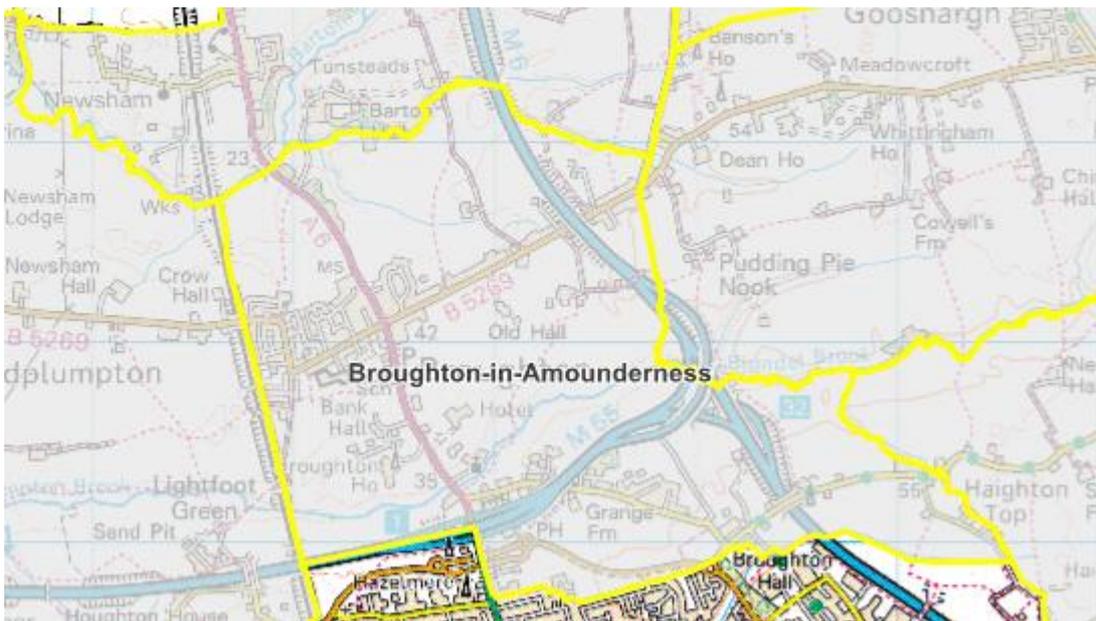


Broughton in Amounderness Parish Council

Parish Councils

Parish councils have their origins in medieval times, in an era when money was seldom used and when few people lived in the countryside. Communities came together in order to organise land management, agriculture and settle disputes. The current system of parish councils was formed in 1896. The vast majority of parish councils are not split by party politics.

Broughton has had a parish council since before the 1st world war. The 1st meeting was held in on 12th December 1896 at the old grammar school when Broughton Parish extended down to Black Bull Lane.



Parish Councils raise a precept – part of council tax – from the local community for their work. They work towards improving their community and providing better services at a local level. Their activities fall into three main categories: representing the local community, delivering services to meet local needs and striving to improve quality of life and community well-being.

These existing powers were recently strengthened by powers contained in the Localism Act including the extension of the General Power of Competence to eligible local councils.

This has led to Broughton preparing a Neighbourhood Plan in conjunction with the residents and business community. This Plan is going for “Independent examination” following statutory consultation in the next two weeks. This plan has delivered a Parish Actin Plan which the Cllrs are actively working towards.

Broughton in Amounderness Parish Council

Parish Councillors

Parish Councillors are elected every 4 years (next due 2019) or are co-opted to fill the required number of seats on the Parish Council. In Broughton we have 7 seats.

- Councillors have responsibility for running local services which may include: open spaces, play areas, village halls, community car schemes and potentially much more.
- They decide on how much to set the precept in order to deliver these council services.
- They influence and shape the long term development policy for the parish, and as part of the planning process, comment on planning applications in the parish.
- They aim to improve the quality of life and the environment in their local area.
- They work to identify issues which are important to the lives of the residents of the Parish
- They work to bring about improvements through local projects, lobbying other service providers and working in partnership with the City and County Council and other neighboring parishes.

Who can be a councillor?

- Aged over 18 **and** on the electoral role.
- A resident of Broughton
 - OR someone who lives within 3 miles of the Parish
 - OR it is their main place of employment.
- Be prepared to attend meetings
- Have a keen interest in the local environment
- Be interested in local issues especially those that affecting residents
- Time to attend training to learn about what the role involves provided by the Lancashire & Merseyside County Training Partnership
www.lalc.org.uk/local-council-training.

Further details are available at:

www.nalc.gov.uk (publications are free to download)

Good Councillor's Guide 4th edition.

All about local councils

It takes all sorts.

www.local.gov.uk (free to download)

Stand up for what you believe in: be a counselor.

Come along to the next parish council meeting on the 22nd May at 7.30pm @ Broughton and District Club, Whittingham Lane

Details of how to apply are on the Parish council web site and the noticeboard.

www.broughtonparishcouncil.org.uk