

**MINUTES OF THE GENERAL MEETING OF BRIXTON PARISH COUNCIL HELD
AT THE COMMUNITY HALL ON WEDNESDAY JUNE 2nd 2010 AT 7.30pm**

Present:	Cllr Cane (Chair)	*	Cllr Searle	*
	Cllr Hitchins (Vice Chair)	*	Cllr Tapper	*
	Cllr Martin	*	Cllr Wills	*
	Cllr Lang	*	Cllr Aylett	@
	Cllr Foweraker	@		
	* Denotes attendance		@ Denotes absence	

Also attending:	Members of the public	8
	County Councillor	1
	District Councillor	1
	Police	0

9.132 APOLOGIES

Apologies from Cllrs Foweraker and Aylett and the Police

9.133 POLICE MATTERS

JI/10/457. Between the 7th and 15th May 10, 2 Azalea plants were dug up and stolen from the grounds outside of Brixton Court just off the A379. It is thought that they were taken on two separate Friday evenings. Enquiries are continuing.

JI/10/488. At around 2330 on the 22nd May 10, a male person was assaulted whilst camping at the Yealm Estuary. Ivybridge CID is investigating this crime.

JI/10/500. At 2100 on the 28th May 10, a male person was stopped and searched at the Yealm Estuary and a small amount of Cannabis was seized. This was dealt with by means of a police Cannabis warning.

Clerk Cllr Searle raised parishioner concern at the speed that the empty school buses were entering and leaving the village - mainly up Red Lion Hill and Stamps Hill. Clerk to contact police and write to School and Bus Contractor. Cllr Searle to collate offending bus numbers from parishioners.

Searle Cllr Searle expressed concern on behalf of parishioners who had spoken to him at the noise and antics of youngsters riding off-road motor bikes on the roads. Cllr Cane to speak with Mr Staddon.

Cane Cllr Martin again raised the problem of obstructive parking at the entrance to Bellows Park. The Clerk agreed to contact the police but asked that the police are phoned whilst the obstruction was taking place.

Clerk/Martin

9.134 REPORT FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR

Cllr Hart reported:

- 12 months since Conservatives took over running of DCC
- 400 less employees: 2.5 less Departments
- Lowest rates increase for many years (at 1.98%)
- £5.7 million spend reduction
- 70,000 pot holes filled.
- Unitary Exeter will not now occur. DCC to remain unchanged.
- £53,000 under spend against budget for 2009/10.

9.135 REPORTS FROM DISTRICT COUNCILLORS

Cllr Squire reported:

Searle

- SHDC/West Devon are recruiting a new CEO
- SHDC “planning surgeries” in main towns will be discontinued. A Duty Planning Officer will be available by phone every weekday morning
- Funding cuts expected from Central Government. Implications not yet identified until new budget numbers known
- Attended a recent liaison meeting at Langage Power station. Now running with max capacity of 850MW which equals 28% of the demand for Devon and Cornwall. Site tours now available on request (see BPC website).

Cllr Cane reported:

- The new officers were: Cllr Bavistock, Chairman; Cllr Gilbert, Vice Chair; Cllr Tucker, Leader; Cllr Hitchins, Deputy Leader

9.136 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Pecuniary interest: Cllr Searle; Parish website.

Cllr Cane will not take part in any planning discussions or voting

9.137 MINUTES OF THE MARCH 15th and MAY 3rd PARISH MEETINGS

Proposed as accurate by Cllr Hitchins, seconded by Cllr Wills. Unanimously approved.

9.138 LOCAL ISSUES AND REPORTS

7.1 Brixton/Yealmpton footpath. Cllr Hitchins reported that the long awaited meeting between DCC and Kitley Estate had taken place. DCC is now in discussion with Environmental Agency about valley landfill.

Hitchins

7.2 Parish Plan. Cllr Hitchins advised that the forms have been returned from DCC with statistical information. The Group now has to analyse the papers and expects to report back in September.

Hitchins

7.3 Kids’ Club funding request. Cllr Hitchins reminded councillors about the planned formation of a permanent “After school Kids’ Club”. Funding to cover costs of £2000 is required. After some debate it was agreed that BPC would support the Club when it found more sponsors. An annual review would be required.

Hitchins

7.4 Memory Cafes. Cllr Hitchins has met with Jenny Richards of DCC which is already supporting Cafes in market towns. Council agreed the principle of a local “support group” for Alzheimer/dementia sufferers and their Carers. N&N, Yealmpton and Wembury to be contacted.

7.5 Councillors' reports.

a) Cllr Searle advised that he had attended a recent meeting of the Elize Heal & John Lanyon foundation. No local applications received for funding.

b) Cllr Searle advised that he had been appointed as a School governor

c) Cllr Searle stated that there will be an AONB 50year celebration on July 16th in the Community Centre at Yealmpton. It will be concert of Folk Music and Drama. Profits to the history groups in Brixton and Yealmpton. Parish Magazine entry by Cllr Searle.

Searle

d) Cllr Wills expressed concern that the school occupancy was around 60 pupils. As it is an integral part of the village, BPC need to understand more about the school and its future. A motion was passed indicating that the Council supported the School fully and that it would be happy to receive full communications about the school.

Clerk

e) Cllr Hitchins advised that the Friends of Brixton Play Spaces had met with the architect. Site drawings to be available for village consultation in July. Cllr Martin expressed concern that the play area at Kitley View is being demolished bit by bit.

Martin

Hitchins

Vandalism should be reported to Tor Homes.

f) Cllr Hitchins advised that the History Group are planning to hold an event later in the year on the last 50 years of Brixton. This to be costed for grant purposes.

g) Brixton Carers last coffee morning at Venn Court was a success with a total of 13 (including carers) present. The next coffee morning is on June 3rd.

h) Cllr Wills updated Council of the progress of the Emergency Planning Group. There was a meeting on May 17th. Work continues to complete the village map showing names of all the roads and lanes, fire hydrant locations, 'muster' points and access suitability for emergency vehicles.

Wills

Emergency Life Support training is to be organised by Anne Kaye - dates to be announced. This training to be advertised locally.

A helicopter landing site is being considered

Wills

More helpers are required with varying skills and equipment. A new form is to be circulated in order to get an improved response

i) Cllr Cane reported from the recent SHDC cluster meeting. The campaigners against the New England Quarry incinerator are raising concerns about dioxins in the atmosphere. This has been covered in our letter to DCC.

9.139 PLANNING MATTERS

The Clerk reported that there were no applications for consideration.

9.140 FINANCIAL MATTERS

a) The tabled expenditure of £796.35 for the month was approved.

b) Approval of Annual Accounts for 2009/10.

The Clerk/Responsible Financial Officer advised that the completed accounts had been externally audited and approved. Our opening balance for the year is £36,673. We have 'earmarked' reserves of £32,020 including the Sherford reserve. Cllr Lang proposed and Cllr Wills seconded the adoption of these accounts. Passed unanimously. Accounts will now go to the Audit Commission for final approval.

Clerk/RFO

9.141 CORRESPONDENCE

1. A map showing the route for redirected traffic entering Plymouth was shown with Gdynia Way closed for many months. This will be posted on the notice board.

2. SHDC are holding a meeting to advise changes to the planning management system. Cllr Martin to attend on June 6th.

3. A letter has been received from DCC regarding the Parish Paths Partnership (PPP). Mike Trower has advised DCC that he no longer wants to be responsible for all P3 path maintenance. DCC will assume this responsibility for all except P4 & 26. Cllr Tapper is our designated Council P3 co-ordinator and needs to get involved on behalf of BPC.

Clerk

Martin

The correspondence file was given to the Vice Chairman for reading/circulation.

9.142 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next monthly Meeting of Brixton Parish Council will be held on Wednesday, July 7th at 7.30 p.m. in the Brixton Community Hall.

The meeting was declared closed at 9.16 pm

Notes from the OPEN FORUM held at 7.30pm.

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

Agreed actions in red type

1. Thanks were expressed to Council for the pothole repairs recently carried out.
- Q2. A resident wanted to know when DCC were going to spend the £200 million needed to bring the County Highways back to an acceptable level.
- A2. Councillor Hart stated that 70,000 potholes have been filled in Devon. An extra £6 million has been put into this year's budget for highway repairs. Realistically, it will never be possible to 'catch up' on full repairs as the traffic density has increased so much and a lot of our roads have inadequate foundations for today's lorries.
- Q3. How much do taxes need to be increased to raise the £200 million?
- A3. Approximately 10%. Government funding is based on an out-of-date formula from the time of foot and mouth disease in Devon when traffic density was low.
- Q4. Can all new MPs for the County be asked to pressurise the Treasury for improved funding for Devon?
- A5. An invitation has been sent to all these MPs. To date 2 out of 10 have responded.
- Q6. Please will Council arrange to get the pavement hedge cut back along the A379?
- A7. Basil Cane to speak to Mrs Balkwill.**
- Q8. Ian Sherriff thanked DCC and BPC for the current level of interest in Memory Cafes for those suffering dementia. At present in Devon there are 18,000 sufferers and this will increase by 40% in the next decade. Carers are saving the country an enormous sum of money and in turn need to be assisted in their good work.
- A8. This is an agenda item 7.4
- Q9. Jack Gilbury expressed concern at the height of the weeds growing in The Crescent. Some had been strimmed but most remained.
- A9. Basil Cane will follow this up with SHDC.**
- Q9. Can the money for the A379 path be used instead to mend Cylinder Bridge?
- A10. Basil Cane advised that this was not a current option.

M J Stickland, Clerk to Brixton Parish Council
June 4th 2010