

**MINUTES OF THE MONTHLY MEETING OF BRIXTON PARISH COUNCIL HELD AT THE
COMMUNITY HALL ON WEDNESDAY SEPTEMBER 4TH 2013 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 8
 County Councillor 1
 District Councillor 1
 Police 0

1. APOLOGIES

Cllrs Hitchins and Martin and the Police

2. POLICE MATTERS

PCSO Andy Potter emailed his report as below:

July , Staddiscombe

Early hours of 14th drink/driver arrested charged to court [JI/13/568]

14th, an assault, suspect arrested, charged to court [JI/13/571]

29th, drive off from garage forecourt without paying for fuel [JI/13/616]

July, Brixton

Overnight 16th / 17th criminal damage to a car, vehicle had two tyres punctured

21st criminal damage, offender arrested, enquiries ongoing [JI/13/588]

23rd dog bite, unable to trace owner [JI/13/599]

Early hours of 25th criminal damage to car, driver's door window smashed

29th theft of mobile phone, enquiries ongoing [JI/13/618]

August, Staddiscombe

2nd car stolen, enquiries ongoing [JI/13/637]

9th shoplifting, enquiries ongoing [JI/13/666]

11th criminal damage to car, offender cautioned [JI/13/673]

21st drive off from garage forecourt without paying for fuel [JI/13/718]

August, Brixton

1st non crime domestic [JI/13/630]

3rd taking a conveyance, enquiries ongoing [JI/13/667]

3rd attempt shop lifting enquiries ongoing [JI/13/643]

8th non crime domestic [JI/13/663]

15th, nuisance phone calls [JI/13/694]

19th shop lifting, offender issued with fixed penalty [JI/13/711]

21st theft [JI/13/717]

With regard to the take up of NO COLD CALLER stickers, a large number have been collected from the post office by customers , unable to give exact numbers , but I have had requests for a couple of replacement batches.

3. REPORT FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR

Cllr Hart reported that:

- Last week's downpour caused some local flooding difficulties: South Barton was visited and drains need checking; drain by bus stop on A379 needs checking.
- He will be going 'on tour' next month to deliver the news that £65m has to be saved next year (2014/15) by DCC. Services will be reduced. The question will not be "what do we need to do or have to do" but "what can we afford to do"? District Councils will be under similar pressure.
- The 'new homes' bonus previously paid to District (80%) and County (20%) will now go to the Local Enterprise Council and DCC will have to 'bid' for the money for their projects.

4. REPORTS FROM DISTRICT COUNCILLORS

Cllr Squire reported that:

- Boundary Commission proposals for 31 councillors have been received and are open for consultation until Nov 11th. Brixton and Wembury are proposed to stay the same.
- Budgets under pressure again with savings of £1.9m to be made by 2017.
- There is a reducing government grant of 10% year on year.
- Reviewing cost benefit of merging West Devon and South Hams councils.
- Chelson Meadow getting tough on South Hams residents using the facility
- Sherford new town. Start and timing unknown in spite of gov't pressure

Cllr Cane reported that:

- Visitor numbers up this year showing benefits to car parking revenues

5. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST - None

6. MINUTES OF PARISH MEETINGS

Minutes of the Parish Meeting held on July 3rd 2013 were proposed by Cllr Calvert as an accurate record. Seconded by Cllr Jessop and agreed unanimously.

7. LOCAL ISSUES AND REPORTS

7.1 Silverbridge Way. The path was formally opened on July 20th and was a great success with over 140 residents present. Usage numbers in the first 6 weeks of use (before opening) were 2074. It was agreed to put an additional finger sign on the post on Red Lion Hill. Prices are being sought for maintenance of the undergrowth and weeds.

7.2 Cold Calling prevention. After some discussion it was agreed that BPC would take no further action as the "No calling stickers" were effective and available from the village shop. Police to provide ongoing supplies.

7.3 Welcome Pack. Revisions complete and 30 printed copies delivered to Cllr Gray for circulation as required.

7.4 Land bank ownership on Red Lion Hill. The Clerk advised that this land still belongs to the housing association. Any residents should refer the pruning etc to their landlord.

7.5 Boundary Commission findings. 40 District Cllrs to be reduced to 31. Wembury and Brixton to remain a two member ward. After discussion, it was agreed that this is an acceptable position. No further action required.

7.6 Events diary. The Clerk advised

- a) South Hams flooding forum. Tuesday 17th September, 4-8pm Watermark

Nick Colton

Oates
Clerk

Potter

Gray

- Cane** Centre, Ivybridge. Cllr Cane agreed to circulate ‘flyers’ to the affected homes in Brixton Torr.
- All Cllrs** b) Super Cluster meeting on Monday, November 11th at Watermark, Ivybridge. Details to follow.
- All Cllrs** c) Pre planning process. This will be discussed at the next planning workshop in the autumn.
- All Cllrs** d) TAP fund applications by 10/1/14. Consider combined applications again. Maybe an extension to SBW to Kitley farm shop may be suitable.
- 7.7 Post office services.** The clerk wrote to the Post Office as requested. They will be sending an official response by Sept 12th.
- 7.8 World War 1 commemoration.** It was agreed that BPC would not participate in any national event.
- 7.9 Councillors’ reports.**
- Cllr Hitchins asked for the following issues to be raised. a) Additional sign for SBW (see 7.1) b) Web site content updated. Cost information sent to Chairman and Feoffee Trust. c) Feoffee Trust grants and awards made recently were read out d) Dementia Friendly Villages are holding a charity dinner on 18th October at Queen’s Anne Battery, Plymouth. Tickets from Cllr Hitchins at £18. Raffle tickets at £1 each are on sale with the Clerk.
 - Cllr Wills advised that the ‘Brixton Rocks’ are expected to be available and installed by the end of the year. The RBL seat from Tuscany’s will be sited on SBW.
 - Cllr Jessop advised Cllr Oates about an overgrown pathway.
 - Cllr Jessop requested that council meetings be shortened and asked whether an ‘open forum’ session could be introduced mid meeting. After some discussion, it was felt that the chairman could allow parishioner input on request (at the chairman’s discretion). It was felt that parishioner interest in council meetings needs to be improved.
 - Cllr Cane advised that the flower bed on the side of the A379 (Lodge Gardens) has been reduced in height to improve road visibility.
 - Cllr Cane reported drain problems at Lodge lane, A379 bus stop, Legion lane and South Barton Farm. Clerk to contact DCC accordingly.
 - Cllr Cane is to get pavement weeds cleared. Spraying ineffective.
 - Cllr Cane advised that the kerbs had been dropped near Venn Court. Thanks to Nick Colton for organizing this.
 - Cllr Gray reported that the ‘Neighbourhood Planning’ training had been of no interest to BPC because of the cost and zero benefit as this work is to be done by SHDC anyway. No further action from BPC was agreed.
 - Cllr Calvert asked about progress by the Traffic Group. He was concerned that the pedestrian crossing issue was not being treated with adequate urgency.
 - Cllr Calvert advised that Otter Nurseries were prepared to site a bottle bank for Brixton and district. Approved by Council. Cllr Calvert to organize.

PLANNING MATTERS

Clerk 8.1 Applications 07/1925/13/F for Silverbridge Barn extension. Sub committee met on site and were prepared to support application. As inquorate, the case was put to full council and approved.

8.2 Application 07/1808/13/F for storage building at Swallow Cottage, Wiverton. Approved by subcommittee and ratified at this meeting.

9.FINANCIAL MATTERS

9.1 The tabled expenditure of £1708.32 was approved after proposal by Cllr

Cane and seconded by Cllr Gray.

9.3. The Clerk advised that Grant Thornton, Auditors, has signed off our accounts for 2012/13.

10. CORRESPONDENCE

- a) 'Thank you' letters received for BPC donations from CVS, Samaritans and Ivybridge Ring 'n Ride
- b) Thanks sent to Feoffee Trust for donation for Gentle Exercise classes
- c) Flood meeting leaflets – taken by Cllr Cane for distribution
- d) SHDC has requested feedback through a questionnaire about the usefulness of Cluster meetings. Councillors completed this form.
- e) Two emails received from D Foley. The draft response was discussed and marginally amended. Its acceptance was then proposed by Cllr Jessop, seconded by Cllr Cane and unanimously approved. Clerk to send urgently

Cane

Clerk

Clerk

11. DATE OF NEXT MEETINGS

The next General Meeting of the Council will take place on Wednesday, October 2nd at 7.30 in the Community Room.

The meeting was declared closed at 9.30 pm

OPEN FORUM

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

Clerk

1. Pam Davis asked that the drain on the A379 by the bus stop be cleared.
2. Mr Sharpe expressed concern at the Sherford delay and was concerned that the plans may have changed since Redtree made a presentation to the village. Would it be possible to organise another presentation to the village when the application is finally 'signed off'?

Cllr Hart advised that there has been no change to the physical plans but only to the phasing of work. Redtree now intend to start at the Plymouth (SW) corner of the site and work north easterly up to Deep Lane. The 'main thoroughfare' through the development will be built when the specified number of dwellings has been built. There is plenty of schooling available in the area for the foreseeable future in this part of the County. The '106 agreement' has yet to be signed --- reason for delay unknown.

M J Stickland, Clerk to Brixton Parish Council

September 6th 2013