

**MINUTES OF THE GENERAL MEETING OF BRIXTON PARISH COUNCIL HELD  
AT THE COMMUNITY HALL ON WEDNESDAY NOVEMBER 3<sup>rd</sup> 2010 AT 7.30pm**

|                 |                            |   |                   |   |
|-----------------|----------------------------|---|-------------------|---|
| <b>Present:</b> | 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 |   |

|                        |                       |   |
|------------------------|-----------------------|---|
| <b>Also attending:</b> | Members of the public | 3 |
|                        | Chairman, SHDC        | 1 |
|                        | District Councillor   | 1 |
|                        | Police                | 0 |

**9.176 APOLOGIES**

Apologies from Cllrs Hart, Lang and Aylett and the Police.

**9.177 POLICE MATTERS**

No email report had been received.

**9.178 ADDRESS BY CHAIRMAN OF SHDC, CLLR BAVERSTOCK**

Cllr Baverstock told us that he had spent 23 years in the Police Force and 8 years on Stokenham Parish Council prior to his election as a District Councillor in 2007.

In 2007, waste was a major problem but now SHDC has an enviable reputation for waste services and for its 'green' credentials in this area. The Planning Department has now been criticised recently for its performance but external consultants have assisted in sorting out the deficiencies.

The Government's "Localism Bill" will be the next challenge. At present it is not clear whether decisions will be devolved to District or Parish Councils.

Thanks were given to Brixton Councillors for giving up their time in order to make decisions on behalf of the residents of the Parish.

**9.179 REPORT FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR**

No report available. Cllr Hart is in the middle of his Devon tour speaking about 'difficult choices' for Devon starting in 2011.

**9.180 REPORTS FROM DISTRICT COUNCILLORS**

Cllr Cane reported:

- That SHDC have continually been making cuts to expenditure and that £2m had already been saved with collaboration with West Devon. He believes that the next round of cuts will not be as bad as anticipated by most pundits.

Cllr Squire reported:

- That Government grant cuts will not now be given until December. Expect a cut of 16% next April
- Reorganisation at SHDC may lead to officers being given dual roles
- Affordable Housing definition handed to Clerk for circulation. 50% targets never yet achieved
- Part time jobs are available for 2011 census work

## **9.181 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Pecuniary interest: Cllr Searle; Parish website.

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

## **9.182 MINUTES OF THE OCTOBER 6th PARISH MEETING**

Proposed as accurate by Cllr Searle, seconded by Cllr Foweraker. Unanimously approved.

## **9.183 LOCAL ISSUES AND REPORTS**

**7.1 Brixton/Yealmpton footpath.** The date for the expected meeting is not yet known.

**7.2 Village Welcome pack.** The Clerk reported that information is still awaited. It was agreed that distribution should be by councillors making a personal visit to new parishioners. Carrolsland residents may need a different system. Cllr Martin agreed to bring information about the Neighbourhood Watch scheme and its Welcome Pack to the December meeting.

**7.3 Parish Plan.** Cllr Hitchins advised that work is still proceeding

**7.4 Building a Big Society.** Wembury are not getting any volunteers to do 'council type' jobs in the parish.

**7.5 Speeding at Carrolsland.** The letter from Mrs Bolt was sent to Councillor Hart, the police and Wembury PC. Wembury have reported no interest from DCC and /or the police in their two year battle to get the speed signs changed. However, Peter Guy, the Public Rights of Way Officer has seen a need for some changes to the junction and/or the exit from the pathway onto the road. This is a positive start but do not expect changes overnight.

**7.6 Councillors' reports.**

a) Cllr Foweraker advised that the cone sometimes outside the shop was simply for unloading for the shop and approved by the police.

b) Cllr Foweraker advised that Cllr Tapper will get the path cleared between Cherry Tree Drive and the Legion.

c) Cllr Martin advised that he was attempting to get a temporary power supply installed for this year's Christmas lights on the tree on The Green

d) Cllr Tapper enquired about ownership of a dead oak tree in the village. Cllr Cane believes it to belong to the complainant.

e) Cllr Searle reported that the History Group continues to work hard on village archives. On Nov 19<sup>th</sup>, at the Greyhound, there is to be an event of "50 years of Brixton". Join the fun !

f) School. Cllr Searle reported that Steve Cox has returned full time to the school. A presentation has been made to Jayne Byrne for her positive contribution as Acting Head for many months. The recent Harvest Festival had been a delight to attend.

g) Cllr Searle advised that the village web site continues to expand with new sections added. Viewing is highly recommended.

h) Cllr Hitchins advised that she has received support from Wembury PC for the 'dementia' project. Newton & Noss PC will be addressed next week. Agenda item for Dec.

## **9.184 PLANNING MATTERS**

Cllr Martin discussed the following applications earlier considered by the subcommittee:

- a) 2359. Erection of new playground equipment at the Playground at Steer Point Road. Approved. Clerk was asked to speak to Alex Whish about the responsibility for the 'wooden' pathway coming from the school grounds.
- b) 2219. Removal of telecoms mast and erection of security cabin at Brixton Road Garage, Chittleburn Hill. Approved.
- c) 2088. No 3 Meadow Drive, Brixton. Refused by SHDC.

## **9.185 FINANCIAL MATTERS**

- a) The tabled expenditure of 602.20 for the month was approved.

## **9.186 CORRESPONDENCE**

- The Clerk advised that he had heard from the District of Local Councils that the elections due on May 4<sup>th</sup> may be postponed.
- The Clerk advised that Steve Mason, the SHDC Cleaning Services liaison man, is on sick leave and therefore the meeting to sort out Brixton priorities is 'on hold'.
- Inter Parish quiz. There will be no cost for this in 2011 as reserves exist. Parishes asked to pay for room hire costs when 'at home'.
- The SHDC budget meeting is on Wed, Nov 24<sup>th</sup> at Follaton House at 6.30pm. Cllrs attending to advise the Clerk in advance.
- **DCC Library service. The service for 2010 will cease at the end of November. The new schedule will commence on Thursday, January 6<sup>th</sup> at Venn Court only from 4.30 to 5.15pm on a fortnightly basis.**
- Cllr Squire advised that the Government Inspector was today inspecting the LDF plans for Brixton. Without our knowledge, the consultation process has allowed two developers to make observations about Parish and District proposal -that is democracy. However, Council are furious that SAHDC has not advised us of these developer proposals which includes the addition of the plot behind Cherry Tree Drive which was expressly rejected by Parish Council. Cllr Squire was assured by SHDC that Brixton would be consulted again if the inspector found any merit in these suggestions. After further discussion, the Clerk was asked to write to the Chief Executive at SHDC expressing in strong terms the Council concerns at the apparent breakdown in communication between the Forward Planning team and parish councils.

Searle for  
Brixton mag

Clerk

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

## **9.187 DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

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

**The meeting was declared closed at 9.10 pm**

### **OPEN FORUM held at 7.30pm.**

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

1. David Foley explained his plans for his land at Chittleburn. However, SHDC want him to submit plans for 40 dwellings instead of his plan for 4 eco houses. He expressed his frustration that SHDC wanted to invoke the commercial rate of £2000 for pre application advice.
2. Colin Roe expressed concern at the potential use of "Sherford reserve" funds for film works for historical records for the Sherford area. These funds had been hard to raise and should only be used for the protection of the village boundaries. Mr Roe was given assurance that the use of reserve funds would be preceded by parishioner consultation but with Council making any final decisions.

