

Bramcote CAT Meeting 7 March 2016 – The Official Unofficial Minutes

The Meeting was chaired by Councillor Martin Plackett. Councillors John Doddy and Jan Goold sent her apologies.

Councillor Plackett said the meeting was the sixtieth and he asked one of the founding Councillors, Stan Heptinstall to say a few words. Stan said CAT Meetings had been running for 15 years. They were set up as meetings for the community so residents could participate in the well-being of the area. Bramcote has always had the best attended CAT Meetings. An online version, Bramcote Today was set up and been most successful. Stan said he had thoroughly enjoyed being involved.

Matter Arising From the Minutes of the Meeting on 30 November 2015

- 1. Future of CAT Meetings.** Councillor Plackett said that CAT Meeting will continue in Bramcote for at least another year.
- 2. Sherwin Roundabout.** Broxtowe Borough Council have already planted crocuses and are planning to plant Summer flowering plants. Before doing further work on the roundabout, Broxtowe Borough Council employees have to be trained by AOne+ and this will be done next week. Councillor Jan Goold is asking Highways England to improve the roundabout but this depends on national funding.
Norma Fenton said that there were still persistent weeds on the roundabout despite 3 attempts to remove them. Councillor Martin Plackett expressed the hope that Broxtowe Borough Council would eradicate the weeds.
- 3. Community Café.** Ian Tyler spoke about this and invited residents to become ‘Directors’ pointing out that their liability would be limited to £1 if the project failed.
Work on plans is progressing and the aim is to show clear visual ideas to the Community and potential sources of funding. There will be discussions with Nottingham Groundwork Trust who specialise in match funding about raising money. A business plan is being developed Previous ideas started with the need for toilets but these were abandoned as management is difficult. Current plans involve a café as well toilets and possibly community facilities. The café will have seating for 50-70 covers. This is slightly smaller than the café at Colliers Garden Centre at Borrowash but will follow this as a blueprint. Colliers did over 200 servings on a winter’s day.
It is intended to involve people with learning difficulties like Rumbletums and Foxwood schools sees opportunities.
It is expected a basic outline plan will be completed in 6-8 weeks It is estimated £280,000 to £320,000 of funding will be required for the first phase.
- 4. Bramcote Hills Golf Course.** It looks as though the planning application will go before the Council’s Planning Committee in April or May.
The owners have been asked to clean up the kiosk on Thoresby road but there has been no response. Once the planning application has been determined the Council may serve an enforcement notice on the owners.
A query was raised as to whether a pre-determined scheme was in place for the area. Stan Heptinstall said that this was not the case when he was a Councillor. The land was not Green Belt but was designated as protected open space and was recognised as a wild life corridor. Whether this will be overturned depends on the availability of land for housing in the

Borough and the perceived need for residential accommodation for older people in Bramcote.

Councillor Plackett said that, if the applicants did not get planning permission, they may well appeal.

Policing

Sue Sambells said that the Police would not be attending future CAT Meetings but had supplied the information below.

Police statistics for last quarter compared to 2015

Offence	30/11/2015 – 04/03/2016	30/11/2014 – 04/03/2015
Burglary	11	12
Burglary Other	10	4
Auto Crime	14	8
Criminal Damage	2	3
Robbery	1	0
Theft	2	9

Burglary – In 9 of which entry was gained by either breaking a window or forcing open the UPVC frame. In 2 of them entry was gained by an insecure/unlocked door or window.

Burglary Other – 8 of these have been garages or sheds which were broken into, the other 2 were break ins to a secure room at a school and a secure room in the leisure centre.

Auto Crime – 10 of these offences are vehicle being entered or broken in to (9 of the ones entered were left insecure). 3 of these were vehicles being stolen (1 of which was left insecure with the engine running).

Robbery – The circumstances of the robbery incident were that a male was approached whilst out running in the area close to Common Lane. A male approached him and tried to take his phone off him and threatened him with violence. The offender from this was arrested at the scene by Police.

Local Policing Update - Following recent police reductions the whole of the Stapleford cluster Beat Team will look after Stapleford, Bramcote and Trowell. There will no longer be a dedicated officer for a specific beat i.e. Bramcote. The Neighbourhood Policing team for the Stapleford cluster area are as follows:

PC 5 Sarah Warren
PC 3362 Hannah Kinsey
PCSO 8043 Andy Freeman
PCSO 8916 Alistair Butterfield
PCSO 4662 Chris Archer

Methods of contact for the local team can be found on the Nottinghamshire Police website (Your area) or via Bramcote Today (under policing – local policing)

NHW Update

Sue Sambells, Trustee for Nottinghamshire Neighbourhood Watch and Multi Scheme Administrator for South Broxtowe said:

1. **RVR NHW** – Roger Jones and I run a local scheme and with the help of our coordinators, we delivered bespoke Christmas cards, giving police contact details and promoting different ways of keeping up to date with policing news, to all of our 257 houses, during December. We used it as an opportunity to check on residents, particularly those without internet access. We asked if they receive my policing updates and further promoted signing up to free alerts or keeping up to date via social media. We also collected many more email addresses from residents so I now am able to have direct electronic communication with over 70% of the homes in our NHW scheme, ensuring effective two-way communication.
2. **Bramcote NHW** Newsletters were delivered to 800 houses, mid-December, encouraging anyone interested in joining, or assisting with the setting up a new scheme in Bramcote, to email Ian Tyler at nhwbramcote@gmail.com. The scheme is named “Derby Road area, Bramcote”. If you live in that area and are interested in protecting your home and neighbourhood, please contact Ian. If you are not part of an effective NHW scheme, elsewhere, and want to be, please contact me at admin@nottswatch.co.uk.
There is currently funding to cover the setting up of new schemes throughout the county of Nottinghamshire.
3. **Stapleford/Bramcote/Trowell cluster** – Our next priority setting meeting is 17 March. The current priorities are 1. Vehicle Nuisance: Speeding 2. Drug misuse / supply 3. Rowdy / Nuisance Behaviour.
If you have concerns about speeding in a particular area, for example, and wish to affect the priorities that the police set, complete the online survey at <http://www.neighbourhoodprioritysurvey.co.uk/>
We are looking to get funding to print community policing contact cards to distribute to residents in the cluster area to encourage contacting the police/NHW and keeping up to date with policing info/advice.
4. **NottsWatch** We issue quarterly newsletters and publish updates in the police’s Citizens in Policing newsletters. If you are interested in NHW at a county level and the improvements we are making to formalise relationships with our partners, such as the police and council, take a look. These can be found from the “About us” page at www.nottswatch.co.uk. Our annual conference and AGM will be held on 16 April and this year’s theme is Developing Community Partnerships.

Laurie Mason pointed out that crime in Bramcote had significantly reduced over the years.

New Broxtowe Borough Council’s Website

Sarah Yates Communications Manager for Broxtowe Borough Council briefly outlined a new design for the Council’s website. She would like to have feedback on the proposals and asked residents to complete a survey which can be found at <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/85XJ2HM>.

White Hills Park Federation Update

Executive Head, Paul Heery updated the meeting on the White Hills Park Federation development plans

Paul Heery reiterated his comments on school performance. An OFSTED report on Bramcote School said many areas required improvement. There has now been a follow up HMI visit and the school is making significant improvements in the required areas. The HMI report for the visit on 3 November 2015 can be found at <http://reports.ofsted.gov.uk/inspection-reports/find-inspection-report/provider/ELS/138837>. The next OFSTED report will be in April 2017.

A similar situation occurs at Alderman White School where the OFSTED inspection was in November 2014 and the HMI Follow up was in April 2015.

Paul Heery expressed confidence that school performance would continue to improve.

As regards development, the proposed sale of the Coventry Lane playing fields for development will wait until the Green Belt discussion has been concluded.

There is urgency regarding maintenance issues at the Bramcote School where the buildings are in very poor condition and cost £200,000 - £250,000 per year to maintain. This school will therefore close in the Summer of 2017 and the pupils will be moved into the Bramcote College buildings where the accommodation is in better condition although it still needs refurbishment. It is then intended to sell the Bramcote School brownfield site. It is unlikely there will be large scale housing on the site but there is some value in it. Funds raised will be used to build a new 6th Form block. Generally, there has been a positive reaction to this.

Paul Heery said his vision was that the school should be part of the community and he will be consulting with the community as plans move forward. In terms of time scale he was looking for the 6th Form block to be underway in the next 18 months.

A resident queried what will be built on the Bramcote School site. Paul Heery said the intention was to sell the land with no pre-condition on what should be built. A number of ideas had been suggested including retirement housing. Visual impact and infrastructure requirements would be taken into account.

Sue Sambells said once Bramcote School was demolished the road up to the College from Ilkeston Road/Bramcote Leisure Centre areas would need to be improved from a security point of view. Paul Heery acknowledged this.

Capacity of the school was queried in view of increasing rolls in primary schools. Paul Heery was confident there would be sufficient when the school was redeveloped.

Paul Nathanail asked whether Broxtowe Borough Council would buy the Bramcote School site for a new leisure centre. Councillor Martin Plackett was unable to answer this question.

Steve Austin drew the Meeting's attention to the letter Bramcote Hills Community Association had sent to Anna Soubry MP to suggest that central government funding should be made available in whole or in part to redevelop the schools. At the time of the meeting there had been no reply.

Neighbourhood Plan

Paul Nathanail, Chair of Bramcote Hills Community Association's Planning Committee, spoke about Neighbourhood Plans

The Aligned Core Strategy has been agreed. The Local Plan Part 2 will be formulated in the next 12 to 18 months by Broxtowe Borough Council and will contain the detail to meet the Aligned Core Strategy. There is a window therefore to do a Neighbourhood Plan to drop into the Local Plan. A Neighbourhood Plan is our vision for Bramcote. It does have to be aligned though with Government Policy and the Aligned Core Strategy.

Most Neighbourhood Plans are drawn up by Parish or Town Councils. Bramcote has neither but Bramcote can prepare a Neighbourhood Plan by setting up a Neighbourhood Forum which is acknowledged by Broxtowe Borough Council and has an agreed area. The Neighbourhood Forum

works to agree a shared vision which is written up as a plan. Anybody living in the agreed area can be involved. The plan is reviewed by a Council appointed inspector before being approved by a referendum in the agreed area to make the plan i.e. approve it.

The most logical area for a Neighbourhood Plan is the Bramcote Ward. Stapleford Town Council are doing a Neighbourhood Plan and we can't stray into their area. It wouldn't stray into the City as this would make issues complicated having to deal with two councils.

Paul said the body to form a Neighbourhood Forum is being explored. Members of Bramcote Hills Community Association and Bramcote Conservation Society attended a briefing session organised by Broxtowe Borough Council and have met with Steffan Saunders Head of Planning at Broxtowe Borough Council to work out what to do.

A Neighbourhood Plan is our chance to come up with vision objectives for the area.

Change is inevitable. We can have an influence on where, what and when.

To prepare a Neighbourhood Plan a series of events have to be run to determine what people want in the area – talking about the Broxtowe Borough Council electoral ward not St Michael's Parish boundary.

A Neighbourhood Plan won't change housing allocation but will allow us to influence the form of development – how its built, where and soft landscaping.

Jan Jones raised the point shouldn't the Community Café be in the Leisure Centre as the type of consideration in a Neighbourhood Plan.

Any Other Business

1. **The State of the Sherwin bridge.** Sue said this was covered in mould and needed cleaning. Councillor Martin Plackett said the bridge was the responsibility of Highways England. More Graffiti had appeared and Paul Summers Head of Environment at Broxtowe Borough Council had approached Highways England about cleaning it off. The question was raised as to whether residents could clean the bridge – Doubtful was the response from Councillor Martin Plackett.
2. **Moss Drive Barrier.** Residents strongly indicated their opposition to blocking access from the Lawns to Bramcote Woods. The Conservation Society are collecting evidence to support the designation of the route as a right of way. Councillor Martin Plackett suggested a petition to reopen the route. The meeting wanted their opposition to the closure recording in the Meeting Minutes. It was agreed the Council's Legal Department be consulted over the form of words for the minutes.

Date of Next Meeting

This is planned for Monday 6 June at 7.00pm at Bramcote Memorial Hall.