

BRAYBROOKE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Parish
Tuesday 21 March 2017
in the Village Hall at 7.00 pm

Present	Councillors	Mrs D. Berry – Chairman Mr. G. Normand – Vice-Chairman Mrs A. Ayton Mrs A. Beardsmore N. Glazebrook Mrs M. Jessop M. Kingston
	Clerk	Mrs F. Allbury
	County Councillor	A. Matthews
	Public and Speakers	6
	Police	PC Keith Miller

1. Apologies for Absence:

Cllrs D. Howes

2. Minutes

The Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting 15 March 2016 were approved and signed.

3. Report from the Chairman of the Parish Council

Braybrooke Parish Council has moved on a long way since this time last year. Frances Allbury our clerk is thoroughly established in her post and keeping us running very efficiently. Gigaclear has come and gone and some of us are enjoying our ultrafast internet connection. However, some things stay just the same: the Parish Council continues to deal with many concerns of parishioners including the usual problems of potholes, parking, dog fouling, drains, gutters and verges, and the state of the field paths. We have dealt with many planning applications and after two false starts, with two planning appeals. A team is only as strong as its constituent parts and I am pleased to say we are in very good health in this respect. We will embrace the challenges clearly ahead of us, and in doing so, we will forge opportunities to thrive in the future. Given the rollercoaster ride provided to us by government and the world of public policy over the last year, it is perhaps clearer now than it has ever been before that the village needs a firm, independent, stable and robust voice that this Parish Council provides.

Our thanks are due to our County Councillor, Allan Matthews, and Ward Councillor, David Howes for their continued support of Braybrooke. We will soon see Allan Matthews' speed recognition camera sited somewhere suitable in the village.

Thank you to George Normand, my vice-chairman, and all the councillors who work hard for the benefit of the village. Angela Beardsmore has again represented Braybrooke at the Rural Forums, and Nikki Glazebrook is heading up the Pathfinder 2 Project in the village. But special thanks go to Marie Jessop as she retires from the Parish Council after for 14 years during which time she has spoken at most Gypsy & Traveller planning applications, represented us at the Rural Forum and X Border Liaison Group. She has been Parish Council Chairman and in the absence of a clerk is our minute taker. In her own words

'she just turns up' but how much more than that has been her sterling support. Thank you Marie.

There are many acts of kindness which pass unremarked in the village and much work silently for the greater good. One such is Lisa Templeton who organises our annual litter pick. She does it entirely of her own bat and in fact picks up litter regularly on her own. I gather turn out last weekend was disappointingly low which is a pity but much was collected and Rothwell Council have asked (through David Howes) for advice on how we do it.

I have been the Chairman of Braybrooke Parish Council for four years now and in that time we have engaged a very efficient clerk, brought all our policies and standing orders up to date to become a completely compliant Parish Council. Thanks to George, we now possess one of the best websites of any Parish Council. We have recently co-opted Matt Kingston on to the Council to fill the vacancy left by Karen Stanley and will need someone to step forward to fill the vacancy Marie leaves.

It is at this point that I have decided to retire as Chairman and as a Councillor as it is an appropriate moment to let a new Chairman take the Parish Council and the village forward. This means there will be yet another vacancy to fill and we look forward to receiving applications in due course.

Finally, my sincere thanks to our clerk, Frances, for your support and efficiency, without which we would not have made the progress we have and I personally would not have been able to manage.

4. Reports were received from the following:

- **Borough Councillor D Howes**
No report for the meeting
- **County Councillor A Matthews**
.Cllr Matthews briefly outlined details about the new building being occupied by Northamptonshire County Council and also the process of outsourcing some services to third parties. NCC continue to work under considerable pressure due to reduced funding from government at national level whilst continuing to provide services to the communities within the county. Further cutbacks in services are inevitable but Cllr Matthews felt that providing adult social care was the most challenging. NCC is in the process of preparing to turn NCC into a unitary authority which will hopefully result in cutting administration costs.
- **Police – PC Keith Miller**
A report was presented prepared by Sgt Scott Little was read by PC Keith Miller.
- **WI**
A report from Mrs Pat Wilson and Mrs Lisa Templeton.
- **Braybrooke Gossip**
No report
- **All Saints' Church**
No report

- **Braybrooke Baptist Church**
A report from Linda Davies
- **Village Hall Committee**
A report Robert Jeacock.
- **Cricket Club**
A report from Glyn Panter
- **Braybrooke Golf Society**
No report
- **Footpath Warden**
A report from Frank Taylor.
- **Neighbourhood Watch**
A report from Sue Fellowes
- **Morris Dancers**
A report from Geoff Pitcher
- **Singing Group**
A report from Stephanie Canning
- **Village Fete Committee**
A report from Stephanie Canning
- **The Heritage Group**
A report from Barbara Lynch

Copies of all reports are filed with the minutes and may be seen on request.

5 Participation by members of the public
None

6 Closure
The meeting closed at 7.50 pm

Chairman _____

Date _____