

Joint Annual Meeting of
Buckton & Coxall and Brampton Bryan Parishes
Brampton Bryan Parish Hall, Monday 8 May 2017, 7:30pm

Present: Parish Councillors Maggie Brown (Chair), Tom Dixon and Susan Harley (arrived 7.45pm)

Also present: 3 residents from Brampton Bryan, one of whom is the Footpaths Officer for Border Group Parish Council (BGPC).

1. **Apologies** – Cllr Simon Whiteman.
2. **Minutes of the last meeting** were provided for members of the public, none of whom were at the meeting in 2016. They were agreed to be a true record by Cllr Harley and Cllr Brown and signed as a true record by Cllr Harley.
3. **Precept, Services and Council Funding.**

Buckton & Coxall : A notice had been displayed on the BGPC board. Copy attached to these Minutes.

Brampton Bryan: A notice had also been displayed on the BGPC board and a flyer delivered to all properties in the Parish.

Cllr Brown explained that financial contributions from Herefordshire Council for these schemes are to be phased out and should residents wish to keep them, BGPC will have to raise the precept to pay for them. A list of tasks the Lengthsman is permitted to carry out (attached to these minutes) and the following chart were made available.

	Lengthsman grant		P3 grant	
	HC contribution	PC contribution	HC contribution	PC contribution
17/18	£30/km	£60/km	£50/km	£15/km
18/19	£0	100%	£50/km	£15/km
19/20	£0	100%	£0	100%

A discussion followed and questions raised as follows.

Lengthsman.

Is the Lengthsman responsible for A roads?

If the Lengthsman were able to mend potholes under the Enhanced Lengthsman Scheme, would rules and regulations of Queen's Highway be complied with?

P3

Is there a Ramblers Association, and if so, would it be possible for them to maintain footpaths? It was suggested that there are difficulties with finding and training volunteers effectively, and that the P3 scheme does good work. There is an Area Warden for footpaths in North Herefordshire whose role it is to contact the BGPC Footpaths Officer. In fact problems are reported to the Footpaths Officer who liaises with the contractor who carries out the work.

Conclusion. Members of the public agreed that the work carried out by the Lengthsman & the P3 Scheme are important and should be maintained. They would like the precept raised to cover the cost. It was commented that if BGPC does not run these schemes but returns them to the responsibility of Herefordshire Council and Balfour Beatty, the works will be done by someone who is not familiar with the area and its problems, will be more expensive, and will ultimately be paid for by the taxpayer anyway.

The Footpath Officer expressed his thanks to all councillors for their hard work.

Cllr Harley expressed her thanks to the Footpath Officer for his hard work.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 8:06pm

Brampton Bryan and Buckton & Coxall Parishes

Annual Parish Meeting

**Please come along to Brampton Bryan Parish Hall on
Monday 8th May at 7.30pm to tell us what matters to YOU**



We need YOUR views on how we spend your Precept*!

‘Grass cutting, potholes, litter picking, hedge trimming...?’

Many of these are currently done by our Lengthsman but from April 2017/18 there will be a 25% reduction in the grant we receive from Herefordshire Council. To continue with these tasks, the Precept will have to go up from 2018 – the Parish Council has kept it the same for the last 3 years.

***Precept : A tax on residents within the area of the Parish Council, set by the Parish Council.**

Parish Councillors

Brampton Bryan :

Susan Harley 01547 530 241 and

Maggie Brown bramptonbryan@gmail.com 01568770346

Buckton & Coxall :

Tom Dixon 01547 540 683

Information supplied by Balfour Beatty : Examples of the type of work available for delegation under the Lengthsman Scheme include:

Drainage

- Clear leaves and other debris from gully grid tops and drainage grips
- Cleaning channels and vegetation from the entrances and exits of highway culverts
- Rodding of pipes (off highway)
- Localised ditching works;
- Assisting in land drainage affecting the highway (working with landowner)

Signs (unlit)

- Ensure legibility and visibility of traffic Signs including minor repairs, straightening, cleaning and removing vegetation.
- Repaint traditional finger and mileposts.

Highway minor works

- Removal of soils and detritus build up
- Clear minor storm debris discharged onto the highway as is reasonable and practical
- Cutting back vegetation overhanging the road or footway, siding out footways
- Removing vegetation from structures and fences
- Verge cutting and strimming of visibility splays
- Paint and repair fences
- Pothole filling (no excavation) of minor cat 2b defects

Public rights of way

- Cutting back vegetation and strimming
- Minor repairs to gates (wooden or metal), stile cross steps, ditch crossings (up to 3.5m)
- Sign posts, marker post and way markers
- Replacing authorised stiles with accessible gates and improving path surfaces and widths
- Leaflets and noticeboards promoting local walks

Environmental

- Sweeping footways and public realm spaces, litter clearance ,picking and bin emptying
- Removal of fly posting, graffiti and unauthorised signs
- Street name plates cleaning and repair
- Repair of street furniture including litter bins, benches and bus stops

Public open spaces

- Grass cutting and strimming
- Maintenance activities of play areas, kick about areas and open spaces
- Maintenance of associated fences and furniture

Community

- Assist in emergency response, eg flooding, gritting, snow clearance