

Bramcote CAT Meeting 6 March 2017 – The Official Unofficial Minutes

The Meeting was chaired by Councillor John Doddy. Councillor Martin Plackett was on the platform.

Action Points from the Minutes of the Meeting on 5 December 2016

Councillor Martin Plackett reported:

Bramcote Island

Highways England are providing Broxtowe Borough Council with a schedule for traffic management for island maintenance to be carried out. He said he felt Broxtowe Borough Council staff were doing a good job with the maintenance.

The Council Leader is pressing Highways England for the costs of maintenance now sponsorship restrictions make it near impossible to obtain monies from any deals.

There is nothing further to report re further improvements by Highways England.

New Seat

Broxtowe Borough Council have installed a new seat at the junction of Hanley Avenue and Church Street.

New Bin for Bramcote Park.

Awaiting a replacement for the burnt out one.

A52 Petition

1616 signature petition was taken to Parliament and handed to the Speaker. It will be passed to the Secretary of State at the Department of Transport and a report is expected in 2 months. At the same time, Highways England are preparing a report on speeding on the A52.

Golf Course

The owners appeal against the rejection of the planning application for a retirement complex was upheld. The Leader of the Council is meeting the Secretary of state following which a decision will be made to seek a review. The Planning Inspector did not take into account that sites are now available to meet the requirement for a 5 year land supply for housing development.

Later in the meeting Councillor Stan Heptinstall said a retirement complex was needed in Bramcote so that older residents could remain in the area rather than have to move elsewhere. He went on to say that Broxtowe Borough Council should insist that the retirement complex be built and that the developers should not be allowed to change the plans to housing.

Town Street Entrance to King George's Park

Council staff will cut back the vegetation when they are working on the park

Weed Killing

A new contract has been arranged.

White Hills Park Federation Update

The Executive Head Teacher of the White Hill Park Federation, Paul Heery said that school inspections for Alderman White and Bramcote College were now 4 months late. He is expecting to hear from the Schools' Inspectorate at any time.

The Federation is leaving Bramcote School building in July. Mr. Heery said they will preserve anything from the building worth preserving. From September, all pupils will be located in the current building on the hill.

The allocation of the Coventry Lane playing fields for housing by Broxtowe Borough Council now enables the school development project to take place.

The Federation is undertaking consultations on the project:

1. About relinquishing the land on Coventry Lane as a playing field.
2. About a planning application for a new school building and an outline planning application for housing on the Coventry Lane Playing fields. These applications will be submitted together

There will be a public consultation at Bramcote College on 18 April. Information will be published on Bramcote Today, in a mail shot and on the school website.

The planning applications will be submitted to Broxtowe Borough Council and it is hoped to have these approved in the autumn. The Coventry Lane playing fields will then be sold. A contractor will be engaged to build the school with work starting in the spring of 2018. The building work will take 15-18 months and the new building will open in autumn 2019

The architects are CAD Associates of Lincoln (see <http://www.cadassociates.co.uk/>) and they have been briefed to deliver a design so the school is the centre of the community with access outside of school hours for the community to sports facilities and the hall and its performance stage. The new buildings will be sited off the Ridge and will be a maximum of 3 storeys.

The process involves a number of land deals as White Hills Park Federation leases its land from Nottinghamshire County Council. The County Council will transfer the freehold of the Coventry Lane playing fields to the Federation which in turn will return its lease on Bramcote School to the County Council.

Residents queried a number of points:

1. The size of the school. – 755 3 and 4 Key Stage pupils and 250 in the 6th form. ie approximately 1000. There will be some spare capacity.
2. The land for development is in the green belt and won't be taken out until 2018 at the earliest. – The case for planning approval is that this is an enabling development for a school so the land will be taken out of the green belt before 2018.
3. A traffic increase on Moor Lane when the Bramcote School closes. – The majority of children walk to school. The traffic impact will only be the additional staff coming to the Bramcote College site. Staff travel between sites will be significantly reduced.
4. Strategy to improve academic standards to compare with George Spencer (world class school) and Fernwood. – Maths was a problem and has been transformed. Work is in hand to raise academic outcomes.
5. Reducing speed on Coventry Lane. – Likely speed limit will be reduced from 60mph to 40mph when new development goes ahead.
6. Retaining Alderman White School. - Yes.

Motion Passed by Bramcote Hills Community Association Re Bramcote Leisure Centre

Steve Austin, Chair of Bramcote Hills Community Association said White Hills Park Federation's development plans are dependent on land being taken out of the green belt and sold for housing development. The consultation on green belt changes caused considerable disquiet in Bramcote as the proposal was to remove much larger areas from the green belt than would seem necessary to meet White Hills' Park Federation's plans. The view of Bramcote Hills Community Association's AGM was that the community needs benefits to make this large loss of green belt more palatable. We welcome new school buildings but they are insufficient alone. Bramcote Leisure Centre is approaching the end of its life. Bramcote residents value it and want to see any new leisure centre located in Bramcote. With these points in mind a motion was put to the AGM "Bramcote Hills Community Association expects to see social benefits from the White Hills Park Federation school development plans and the development of publicly owned land. In particular, this would include use by the community of the school facilities outside school hours, and the rebuilding of the leisure centre." This was passed unanimously. There were no abstentions.

The details of the motion have been passed to our Councillors and Paul Heery the Executive Head Teacher of White Hills Park Federation.

It is encouraging that Paul Heery said his architects have been briefed to deliver a design so the school is the centre of the community with access outside of school hours for the community to sports facilities and the hall and its performance stage.

It remains to be seen if a new leisure centre will be possible. Paul Heery said The sale of Coventry Lane playing fields will fund the school development and there will be no money available for other items. The Bramcote School site will be returned to the County Council who will make the decision on what happens to it. A leisure centre development will need to be a partnership between the County Council and Broxtowe Borough Council.

Café in the Park

Councillor Stan Heptinstall gave an update.

Broxtowe Borough Council selected Bramcote Hills Park Community Café CIC, a community interest company, as the preferred organisation to build and run a café in Bramcote Hills Park. As a community interest company, it does not pay out any dividends and any profits made will be invested back into the local community.

The café is engaging with local schools and will offer pupils with learning difficulties such as those at Foxwood work experience.

Architects are working on the plans for the café building and recognise that it is important to get these right so the café is well-sited and is not out of place in the park landscape.

Fundraising has started with a crown funding campaign, a fundraising dinner, and approaches to local businesses for donations. Bodies likely to give grants for this type of project are being identified.

Bramcote Neighbourhood Forum Update

Paul Nathanail wrote: My apologies for not being able to join you in person due to work commitments.

The Bramcote Neighbourhood Forum's activities since the last CAT meeting focused on engaging with Broxtowe's emerging Local Plan Part 2 and working to gather evidence on Bramcote's need for housing to inform our neighbourhood plan.

Formal decisions with respect to the Council's plan and the appeal at the former Golf Course.

The recent appeals at the former Golf Course and Field Farm coupled with the Council's poorly formulated plans to amend the green belt boundary makes it all the more important that local residents engage with the Forum and help make our combined voice loud and clearly heard by decision makers at all levels.

We have had conflicting evidence about the fate of the land occupied by the Bramcote School. We have had confirmation from the Council that this land is allocated for educational or leisure purposes. We expect our councillors to uphold this decision and to strongly reject any suggestions for other land uses on this land.

We expect the fate of council controlled land to feature in the forthcoming County Council elections. Bramcote is paying a heavy price with little return for its loss of public assets. The time has come for Borough and County to work together to deliver tangible local benefit. Our consultation exercises over the past year show a great desire for the replacement leisure centre to be located in Bramcote. The former school site is the ideal location.

The next steps in preparing the Neighbourhood Plan are to agree a set of planning policies based on our evidence. This will include designation of local green space beyond those intended by the council, reinforcement of the allocation of the Bramcote School Site and a clear statement of the nature of development to be supported in Bramcote.

I would like to thank the chairman for this invitation to provide a brief update. There is more to be said and the time for that is the Forum's next meeting on Monday 27 March.

Paul Nathanail
Chairman, Bramcote Neighborhood Forum

Councillor Martin Plackett expressed the view that it is important to develop a Neighbourhood plan as soon as possible

Policing and Neighbourhood Watch

Sue Sambells, Trustee for Nottinghamshire Neighbourhood Watch and Multi Scheme Administrator (MSA) for South Broxtowe writes:

Police statistics for last quarter compared to 2015/2016

Offence	23/11/2016 – 17/01/2017	23/11/2015 – 17/01/2016
Burglary	8	1
Burglary Other	3	8
Auto Crime	2	9
Criminal Damage	12	2
Robbery	0	0
Theft	3	1
Total	28	21

Speeding Police van has been out along Derby Road a number of times but no new statistics provided by Beat Team since December CAT meeting.

Local Policing Update - The Neighbourhood Policing team for the Stapleford cluster area has reduced to:

PC 5 Sarah Warren
PC 3362 Hannah Kinsey
PCSO 8043 Andy Freeman

Methods of contact for the local team can be found on the Nottinghamshire Police website <http://www.nottinghamshire.police.uk/neighbourhood/stapleford> or via Bramcote Today, under policing – Local Policing – Stapleford.

The Stapleford twitter account has been closed. You may follow @BeestonCops. The team still attend their Stapleford office but are based from Beeston so the best extn to dial is 101 extn 318 9987.

Stapleford/Bramcote/Trowell cluster – Two major changes:

1. Change of focus to these community safety meetings away from setting three main priorities to community working together to proactively reduce crime and the fear of crime. Several reasons for this including zero surveys being completed in the previous two quarters. If you wish to influence police priorities, email details of your concerns to broxtowe.southnpa@nottinghamshire.pnn.police.uk
2. Amalgamation of the three South Broxtowe police clusters – Stapleford, Chilwell and Beeston.

I have created a dedicated website for the new South Broxtowe Safer Communities Forum to assist in our aims. Like Bramcote Today, it offers a WordPress blog to enable community discussion about prevalent policing issues between police, councillors and community leads, including NHW. It also offers much static advice and links to relevant organisations and information. Unlike Bramcote Today, it is not intended to be promoted to the general public.

Bramcote NHW update

RVR Russley Rd, Valmont Rd & Rufford Ave russleyvalmontrufford@hotmail.co.uk Roger Jones and I continue to manage our three roads. If you live here and have internet access and not already receiving my updates, please email me.

Bramcote Hills bramcotemoornw@outlook.com Thanks to Laurie Mason for his many years as Lead Coordinator. He has now retired and, in the absence of another volunteer, Steve Austin will be responsible for Bramcote Hills as well as Bramcote Moor. I'm sure he would welcome offers of help from residents.

Bramcote Moor bramcotemoornw@outlook.com

Oaklands oaklands.nh.watch@ntlworld.com Brian Hughes has also been unable to find a willing resident to take over.

Stanley Drive (incorporating Lyndale Road) stanleydrivenhw@hotmail.com Robbie Muir covers both of these roads.

Bramcote Village jo.starbuck@sky.com Jo tends to deal with issues as they arise.

"Lake District" stephenpwillis@btinternet.com. I have contacted Stephen but not received a response. Sadly, this large scheme that Rod Yarnell managed until his move, seems to not be in existence anymore. However, if you know differently, please contact me at russleyvalmontrufford@hotmail.co.uk.

Beeston Fields Drive choose to pay for private security and are not part of NHW.

There is still funding to cover the setting up of new schemes throughout the county of Nottinghamshire. If you are not part of an effective NHW scheme, elsewhere, and want to be, please contact admin@nottswatch.co.uk.

Nottinghamshire Neighbourhood Watch (NottsWatch)
Updates since December CAT meeting:

Citizens in Policing Dept – Their newsletter will be issued shortly and can be viewed from <http://www.nottinghamshire.police.uk/document/citizens-policing-newsletter> I have provided an update of NottsWatch's 2016 achievements and 2017 plans.

NottsWatch and Notts Police are enjoying a closer working relationship. We are working with their Comms and Crime Prevention teams. For further information, keep up to date by reading our minutes, uploaded to www.nottswatch.co.uk (About us).

Hemlock Happening

Councillor Stan Heptinstall reported planning was well underway for this year's Hemlock Happening on 10 June. This year they will be a 'big top' which will provide good cover if needed. The main sponsor this year is Specsavers who agreed to donate £5000 on condition of prominent branding on the 'big top'. Final comment was that the event this year will be great!

AOB

Sue Sambells drew the meeting's attention to the graffiti that has appeared on the pedestrian bridge over the A52 again.

Date of Next Meeting

The December meeting will be held on Monday 5 June 2017 at 7.00pm at Bramcote Memorial Hall.