

# **BRAMHOPE & CARLTON PARISH COUNCIL**

## **MEETING OF THE VILLAGE MAINTENANCE COMMITTEE**

**Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> February 2018, 6.00pm at the Bramhope Village Hall**

**Present:**

Cllr Simon Cooper (Chair)  
Cllr Diane Fox  
Cllr Martin Fogel  
Cllr Alan Anslow  
Cllr Hilary Harris  
Nicola Woodward, Clerk  
Brian Taylor – Village Caretaker

**1) To receive apologies:**

Apologies were received from Cllr Bryant

**2) To disclose or draw attention to any disclosable pecuniary interest**

No interests were declared.

**3) To receive information on the ongoing issues and decide further action where necessary**

**3.1 To receive an update on the Carlton telephone box door**

The door has now been attended to and is no longer sticking. Once it has dried out it will require a coat of paint.

**3.2 To receive an update on the damage to the footpath at Jubilee Copse**

A discussion took place regarding the damage to Jubilee Copse and the repair that is required. Following correspondence regarding the issue the Parish Council has been assured that the damage will be made good when the conditions are favourable for doing so. A request for further access across the land has also been received. It was AGREED that a request be made for the damage to be made good as soon as conditions made it possible. Any further access would need to be on foot due to the amount of damage taking a vehicle across the land has caused.

**3.3 To receive an update on the replacement Bramhope signs and to agree action regarding the removal of the old signs**

A possible suitable stone has been found and the supplier will be cutting the stone this week to check its condition. The Clerk will arrange for the stone to be viewed by Cllrs Harris and Bryant should it be considered suitable once cut.

**3.4. To receive an update on the repair of the flower rocker at the recreation ground**

The bolts have been replaced on the rocker. It was AGREED that the rocker no longer presented a risk. The surfacing will be replaced as soon as the weather becomes warmer and drier.

**3.5 To receive an update on the requirement for electrical testing at the Pavilion and Chapel**

The electrics were tested at the Pavilion in 2016. The next inspection is due November 2021. The Chapel electrics were checked approximately 7 years ago. It was AGREED that the Clerk will arrange for electrical testing at the Puritan Chapel. A high level light bulb will also be replaced.

### **3.6 To receive an update on the disposal of the Puritan Chapel piano**

The Clerk has offered the piano to the Village Hall, but it is not required. It was AGREED that Cllr Harris will advertise the piano on Bramhope Yummy Mummies Facebook page, offering the piano to a good home for a donation towards the upkeep of the Chapel.

### **3.8 To receive an update on the purchase of new mats for the Puritan Chapel**

The Clerk has purchased new mats which will be put into the Chapel this week.

### **3.9 To receive information and discuss lighting of Parish Council owned ginnels to formulate recommendations for Full Parish Council.**

Cllr Harris met the local Crime Reduction Officer, Jo Rostron, at the Southfields/Birches ginnel and also the Wynmore Avenue ginnel to discuss the safeguarding issues regarding unlit ginnels.

Officer Rostron followed up the meeting by sending the following comments and recommendations which had been circulated prior to the meeting.

- Installing a light in a ginnel would require planning permission to ensure that no close by residents could complain about light intrusion, submitting an application for a light is relatively easy and a decision should be returned quickly. However as there are no lights in the area on the adjoining streets which may affect a decision. The added complication and cost would be that as there are no street lights nearby there is nothing to supply it from.
- Having done some research into solar lighting we are not sure that this would light up the ginnel sufficiently in the winter months as there is little sunlight some days and the days are also shorter. This doesn't give the solar panels long enough to charge up for the amount of time you would need it for. We haven't found one that on 5 hours charge would offer up to 18 hours of illumination at the lux levels required for a footpath / ginnel.
- The alternative to the solar light would be a hard wired light that would require an electrical source along with a meter to be installed by a qualified company. It would be advisable to contact a light engineer who could measure the area requiring illumination and advise of the best light source to meet the required lux levels.
- Consultation would need to be done for either of these options before an application was submitted.
- Having looked at the ginnels and the crime figures I am happy that anyone entering can see to the other end safely, there are no hiding places for someone to wait either. The only concern would be the ginnel at Wynmore Avenue – again this is short and straight and you can see to the other side – however there are some large trees over hanging the ginnel – if these were to be cut down it would give more natural light to the ginnel.
- There has been no anti – social behaviour in the area but I believe there has in the past in the ginnel. This needs to be taken into consideration when lighting as it may attract youths and there is a small wall at the end of the ginnel at the Birches where they could potentially sit.
- Crime stats show low crime in the area and no concerns where the ginnels are.

A discussion took place regarding the comments supplied by Officer Rostron. The Clerk indicated that she had also done some research into solar lights and ascertained that due to the width of the ginnel, suppliers had indicated there would be insufficient daylight in winter to charge the batteries by solar power. The cost of mains powered lighting is being explored with LCC but due to the distance of the ginnel from mains powered street lighting, the cost is likely to be prohibitive.

A further discussion will take place at a future meeting, when costings have been obtained, to consider options and the possibility of carrying out a full consultation process.

#### **4) Work completed since 7<sup>th</sup> November 2017**

The Christmas tree has been taken down by the Village Caretaker and Clerk  
Holes have been filled in the base of the phone box  
Cleared snow and gritted paths around the village  
Delivery of grit to snow wardens  
Cleared the steps at Parklands  
Collected top soil from mole hills  
Cleared footpath off Leeds Road of leaves.

**Agenda item 5 was taken at the start of the meeting. In attendance for this agenda item were Janet Hobson & Mary Kinder from Bramhope in Bloom. Janet Hobson and Mary Kinder left the meeting at 6.25pm**

#### **5) To receive BiB Report**

Bramhope in Bloom will plant poppies around the village, as part of the 'Sea of Poppies' being planted nationwide to commemorate the end of WW1. Possible areas include Puritan Chapel banking, Leeds Road on the bend from Otley, Jubilee Copse, bend opposite the roundabout, the Knoll, memorial area at the recreation ground. It was AGREED that Bramhope in Bloom can plant on Parish Council land as requested. The Clerk will liaise with Bramhope in Bloom and the grass cutters to ensure the locations are not cut.

Summer planting choice is non-stop trailing begonias in red and white plus blue lobelia in certain areas.

Judging will be in summer only this year.

A discussion took place regarding this year's planting of hanging baskets and hayracks at The Cross. It was AGREED that Janet Hobson will take the hayracks, which belong to the Parish Council, from Leeds CC nursery to an alternative supplier for planting this year. This enables more specific planting and will also be more cost effective. The hanging baskets will not be used this year due to issues with watering them.

VMC AGREED that Bramhope in Bloom would be allowed to put planting around the new Bramhope signs, once they are installed. The Clerk updated the meeting to say that there are possibly two stones that are suitable at the quarry. Once the stones have been identified installation shouldn't take too long.

An unknown person has put stones and wooden posts in the grass at Tredgold shops in front of the newsagents. Bramhope in Bloom have been told that the owners of the grassed areas are going to apply for planning permission to extend the parking area, which may affect the stone planters depending on the extent of the proposed parking.

Bramhope in Bloom are holding a coffee morning on Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> March at 10.20am in the Village Hall to try and recruit some additional volunteers. No charge will be made for drinks or cakes but donation boxes will be available. There will also be a raffle, Easter Tree and seeds on sale. Marie Curie will possibly be in attendance.

Bramhope in Bloom currently have two Duke of Edinburgh participants that are assisting with various tasks around the village. They will be monitored at all times and health and safety rules will apply.

There will be two litter picks in April and July, dates to be confirmed. It was AGREED that a price will be obtained for litter pickers in order for the Parish Council to consider purchasing a stock of pickers, rather than needing to borrow from LCC each time.

#### **6) To receive Parish Council properties exception reports**

### **7.1 Puritan Chapel**

- (i) The gutter by the door at the chapel is leaking. This will be attended to when the weather improves and the surface is less slippery for the ladder.

### **7.2 Cemetery**

- (i) The Clerk and Village Caretaker raised the issue of waterlogged ground at the Cemetery. It was AGREED that the Clerk will contact a drainage expert to ascertain what can and can't be done to resolve the issue.

### **7.3 Ginnels/Footpaths**

- (i) To discuss ownership of footpath bordering Parklands/Bramhope Primary School

Ownership of the footpath was discussed. It was AGREED that the Parish Council are not the owners of this land.

### **7.4 Red Telephone Boxes**

- (i) Cllr Fox raised that she had noticed some water in the phone box after recent heavy rain. No action required at this time.

## **7) To receive Recreation Properties report**

### **7.1 The Knoll**

- (i) To bench from The Knoll is still at the School. The Clerk will arrange for its return.

### **7.2 The Recreation Ground**

- (ii) **To discuss correspondence regarding the maintenance of the fence at the recreation ground and decide further action.**

A discussion took place regarding ownership of the fence. It was AGREED that the fence was not the property of the Parish Council and that is the landlord of the neighbouring field's responsibility to ensure the field is secure if stock is being grazed in the field. The Clerk will also write to the football club to request that they do not climb over the fence but use the appropriate gap.

- (iii) **To receive a quote and discuss and agree action regarding grass cutting for 2018**

A discussion took place regarding the grass cutting for 2018. It was AGREED that the current supplier continues to represent best value for money and quality of service.

## **8) Identify new jobs and agree budget/Any other business.**

**8.1** There are more moles at the recreation ground. It was AGREED that the Clerk will arrange a suitable contractor to deal with the issue.

**8.2** Correspondence has been received regarding the condition of the Parish Council land at Cross Sykes. It was AGREED that the Parish Council will arrange to fill the holes.

A discussion took place regarding the footpath also mentioned. It was AGREED that the footpath is not on Parish Council land, therefore maintenance is not the responsibility of the Parish Council.

**8.3** The Clerk has received a response from LCC Highways regarding the removal of the mini-crosses at The Cross. As The Cross would be defined as a highway refuge on the carriageway under the Highways Act License (S115e) if there is an issue with parking following the removal, LCC will work with the Parish Council to resolve this.

## **9) Date of Next Meeting**

Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> March at 6:00pm.

The meeting closed at 7.25pm

Minutes taken by Nicola Woodward, Clerk to Bramhope & Carlton Parish Council  
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