Brampton Ash Parish Council
Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting Held
Wednesday 14 December 2016, 7.30pm, At St Mary’s Church, Brampton Ash

Present (Parish Councillors)
Cllr Steve Power (Chair)       Cllr Wendy Brooks       Cllr Terry Hilliard

Also Present
County Councillor Allan Matthews

In Attendance: Liz Evans (Clerk)

Public Attendees: None

1. Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from:
Borough Councillor David Howes, due to a clash of meeting dates;
Parish Councillor Nick Bevan, for family reasons;
Parish Councillor Heather Shuttleworth, for health reasons. Councillors wished her well and approved an extension of leave of absence for her, beyond the statutory 6-month period.

2. Chair’s Announcements

None

3. Declarations of Interest To Receive Disclosures of Personal and Prejudicial Interests from Councillors On Matters to Be Considered at the Meeting

Cllr Terry Hilliard declared a personal interest in item 5.1.

4. Minutes of the Meeting Held 4 October 2016

To approve the minutes of the above meeting as an accurate record or to amend factual inaccuracies if they occur. Minutes of the above meeting have been circulated to councillors and it is assumed that they have been read prior to this meeting.

The minutes of the meeting held 4 October 2016 were approved as being a correct record and signed by the Chair.

5. Matters Arising From the Above (except where they are agenda items for this meeting)

5.1 Item 10: NCC Footpath Notification (final paragraph)

The clerk reported that she had not received any communication on the above matter from the landowner, or his agent, either by the 11 October or since that time. She had, therefore, advised Northants County Council (NCC) that Brampton Ash parish council unanimously supported the application for footpath GB8, as minuted 4 October 2016, item 10.

6. Financial Matters

1. Current financial position

The clerk issued a financial statement showing a credit balance of £1,588.68. This was accepted by the council and signed off by Cllrs Brooks and Hilliard.

2. Budgeted Items unpaid 2016-17

The following items remain to be paid from the council’s 2016-17 budget:

1/ £250.00 donation towards the cost of externally lighting the parish church. It was agreed
that this payment would be made in late January, together with a covering letter to specify that it was intended for use towards the cost of externally lighting St Mary’s Church, Brampton Ash.

2/ £134.00 payment for the clerk’s salary for the 4-month period to the end of the tax year 2016-17, with payments to be made quarterly thereafter at the commencement of the tax year 2017-18.

3. Banking facilities: update
Co-operative Bank has advised the clerk that the new account will be up-and-running during week commencing 19 December 2016. In response to the clerk’s complaint about the length of time that the application process had taken, the bank had credited a £50.00 goodwill payment to the account.

The clerk is now awaiting Unity Bank’s confirmation that the old accounts have been closed. A final statement is awaited from Unity and, when this is received, the clerk will be able to confirm an exact carry forward figure for 2017-18 which is provisionally anticipated to be in the region of £970.00.

7. Community Use of the Telephone Box
   Community defibrillator
The clerk reported that she had made a detailed investigation of the viability of installing a defibrillator in the village telephone box and she had received valuable advice from Bernard Rennger, Chair of Sutton Bassett Parish Meeting as they had recently been installed one there. The clerk advised that the cost of provision, installation and training would be in the region of £2,000.00, excluding any possible ongoing costs. In accordance with the financial regulations by which the parish council is legally bound, this amount can only come from the parish council’s funds and from bona fide awarding institutions: donations from individuals or from fund-raising events cannot be legitimately used under HMRC rules. Councillors agreed that this matter was beyond the parish council’s current financial capacity and the matter would not, therefore, be pursued at present.

8. Budget 2017-18
   **Budget Proposal 2017-18:**
   - Salary (Clerk) 400.00
   - Expenses (Clerk) 20.00
   - Church lighting donation 250.00
   - Insurance 255.00 (estimate)
   - Audit fee (possible) 36.00 (estimate)
   - Web-hosting fee 30.00
   - **Total (approx.) 991.00**

   The clerk presented the above budget proposal for the period 2017-18 and it was unanimously approved by the parish council.

9. Precept 2017-18
   **Councillors to agree the precept and the Chair to sign off application**
Councillors discussed the precept for 2017-18 and it was unanimously agreed that, based on the budget figure for 2017-18, the carry-over from 2016-17 and the need to build up a modest reserve, the precept would be set at £1,000.00. The application was signed by the Chair and it would be forwarded to Kettering Borough Council (KBC) by the clerk.
10 Planning Matters:
To Consider Matters Relating to Planning Applications in and Adjacent to the Parish
KET/2016/0839 Mr S Guinness
Location: The Hermitage, Barn 2 Desborough Road, Brampton Ash, LE16 8GP
Proposal: Conversion of former agricultural barn into a two storey office class B1

Councillors unanimously agreed that they had no objection to the above application.

11 Highway Matters
1. Traffic Calming Measures, Hermitage Road: Vehicle Activated Signs (VAS)
The clerk had now received the Section 50 licence and County Cllr Allan Matthews advised that he had set provisional dates for the installation of the VAS but these are subject to the availability of S. Barber, NCC Highways, who is responsible for overseeing the installations. Cllr Matthews will email S Barber for confirmation of the proposed dates and he will forward a copy of the email to the clerk.

2. Road Safety A427: Update
Cllr Brooks expressed her concerns that the increasing occupancy of premises along the Brampton Ash stretch of the A427 had resulted in a greater number of vehicles accessing those properties and this, in turn, had increased the likelihood of accidents along this busy road, where the traffic is fast-moving and includes many heavy goods vehicles. She was dissatisfied with the seemingly laggardly response of NCC employees to the parish council’s road safety concerns and suggested that parish councilors, together with C Cllr Matthews, should meet with the appropriate line manager to discuss this, with the aim of moving things forward at a speedier pace. C Cllr Matthews agreed to raise the matter initially and forward the outcome to the clerk.

C Cllr Matthews advised that he has requested action from NCC to trim back the overhanging trees which partially obscure the A427/Hermitage Road junction but, as yet, he had not received a positive response.

3. Pond Inspection, Hermitage Road A6 end
Deferred to January 2017

12 Parish Crime Reports
With effect from October 2016, crime statistics for parishes are to be forwarded by the local police to parish clerks of individual parishes. Figures supplied to date by Northamptonshire Police are as follows:
October 2016: no recorded crime for Brampton Ash since September 2016.
November 2016: 1 recorded crime for Brampton Ash, namely a Burglary (Non-Dwelling) where items were taken from an insecure barn.

13 Rural Forum Minutes 15 September 2016 (draft) (forwarded to councillors separately)
Items of interest
Councillors attention was drawn to item 16.RF.13, para 3, regarding speeding in rural areas.
Next Rural Forum meeting: 1 December 2016
Any Other Business
The Chair reported that KBC had given notification that they will no longer routinely forward hard copies of planning applications to parish council clerks. Under the current system, clerks are informed of planning applications in the borough on a weekly basis and full details are then made available on the KBC website. Hard copies will continue to be issued for large scale and/or contentious applications.

Date and Venue of Next Meeting:
The next ordinary meeting of the parish council is scheduled to take place on Thursday 23 February 2017, 7.30pm at the parish church.

Meeting finished
The meeting finished at 8.20pm

Signed: Liz Evans, Clerk to Brampton Ash Parish Council
tel: 01536 771470
e-mail: bramptonashparishcouncil@outlook.com
web: www.parish-council.com/bramptonash
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**Brampton Ash Parish Council: Income and Expenditure 28 Apr - 25 May 2016**

Signed: S Power (Chair)  
Date: 27 April 2016  
*Pre-pay account discontinued by provider, balance t/f to current a/c*

**Brampton Ash Parish Council: Income and Expenditure 25 May - 4 October 2016**

Signed: N Bevan (Member)  
Signed: W Brooks (Member)  
Date: 25 May 2016  
*The provider has ceased paying interest on deposit accounts. Deposit a/c balance has, therefore, been t/f to the current a/c for easier management*

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<tr>
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<th>On-line transaction</th>
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**Brampton Ash Parish Council: Income and Expenditure 4 October - 14 December 2016**

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Signed: T Hilliard (Member)  
Date: 4 Oct 2016

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**Brampton Ash Parish Council: Income and Expenditure 14 October - 14 December 2016**

Signed: W Brooks (Member)  
Signed: T Hilliard (Member)  
Date: 14 Dec 2016