

**MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF BRIXTON PARISH COUNCIL HELD  
AT THE COMMUNITY HALL ON WEDNESDAY MAY 11<sup>th</sup> 2011 AT 7.30pm**

**Present:**

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

\* Denotes attendance                      @ Denotes absence

**Also attending:**

Members of the public	7
County Councillor	0
District Councillor	1
Police	0

**ACTION**

**11.001 APOLOGIES**

Apologies from Cllrs Hart and White

**11.002 ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN**

Cllr Cane welcomed our two new councillors, Sarah Gray and Martyn Oates. Cllr Cane then advised that he was standing down. Cllr Cane proposed and Cllr Wills seconded that Cllr Hitchins be elected as Chairman. This was voted unanimously and Cllr Hitchins took the chair and thanked Cllr Cane for all his hard work over the last two years as Chairman.

**11.003 ELECTION OF VICE CHAIRMAN**

Cllr Hitchins proposed and Cllr Cane seconded that Cllr Wills be elected Vice Chairman. This was voted unanimously.

**11.004 APPOINTMENT OF REPRESENTATIVES TO OUTSIDE BODIES:**

Cllr Hitchins proposed and Cllr Cane seconded that the following be appointed 'en bloc':

- |   |                          |
|---|--------------------------|
| 1. Police Liaison Committee             | Ian Martin               |
| 2. Devon Association of Parish Councils | Ad hoc                   |
| 3. PPP co-ordinator                     | Elaine Tapper            |
| 4. Hele Foundation                      | Basil Cane               |
| 5. Feoffee Trust                        | Liz Hitchins             |
| 6. Sherford Liaison Group               | TBA                      |
| 7. Brixton Community Association        | Debbie White             |
| 8. Elize Heal & John Lanyon Trust       | Transferred to Yealmpton |

**Clerk**

This was approved "en bloc" and is to be attached to the minutes.

**11.005 APPOINTMENT OF COMMITTEES & RESPONSIBILITIES**

Cllr Hitchins proposed and Cllr Cane seconded that the following be appointed 'en bloc':

- |  |                               |
|--|-------------------------------|
| 1. The Planning sub-committee            | All Cllrs except Cllr Cane    |
| 2. Chairman of the Planning subcommittee | Ian Martin                    |
| 3. Parish Plan working group chairman    | Liz Hitchins                  |
| 4. Finance                               | Michael Wills                 |
| 5. Brixton/Yealmpton Working group       | Cllrs Hitchins, Tapper & Gray |
| 6. Tree Warden                           | Elaine Tapper                 |

Clerk

This was approved "en bloc" and is to be attached to the minutes.

**11.006 POLICE MATTERS**

No report from the police

**11.007 REPORT FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR**

Cllr Hart sent his apologies. No report received.

**11.008 REPORTS FROM DISTRICT COUNCILLORS**

Cllr Squire congratulated Cllr Hitchins on election as chairman and reported:

- The management restructuring at SHDC has been implemented
- It is rumoured that there may be a boundary restructuring within SHDC
- The Localism Bill is due in September but likely now to be 2012

Cllr Cane reported:

- That the SHDC restructuring has created real savings
- The Council now consists of 30 Conservatives, 5 Liberal Democrats, 3 Green Party, 1 Labour and 1 Independent.

**11.009 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

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

**11.010 MINUTES OF THE APRIL 6<sup>th</sup> PARISH MEETING**

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

**11.011 LOCAL ISSUES AND REPORTS**

**11.1 Brixton/Yealmpton footpath.** Final costing still awaited but expected to be in the order of £30/40,000 excluding fencing. Devon CC is paying all the costs associated with the new bridge over Silverstream. Council discussed the possibility of the path going between the Tor Homes estate and the main A379. Cllr Martin believes that any approach to Tor Homes will be well received.

**11.2 Parish Plan.** The main presentation and discussion had been held in Open Forum. There were 3 possible options to proceed but only Option 3 to produce a full action plan for the Parish met with the original terms of reference. For this to happen, Cllr Hitchins explained that more resource was required. Cllr Oates said that at this stage it is important to meet the expectations of the parishioners. Councillors were asked to seek for volunteers prior to a final decision at the June meeting.

**11.3 Funding for 1<sup>st</sup> Yealm Guides.** The Clerk advised that a further letter had been received outlining the 'start up' costs and 'running' costs. They have only applied to three Parish Councils for funding at this time. It was agreed that Council will make a grant of £100 towards 'start up' costs. They should apply in December for any funding in 2012/13.

**11.4 Councillors' reports.**

a) Ian Martin had attended a DCC meeting on April 13<sup>th</sup> regarding the planning application for a recycling centre at Lee Mill. In summary

- Traffic access through the Lee Mill village remains a major problem with an additional 115 HGVs expected daily.
- Requirement. Now the Plymouth plant has been approved, the need for a second plant in this area was questioned. Concerns were raised that the capacity would be filled by importing waste from Dorset and Somerset.
- River Yealm. Any accidental spillage into the river would seriously affect

JWG

All Cllrs

Clerk

water quality in the Yealm which is already struggling to meet national standards.

- Tourism. The proposed site is adjacent to the A38 trunk road. The appearance of this huge development with a 40 metre chimney stack will be a blot on the landscape and its effect on tourism in the south west is of concern.
- Air quality. In order to achieve acceptable emission standards, the chimney height cannot be reduced.
- It is the wrong development in the wrong place at the wrong time.

b) Cllr Martin raised concern at the signage adjacent to the new play park by the school. The sign put up by Tor Homes in their car park says “Residents only”. This applies to the car park and not the play park.

**Gray/White/  
Oates**

c) Cllr Wills asked that the new councillors should forward details and a passport size photograph to Graham Searle for inclusion on the website.

d) Cllr Cane advised that the Hele Foundation has awarded £400 to the school.

**Clerk**

e) Cllr Cane asked that an ‘Elliot’s Hill’ street sign be erected at the A379 end.

**Clerk**

f) Cllr Oates advised that Otter Nurseries have bought some land off Sustrans in order to extend its car park. This does not affect the footpath from Brixton towards Elburton. The Clerk was asked to contact Sustrans to see if this money can be allocated to the completion of the path to Elburton.

**Hitchins**

g) Cllr Oates asked if ‘106 agreement’ monies from the Brixton housing development can be allocated to meet half of the cost of the Brixton/Yealmpton footpath. Cllr Hitchins will raise this with the JWG.

#### **11.012 PLANNING MATTERS**

The Clerk reported that there were no applications for consideration.

#### **11.013 FINANCIAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS**

- a) The tabled expenditure of £757.35 for the month was approved as amended.
- b) The Clerk advised that a new set of ‘Model Standing Orders’ have been published by NALC. He recommended that they be reviewed prior to implementation and he agreed to produce a revised document for Cllr Wills to be presented to Council for approval in June or July.
- c) Cllr Oates asked whether Council had Employers’ liability insurance in place now that the Clerk was employed by the council. This to be checked.
- d) A new contract of employment is to be written for approval.
- e) It was agreed that the councillor vacancy should be filled by July 31<sup>st</sup>.

**Clerk  
Wills**

**Clerk  
Clerk  
Clerk**

#### **11.014 CORRESPONDENCE**

1. Training. Confirmation has been received for the training of our 3 new councillors on Thursday, June 16<sup>th</sup> at The Watermark, Ivybridge.

### **11.015 DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The next monthly Meeting of Brixton Parish Council will be held on Wednesday, June 1<sup>st</sup> at 7.30 p.m. in the Brixton Community Hall.

**The meeting was declared closed at 9.35 pm**

### **OPEN FORUM.**

**The chairman asked if there were any subjects to be raised by the public during this session.**

1. Brenda Huxtable, the Chair of the Brixton Feoffee Trust addressed the meeting. The Trust has decided to increase its profile within the parish and an article will shortly appear in the Brixton Magazine.

They have also decided specifically to financially assist the youth of the parish. They will be giving to all children leaving St Mary's School a voucher to be spent in shops to the value of £50. They will also be making cash awards to teenagers leaving secondary education. These awards will have to be applied for on an individual basis and for those successful, the value will range from £100 to £500. £3500 has just been given to the church for the restoration of the church bells.

Councillor Wills thanked the Feoffee Trust for the church bell monies.

The Clerk asked if the proposed 1<sup>st</sup> Yealm Guides could apply for funds for their organisation. Mrs Huxtable asked that they write to the Trust.

2. Parish Plan presentation. Alex Whish made a presentation on behalf of the working group of himself, Alistair MacPherson and Liz Hitchins and he also circulated a summary sheet.

The Brixton Plan was planned to be a formal statement of the vision of the parishioners for the future of the village. During 2009, two consultation exercises were carried out with a relatively high response rate of 23%. The results have been statistically analysed by DCC and text summarised by the team. The data is now in a form where it can be published "raw" or analysed into groupings or published as a full Parish Plan complete with the wishes of the community. If the latter option is to be adopted, then additional human resource from the community is required to complete the task. New input is now required as the team are "too close to the trees" to see all the wood!! Alex Whish stressed the point that from here on, the work needs to be endorsed by the Council.

It was agreed that in the formal meeting, Council will discuss the way forward to complete the exercise.

Cllr Cane thanked the whole team for the enormous amount of work that has been done so far.