

**BRAMHOPE & CARLTON PARISH COUNCIL**  
**MEETING OF THE VILLAGE MAINTENANCE COMMITTEE**  
Tuesday 9th March 2021, 6.00pm via video conferencing

**Present:**

Cllr Alan Anslow (Chair)  
Cllr Hilary Harris  
Cllr Diane Fox  
Cllr David Bryant  
Cllr Anne-Marie Pickstock

**Comments and questions from residents may be taken before the meeting commences relating to matters on the agenda.**

1. To receive apologies  
Apologies received from Cllrs Campbell and Gill.
2. To disclose or draw attention to any disclosable pecuniary interests  
There were no interests declared.
3. To receive information on the ongoing issues and decide further action where necessary
  - 3.1 To receive an update on the new slide and steps project.  
The Clerk has met with a company that is potentially interested quoting for an embankment slide. A second meeting has been arranged with a representative from Leeds City Council playground department to discuss the feasibility and next steps.
  - 3.2 To receive an update on the Pavilion refurbishment project and decide further action.  
Two companies who are interested in the project have met council representatives on site to discuss the project. A third meeting will take place next week. The briefing document will be revisited and agreed prior to sending out to invite to tender.
  - 3.3 To receive an update on the new noticeboard at The Knoll and decide further action.  
Bramhope in Bloom have been consulted on the cutting back of bushes at The Knoll to accommodate the new playground. Replacement planting may be required.  
One quote has been sought for the removal of the old noticeboard and the installation of the new one. It was agreed by ALL that the quote should be accepted. Cost £150 + VAT.
  - 3.4 To receive information regarding the trees and boundary wall on Footpath No 6. and decide further action. A resident has raised concerns about the roots of a large tree on footpath no 6 which are damaging a dry-stone wall at the end of his garden. Cllr Anslow has visited footpath no 6 but was unable to see the extent of the problem from the footpath.  
  
The wall was likely to have been built at the time the tunnel was dug out. Ownership of the boundary is not recorded.  
  
It was agreed that the Clerk will contact the resident to visit site and take photographs to share at the next meeting.
  - 3.5 To discuss the replacement of external and internal lights at the Puritan Chapel and decide further action  
  
It was agreed that the matter will be discussed at the next meeting.
4. To receive a report on work completed since 9<sup>th</sup> February 2021.  
Tidying up at the cemetery.

5. To receive a report from BiB

The Duke of Edinburgh volunteers have cleared the sensory bed at The Parade and planted tete-a-tete pending refurbishment with new herb plants.

The flower beds need re-painting with Cuprinol. Bramhope in Bloom have brushes and materials and have asked if the Village Caretaker can re-paint. This was agreed.

Due to less activity over the past twelve months Bramhope in Bloom will not require a grant from the Parish Council in 2021/22.

Bramhope in Bloom are exploring the possibility of installing metal hooped fencing on the edge of the flowerbed at The Knoll to act as a deterrent for dogs. It was agreed by ALL that the Parish Council would have no objection to the installation of a metal hooped fence.

6. **To receive information regarding creating wildflower areas on Parish Council land**

The Clerk has met with representatives from Bramhope in Bloom to discuss Wildflower planting at The Knoll.

A quote has been received to remove the turf.

It has also been suggested that additional bluebells should be planted.

It was AGREED by ALL that the area adjacent to the path running between Breary Lane and Parklands at the bottom of the banking should be prepared and have wildflowers sown on it.

The quote to remove the turf of £195.00 was accepted.

Some signage will be required to advise the public to refrain from walking on the area.

In addition, planting, around the war memorial at the Recreation Ground was discussed. A circle around the circular paved area of roughly 1 metre width, with a mix which has predominantly red poppies in it.

There will be a small additional cost for labour to remove the turf in this area if it is done on the same day as The Knoll.

7. **To receive a request for funding to assist with improving the Carlton Water Hole and installing a memorial bench and decide further action.**

A Carlton resident has contacted Cllr Pickstock and the Parish Council to ask if he is able to improve the water hole area and place a memorial bench there and create a communal space for residents and visitors to the village. There are plans to lay the hedge and undertake some additional planting of bulbs and perennials and an informal path on the right-hand side of the waterhole. Mulch will be put on the ground under the benches to suppress weeds. There were no objections to the works to the hedge.

As the land is not actually registered to anyone the Parish Council have historically maintained it by strimming the area a couple of times per year and trimming the hedges.

Anne-Marie has been in touch with Cllr Lay to ask if there might be some Ward Councillor funding available to assist.

It was agreed in principal that VMC would consider contributing towards the improvements if required.

Cllr Pickstock has also contacted Cllr Lay regarding the speed limit through Carlton and whether that could be reduced.

Welcome signs to the village may assist with slowing traffic down.

**8. To discuss replacement planters for Carlton Water Hole and decide further action.**

A discussion took place regarding the replacement planters for Carlton. Cllr Pickstock indicated that residents would like the planters to be replaced. Residents of Carlton are prepared to maintain them once planted up.

A discussion took place regarding Carlton setting up its own 'In Bloom' group. The Clerk indicated that there would be a possibility that a community grant may be possible to assist with setting up a group.

The Clerk will seek information regarding the license required to erect a structure adjacent to the Highway.

Cllr Pickstock will look at sizes of planters and indicate which size would be preferable. Recycled plastic planters are the preferred option as they are lower maintenance and last for much longer than wooden options.

The matter will be discussed, and a decision made at the next meeting.

**9. To discuss purchasing litter pickers for volunteer litter pickers in Carlton and decide further action.**

Cllr Pickstock has recruited a group of residents to litter pick in Carlton and is using litter pickers borrowed from Guiseley.

It was AGREED by ALL that a budget of £150 should be allocated for the purchase of litter picking equipment. Cllr Pickstock will advise the Clerk how many of each item are required.

The hi viz vests will have Litter Free Carlton written on the back.

A risk assessment will be undertaken prior to litter picking taking place. Cllr Anslow will research risk assessments for this type of activity on-line.

**10. To receive information regarding costings for the planting of additional trees on Jubilee Copse, including the cost of procurement and planting of trees/shrubs by Treescapes Consultancy and decide further action.**

A quote has been received for the planting of additional trees and the trees themselves.

The supplier does not have any larger specimen hazel until November 2021.

It was AGREED by ALL that the 9 trees and the willow should be purchased as per the planting plan and planted prior to the end of March. Larger hazels will be purchased and planted in November 2021. There may be an additional charge for the second lot of planting.

The cost of the 9 standard trees, willow and the procurement and planting of the trees will be £1000.

**11. To discuss the purchase of a new brushcutter and decide further action**

The old Stihl strimmer/brush cutter is not in good condition. The starter pulls need replacing at least twice per year and the on/off switch is now not working properly and should be replaced. It was AGREED by ALL that a rechargeable battery powered strimmer, with spare battery pack should be purchased at a cost of £535.00.

**12. To discuss brushcutter training for the Village Caretaker and decide further action.**

Leeds City Council can provide in-house brush cutter training for the Village Caretaker. The cost will be £207, or less if other places on the course are taken.

It was AGREED by ALL that a place on the training will be confirmed for the village caretaker.

**13. To receive information from the cricket team regarding the grass cutting at the recreation ground and temporary signage for the practice nets and decide further action**

A discussion took place regarding grass cutting and temporary signage.

It was AGREED by ALL that temporary signage should not be left on the cricket nets for the full cricket season due to the recreation ground being in the conservation area and rules regarding temporary signage.

It was AGREED by ALL that the Parish Council will continue to cut the grass and that the cricket team can cut the outfield shorter if they wish.

The charges for the recreation ground for the forthcoming season will need to be reviewed as the pavilion will not be available for use for the first part of the season.

**14. To discuss the purchase of rock salt for use by the Village Caretaker and snow wardens.**

The purchase of rock salt for next winter was discussed. It was AGREED by ALL that the Clerk should purchase salt for next winter at the appropriate time.

**15. To receive a request from a resident to consider refurbishing the Bramhope milestones as part of the Platinum Jubilee celebrations and decide further action**

A discussion took place. The milestones are Grade 2 listed so require specific paint and should be done by a competent person.

It was AGREED that the refurbishment of the milestones will be included as a project for 2022/23.

**16. To receive a request from a resident to consider re-siting the recycling area in the village car park and decide further action.**

A discussion took place regarding considering re-locating the recycling area in the village car park.

Issues raised if the recycling area was moved were that the current location provides the best access to the vehicles emptying the containers, moving the containers will make little difference to the level of noise when emptied. The issues of litter blowing around will no change by changing the location, it will just move the problem elsewhere.

It was noted that the recycling area had been used a lot more over the past 12 months due to the recycling centres being closed/the requirement for an appointment to dispose of waste and an increase in card from online shopping.

It was AGREED by ALL that the matter of moving the recycling area would not be explored further.

**17. To receive Parish Council Properties exception reports.**

Noticeboards – the new noticeboard will be erected by Leeds City Council on Jubilee Copse on Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> March.

**18. Any items for discussion at a future meeting**

Cllr Anslow asked if Cllr Pickstock could be formally co-opted onto Village Maintenance Committee. Cllr Pickstock indicated that she would like to join the committee. The Clerk will add it on to the agenda for the next meeting of FPC.

**19. To arrange the date of next meeting**

The date of the next meeting will be Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> April at 6.00pm.