

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF BRIXTON PARISH COUNCIL HELD  
AT THE COMMUNITY HALL ON WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 2<sup>nd</sup> 2009 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	10
County Councillor	0
District Councillor	1
Police	0

**ACTION**

**Prior to the Council Meeting there was an Open Forum at which members of the public were invited to raise questions. Notes from this forum are given after the Minutes of the Council Meeting.**

**9.073 APOLOGIES**

Apologies from Cllr Hart and the Police

**9.074 POLICE MATTERS**

The emailed police report was read out by the Clerk:

**J1/09/1074, J1/09/1076, J1/09/1077, J1/09/1084, J1/09/1087.** Between 11<sup>th</sup> November 2009 and 16<sup>th</sup> November 2009, five vehicles parked in Silver Stream Way and Cherry tree Drive have been entered by way of either forcing the drivers door, or using an instrument to 'punch' out the lock. Satellite navigation systems, 'Sky' boxes and power tools have then been stolen from within.

**J1/09/1089** Between Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> November 2009 and Monday 16<sup>th</sup> November 2009 a galvanised gate has been stolen from a farm in Brixton.

**J1/09/1101** Overnight between Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2009 and Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> November 2009 a 600cc motorcycle has been stolen from Stamps Hill, Brixton.

**J1/09/1107** On Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> November 2009 offenders were disturbed whilst attempting to steal Christmas Trees from a local nursery.

There have been two domestic related incidents. Policy does not allow disclosure of such incidents.

**Clerk**

The Clerk was asked to check attendance records.

**9.075 REPORT FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR**

No report received

**9.076 REPORTS FROM DISTRICT COUNCILLORS**

Cllr Cane reported:

- Saving energy – grants are available from "Cosy Devon" for home insulation. Surveys are free and cost can be as low as £150.
- Thanks to all Brixton residents for helping to make SHDC one of the best councils for recycling in the UK
- Council Tax is under review for those with incomes below £16000
- SHDC are meeting with local MPs to complain about the proposed increase in Business Rates. Increases of up to 360% are being proposed.

Cllr. Squire reported:

- Joint services with West Devon are increasing to reduce costs. Savings of £800k have been achieved since 2007.
  - SHDC central funding for budget 2010/11 will only increase by 1.3% (= £69,000). Investment income has fallen by £1m per year between 2007/8 and 2010/11 due to the drop in interest rates available.
  - The Government is reducing its Concessionary bus fare grant
  - Langage Energy Park is eventually expected to create 6000 new jobs
  - It is rumoured that Sherford housing stock may increase to 6000 homes.
- The Clerk was asked to pursue this worrying development.

Clerk

Cllr Aylett asked for the definition of "an area of outstanding beauty"(AONB).  
The Clerk was asked to establish the answer.

Clerk

### **9.77 CLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Cllr Cane; Planning and Cllr Searle; Parish website.

### **9.078 MINUTES OF THE NOVEMBER 4<sup>th</sup> PARISH MEETING**

Cllr Wills proposed and Cllr Lang seconded the approval of the minutes of the November 4<sup>th</sup> minutes. Unanimously approved.

### **9.079 LOCAL ISSUES AND REPORTS**

**7.1 Brixton/Yealmpton footpath.** Cllr Hitchins reported that DCC now appeared to be in favour of the short route. Confirmation awaited.

**7.2 Deep Lane junction.** There were 4 options put forward by DCC for improving this junction to cope with the extra traffic from Sherford and Langage Energy Park. Consultation closes on December 10<sup>th</sup>. It was agreed that the Clerk would complete the Consultation form for BPC. The preferred plan was option 1.

Clerk

**7.3 Parish Plan.** Cllr Hitchins advised that the circulation of the questionnaire has been postponed until after Christmas

Hitchins

**7.4 Shared Parish working.** The Clerk advised that DAPC meetings will be on Jan 11<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup>. The Chairman and Clerk will attend.

Clerk/Cane

**7.5 Footpath 26.** The fencing will be erected and the loose wall stones removed by a contractor. Completion imminent – weather permitting.

Tapper

**7.6 Permissive paths.** The Clerk has spoken to Rodney Bastard and written to the land agent. Cllr Tapper is meeting Mrs Fraser on Friday on the matter.

#### **7.7 Councillors' reports.**

a) Cllr Searle advised that a meeting of the Elize Hele charity was held recently and that £3900 had been awarded to applicants to help with their education costs. Regrettably, none of the recipients came from the parishes nominated in the foundation. It was agreed that information be put on the Brixton Parish website about the foundation.

Searle

b) Cllr Tapper advised that

Tapper

- The Christmas tree would be erected next Saturday
  - She had met Peter Guy, our new P3 warden, at Aveton Gifford recently.
  - A meeting has been set up for Mr Guy to meet with Mike Trower
- c) Cllr Hitchins advised
- 3 of the youth sessions have taken place and 15 youngsters have taken part. They are already asking for a more permanent arrangement.

Clerk

- LDF site allocations. A full meeting of SHDC will take place on Dec 17<sup>th</sup> and the Princes Foundation report will be made available on the website that day. The final report will have a 6 week consultation period. The SHDC publication date has not yet been given.
  - Emergency Planning. As a small village, Brixton may need a partnership with, say, Yealmpton. Itemised for January agenda.
  - Consultation on Sherford proposed "All Through School" (4 to 14 yrs). The event attended by Cllrs Hitchins and Wills was not the professional presentation expected or required for such a serious subject. There appears to be a rift between DCC and PCC about catchment areas for this school.. It was suggested that PCC were suffering from an over capacity in city schools and did not want the Sherford school. Concern was raised by councillors on the possible effect on Brixton Primary school numbers after the new school is built The consultation forms are available on the DCC website. The Clerk was asked to contact DCC to establish their strategic plan to prevent bleeding numbers from other local primary schools
- d) Cllr Aylett advised that the "Road safety" working group were awaiting the relevant outcomes of the Parish Plan questionnaire.

Clerk  
Clerk

Aylett

### **9.080 PLANNING MATTERS**

Cllr Martin confirmed that the application for 3, Hareston Cottages had been approved by the Planning Committee. This was ratified by Council.

Cllr Martin then tabled a new application to cover variations to a previous approval at Gorlofen Farm including change of use. This was discussed and approved.

Martin

The new applications for The Croft, Horn Lane and Coombe Farm, Staddiscombe will be considered by the Planning committee.

### **9.081 FINANCIAL MATTERS**

1. The tabled expenditure of £755.90 for the month was approved.

2. The Clerk advised that he was planning to present a draft budget for 2010/11 to Council for discussion before Christmas.

Clerk

### **9.082 CORRESPONDENCE**

1. A letter has been received from Viridor advising of a meeting to update locals about the progress towards a planning application for the recycling plant at New England quarry.

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

### **9.083 DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The next monthly Meeting of Brixton Parish Council will be held on Wednesday, January 6th at 7.30 p.m. in the Brixton Community Hall.

**The meeting was declared closed at 9.00 pm**

## OPEN FORUM NOTES

1. Mrs Martin raised concerns about illegal parking outside the school thus making it dangerous and/or difficult for parents bringing their children to school by car. She has spoken twice to Cllr Hart about this with no results. The Clerk was asked to contact Cllr Hart in this regard.
2. Mr Ryder stated that he was interested in the sanctity of AONB areas. Whilst DCC has previously stated that they are "no go" areas for development, he was concerned that this might no longer apply. He asked for assurance from the Council that the delays at Sherford would not create any 'panic' development in the village and that AONB areas continue to be "no go" areas.

The Clerk stated that the Council could not give those assurances as they are only a consultee in the District planning process. However, it was made very clear that the Council are fighting hard against any AONB potential development. Sherford delays would have no effect on the SHDC LDF plans. The report from the Princes Trust on suitable sites in Brixton and elsewhere in the District is to be published on Dec 17<sup>th</sup>. This statement was supported by Cllr Martin.

District Cllr Squire stated that AONBs are very important and rate only one below National Parks for importance and retention. He objected to any proposals to build on this designated land. SHDC has indicated that their decisions will not necessarily follow the Princes Foundation recommendations.

3. Mrs Martin raised concern about car parking on Woodland Drive too close to the junction of Red Lion Hill.

Cllr Searle again raised concern at parking in the turning bay at the end of Cherry Tree Drive.

The Clerk suggested that if any obstruction is seen, then the incident should be reported to the police by telephone. The Parish Council cannot deal with parking problems. PC Nolan will be asked by the Clerk to attend the next meeting to deal with this matter.