



**Draft Minutes of Brixton Parish Council Annual Parish Meeting 26th April 2017**

**Brixton Community Room 7.00 pm**

**Present:** Cllr Liz Hitchins (Chair), Cllr Michael Wills (Vice Chair), Cllr Roger Wakeham, Cllr Ian Calvert, Cllr Gay Murch, Cllr Helen Williams, Cllr Ian Martin, Cllr Josef Parish, Cllr Brenda Huxtable.

**In attendance:** District Councillor Basil Cane

**Members of the public in attendance:** 13

Cllr Hitchins opened the meeting by thanking everyone for coming and explained that the Annual Parish Meeting will be followed by the monthly Parish Council meeting.

**Invited Speakers for the Annual Meeting**

**BPC Neighbourhood Planning Group (NPG) to present draft policies:**

Community Facilities, Development, Employment, Environment, Sport & Recreation, Transport

Cllr Hitchins explained the background behind the Neighbourhood Plan and that the group, Cllr Hitchins, Jon Capel, Ray Holland, Shirley Deeney, Tony Steer and Greg Webb had been meeting for the past 18 months on a weekly basis. The members all live in the village and are all involved in the community. Planning is very important for Brixton Parish and the NPG are keen to ensure that Brixton's identity and history is preserved as well as ensuring that there is connectivity with the new town of Sherford.

There have been a series of consultations; April 2016, a Housing Needs survey, where the need for 11 affordable homes was identified; May 2016 Community Survey encompassing environment, employment, community facilities, sport & recreation, development and transport; June a public consultation, where comments were analysed to assist the NPG to draft the vision, objectives and policies. The next consultation event is Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> May between 10 and 2pm at Brixton Community Room for parishioners to give their views on the draft policies.

Jon Capel and Roy Holland spoke about the vision for Brixton Parish and the following objectives; Environment, Development, Community Facilities, Sport & Recreation, Transport and Employment. Policies have been prepared on these headings and will be presented on Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> May

Shirley Deeney spoke about the recent consultation on the Green Spaces. This gives an extra protection from development and incorporates land, for example, that is special, historical or has a richness of wildlife. Several sites have been identified and being put forward as part of the plan and once adopted it will give these area that extra level of protection.

The land between Brixton and Elburton is strategic landscape and important green space. Brixton doesn't want to be joined up with Elburton the green space along the A379 needs to be protected.

Date .....

Signed .....

Mrs E Hitchins – Chair Brixton Parish Council

The village development boundary is no longer applicable, it a new boundary - Settlement Boundary - referred to in the Thriving Towns and Villages Settlement Boundary Topic Paper (March 2017) of the Joint Local Plan(JLP) is currently out for consultation.

Cllr Huxtable commented the fact that Coombe was not included in the Green Spaces or AONB .

Cllr Calvert raised The Chantry (Fortescue Family) Grade 1 Listed building in Spriddlestone which has had with scaffolding for 5 /6 years.

Cllr Wakeham asked why the area around the Scout Hut wasn't included within the Green Spaces this area already has protection of as there is a blanket TPO , this area is in the AONB and it is outside the village development boundary area as there are protected trees in coppice with a blanket tree preservation order. Cllr Hitchins advised that had BPC received an email from District Cllr Brown who has given delegated power on the planning application for the scout hut and outline planning for 2 dwellings in the area where the scout hut is currently located application today (26<sup>th</sup> March 2017). BPC spoke about the need for a consistent approach from SHDC to planning applications. NPG reassured everyone that there are no ideas about joining up with Elburton and the need to keep identity of Brixton Parish. This is the most important consultation, as these draft polices when they are formally agreed as part of the Neighbourhood Plan and the JLP will inform how planning decisions will be made for the parish.

Cllr Huxtable spoke about the need to know what the position is within SHDC with regard to the planning applications. Cllr Hitchins explained that the role of a parish council is as a consultee and that it only makes a recommendation and it doesn't have to agree with SHDC policies. Cllr Hitchins suggested that additional training for the Parish Council on planning might help

Cllr Hitchins thanked the NPG for their presentation and the hard work that has gone into the last 18 months. Jon Capel also took this opportunity to thank Cllr Hitchins for her role in the NPG.

Meeting closed 8.10 pm

**Kirstie Aldridge, Clerk to Brixton Parish Council**

Date .....

Signed .....  
Mrs E Hitchins – Chair Brixton Parish Council