

BRAMHOPE & CARLTON PARISH COUNCIL

MEETING OF THE VILLAGE MAINTENANCE COMMITTEE

Tuesday 7th February 2017, 6.00pm at the Bramhope Village Hall

Present:

Cllr Hilary Harris (Chair)
Cllr Diane Fox
Cllr Peter Lawson
Cllr Martin Fogel
Cllr David Bryant
Brian Taylor – Village Caretaker
Nicola Woodward – Clerk

- 1) To receive apologies:** Cllr Simon Cooper
- 2) To disclose or draw attention to any disclosable pecuniary interest**

None declared.

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

3.1 To receive an update on the refurbishment of the Bramhope signs

Refurbishment on the signs was started, however when the sign was stripped back the wood was found to be green and rotting underneath. It could be repaired and resealed with varnish (as oil won't be suitable to use on the rotten wood) but due to the rotten wood it the work would only last for a couple of years. Alternatively two new signs could be commissioned. It was AGREED that a recommendation for two new signs will be made to full Parish Council and that Cllr Flynn will be approached to establish whether any grant funding would be available to assist with the cost.

4) Work completed since 6th December 2016

- The Christmas tree was taken down and disposed of.
- The hawthorn bush behind the goalposts has been cut down and discarded bottles have been removed.
- Two benches at the cemetery and one at the recreation ground have been repaired and stained.
- Molehills have been levelled.
- The handrail at The Knoll, damaged by a falling branch, has been repaired.
- The sensors for the floodlights at the Chapel have been cleaned. The lights are now working correctly.
- A joint on the fortress at The Knoll has been repaired.
- A plate has come off one of the shelters and needs repairing with new screws.

5) To receive BiB Report

Bramhope in Bloom have not held a meeting since Christmas so had nothing to report, other than following up an enquiry from a resident received by the Clerk regarding cars parking on the verges outside the shop at Tredgold Avenue. BiB are following up with the land owner to explore the possibility of a bollard to try and prevent people from parking there. BiB expressed concern that the pet shop

has had planning permission submitted for change of use into a café and the impact that will have on the parking issues at the Tredgold shops.

6) To receive Parish Council properties exception reports

6.1 Puritan Chapel

Following the annual carol service, and efforts by the Clerk and Cllr Fox to make the path less slippery the Clerk suggested that a company be engaged to power wash the path. The closest water supply is the hotel so it requires a company that have a water supply in their vehicles. It was agreed that an estimate will be obtained.

6.2 Bus Shelters

The Village Caretaker will be painting the bus shelters during the year.

6.3 Noticeboards

The Village Caretaker will be painting the noticeboards during the year.

6.4 Car Park

The pot hole in the entrance to the car park has been filled.

6.5 Jubilee Copse

An issues has been raised regarding two sawn off fence posts on the private land at Jubilee Copse which pose a potential hazard, with reports of members of the public tripping over the posts as they are obscured by grass. The Clerk will raise this with LCC Public Rights of Way Officer.

6.6 Cemetery

The new shed has been erected. Cllr Bryant has cleaned the mud off the shed in preparation for applying a clear preservative oil to the outside and internal floor. The Village Caretaker will seal the inside on wet days. Cllrs Bryant & Fox volunteered to assist the village caretaker with the external walls. Date to be confirmed.

6.7 Red telephone boxes

The box at Carlton will have a defibrillator fitted. It is likely to be using CHT and money has been allocated in the budget for the initial cost and ongoing annual costs. A meeting will be organised with CHT, Cllrs Fogel, Hollings and the Clerk.

A decision regarding the Breary Lane box is still required. It requires extensive refurbishment and the door doesn't close properly. An offer to assist with the refurbishment has been received. Cllrs were asked to think of ideas for possible uses and report back to the next meeting.

7) Properties Exception Report

7.1 The Knoll

The Clerk reported that during high winds over the past two months two large branches have fallen off trees at The Knoll and a third large branch was broken but hadn't fallen on a tree above the circular swing. The village caretaker taped off the area and the Clerk arranged for Treeworld to remove the branch as it posed a risk if left.

A resident has raised the issue of the large sycamore which grows at an angle next to the path behind the swings. It overshadows an area of his garden to

the extent that nothing will grow there and it drops medium sized branches on his grass and borders. There are some large low branches that the tree contractor recommended could be pulled back, which would make the path safer. An estimate of costs had been received.

The tree contractor also recommended some other areas which required attention and recommended a contractor to provide an updated tree report.

It was AGREED that a price be obtained for a tree report at The Knoll prior to any work being undertaken.

It was AGREED that as a minimum the low branches on the large sycamore will be drawn back, subject to the tree report.

7.2 The Recreation Ground

- (i) To discuss Cricket Teams sponsors suggested advertising board

Due to the Conservation Area status of the Recreation Ground, planning permission would be required for any permanent sign. A discussion took place and it was agreed that a permanent sign would not be suitable for the Pavilion. However a suitable temporary sign would be allowed.

- (ii) To discuss treatment of mole hills

It was AGREED that the moles hills at the recreation ground need to be dealt with. The Clerk will engage a contractor.

- (iii) One of the cherry trees at the recreation ground had a split trunk. The recommendation is that it should be removed as should it fall it will potentially fall onto the road and damage the dry stone wall. It was AGREED that the tree should be removed.

- (iv) The issue of the overlap between the football season and cricket season, which requires was raised. It was AGREED that a compromise for this season and future seasons should be agreed between the two clubs, to prevent any clashes of matches.

8) Identify new jobs and agree budget

- 8.1 The Ginnel between Southfields and The Birches
A discussion took place regarding the surface of the entrance to the ginnel at the Birches end and the lighting. The Clerk will contact Cllr Flynn to ascertain ownership of the pot-holed area. Historically it is thought that the lighting was connected to a domestic supply, but there were issues regarding payment for the supply. It was AGREED that no further action should be taken regarding the light.

- 8.2 The signs at The Cross are looking worn and need the lettering repainting/replacing. The Clerk will contact Cllr Flynn to ascertain whether there is funding available to assist with sign refurbishment.

9) Any other business

Volunteers were requested for opening and locking up the Chapel for three bookings received to date for 2017.

Dates 25th March (pm time tbc) - Christening – Cllr Lawson
 8th April - service commences at 2.30pm. Access time tbc – Cllr Fox

6th May (am time tbc) Wedding blessing – Cllr Lawson or Fox

Item for next month – to discuss dates for Puritan Chapel opening in Summer 2017.

11) Date of Next Meeting

Tuesday 7th March 2017 at 6:00pm.