

MINUTES of the **ANNUAL PARISH MEETING** held in the **MOOT HALL, MARKET PLACE, BRAMPTON** on **THURSDAY 27th APRIL 2023** at 7.00 p.m.

PRESENT

16 persons present including:

Councillor J. Errington, Chairman of Brampton Parish Council, (in the chair), Councillors M. Blake, J. Harding, I. Rodley, J. Spears, M. Spears and J. Thompson.

IN ATTENDANCE – Clerk to the Parish Council
Cumberland Councillor M. Mitchelson
6 members of the public (2 arrived at 7.20pm)
1 representative from Renewi UK

MINUTES

The minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on 28th April, 2022 were submitted for approval.

RESOLVED to authorise the Chairman to sign the minutes of the Annual Parish meeting held on 28th April 2022, confirmed as a true and accurate record.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Councillor Errington welcomed everyone to the meeting and gave the following report:-

Hello everybody and welcome to the Annual Parish Meeting.

Last year was a very eventful year for the parish council we had the Platinum Jubilee of our late Queen Elizabeth in which we purchased a bench, planted a tree and celebrated with a family fun day on King George's field with entertainment, inflatables and food. It was a huge success enjoyed by everyone. We also held an afternoon tea event at the Community Centre for the over 75's, both of the events had lots of positive feedback.

Then we heard the devastating news that the Queen had died and Operation London Bridge was put into place quickly and effectively with the flag lowered and raised when appropriate, a book of condolence available in the Moot Hall and a space for the laying of flowers outside the Moot Hall, which later pupils from Brampton Primary School helped to remove for composting.

At this annual meeting last year, we had Paul Taylor from Kompan talking about the benefit of play for children. A resident requested a play area at St Martins estate. I am so pleased to say that we have not only put a play area at St Martins, we have also installed one at Elmfield and both are being enjoyed by children of all ages. Going forward, we will be looking at improvements to Irthing Park play area through section 106 funding and grants. There is also equipment that needs to be replaced at King George V field.

Murray Park – this year we will start on repair work to the boundary wall once contractors submit quotes. The work will have to be carried out in phases over the next few years.

The Moot Hall has gone through an amazing transformation and is looking wonderful both outside and inside. We are just waiting for the architectural lighting to be finished.

Brampton's Visitors Centre closed in October for the winter so we thought with the pressures of inflation and utility prices reaching an all-time high, that it would be beneficial for the town to use the Moot Hall as a warm hub. With grants, donations, staff and a great group of volunteers that was made possible. The Warm Hub was open for 20 weeks, 4 days per week, 7 hours per day.

The Visitor Centre as it was will not be re-opening. The Parish Council took the decision, following advice from the City Council and monitoring usage of the visitor centre, which was mainly for parking discs, that we would promote Brampton by providing leaflet displays for any interested businesses within the town. We also now have the successful Discover Brampton website and social media pages to promote the town to visitors.

The Moat – work to the Moat is still ongoing and we have received £35k in grant funding from Cumbria County Council to help towards the repairs to steps and footpaths. It would be remiss of me at this point not to mention the sad passing of Ian Pennington who was an ex parish councillor and helped with a lot of work to the Moat.

Christmas lights – once again I would just like to say how lovely it is to see so many people attending what has become the highlight of the councils calendar along with the Elf Trail. Feedback from both events is hugely positive and something we will carry on doing every year.

I would like to thank my fellow councillors for having faith in me and re-electing myself as Chairman, I have great support from my Vice-Chairman John Harding and am pleased to say that all the members of the council pull together as a team and are working well for the town.

There is always a downside to parish council work, by that I mean the dog fouling and car parking issues. Dog fouling is a case of teaching the few problem owners to be more responsible.

While I appreciate parking is a problem in the town centre, the areas we have suggested to highways have all been turned down. Perhaps we may need to look into improving the use of Showfield car park.

To wrap things up, I would like to finish by thanking all the councillors, grounds maintenance team Stephen and Melanie, our caretakers Stephen and Peter, cleaner Helen and Allison our Clerk.

RESOLVED to note the report.

RENEWI UK

Hayley Slack from Renewi UK attended the meeting to give a presentation on the recycling of household waste, highlighting the following points:-

- Background to waste in Cumbria
- Location of treatment sites and transfer stations (nearest treatment site Hespian Wood)
- Mechanical, biological treatment process and stages of treatment
- Processing capabilities
- Use of waste material – e.g. building (material for foundations), green energy fuel substitute
- 0% of waste now goes to landfill
- Ongoing investigation of processes and new technology to separate food waste
- The danger of batteries in household waste – a fire closed 1 plant for 6 months – working with Cumberland Council to raise awareness
- Availability of public tours to the site

Members of the public asked the following questions:-

Q - How does this site compare to others around the country? A - Bit of a closed secret

Q – Is funding private or a partnership agreement? A – Funded by external funders then local council billed per tonne. Income is really only generated from recycled metal.

Members thanked Hayley for her attendance.

RESOLVED to note the presentation and to highlight the dangers of batteries in household waste.

OTHER RELEVANT BUSINESS

Members of the public in attendance raised the following points:-

- Request for the 40mph limit on Capon Tree Road to be reduced to 30mph and/or a footpath installed to improve pedestrian safety in the area. Member of the public had attended the last annual meeting and although the matter was to be passed to highways by Councillor Mitchelson, nothing had happened.

Cumberland Councillor Mitchelson stated that there were a lot of traffic issues in and around Brampton that were being investigated but would look into this.

The following 2 questions refer to planning application 23/0204

- Per the last committee meeting minutes, the finance meeting finished at 7.15pm and the planning committee started at 7.30pm and I have been advised that the applicant was in attendance before members of the public came in. Did the council have a meeting with the applicant?

No, haven't had any meetings with the applicant and their planners, it was the first time we had met them.

- Has the applicant offered an incentive to Brampton?

No.

- Would any of the councillors be interested in being on the Walkers are Welcome Committee?

Yes, a decision will be made next month at the annual meeting of the parish council.

- The judicial inquiry for Hayton Woods footpaths is coming up but I have been unable to get a response from Hayton Parish Council. Are they doing anything?

The Clerk for Hayton Parish Council confirmed today that no, they would not be involved.

Meeting closed at 7.37pm.