

Draft Minutes of the Brixton Parish Council Annual Meeting 27th April 2016
Plymstock Albion Oaks Rugby Club, 7.30pm



In attendance: Cllr Liz Hitchins (Chair), Cllr Michael Wills (Vice Chair), Cllr Ian Calvert, Cllr Gay Murch, Cllr Roger Wakeham, Cllr Helen Williams, Cllr Ian Martin, District Cllr Basil Cane, District Councillor Daniel Brown, County Councillor John Hart, PCSO Andy Potter, Tim Pollard (South Hams District Council Localities Officer), Kirstie Aldridge (Clerk)

Members of the public in attendance: 17

Invited Speakers for the Annual Meeting

Tim Pollard, SHDC Localities Officer

There has been a big transformation at SHDC in the last 12 months and last June the workforce was cut by a quarter. The localities team has 6 mobile officers across the district. Trevor Pearce is the 'man on the ground' resolving local issues, such as play space inspections, displaying planning application notices, abandoned vehicle inspections and removal and acting upon dog fouling reports and issuing fixed penalties on the spot. Tim is part of a team of 3 across the district now known as Engagement Officers. He explained that his role was supporting the community with grants and funding, supporting the elected members in the area to provide them with a one stop shop within the Council, facilitate and provide information and guidance. Fly tipping is an increasing concern raised by residents. Tim explained that anyone can report fly tipping, graffiti, dog waste and even order new refuse bags online. If parishioners employ tradesmen to take away rubbish they must ensure they are licenced. Tim and County Cllr Hart will look into what documentation parishioners need to request to ensure that the tradesman is licenced

District Councillor Daniel Brown and District Councillor Basil Cane
Ward councillors for Wembury / Brixton

District Cllr Brown explained that SHDC were responsible for service elements, refuse, planning and environmental health. He was elected as District Cllr in May 2015. The Councillor's role is the first point of contact for residents they are local representatives. SHDC is going through fundamental change at the moment reshaping the council T18 – Target 2018. The intention is that callers talk to one person at the contact centre who will deal with the majority of calls there and then. In 2019 there will be no central government funding and councils need to be self-sufficient. District Cllr Cane praised Cllr Brown for his work over the last year and explained that there had been a reduction from 40 members (councillors) to 31. District Cllr Cane explained that he was on the AONB Partnership Committee and Licencing Committee and District Cllr Brown AONB, Overview and Scrutiny Panel and Licencing Committee.

Councillor Liz Hitchins, Chairman Brixton Parish Council

Cllr Hitchins spoke about the Neighbourhood Plan and explained that all residents in the Parish should have received a Housing Needs Survey to find out the need for affordable housing in the Parish. This, together with a Parish Community Survey which will be distributed to all households in May, will enable the Parish Council to undertake further community consultation to draw up a land use policy in the Neighbourhood Plan. SHDC are drawing up a local plan for houses it considers should be allocated and built, the purpose of the Neighbourhood Plan is to be informed about

Date

Signed
 Mrs E Hitchins – Chair Brixton Parish Council

community needs in consultation with community. The result from the Housing Needs Survey will be published in June and displayed at a stand at the Church Fete on Saturday 18th June at St. Marys School. On 16th July there will be a consultation workshop between 10-4pm at Community Rooms, Brixton on the outcome of both surveys and to seek residents views on where housing should be built, future planning and environmental issues.

Annual Meeting closed 8.00pm followed by Brixton Parish Council Meeting

Kirstie Aldridge, Clerk to Brixton Parish Council

Date

Signed
Mrs E Hitchins – Chair Brixton Parish Council