

Minutes of the Brixton Parish Council Meeting 24th February 2016
Brixton Community Room, 7.00pm



In attendance: Cllr Liz Hitchins (Chair), Cllr Michael Wills (Vice Chair), Cllr Ian Calvert, Cllr Brenda Huxtable, Cllr Patrick Loxdale, Cllr Ian Martin, Cllr Gay Murch, Cllr Roger Wakeham, Cllr Helen Williams, County Cllr John Hart, District Cllr Daniel Brown, District Cllr Basil Cane, District Cllr Rufus Gilbert, Kirstie Aldridge (Clerk)

Members of the public in attendance: 10

Open Forum (these notes do not form part of the official minutes)

District Cllr Rufus Gilbert – SHDC Commercial Services.

Each person in South Hams produces 410 kilos of waste, the national average is 367 kilos waste. In South Hams 54% of rubbish is recycled, the national average is 43%. The European Union Target is 65% by 2030. He explained that blue sacks are for paper and cardboard. Unfortunately the clear bags are still being contaminated, these are for tins, silver foil and plastic bottles of any colour not margarine pots, tubs or plastic trays. The grey / black bins residual waste now goes to Energy From Waste Plant (Devonport) where it is burnt, there is no pollution. South Hams cost per tonne of collecting waste is £48. West Devon is £62 a tonne. Recycling rates East Devon 44%, Mid Devon 52%, North Devon 47%, South Hams 54% (top), Teignbridge 54%, Torridge 45%, West Devon 55%, Exeter 33%. SHDC is looking at improving replenishing bags with an annual delivery to every household. Overall South Hams is doing very well with regard to recycling.

Issues from parishioners/Cllr's included:

Fly tipping in South Hams it is not on the increase, the District Council is very rigorous in prosecuting. Plymouth recycles yogurt pots as the cost of collection is lower. There is no money available to drive recycling rate higher. Blue and clear bags go in the same dustcart and are separated at the depot. The specification of the strength of blue and clear bags is being improved. A local central community point to collect new blue and clear bags would be helpful. Excellent service from SHDC with replacing broken vegetable caddy.

Andrew Lethbridge & Andrea Peacock re Planning Application Tuscany's & British Legion Land

Cllr Hitchins explained that a site meeting was undertaken last Friday which was well attended by 20 residents.

Andrew Lethbridge (Architect) introduced Peter Davies and Andrea Peacock (Developers). He explained some background with regard to the site and outlined the plans for the development - 4 x 4 bedroom houses.

Freehold for the site is both sides of the footpath but the footpath is not owned by the applicant. The footpath will be improved but stay in exactly the same place. It will be screened with a Devon hedge and 1.8 metres high timber fencing. There will be a communal drive at the back of the houses with a minimum of 2 car parking spaces per dwelling and gardens at the front.

Issues from parishioners/Cllr's included:

Drainage needs to be fully investigated. Reports and recommendation on the cliff face and top of cliff will be required by SHDC prior to the development. Clarification of responsibility for the cliff once the buildings have been sold (collectively or individually). Clarification needed on the responsibility for the management of the open space and seats. A Construction Management plan will be in place to which stipulate working conditions. The completion of the development will take a year.

Open Forum Closed

Date

Signed

Mrs E Hitchins – Chair Brixton Parish Council

1. Welcome & Apologies:

Cllr Hitchins welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Apologies were received from PCSO Andy Potter and accepted.

Cllr Hitchins stated it was good to see District Cllr Cane back in attendance following his ill health.

2. Police Matters:

Brixton - From 15th December to 22nd January 2016

Overnight 15th /16th Dec property stolen from farmyard, enquiries ongoing CR086341/15

Overnight 16th/17th Jan Damage caused to paintwork of car parked in Brixton CR/003685/16

PCSO 30540 Andy Potter, Ivybridge Police Station. Tel no 101

3. Report from County Councillor John Hart:

A devolution report is due to be submitted to Government on Monday, called The Heart of the South West. Full consultation on housing, job creation and closing the gap on GDP. South Devon Link road opened Monday. Government gave £8.4 million for transition, a one off sum of money allocated to protect for future issues: £1million for drainage and flooding, £5 million for social care, £1 million for transformation, £1.5 million for storm damage, £1 million for Dartington School & 2% adult care. Minimum wage increase will cost adult services £7.2 million. There is a need to reduce the budget by £50 million by 2020. The works on A379 will commence in April with the installation of the new safety barrier and is due to finish before the summer holidays.

4. Reports from District Councillors:

Cllr Basil Cane

SHDC gave £10k to CAB Totnes, should they give to Plymouth rather than Totnes? SHDC need to ask for address statistics. The cut backs have saved £3 million up to March 2016, need to be more efficient and business like as Government grants cease by 2018. Council Tax SHDC has agreed equivalent to £5 increase a year on Band D houses. District Cllr's allowances have been increased to by 12 % to £5,000 per member as recommended by an Independent Panel. As the number of Cllrs have decreased by 9 this has produced a saving of £31,000 per year

Cllr Daniel Brown

Gave credit to South Hams Councillors for lobbying the Government concerning the transition process and the work of the council resulting in this strong financial position. Council Tax the choice for the District Council was 1.99% or £5 per band D house, the £5 was chosen as greater.

5. Declarations of Interest:

Cllr Wills declared a personal interest in agenda point 9

6. Confirmation of the minutes of the previous meetings

Cllr Wills proposed to accept the minutes of the meeting on 27th January 2016 as an accurate record of the meeting. Cllr Williams seconded. All others in attendance were unanimous.

Cllr Hitchins signed the minutes as Chair of the relevant meeting.

Date

Signed
Mrs E Hitchins – Chair Brixton Parish Council

7. Matters Arising:

Cost of signage Nick Colton advised that as there is already 'weight limit' signage within the vicinity of Monkey Lane it is very unlikely that signage would be agreed for this area. He will obtain some prices for the signage but in the new financial year. Clerk to add to Traffic Management Meeting Agenda

Carollisland Notice Board

Derek Furzeland will install the new noticeboard when the weather improves.

Work at junction of Red Lion Hill and Kitley View

The local street works inspector has visited the sites and is satisfied with the current arrangements.

8. Local Issues and Councillor Reports

8.1 Post Office Update

Colin Pound from The Post Office stated via email that the new hours will be introduced from 7th March. Tina, Manager at Elburton Post Office will produce a newsletter which will be delivered locally and available in the Post Office.

8.2 Sherford Update

Cllr Wills reported that the latest meeting of the Sherford Liaison Group was held 11th February. There was a summary from the developers, discussion with regard to Stanborough Cross traffic, which is now flowing well with road widening due to be completed by August 2016

The Parish Council will be receiving the planning application for the new school soon. Engaging a consultant is being considered to progress the Community Trust.

Cllr Loxdale noticed a planning application (0484/16/VAR) sign on a lamp post at Woollaton Cross which has subsequently been taken down. Clerk to investigate

8.3 Balls Wood Solar Farm Update

SHDC confirmed that the gate width has been restored to approx. 4.5 metres so has met the conditions applied to this approval The planting of hedge plants and the seeding were being arranged during Sept/October 2015 and this has now been done. The laydown area is in the process of being restored is imminent. Cllr Hitchins will confirm that they are referring to the gate at the site of the Lay Down Area on the Plympton Road.

8.4 TAP Progress 2015 – 2016

TAP funding spent/committed so far totals £2267.45; with the total TAP funding available £2666.66 Therefore there is £399.21 left. The quotation for verge at Wollaton is £845 and pavement maintenance Red Lion Hill £60, leaving a deficit of £505.79. The contractor, Peter Burridge offered to take £300 (including VAT) off this cost as a token of goodwill and thanks. The revised quote is £786, less the VAT @ 20% £157.20. The total cost to BPC would be £628.80, less the TAP Funding £399.21, surplus BPC would need to pay would total £229.59.

Cllr Wills proposed that BPC pay the additional funds of £229.59 seconded by Cllr Calvert. All others in attendance were unanimous in support.

8.5 TAP Funding ideas for the future

Add to March agenda

Date

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8.6 Emergency Plan

Cllr Williams explained that 29 people attended the Heart Start training sessions.

The warden meeting for 25th February has been postponed and will be rescheduled for the end of March. The last meeting was successful testing out various emergency scenarios. The funding application has been made for equipment for an emergency in the community. Emergency box is ready to be used in centre of village. There is a defibrillator outside main door of school (access is by dialling 999 for the code to unlock). Other proposed locations for defibrillators are Venn Court and near the Green

8.7 Bus Stop Seats

Add to March agenda

8.8 P3 (Footpaths)

Annual return sent off and application for £100 funding.

Cllr Huxtable will report there is tree down by the entrance by Steer Point and steps are still waiting to be repaired

8.9 Brixton Composters

Saturday opening hours from 5th March between 10am and 11am

There is £6,259.82 in green fund. Grants have been made to the Church for lighting and to the School for the school gardener. Next meeting will be 4th April at 7.30pm in the Foxhound– new members welcome.

8.10 Neighbourhood Watch

Add to March agenda

8.11 Queen's 90th Birthday Celebrations

Parish Councils are being invited to light a beacon to celebrate the Queens 90th Birthday e.g. gas beacon, bonfire etc. Place on agenda for March meeting.

8.12 War Memorial

Historic England, together with War Memorials Trust, are offering advice and grants to help members of the public submit applications to have their local war memorials listed and repaired where necessary. Cllr Wills confirmed that the War Memorial belongs to the village; he agreed will look into the possibility of having the War Memorial listed.

8.13 Neighbourhood Plan

Housing Needs survey will be delivered to all households by the end of March.

Once completed and returned to SHDC the analysis will be available at a consultation stand on 18th June at Church Fete.

8.14 Update Standing Orders with Anonymous Letter Policy

Cllr Williams proposed that the Anonymous letter policy agreed at the January meeting of BPC should be included in the Standing Orders and seconded by Cllr Wills. All others in attendance were unanimous. Cllr Hitchins signed the February 2016 Standing Orders.

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8.15 Transparency Code

The Transparency Code Government Funding is available for smaller authorities (Parish Council's with an annual turnover of up to £25,000). This funding has been made available in order to comply with the new Transparency Code requirements. It is an opportunity for each Parish Council to set up its own website to ensure full control as it is anticipated that in the future local councils will have more and more information to put on-line. BPC would also be able to apply to set up its own website, office equipment and any professional training. Councillors were all emailed with this information and the general consensus was to apply for the funding, which the Clerk did by 12th February.

Cllr Calvert proposed that the Parish Council should apply for the Transparency Funding as agreed by email (to meet the timescales for the application) and seconded by Cllr Wills. All others in attendance were unanimous.

8.16 Councillor's Reports

Cllr Loxdale reported that the Sherford developers are aware of the flooding at Hareston as reported at the last meeting

Cllr Huxtable raised the cost of maintenance of the flower bed on the A379. Clerk to add to next Business Meeting agenda. A Feoffee Trustee has asked to walk the boundaries of Brixton Parish. Cllr Huxtable will let BPC know the dates, routes and times so anyone can join.

Cllr Calvert raised the possibility of a Watersports centre. Cllr Hitchins will raise at the Neighbourhood Plan meeting as The Community Survey in May will include questions about sport and recreation.

9. Planning Matters

**2939/15/FUL Tuscanys Social Club, Legion Lane, Brixton, Devon PL8 2AN
Demolition of redundant club and meeting rooms and construction of 4 dwelling units**

Cllr Martin stated that the application had been discussed with members of the public at a site meeting on Friday 19th February. As a Parish Council there are no objections in principle. However the following issues need to be addressed

The stability of the face and the top of the cliff is paramount

Concern re roof heights and pitches visibility from houses in Cherry Tree Drive

Footpath maintenance of wooden fence and Devon hedge by the footpath and will it remain open during construction?

Expectation all site staff will be parked on site, reinforce no parking on The Green by construction traffic.

Working hours, ensure there is a Construction Management Plan with clarification of the working week and delivery times to be negotiated with local residents.

Reinforce that photographic survey must be undertaken of the lane and properties in advance of the work by developers and any damage caused would be compensated by the developer.

No fires on site

Controlled removal of asbestos from site, neighbours need to know when the removal is occurring

Ensure appropriate drainage and soakaways will be maintained long term

Safety of the whole cliff/bank is common to all 4 properties

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CLLr Martin proposed that subject to these issues being addressed by the Planning Authority and the Developer BPC recommendation would be 'no objection'. CLLr Calvert seconded. CLLr Wills and CLLr Loxdale abstained. All others in attendance agreed.

10. Financial Matters:

February 2016

Receipts:

Amount	Fund
TOTAL:	£0.00

Payments:

	Amount	Fund
P Burridge - Signage Cleaning (1)	£274.80	General
1st Yealm Brownies - Donation	£100.00	General
Clerk Wages	£ 871.35	General
Clerk Expenses	£ 28.60	General
Clerk Office Allowance	£20.00	General
Clerk Mileage P3 Meeting	£1.80	P3
IDALC Subscription	£4.00	General
P Burridge - Pavement Maintenance & Road Signs (1)	£460.14	General

TOTAL: £ 1,760.69

(1) P Burridge - to be reimbursed via TAP Funding

(2) Wages – higher than usual due to change in tax coding & subsequent refund

Statement balance: 19th February 2016:

Current Account: £ 17,360.69

Deposit Account: £ 24,187.76

TOTAL: £ 41,548.45

Current Balance:

Gentle Exercise £0.00

P3 £315.70

Composters £0.00

Sherford Reserve £14,858.69

Silverbridge Way £372.00

Note - P3 Balance decreased by £15 for room hire paid in January

10.1

CLLr Wills proposed to accept the financial statement for February 2016. CLLr Huxtable seconded. Unanimous agreement by all others in attendance by show of hands.

11. Correspondence for Discussion

11.1 AONB Consultation

AONB Estuaries Management Plan had been circulated to all BPC prior to meeting.

Concern was expressed that the plan did not clearly address the issues of protect where development is proposed close to the river and sites of environmental sensitivity. CLLr Hitchins will correspond with PC rep on the AONB Board, to clarify how they represent and feed back to Parish Councils. CLLrs to reply with any feedback to CLLr Hitchins. Response to be sent back by 11th March.

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11.2 Good Councillor Guide

New version 2016. Cllr Wills proposed that all Cllr’s have a guide, Cllr Hitchins seconded. All others in attendance unanimous. Clerk to order.

11.3 Road Closure of Lodge Lane

Road closure of Lodge Lane from 31st May to 2nd June 2016 for SWW Utility Works. Residents have been informed by the Utility Company.

11.3 Town and Parish Council Allowances – Recommendations

BPC received correspondence from SHDC showing the revised Scheme of Members’ Allowance. In summary for 2015/16 a Parish Basic allowance with an electorate between 0-2500 each councillor would be entitled to £125 per annum. Mileage will continue to be paid at 45p a mile.

AOB

None

12. Date of Next Meetings:

Brixton Community Rooms	Wednesday 30 th March 2016	7.00 pm
Plymouth Albion Oaks	Wednesday 27 th April 2016	7.30 pm

Meeting closed 9.45pm

Kirstie Aldridge, Clerk to Brixton Parish Council

Date

Signed
Mrs E Hitchins – Chair Brixton Parish Council