Lerigo.

9 **Correspondence:**
No new correspondence

10 **To Consider and decide upon the following Planning Applications:**
No new applications

11 **To receive the following Planning Decisions/Information**

11.1	19/00473/FULL	Junction 52 service station	Objection submitted based on original objection
11.2	ZD24/00039/VAR	Land south east of A6108 Darlington Road – extension of working hours.	Objection raised due to potential noise.

No comments

12 **Minor Matters**

12.1 Councillor Weatherby mentioned the state of the verge area on Station Road, where it had been dug up and left. The Clerk had previously reported this and will follow up again. **Action The Clerk**

12.2 Councillor Allinson talked about the possibility of having a sign erected on Gatherley Road directing people to the village. It was suggested that a discussion could be had with The Crown and approach local companies to contribute to any costs. The Village Society will investigate this.

12.3 It has been reported that the wooden fence railing along the riverside at the entrance from Richmond Road needs repairing. It was agreed that a cost would be obtained to repair/replace the railings. **Action The Clerk**

13 Date of Next Meeting: Thursday 11 April 2024 at 7.00 p.m.at the Community Sports Hall.

Signed: 

Date: 11/4/24

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11.2	to receive the following Planning Applications:	to receive the following Planning Applications:

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