

MINUTES OF THE MONTHLY MEETING OF BRIXTON PARISH COUNCIL HELD AT THE COMMUNITY HALL ON WEDNESDAY JUNE 1st 2011 AT 7.30pm

Present:

Cllr Hitchins	*	Cllr White	*
Cllr Wills	*	Cllr Tapper	*
Cllr Martin	@	Cllr Cane	@
Cllr Gray	*		
Cllr Oates	*		

* Denotes attendance @ Denotes absence

Also attending:

Members of the public	6
County Councillor	0
District Councillor	1
Police	0

ACTION

11.016 APOLOGIES

Apologies from Cllrs Hart, Cane and Martin

11.017 POLICE MATTERS

No report from the police. It was noted that PCSO Sid Lawrence will be moving to a new post in Plymouth on June 6th. His replacement is PCSO Andy Potter.

11.018 REPORT FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR

Cllr Hart sent his apologies. No report received.

11.019 REPORTS FROM DISTRICT COUNCILLORS

Cllr Squire reported:

- Cllr Rufus Gilbert has been appointed Chairman at SHDC
- The Council Leader and Deputy are now to serve a 4 year term.
- Management restructuring is complete saving at least £200k p.a.
- Grounds Maintenance. The in-house team will continue with a review at the end of 2012
- The old Laira railway bridge may be reopened for pedestrians and cyclists
- Brixton has 770 dwelling houses, 39 commercial premises & 2 2nd homes
- Redtree has agreed to pay the legal costs to SHDC for Sherford work

Cllr Cane absent. No report received.

11.020 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllrs Oates and Tapper declared a non pecuniary interest in the planning item

11.021 MINUTES OF THE MAY 11th PARISH MEETING

Proposed as accurate by Cllr Wills and seconded by Cllr Gray. Approved by the five councillors present at that meeting.

11.022 LOCAL ISSUES AND REPORTS

7.1 Brixton/Yealmpton footpath. A JWG meeting is expected to take place in mid June

7.2 Welcome Pack. In Cllr Martin's absence, this item will be carried forward to July.

7.3 Snow clearing equipment. Council discussed the information received from DCC and then discussed the kind offer from Steven Cane to use his equipment to spread salt/grit in the event of another snowy/icy winter. The Clerk

- was asked to write to Mr Cain to obtain likely costs involved. Salt/grit to be purchased in bulk in the summer whilst prices were low.
- Clerk** **7.4 Community Partnership.** The inaugural meeting is to take place on June 2nd at 2.30pm.
- Hitchins** **7.5 Parish Plan.** There were 3 possible options to proceed. Cllr Hitchins proposed that Option 3, to produce a full action plan, was the right option and the only one to meet original objectives. Approved by Council. At least 3 more parishioners have volunteered to help with the production of the final document.
- Clerk/Wills** **7.6 Casual vacancy for a councillor.** It was agreed to advertise this vacancy in the magazine, on the village notice board and at Carrolsland. Closing date for applications is July 8th with interviews on July 13th.
- Oates**
- 7.7 Councillors' reports.**
- Tapper** a) Cllr Tapper said that she would approach DCC for a new footpath sign.
b) Cllr Tapper queried whether it was feasible to make Old Road a one way street in the opposite direction. This would not be acceptable to DCC Highways.
c) Cllr Tapper agreed to talk to the relevant landowners to see if a “permissive” footpath could be granted to access Wollaton Cross from Red Lion Hill without using the roadway.
d) Cllr Wills advised that the Community Service at church was a huge success and was attended by 45 local organisations. £200 was raised for charity.
e) Cllr Gray advised that the post box at the bottom of Red Lion Hill was being overtaken by shrubs and that the pavement by The Lawns was obstructed by hedge/shrubs.
f) Carrolsland. There are 77 homes which is 29% of the parish. Council need to find a way to involve them in our village community.
- Tapper**
- Clerk**
- All Cllrs**

11.023 PLANNING MATTERS

Wills/Martin 07/1161/11/LB. Application for Listed Building consent to extend the s single storey sunroom at Steer Point Lodge. Cllr Wills agreed to ensure that the closing date of June 9th was achieved.

11.024 FINANCIAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

- a) The tabled expenditure of £620.45 for the month was approved.
b) The Clerk advised that the Accounts for 2010/11 had been approved by our Internal Auditor. Council needed to approve the accounts prior to going to the Audit Commission. The accounts were looked at by all councillors. Cllr Wills proposed and Cllr Oates seconded that “the Accounts for 2010/11 and the Annual Governance statement be approved”. This motion was unanimously approved.
The Chairman thanked the Clerk for the work involved in the preparation of the accounts.
- Clerk**

11.025 CORRESPONDENCE

Clerk A consultation document had been received from NALC about the potential relaxing of planning rules to allow easier change of use of land from commercial to residential. It was agreed that the Clerk would respond positively but only if the Parish Council can influence the decisions as against simply being a consultee in the process.

11.026 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

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

The meeting was declared closed at 9.26 pm

OPEN FORUM notes (not part of the Council minutes)

The chairman introduced Ben Ayres from “Active Devon” prior to other subjects to be raised by the public.

1. Active Devon. This is a Government initiative which has given £1million to DCC and Sport England to encourage wide ranging leisure activities in rural communities in order to get a ‘fitter society’. In South Hams, the initiative is being driven by Tone Leisure.

£3000 has been ‘allocated’ to Brixton Parish to deliver increased activities in the parish. Money can go to

- a) existing clubs for, say, new equipment or paying for professional coaches
- b) new activity clubs
- c) Schools
- d) Any community club

The rules are very flexible but basically money is for

- a) Ages from 5 to 105
- b) For 8 to 12 sessions of support
- c) Just establish the need
- d) Show good value for money
- e) Set ‘sustainability rules’ by contributing weekly so that the scheme can extend beyond the 12 sessions
- f) Register the participants and keep attendance records
- g) Must be held within Brixton Parish boundaries

**All Councillors
Hitchins**

The Parish needs to decide what help and assistance will be of most benefit. Suggest an article in the Brixton magazine to obtain best village contact.

2. Mr Steven Cane spoke about his vision of creating a ‘community composting scheme’ whereby parishioners compost all their garden waste and then get paid by SHDC for all the tonnage that does not get collected by them from Brixton. This scheme is run in Bratton Fleming in North Devon and the parish has received £35,000 since 1996 as well as free compost for the parishioners. Mr Cane said that he will provide all the facilities free-of-charge to the village. The village input would probably be a few hours each week to man the loading site, say , by the caravan park.

Clerk

The Chairman thanked Steven for his generous offer. Council will debate this in July. The Clerk to establish what SHDC might pay the council for such a scheme.

3. Mr Graham Lanning volunteered to clean the bus stops. Thanks to Graham.

Clerk

4. Concern was raised about hedges overhanging various pavements in the village. The Clerk will write to the worst offenders and put an article in the Brixton Press.

M J Stickland, Clerk to Brixton Parish Council

June 5th 2011