

**MINUTES OF THE MONTHLY MEETING OF BRIXTON PARISH COUNCIL HELD AT THE  
COMMUNITY HALL ON WEDNESDAY APRIL 3<sup>rd</sup> 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 14  
 County Councillor 1  
 District Councillor 1  
 Police 0

**1. APOLOGIES**

No apologies.

**2. POLICE MATTERS**

No report received.

**3. REPORT FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR**

Cllr Hart reported:

- Broadband. BT has signed up to provide high speed broadband to Devon. A plan is to be issued in 3 months.
- The school visit to County Hall has been reset for June 2013.
- The flooding at the end of Lodge lane needs urgent treatment
- Traffic lines at the end of Legion Lane need to be replaced.
- Winstone Lane repair needs to be redone as it is already getting green
- Chapter 8 training available to increase self help capability

**4. REPORTS FROM DISTRICT COUNCILLORS**

Cllr Cane reported that:

- SHDC car parks now accept card payment
- Officer numbers have been cut back and next member reductions will happen along with the number of meetings.
- Dog control orders to be sent out for consultation
- Watch out for fly tipping in the village and report suspicious vehicles

Cllr Squire reported that:

- Boundary Commission is supporting reduction of District Councillors to 30. New wards and boundaries yet to be established.
- Electronic voting may be introduced in council chamber
- SHDC do not have a 5 year 'land bank' until Sherford 106 is signed.

**5. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

- a. Cllr Cane declared a personal interest in all Planning Matters (Agenda item 8) as he is a member of the SHDC Development Committee. He will not take part in any discussion or voting on planning issues.

Hart  
 Hart  
 Hart

## **6. MINUTES OF PARISH MEETINGS**

Minutes of the monthly meeting on March 6th were proposed by Cllr Wills and seconded by Cllr Gray as an accurate record after minor amendment. Approved.

## **7. LOCAL ISSUES AND REPORTS**

Wills/Gray

**7.1 Location of Tuscanys bench.** Cllrs Wills and Gray to review 2 options for bench location near the bus stops at the east end of the village. A location at Torr bridge is another option.

**7.2 Relocation of refuse bin.** In the Open Forum, Jo Northmore presented a valid case for the retention of the bin at Coflete in its present location. Council accepted the argument and therefore no action required.

Clerk

**7.3 Devon & Somerset Fire Authority consultation.** After discussion, it was agreed to accept the Consultation proposals. However, we would like some training for the parishioners on 'fire prevention'. Clerk to write to authorities to request this.

Hitchins

**7.4 Victorian light plaque.** Cllrs Hitchins advised that changes were being made to the 'draft' before approval.

Hitchins

**7.5 Traffic group report.** Cllr Hitchins reported that the first meeting is set for April 22<sup>nd</sup> with 7 members volunteered.

Gray

**7.6 Welcome Pack revisions.** Cllr Gray advised that changes are still being carried out.

Calvert

**7.7 Facebook progress.** Cllr Calvert reported success from the "Love Brixton Devon" Facebook. He will continue to make all entries for the time being. The school and Friends of the School are already involved with the project. Traffic volumes to be reported at May meeting.

Martin/All

**7.8 Planning subcommittee process review.** It has been agreed that Cllr Martin will give 7 days email notice of site meetings and councillors are requested to respond availability by email. If this does not prove effective, fixed times may be adopted.

Clerk

**7.9 Grass cutting and Lengthsmen.** The Clerk reported that the first 2013 cut had been done as promised. Discussions ongoing with SHDC about the DCC grass program changes. Council asked the Clerk to establish when the Lengthsmen visit and what they do in the Parish.

Clerk

### **7.10 Councillors' reports.**

Clerk

- Cllr Cane suggested that the water flowing off the fields on the east of Silverbridge valley might be controlled by clever ground works as part of the SBW. Clerk to speak with contractor.

Jessop

- Cllr Jessop reported a problem of a closed 'kissing gate' on FP 27. She agreed to follow up with Peter Guy of DCC PROW
- Cllr Wills reported that he and Cllr Murch had attended the recent AGM and meeting of Ivybridge & District ALC. In summary:

1. Year end funds of £754
2. No terms of reference for the organisation
3. 2013 TAP fund likely but details to be written
4. BPC activities were discussed. Venn/dementia/Facebook etc
5. Planning. SHDC need new policies to take care of legislative changes.

- Cllr Cane urged councillors to attend the May 'Planning Workshop'.
- Cllr Gray raised concern that the 'Active Devon' opportunity was slipping

**Hitchins**

away. We had only 3 years from inception to get the activities moving and to claim up to £3000. Cllr Hitchins agreed to follow up on this.

- Cllr Gray noted that no 'composting' projects have yet come forward for approval to spend the 'green fund' available.
- Cllr Oates asked if village statistics could be made available on resident numbers, elector numbers, houses by 'rating band', business numbers, rented properties, affordable house numbers etc. The Clerk was asked to investigate with SHDC.
- Cllr Oates asked if the Venn Farm S106 monies had yet been agreed. Not yet advised by SHDC.
- Cllr Oates asked that the SBW contractor be pushed for a start date.
- Cllr Hitchins asked for a councillor to go to the Livewires meeting on May 2<sup>nd</sup>. Cllr Gray volunteered.

**Clerk**

**Clerk**

**Gray**

### **PLANNING MATTERS**

8.1 Applications 07/0397/13 and 07/0391/13 both for Wiverton House were reviewed on site on 8<sup>th</sup> March. No objections.

8.2 Application 0578 to be considered on April 6<sup>th</sup>.

8.3 Council thanked Mr Foley for his presentation and now await the content of his formal application to SHDC.

**Martin**

### **9. FINANCIAL MATTERS**

9.1 The tabled expenditure of £1679.64 was approved after proposal by Cllr Wills and seconded by Cllr Calvert.

### **10. CORRESPONDENCE**

- Boundary Commission. We have been asked to suggest any boundary changes to go with the reduction of District Councillors from 40 to 30. Brixton is expected to increase from 1430 to 2741 electors by 2018 and this, coincidentally, is the 'preferred' number of electors for one District Councillor. The Clerk was asked to respond accordingly.

**Clerk**

### **11. DATE OF NEXT MEETINGS**

The Annual General Meeting of the Council will take place on Wednesday, May 1<sup>st</sup> 2013 at 7.30 in the Community Room.

The Annual Parish meeting will take place on June 5<sup>th</sup> 2013

**The meeting was declared closed at 10.01 pm**

### **OPEN FORUM**

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

The Chairman opened the Forum by explaining that Mr Foley was to make a 10 minute presentation on his plans for residential development at Chittleburn to be followed by a max of 10 minutes for questions and discussions. Other general matters would follow.

1. Mr Foley of Magiley Limited handed out information and plans relating to his vision to develop his land at Chittleburn Hill for the building of 5 residential properties. These would potentially be self build houses which may define them as 'affordable homes'. Coupled with this development,

Mr Foley outlined the benefits to the parishioners of a) road safety improvements with the inclusion of an off-road 'transporter' parking bay for trucks delivering vehicles to Rodger's Garage b) a cycle and footpath from Chittleburn Cross down to the garage complex (inside the existing hedge and with no access to the houses on Chittleburn Hill) and c) emergency access to the Durnford Society Home directly from the A379. He stated that a local survey of 22 residents indicated support for the use of this field for development. Access to these properties would be off the existing road down to the industrial units.

2. Discussion on the presentation.

- Mr Foley confirmed that he would initially be applying for 'outline' planning permission
- Mrs Northmore expressed great concern about the loss of yet another 'green space' around wonderful Brixton.
- Mrs Northmore questioned why only two of the Chittleburn residents were there to support Mr Foley. No explanation was forthcoming.
- Mr Fuller suggested that the village needs a variation of houses so that residents can move within the market without leaving the village. Mrs Northmore that the village already had that capability without losing this green space.

3. A. Mrs Northmore questioned the Council about why they wished to move the refuse bin from in front of Cofflete House. This was used by many including those waiting at the adjacent bus stop and all the school children getting off school transport at that point. Mrs Northmore also raised concern about the state of the grass verges outside Cofflete and queried ownership. What can be done about buses cutting up the bank?

B. Mr Furzeland was advised that the delay on building Silverbridge Way was still down to the wet weather and the contractor deciding when the ground was suitable.

C. Mr Sullivan asked about the plan to erect 2 rocks engraved 'Brixton' at either end of the village. He was advised that the contract for this work has been placed.

D. Mr Davis explained the problem of access to Legion Lane because cars were parking across the lane entry. Chevrons were once in place but have not been maintained. The Clerk to pursue this matter with DCC Highways.

E. The Chairman thanked Mr Davis for maintaining the Village Green so well and expressed pleasure at seeing Jack Gilbury back in the audience.

F. Mr Hollow asked about the likelihood of Broadband improvement in Spriddlestone. Councillor Hart advised that BT has the contract to bring superfast (fibre optic) broadband services to 90% of Devon by 2016/17. We await to hear of their plans for the remaining 10%. BT plans to be available within 3 months.

**Wills**

**Clerk**

DRAFT