

**MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING  
OF THE PARISH OF CHURCH WITH CHAPEL BRAMPTON  
HELD ON MONDAY 25<sup>th</sup> April 2016  
IN THE BRAMPTONS PRIMARY SCHOOL AT 7.30PM**

**1 Welcome & Apologies**

The Chairman of the Parish Council, Councillor D Bland, welcomed all present to the meeting ensuring all had an agenda, minutes of 2015 and the annual financial statement – 6 Parish Councillors, 27 Parishioners, the Clerk, Councillors Mr and Mrs J Shepherd and Councillor B Frenchman attended. Apologies received from 2 Parish Councillor

**2 Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting 2015**

The minutes of the 2015 meeting were distributed and the attendees given time to read them. It was agreed they were a true record of that meeting and minutes were signed by Councillor D Bland

**3 Report by Chairman of the Parish Council**

Councillor D Bland – Chairman of the Parish Council – reported on the following:-

- 10 Parish Council meetings and 2 special planning meetings have been held this year and been fortunate to have a full dedicated group of Councillors for the majority of the last 12 months. Councillor D Bland thanked Councillors for their expertise and service. There is currently a vacancy with the resignation of David Needham and applications for this post are welcomed
- Buckton Fields – there is a liaison forum to deal with problems and to ease operations. Anticipated 50 houses will be built each year with an anticipated completion in 3.5 years.
- Refuse collection – there is a current consultation on website regarding phasing out the bins/boxes and reducing the number of general waste collections
- Short period of not having a litter picker in Church Brampton but now resolved with the employment of a new litter picker. Sam in Chapel Brampton has identified some black spots and has identified that a majority of the litter has come from being thrown from cars
- Parish Council are currently undertaking a traffic count which will record number of vehicles and speeds. This data can be used to urge the authorities to take action to reduce the speeding on A5199 especially through the night
- Councillor J Slinn has sent her apologies – Speedwatch has been deemed a success and will be getting the speed gun later in the year. More volunteers needed and training is available.
- Welcome to Rosie Warne – new Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer
- Parish Council are currently establishing a website which should be available within the next three months
- Street lighting installed two years ago has seen a considerable reduction in the electricity charges and thanks to Councillor I Costello for negotiating these charges and reduced maintenance costs

**4 Report from Althorp – Katie Evans was unable to attend the meeting**

**5 Address by County Councillor – Mrs J Shephard** – reported that NCC is under considerable financial pressure and budget is challenging. There is a need to save £131 million over the next 4 years and led to some difficult decisions. Population is growing at a rate of 1000 residents per month which has put pressure on budgets. Councillor J Shephard outlined the challenges with the increase in the number of children and young people for schools and services. There will be a need to build 31000 new houses in the county by 2020. Demand for Children’s Services has increased by 42% in referrals and 24% increase in the number of children in NCC care. Children’s Services have begun work with the Department of Education to improve service. Council Tax has been set at 3.95%. Adult care packages across the county cost the County Council £12 million per annum. Country parks have seen an increase in visitor numbers and Library visits have also increased. NCC partnership with Kier WSP has seen an improvement in services. Empowering Councillor Grant is to continue and welcomes a request for grants from Parish Council or any Community Groups

**6 Address by District Councillors – Mr J Shepherd and Mr B Frenchman**

**Councillor B Frenchman** – reported on the planning applications and also the consultation on the North Orbital Route and recommends that residents look at this consultation and submits their views. Question asked about compulsory purchase orders to build this bypass and Councillor B Frenchman advised that DDC route would result in two houses needing to be demolished and that compulsory purchase is a last resort. The estimated cost to construct this is in the region of £40 million and currently Northamptonshire County Council has no funding and it is anticipated that funding would come from S106 monies. The DDC route would be cheaper as a lot of the road infrastructure is already in place. Planning application for 60+ houses opposite the Harlestone Manor development and looking to get a traffic master plan in place to reduce traffic problems.

**7 Playing Fields and Pocket Park Report**

**The Playing Field** – Currently investigating funding to extend the car park. Play equipment is regularly inspected and is in good order. Hedges and playing field continue to be cut on a regular basis

**The Pocket Park** – Pocket Park sign has been erected and a resurgence of wild flowers, flora and fauna are being seen

**8 Speed Watch** – Reported within the Chairman’s report

**9 Reports from village organisations**

**9.1 Litter Picker** - reported within the Chairman’s report

**9.2 Footpath Warden – Keith Davidson (+Fletcher)** – reported that he has completed his twelve year as Parish Path Warden which is undertaken with Fletch. There is a proposal to divert footpath CD8 and the outcome of application to divert is still pending. Has reported numerous times that several branches of trees had fallen on bridleway CE2. Mentioned that he is only responsible for the footpaths over fields, byways and bridleways and not footpaths alongside public highways

**9.3 St Botolph’s Church** – Rev Sue Kipling was unable to attend the meeting and written report was read out

**9.4 The Book Club – Mrs J Shearer (on behalf of Mrs May)** – reported that the group have met 9 times this year in each other’s homes and discuss a wide variety of books including autobiographies and modern and classic fiction.

**9.5 Discussion Group – Mr K Archbold** – The group has been going for many years and meets in the homes of members. There is a maximum of 30 people in the group who share their knowledge and friendship. There has been a range of speakers over the year talking about various subjects including Brexit, Waterloo and is alcohol good for you?

**9.6 Spencer Club - Mrs D Cumbleton** – Not present at the meeting

**9.7 Bramptons Primary School** – Not present at the meeting

**9.8 Neighbourhood Watch – Richard Gent** – Richard gave a report on the scheme and its impact on the village (94 members in Chapel Brampton and 35 in Chapel Brampton). Email network communicates any issues of security which keeps everyone informed. A window sticker has been distributed to all residents. There is a CCTV pilot in Golf Lane which has been paid for by Golf Lane residents. Daventry Police are being very supportive and scheme is increasing vigilance which results in the village being more secure. 5<sup>th</sup> May sees the elections of the Police and Crime Commissioner and recommends residents to look at the candidates profiles.

**10 Presentation of Accounts - Councillor D Bland** - The accounts, which had been circulated with the agenda - the variations between last years' year end and this year end were explained by the Chairman accepted by the meeting and signed by Councillor D Bland.

**11 Open Discussion** – The following items were discussed:-

- Speedwatch discussed and the need for more regular monitoring of traffic speeds. It was agreed that the Clerk would contact PC Hutchins at Brixworth to see if there is a spare camera and if so what data would be monitored and what action would be taken. Clerk to also ask if additional speed camera monitoring could be undertaken
- Asked if a zebra crossing was considered as part of the traffic calming – Councillor D Bland responded and advised that the scheme has taken into consideration the safety of residents and also the impact on neighbouring properties. Also noted that school signs should be more visible.
- No HGV's Pitsford Road – Brampton Lane – resident advised that he has spoken to the Police and they would support the move towards this. Councillors agreed that this would be added to the May agenda for further discussion. Councillor J Shepherd advised that she is happy to work with Parish Council
- Concerns raised for cyclists on priority road narrowing as cars don't respect bicycles. Suggestion made for bicycle signs and cut out and Councillor W Shearer will discuss this with NCC.
- Back Lane – question asked if 20MPH speed limit being considered – Councillor D Bland advised that this has not been considered. Councillor B Frenchman advised that 20MPH limits are not enforceable and there would be the need for a mechanical way of slowing cars like speed bumps. Discussions took place regarding the installation of speed sign and Clerk advised that she would speak to Steve Barber NCC to see if could borrow a mobile speed sign to see if the data supports the need to consider purchasing one.
- Parking on grass verges discussed and Parish Council confirmed that they do report issues on a regular basis
- Footpath between village boundary to Brampton Valley Way – footpath narrow due to overgrown trees and vegetation of the footpath – Clerk to report to Highways to request trees are cut back and path sided out
- Suggestion made that Parish Council noticeboard could be clearer – Clerk to add to the May agenda for further discussion

**12 Closing Comments** – Councillor D Bland thanked all those who gave reports for their efforts throughout the year and those attending for their support of the Parish Council.

Councillor Bland declared the meeting closed at 9.10pm.