

**DRAFT MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF BRIXTON PARISH
COUNCIL HELD AT THE COMMUNITY HALL ON WEDNESDAY MAY 7th 2014 AT 7.30pm**

Present:	Cllr Hitchins	*	Cllr Calvert	@
	Cllr Wills	*	Cllr Murch	*
	Cllr Martin	*	Cllr Cane	*
	Cllr Gray	*	Cllr Jessop	@
	Cllr Oates	*		
	* Denotes attendance		@ Denotes absence	

Also attending:	Members of the public	19
	County Councillor	1
	District Councillor	1
	Police	0

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies from Cllrs Jessop, Calvert and the Police

2. ANNUAL REPORT FROM CHAIRMAN

See attached appendix

3. ANNUAL REPORT FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR

Cllr Hart reported that:

- Since re-election last May, DCC has become more political
- Opposition has recently called for a vote of confidence in Cllr Hart
- TAP fund. Again based on contribution of £1.10p per head of population. BPC has been a beneficiary.
- Brixton School tour of County Hall well received and enjoyed by all.
- Over the last 4 years, £100m has been saved off DCC budget. Now we have to save another £120m by ceasing services and changing services.
- Road damage to the cost of £24m has occurred this last winter with government only funding £7m.
- 1300 trees have been lost during the last winter.

4. ANNUAL REPORTS FROM DISTRICT COUNCILLORS

Cllr Squire reported:

- Thanks for kind remarks about his 50 years as a councillor.
- 2013/14 has been a tough year with falling grants, falling interest rates and falling car park income. Proud that SHDC has not reduced its front line services.
- T18 (the transformation project) will yield big savings. Regrettably this will involve 25% reduction in staff numbers with some early retirement and some redundancies
- SHDC Ward Boundary changes will be implemented from May 2015 following elections. There will then be 31 district councillors within South Hams and changes in ward sizes.
- Concern raised at the proliferation of large planning applications for housing
- Concern raised at the number of wind turbine and solar farm planning applications
- Expects next year to be as challenging as 2013/14.

Cllr Cane reported:

- All major items covered in John's report.
- Thanks again to John Squire for his energetic work for Wembury and the District.

5. ANNUAL POLICE REPORT 2013/14

<u>Offences</u>	<u>Brixton</u>	<u>Staddiscombe</u>
Criminal damage	1	2
Criminal damage to motor vehicle	3	1
Theft of motor vehicle	1	1
Theft	10	4
Burglary non dwelling	2	0
Assault	2	2
Public Order	1	1
Nuisance Phone calls	2	0
Drink /Driver	0	1
Making off without payment	0	3
Dog bite	1	0
Robbery	1	0
Possession of a controlled drug	1	0
<u>Total</u>	<u>25</u>	<u>15</u>
<u>Non crime domestics</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>5</u>

40 crimes in total of which 11 were detected, 26 were undetected, 2 were no crimed [enquiries revealed no crime had been committed] and 1 offence is still under investigation.
Plus 12 non crime domestics.

Councillor Hitchins vacated the chair.

6. TO APPOINT A CHAIRMAN.

Cllr Wills advised that Cllr Hitchins was prepared to stand for a further year. No other nominations were forwarded. Cllr Murch proposed and Cllr Cane seconded that Cllr Hitchins be elected Chairman. Passed unanimously. Cllr Hitchins resumed the Chair.

7. TO APPOINT A VICE CHAIRMAN

Cllr Gray proposed and Cllr Cane seconded that Cllr Wills be appointed for a further year. No other nominations received. Passed unanimously. Cllr Wills duly elected.

8. TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE AGM HELD ON MAY 1ST, 2013.

Cllr Wills proposed and Cllr Gray seconded the adoption of the minutes as a true record of the meeting. Agreed unanimously.

9. TO APPOINT REPS TO OUTSIDE BODIES. The following were proposed by Cllr Wills, seconded by Cllr Gray and duly elected 'en bloc':

- P3 Coordinator. Cllrs Oates and Jessop .
- Hele Foundation. Cllr Jessop
- Feoffee Trust. Cllr Hitchins
- Sherford liaison. TBA
- Brixton Community Association. Cllr Calvert
- Yealm Harbour Authority and Yealm Estuary Management. Cllr Oates
- Dementia Group. Cllr Hitchins
- Composting Group. Cllr Murch

10. TO APPOINT MEMBERS TO COMMITTEES/RESPONSIBILITIES.

The following were proposed by Cllr Gray and seconded by Cllr Murch and duly elected ‘en bloc’.

- Planning subcommittee. All councillors
- Planning subcommittee Chairman Cllr Martin & Vice Chair Cllr Jessop.
- Finance Group. Cllr Wills
- Carrolsland liaison. Cllr Jessop
- Silver Bridge Way group. Cllrs Hitchins, Gray & Murch.
- Tree Wardens. Cllrs Oates and Jessop
- Works and maintenance. Cllr Cane
- Communications. Cllr Calvert (Facebook) and G Searle (Web site)

11. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

- Cllrs Cane and Oates declared an interest in item 13.2 (Steer Point quarry)
- Cllr Cane declared an interest in item 13.4 (Canes Orchard phase 2)

12. MINUTES OF PARISH MEETINGS

Minutes of the monthly meetings on March 5th 2014 and April 2nd 2014 were proposed as correct by Cllr Wills and seconded by Cllr Gray. Approved by all those at that meeting.

Minutes of the Annual Parish meeting held on April 2nd 2014 were proposed by Cllr Gray and seconded by Cllr Murch. Passed with 6 in favour and 1 abstention.

13. LOCAL ISSUES AND REPORTS

13.1 Cllr Hitchins had posted a proposal that “Brixton Parish Council meetings take place on the last Wednesday of every month with effect from June 2014”. This was seconded by Cllr Gray and passed unanimously.

Clerk 13.2 TAP fund for drainage works. It was agreed that Brixton should put forward projects to the group of 4 parishes to whom the monies had been awarded. Cllr Cane will represent BPC.

13.3 Steer Point quarry update. Cllr Hitchins advised that a Council Working Group had been set up with Messrs Powell, Curtis, Cepel, Alexander and Croot supporting Cllrs Hitchins and Wills. They have met twice and have appointed Charlie Hopkins from Exeter as planning advisor to the Council. Meeting notes are on Facebook, the notice board, in the post office and on the Website. A letter of complaint about the lack of consultation with locals has been drafted and will be sent to DCC and Mr Pickles (MP). Aardvark are reviewing their application for quarry restoration and may withdraw prior to resubmission or simply modify the existing application. The DCC date for determination is likely to be rescheduled beyond July 5th.

Clerk 13.4 Site for SBWay sign. It was agreed to consult with DCC Highways for a sign on the Green.

Cllr Cane left the meeting and did not return.

Clerk 13.5 Canes Orchard Phase 2 update. Nothing to report. Carry forward to June 4th.

13.6 Parish Recreation Group. Cllr Hitchins advised that now we know that we will get up to £40,500 of S106 monies for recreation, it is essential to set up a program of needs. Volunteers needed to form the group.

**Chair/
Clerk**

Cllr Hitchins and the Clerk to write an article for website and magazine.

13.7 Web site cost agreement. It was agreed that the invoice for last year be paid in full and that the new arrangement of £500 per annum, including hosting costs, would apply for 2014/15 with 50% from BPC and 50% from Feoffee funds.

13.8 Councillors reports.

Clerk

- Cllr Martin raised the problem with the drain cover on the A379 at Red Lion Hill. The Clerk advised that he has again reported this to DCC Highways
- Cllr Martin raised a query about the employment land on Canes Orchard. Clerk to check with SHDC
- Cllr Wills advised that the drain problem by the bus stop has yet to be rectified.
- Cllr Oates reported on his visit to a Planning Workshop. SHDC are reviewing the “call for sites” input from developers. A report will be issued in June.
- Cllr Oates reported on a meeting for “Rural land strategy for South Hams”. This was about farming and land use. Uses affected by government subsidies.
- Cllr Oates reported on the AGM of the Harbour Authority. The waiting list for moorings is now down to 10 years. Any permanent resident of Brixton can apply to the Harbour Office.
- Cllr Oates reported on the Yealm Estuary Management forum. This majored on water quality in the Yealm. SW Water will give test information and the effects of the new housing. The EA are funding a further year for an employee to work specifically on Yealm water quality.
- Cllr Oates advised that work has been completed on FP9 and FP12. He also advised that the Torr Hill Farm path relocation has been delayed.
- Cllr Oates has visited the cottages by the pedestrian crossing and explained about the imminent use of “cheese blocks” to close off the part of the parking bay which is inside the zig-zag lines.
- Cllr Hitchins raised the question of Brixton creating a “land use policy”. Cllr Hitchins to discuss with Cllr Oates.
- Cllr Murch queried whether we should advertise availability of Affordable homes in Canes Orchard.
- Cllr Hitchins advised that she had been pursuing SHDC re the problem of mud on the A379 outside the building site. SHDC has been in contact with the contractor. The access road has now been tarmaced and a wheel wash facility is now in place.
- Cllr Hitchins reported that Feoffee Trust has awarded £50 to each primary school leaver.
- Cllr Hitchins spoke about raising funds for the Dementia Friendly village organisation. There is an evening supper on June 6th at the Royal Western Yacht club in Plymouth.
- Cllr Hitchins reminded all that there is an Annual Community Church service on May 18th to which all are invited.

**Oates/
Hitchins**

14. PLANNING MATTERS

1. Application 07/0944 for an additional unit at 100% Stainless Steel at Chittleburn industrial estate. After some discussion it was felt that more information was required from the applicant.

Martin

Concerns raised about parking, drainage, environmental report and acoustics. Cllr Martin to contact SHDC. The use of the building is also unclear i.e. for use by SS or new tenant.

2. Application 07/0983/14/F for rear extension at 23 The Crescent. Site meeting set up for Saturday May 10th at 10 am.

3. Application 49/0853/14/F for wind turbine at Boringdon Golf Club. Council agreed to return “No comment” on this application.

4. Planning applications with conditional approval:

- 07/0318/14/F for 2 storey extension at 7 Cross Park.
- Tree preservation order 3483. Conditional consent for tree removal.

15. FINANCIAL MATTERS

1. The tabled expenditure of £7753.60 for May was approved after proposal by Cllr Wills and seconded by Cllr Martin with one abstention.

South West Highways for traffic control	439.61
Martin & Sons for Brixton Rocks 50% deposit	335.00
South & West internal audit	135.00
Clerk's salary (net) for April 2014	482.05
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Clerk expenses	27.00
Office rental for April and May	50.00
Sarah Macpherson – physio services	138.00
Cllr Oates expenses – mileage claim	36.00
Council insurance	206.34
Copycraft for leaflets	17.00
DALC subscription	346.00
Grounds maintenance S.W. for SBW works	120.00
G Searle for web site work and web hosting	129.34
Penny Clapham for clerical services	95.78
Cllr Hitchins expenses –postage	13.48
Jacqui Donaghy – composters web site	26.95
DCC – composters payment to School for raised bed project	800.00
Dementia Friendly Villages – TAP fund - 'get into reading' project	4000.00
Total Expenditure	£7,753.60

2. Year end accounts approval. The Clerk advised that the accounts have been checked by our auditor and signed of as an accurate record. The Accounts were passed around the Councillors prior to a proposal by Cllr Wills, seconded by Cllr Gray, that BPC approve the accounts for 2013/14 as presented. Passed unanimously.

3. Annual Governance statement. This was explained by the Clerk. Cllr Wills proposed and Cllr Martin seconded that the Governance Statement be approved. Passes unanimously.

16. CORRESPONDENCE FOR DISCUSSION

- Post office hours. Confirmed as: Monday 13.30 to 16.45; Wednesday 09.30 to 14.00; Thursday 13.00 to 16.45 and Saturday 09.30 to 12.00.
- Solar Farm consultation. There is to be a public consultation on Wed 14th May from 3 til 7 pm in the Community Room about the proposed solar farm at Balls Wood.
- Letter from Peter Dale of SHDC re Parish self help emergency plans. There is to be a “teach in” on July 1st from 7 to 9 pm. Councillors discussed this and it was agreed that Brixton should attend the meeting before deciding the way forward.
- Sherford liaison group. Mr McMahon has written with regard to the composition of the new Sherford Liaison panel. It was agreed that Brixton should be initially represented by Cllrs Hitchins and Oates. Clerk to advise accordingly.
- Cllr Hitchins read the letter of resignation from the Clerk – leaving at the end of June. Thanks were expressed to Mike Stickland for all the work of the last 5 years. Cllr Hitchins agreed to write a draft advert by May 15th for inclusion in Ivybridge Gazette, Brixton magazine, Brixton website, Western Morning News and the Job Centre.

Clerk

Hitchins

17. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will take place on June 4th with an additional June meeting on June 25th. Thereafter, meeting will be on the last Wednesday of the month.

The meeting was declared closed at 10.32pm

OPEN FORUM

(These notes do not form part of the Council Minutes)

1. Mr Gilbery complained about the ivy and brambles overgrowing the post box on Red Lion Hill. The Clerk suggested that he should speak to his landlord.
2. Mr Sullivan thanked the Council for getting the hedge cut to improve the visibility at the mini roundabout.
3. Mr Powell asked a question of both the District Councillors regarding the Steer Point Quarry application. Q) Were the district councillors involved in the SHDC decision to respond that SHDC had 'no objection' to the application? A) Neither were consulted and they clearly should have been Cllr Squire to take up this matter with the Planners.
4. Mrs Davis asked if a safety bollard could be located on the pavement outside Ladybirds to prevent pavement parking. Cllr Hitchins agree to put this to the Highways Working group.
5. Mr Curtis asked about the extended date for the Steer Point decision meeting at DCC. Cllr Hitchins stated that the date had been put back from June 4 to July 12 and it was likely to move further back as Aardvark has still to supply more information to DCC on this matter.
6. Mr Powell asked Cllr Hart who is representing BPC as our County Councillor as he could not represent us? Cllr Hart advised that there is an election for a County Cllr for Yealmpton Ward on May 22nd. The elected person will be asked to represent Brixton on this matter. If representation is needed before then, Cllr Hart will find a councillor for us.
7. Mr Powell thanked Cllr Hitchins for all the hard work put in on the Steer Point project and all councillors for their input to the Objection letter.
8. Mr Curtis advised that the Working Group had met on April 28th. He encouraged all parishioners to write to DCC as it is important that there is a long list of objectors when the decision is made. The Working Group is offering to help individuals compose their letter of objection.

Squire

Hitchins

M J Stickland, Clerk to Brixton Parish Council

May 10th 2014