

BROUGHTON PARISH MEETING 3rd October 2007

1) PRESENT

Jonathan Piercy (Vice chairman), Richard Lund (Treasurer), Gill Woodhead (Clerk), Sheila Watson, Gerry Cooper, Jeff Paulin, James Bowie, Julian and Karan Witt, Sue and John Sleightholme.

2) APOLOGIES

Peter Clark, PC Glen Goodwill, Cllr Jane Wilford, John, Anne and William Lund.

As the Chairman was not present, the Vice-Chairman Jonathan Piercy took the chair.

3) MINUTES of the meeting held on 2nd May 2007

a) Signed as a true record

proposer: Gerry Cooper

seconder: Sheila Watson

b) Matters Arising:

i) Traffic Issues

See separate item.

ii) Verity's Legacy

The Lunds have made a super seat now in situ on the public footpath linking Broughton Lane with Swinton Lane. Invoice for £411.25. Treasurer reported this left £118.75 from the original legacy of £1,000.

iii) Stickers On Wheelie Bins

Nothing heard since.

iv) Litter Bin at the Dip

No action to date

v) NYCC bid to be unitary authority

Bid failed - widely reported in local press.

4) TRAFFIC ISSUES

a) Footpath in the Dip

Constructed very recently - seems to be working well but possibility of youngsters in the wood blocking the drain exit. Bruce Watson and I will endeavour to check. Request for posts not actioned. Tyre marks already on the new verge.

b) White Lining

Clerk has continually pushed this issue requesting details of criteria for other white lining systems, in particular the double white line at Barton Le Street where it is a 40 mph limit.

Mr Marr (Highways No 4 Area Manager) says he is *“to drive over the area with the Police to see how it can be improved. I like you, feel strongly that the “correct design” is not appropriate here. I am trying to find a way round this. A dotted line does not mean it is safe to overtake. Drivers have to make their own decisions whether it is safe to overtake.”*

Meeting heard that up to 78% of traffic needed to travel at 70 mph to get the percentile speed needed for the 60mph road markings. Pointed out the “massive difference” in traffic speed when speed survey cables down as majority of drivers slowed down on seeing them. Also noted numbers of tractors etc. In view of lack of action the Meeting instructed the clerk to write again to Gordon Gresty, Corporate Director of Business and Environmental Services at NYCC as all feel strongly that the current white lining is far from suitable.

c) Pondering on the B1257

Mr Marr has written to say he has limited resources which are being spent on dealing with issues where properties are in danger first. I have replied yet again pointing out that this pondering only appeared AFTER the footpath was created.

d) Land Offer

Geoff Sedman of Boswell House kindly offers to give land to the NYCC in exchange for the hedge being removed and replaced with a fence by NYCC in order to widen the very narrow footpath on this section. Offer was sent to Mr Marr but he says he did not receive my letter which was e-mailed. Letter e-mailed again. Clerk to include this in letter to Gordon Gresty.

5 CLERK'S REPORT

1) Grasscutting

NYCC cut the “wildflower verge” again so clerk has abandoned this idea. Howard Johnson total bill for grass cutting so far £246.76. A final cut yet to be organised. NYCC is to pay £250.98 towards the urban grass cut this year - a 2.3% increase.

Rural grass cut - strong complaints made to Richard Marr re the appalling effort at the rural grass cut. Contractor was made to cut some of it - notably the verge alongside the footpath from Flowery Bank to Monkman's Farm.

No effort made to cut the verges at the two junctions with the B1257. Highways now saying the Main Street junction is not rural but urban (despite the rural contractor cutting this in May and in previous years). NYCC now saying they are going to re-measure the urban cut - this could lead to a reduction in monies.

Mr and Mrs Witt raised concerns about poor visibility towards Swinton for traffic/pedestrians emerging from Broughton Lane at Flowery Bank because of the height of the vegetation on this verge coupled with NYCC cutting only one width.

Clerk to include dissatisfaction with this in letter to Gordon Gresty

2) Street lighting

npower - Meeting considered letters from npower and Energywatch. Clerk felt MP John Greenway unable to take the issue further and that Energywatch were of little use. Agreed to pay the balance owing of £131.06 (administration charges withheld) in order to move account to Powergen which is still a British owned electricity supplier. Once this achieved clerk to send letters to the local media.

Street lamp outside Boswell House out. Not know at this stage why. Meeting agreed to continue with the maintenance contract rather than consider paying only when lamps needed attention.

3) Lunds Planning Application (approved)

Application to build a house in the garden of Manor Farm. As the Lunds have close connection with the Parish Meeting, felt inappropriate to call an Extraordinary Meeting. Clerk displayed application on the noticeboard. No comment from the Meeting.

4) VAT reclaim and Mazars

External auditors Mazars ask if councils have reclaimed VAT. Treasurer Richard Lund to be responsible for dealing with this but as less than £70 VAT paid in 2006-2007 the Meeting supported the view it would be "too much hassle" to try and reclaim it. Richard pointed out that other councils were being told by the auditors that they needed to spend money held in reserves.

Clerk advertised 2006-2007 financial report/accounts as required by auditors. Tim is prepared to do the internal audit again for us. As both Tim and the clerk require the original receipts these need to be provided along with the accounts book promptly each year.

5) Swinton Reading Rooms

Meeting agreed to donate £2,000 towards the upgrading of the reading rooms which include use for the Playgroup, table tennis, snooker and a polling station for Broughton residents. Proposer Sheila Watson, seconder Gerry Cooper. Passed by 8 votes to Nil with 3 abstentions.

6) CAB annual report - circulated at meeting. Noted that the accompanying letter did not ask for a donation so none was considered.

7) RDC Chairman's charity fund

Proposed Jonathan Piercy, seconded Gerry Cooper to send £75 (Yorkshire Air Ambulance, Ryedale Mountain Rescue and Ryedale Children's Foundation).

8) Planting of daffodils

Daffodils to be planted at both junctions with B1257 and stretch between. Agreed to plant in clumps rather than lines. Agreed to get 700 bulbs - to be sourced by Jonathan Piercy (horticulturist). James Bowie, Julian Witt, Jonathan Piercy and Gill Woodhead agreed to plant the bulbs on 20th October 2007. Advised this would be easier if grass cut before hand.

9) Various items of information given in clerk's written report. No comment on any of them.

6) ANY OTHER BUSINESS

None

7) DATE OF NEXT MEETING

To be held at Swinton Sports Centre Wednesday 7th May 2008, starting at 7pm with the AGM followed by a branch meeting.

The meeting closed at 8.55pm.

Gill Woodhead

Clerk to Broughton Parish Meeting