

BRADLEYS BOTH **PARISH COUNCIL**

Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held at Bradley Methodist Chapel schoolroom on Tuesday 16th May 2023 at 7.00pm.

Present:

Councillor D. Cohn, Chair
North Yorkshire Councillor Andy Brown
Margaret Smith, Clerk
3 Members of the public

- 1. Apologies-** No apologies received.
- 2. Approval of Minutes of the Annual Parish meeting held on 19th April 2022**
The Minutes of the Annual Parish meeting held on 19th April 2022 were approved.

3. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT – Cllr. David Cohn

At least a full year has passed since we were released from the restrictions relating to Covid 19. Although our Council meetings had to move to the Methodist schoolrooms because of the confined space of the Village Hall committee room, we have no inclination to return for the time being. We were not allowed to continue with the option of remote video meetings, which was a shame as public participation had never been so high for many years.

There is much work in progress which, hopefully, will see conclusions in the forthcoming year. Cllr. Veronicka Dancer's interminable correspondence with Area 5 of the Highways Dept. has reached agreement [and finance] for the installation of 20mph zones in the village, with an electronic reminder sign near the Village Hall.

The original location of the electric vehicle chargers within the canal side car park has changed due to what was going to be an expensive electrical connection. A new lease is ready to sign and the works should start soon.

The chargers for the Village Hall have also been agreed, but we have hit a snag with registering the ownership of the premises. It is in the hands of solicitors and hopefully these also will be installed in the coming year.

We have had much discussion with NYCC Highways about regular cleaning of the drains. A large number of the gullies had not been maintained for a long time. Many had been missed altogether as they were covered with vegetation. We made a survey of the whole network with Patrick McGowan's help and updated Highways' map.

Subsequently, we have had visits from the gulley wagon and most have been now been cleaned. It is an ongoing problem, as any heavy rainfall struggles to clear the bottom of the village around the shop. We keep in touch. Poor drainage has been a problem on the football pitch for many years. We have set up a subcommittee with the football and cricket clubs under the chairmanship of Cllr. Andrew Binns to try and solve it. We have had a survey made. Any remedy is going to be expensive, so we are now seeking to source grant funding.

Also we have agreed works [with Andy Brown's generous financial help from his locality fund] to repair and make safe the stone steps from the pavilion.

None of us have enjoyed looking at the steel shell of the building by the canal. You will know that work stopped a long time ago because of closeness of the overhead power lines. The developer was aware of the problem when they bought the site. Residents on Ings Drive objected to the proposed rerouting of the lines. Subsequently, the developer has been unhappy about the extra expense of an alternative and tidier route. We hope to resolve this soon so that the building can be completed.

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We retrieved the field below the cemetery. New fencing has been put up and with our support amongst others, the Bradley in Bloom group have planted a hedge and many fruit trees as well as an oak to commemorate the late Queen's jubilee. Now named "Sweetcroft", this will be a great asset to the village for the future. We are very grateful to the group for all their hard work. Our councillors, Andrew Slade and Jan Bruce, liaised. It is sad that Jan is now leaving the area and has had to resign. We will miss the expertise she brings to meetings.

The big news of the year is the final submission to Craven DC of the neighbourhood plan. It has passed its examination with only a few minor modifications. It has been a long on and off 10 year journey. We started with a push from our knowledgeable ex-councillor Derek Booth. However, we could not have finished without an immense amount of pro-bono work from David Snelson. Thank you. We are waiting for final approval from the new NYC and hopefully it will pass its referendum in late summer. This plan will set the legal template against which all future development must be assessed.

Finally, today, I am stepping down from the chairman's role. It has been a great pleasure and privilege to be involved in Bradley's affairs, working with a very strong team of councillors and our hard working and dedicated Clerk, Mags.

With the coming year and the new regime for North Yorkshire, I wish my successor well.

4. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

There were no questions from the public.

5. REPORT FROM COUNTY & DISTRICT COUNCILLORS

Councillor Brown has reported blocked drains doing towards Snaygill and advises that members of the public can report blocked drains on the NYC website.

He has supported projects in the village from his Locality grant, he has already given £4000 towards repairs to the Pavilion steps and will give something to Bradley In Bloom for an area at the corner of the Village Hall car park. He has a maximum of £10,000 and has already issued £3,500.

The new North Yorkshire Council is now in place, Cllr Brown is on the Planning Committee but the new ruling that Members must call in applications within 21 days is problematic. One instant has seen the Committee Chair and the Officer overruling a decision to call in, Cllr Brown suggests they should speak to the Member before overruling. There has only been one Committee meeting between April and June. Cllr Brown is involved with road safety and congratulates Cllr Dancer on the great work to get the 20mph limit extended in the village. A policy across the whole NY area for 20mph has been discussed though a change to rural settings would be easier and less expensive.

The River Aire has seen the most releases of sewage in the country at 4080 in the year. He has written to the Yorkshire Post with his concerns.

There will be the election of a Mayor for North Yorkshire and York in 2024, local elections won't take place until 2027.

Finally Cllr Brown thanked those who had voted for him at the last election and thanked the Parish Council and Cllr Cohn for his support.

6. ANY OTHER BUSINESS BROUGHT FORWARD

There was no other business brought forward.

The meeting was closed by the Chair at 7.30pm