

# The Bringtons Parish Council

## Minutes of the Meeting of BRINGTON PARISH COUNCIL held on Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> January 2022, Reading Room, Great Brington

[www.bringtons-pc.gov.uk](http://www.bringtons-pc.gov.uk) email:clerk@bringtons-pc.gov.uk

**Present:** Chairman Cllr J Milne, Cllr T Lake, Cllr P Richardson, Cllr N Tompkins

**Also Present:** Clerk, WNC Cllr Charles Morton and 9 members of public

**Meeting Start:** 7.45pm

		Action
84	<b>To receive and approve apologies for absence</b> Apologies accepted for Cllr K White and Cllr S Beusaert. Apologies also received from Althorp Representative Sarah Hazell	
85	<b>Members are requested to make any declarations of personal or prejudicial interests relating to items on the agenda.</b> Cllr N Tompkins advised that for item 92a one of the quotations is from a family member	
86	<b>Public Time</b> - Member of the public asked if there are plans for the Platinum Jubilee. This is on the agenda for discussion later. - Member of the public thanked the council for the notices about being careful where you park, but the verges are being cut up, especially in Back Lane. It was asked if notices could be put up on the verges like in Harlestone. Another member of the public asked about using cones from the Pavillion in the short term. Councillors will take a look at Harlestone. - It was asked what had happened to dog signs. These had been left with a councillor. Clerk to Chase. It was discussed that the Parish Council wish to be careful with not going overboard with signage as this was a request of the village when producing the village design statement. It was thought too many signs would look too urbanised. - It was asked if the council could consider a section of the agenda / minutes to show communications to and from the council. This would make it more transparent. It was advised that items that needed discussion were on the agenda and other items were noted under clerks report. - Member of the public stated that whilst they had objected to a previous planning application on the site the planning application is for, these new plans are better.	
87	<b>To approve and sign the minutes of the meeting held 24<sup>th</sup> November 2021 and any matters arising</b> It was agreed the minutes were correct and could be signed.	
88	<b>Reports</b> a) <b>Clerk</b> See appendix. b) <b>West Northants Council</b> Cllr Morton thanked those that responded to the Local Plan consultation. There had been more responses than ever before and WNC are having to put off Part 2 so responses can be properly considered. There is also a pot of £7500 that the WNC have for this warded area for community groups that would like to apply for. This is a covid fund so must be related in some way. Deadline is 22 <sup>nd</sup> March. There is going to be a big upheaval to the planning system this year to ensure consistency across the 3 legacy areas. c) <b>Police</b> No report. d) <b>Althorp</b> Apologies were sent, Sarah Hazell was awaiting a covid PCR test result.	

<p><b>89</b> <b>a)</b></p>	<p><b>Planning</b> <b>To consider response to planning application WND/2021/0615 – Demolition of existing commercial buildings and construction of detached dwelling and garage and relocation of existing access – Workshop and Premises, East Haddon Road, Great Brington</b> Developer gave update as to where they were and amendments requested by the planning officer. Council asked about a covenant on the land to ensure that there could be no further development of the site. It is thought this would be owned by the landowner but is still to be confirmed. Poplars will be staying as part of a landscape scheme. Details of this need to be confirmed. It was asked the size of native species to be planted and how long it was thought this would take to grow to a size for screening. It was also asked if the poplars will be TPO'd or if the plan is to take them down once the others have grown sufficiently. There was concern from councillors that this is outside the boundary of the village and will set a precedent and allow infill. Clerk to summarise comments and feedback to WNC planning department.</p> <p><b>b)</b> <b>Updates for Information</b> 2 planning applications came in on Monday, the clerk has requested an extension to allow them to be discussed in February.</p>	<p>Clerk</p>
<p><b>90</b> <b>a)</b></p>	<p><b>Community</b> <b>To receive a recommendation from the working party on 4 year strategy</b> There have been two meetings and there are proposals for three capital projects and looking at further options in our next meeting on 1<sup>st</sup> February. It is our intention to present to the PC on February a draft action plan for discussion before we seek quotations for costs and then decide on priorities and implement. Desire is to see the first project underway third quarter 2022.</p> <p><b>b)</b> <b>To consider if the council wants to commemorate the Queens Platinum Jubilee</b> It was proposed that working group is formed of interested residents to plan and provide some events over the weekend. Cllr Tompkins to work with the clerk.</p> <p><b>c)</b> <b>To consider if the council would like to continue the DACT bus or if there is another alternative solution</b> 3 buses were scheduled in November and December. 2 were not used and 1 had only 1 passenger. We do not know the reasons for this but maybe this is not the right time for this now. It was agreed not to continue for now. Clerk to Publicise this and to ask for feedback if anyone feels there is a demand.</p> <p><b>d)</b> <b>To consider if the council would like to serve teas and coffees at council meetings</b> Councillors were not aware of any other councils that do this. It was thought it may be nice for the Annual Village meeting as this could be more of a social event than regular meetings.</p> <p><b>e)</b> <b>To consider if the council wish to set up a 100 club</b> Clerk advised that she had investigated this. There is no legal reason why we couldn't. Internal auditors advice had been sought. She had advised that there would be lots of regulations that we would need to consider. She was only aware of Parish Councils doing this for specific reason rather than as a pot of money for grants. Clerk was awaiting further information. It was proposed that maybe the council could budget some funds for grants rather than setting this up unless there was a specific project that funds were needed for.</p> <p><b>f)</b> <b>To consider Police Speed Watch Scheme</b> This has been done in the villages in the past and despite having data to prove that speed calming was needed, Highways did not have the budget to provide it. Proving there is speeding doesn't prevent it from happening. Often people will slow down for the camera / calming solution and then speed up again. There was also a discussion about perception of speed. It was thought that in the villages it is busiest where there are parked cars which force people to slow down. Clerk to advise those that raised the concerns.</p> <p><b>g)</b> <b>Update for information</b></p>	<p>Clerk/NT</p> <p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p>

	no further updates	
<b>91</b>	<b>Environment</b>	
<b>a)</b>	<b>To consider quotes received for grass cutting contract</b> 3 quotes had been received to cut grass in Kimbells Field, sloped area of churchyard and some verges in the villages. 3 year fixed contract had been asked for. Current supplier was cheapest by a small margin. All agreed work is good and there are no complaints. Contract to be offered to R&G groundworks.	Clerk
<b>b)</b>	<b>Updates for information</b> No updates	
<b>92</b>	<b>Communication</b>	
<b>a)</b>	<b>To consider quotes received for new website</b> 3 quotes had been received. 2 were template based solutions and another more bespoke. It was proposed to go with the more bespoke option despite being more expensive as it would give the council the flexibility to design how they wanted it.	
<b>b)</b>	<b>To consider if the parish council would support the history society in getting conservation work needed to the medieval cross on the green by the Church</b> There is a query over who owns it. Neither church or Althorp believe it is them. Church architect has suggested that a conservator takes a look. History Society have tried to contact one and finding they are not getting any response. They have been offered some funds from Earl Spencer and there are grants available but they first need a report as to what needs doing. Clerk to work with History Society to try to get a report.	Clerk
<b>c)</b>	<b>To consider changes suggested to Office 365 subscription</b> Microsoft are changing their 365 offerings in April and this means that paying monthly could increase by up to 20%. Current supplier has offered yearly subscription with up front payment which would fix price for next 12 months. It was proposed to do this.	
<b>d)</b>	<b>Updates for information</b> None	
<b>93</b>	<b>Finance</b>	
<b>a)</b>	<b>Reconciliation of Bank Balance (see appendix)</b> This was confirmed by the internal finance controller	
<b>b)</b>	<b>Payments due in January (see appendix)</b> These were approved	
<b>c)</b>	<b>To engage with the Northants CALC Asset Mapping Project (AMP) and to appoint an AMP working group comprising the clerk and councillors</b> This is a project to map all assets and services in the area, showing who is responsible for each. Cllr Lake offered to work with the clerk.	Clerk / TL
<b>d)</b>	<b>To consider response to West Northamptonshire Council draft Budget 2022/23 Consultation</b> Budget sets out spending plans for next year with increases in Highways and Social Care. Due to the council trying to bring the 3 old localities of Daventry, South Northants and Northampton onto the same payments, Daventry residents will see a higher increase than the other 2 as our costs have been less in the past. It was thought that there was nothing specific to respond to.	
<b>e)</b>	<b>To consider and approve budget for 2022/23</b> Clerk had forwarded draft budget with proposals based on projected spend. Figures approved at this meeting were added. It was proposed that these budget figures be approved with a budget of £21,680. This may change as proposals from the 4 year plan are approved but there is approx. £15,000 in reserves that could be used for this, built from funds budgeted for in previous years and not spent due to covid.	
<b>f)</b>	<b>To consider and approve Precept for 2022/23</b> It was proposed to request a precept of £21,680, this is the same as last year.	
<b>g)</b>	<b>Update for information</b>	

None
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Meeting closed: 9.25pm

The next meeting of the Parish Council is Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> February 2022.

Items for the agenda to be received by Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> February 2022.

## Appendices to accompany the Agenda for 19<sup>th</sup> January 2022

### Clerks Report January 2022

**VACANCIES** – There are still 2 vacant seats on the Parish Council. Anyone interested in joining the Parish Council should contact the clerk.

**WAR MEMORIAL** – The Parish Council were asked about the cleaning of the War Memorial. Althorp are responsible so the query has been passed to them. A stone mason has suggested that this is looked at in the Spring.

**BENCHES** - Are on order and will be delivered in the Spring

### Bank Balance as end December 2021

#### Bank Balance

<b>Balance in Current Account YTD</b>	288.88
<b>Value of cheques yet to clear</b>	1
<b>Reserve account balance YTD</b>	26,921.30
<b>Total</b>	27,209.18

#### Cash Book

<b>Opening Balance</b>	19,382.81
<b>Expenditure to Date</b>	14,990.44
<b>Income to Date</b>	22,816.81
<b>Total</b>	27,209.18

### Payments for approval in January

Payee	Cheque	Description	Total	VAT inc
Compete366	dd	365 subscription	<b>41.52</b>	6.92
Mrs S Willis	BT	Clerk December	<b>423.31</b>	0.00
HMRC	BT	PAYE	<b>48.00</b>	0.00
Northants CALC	BT	training Clerk	<b>38.00</b>	0.00
Mrs S Willis	BT	Printer Cartridge / phone topup	<b>30.60</b>	0.00
Reading Room	BT	Room Hire	<b>16.00</b>	0.00
Reading Room	BT	Room Hire	<b>20.00</b>	0.00
DACT	BT	Daventry Bus	<b>74.57</b>	0.00
Mrs S Willis	BT	Clerk January	<b>423.31</b>	0.00
HMRC	BT	PAYE	<b>48.00</b>	0.00
		<b>Total</b>	<b>1,163.31</b>	<b>6.92</b>