

**Minutes of the meeting of Brixton Parish Council held in the Community Hall, Brixton, 8pm, Wednesday
2nd April, 2014.**

Present: Cllr. Hitchins (chairman); Cllr. Wills; Cllr. Calvert; Cllr. Gray; Cllr. Jessop; Cllr. Murch; Cllr. Oates; Cllr. Martin.

District Cllr. Squire; District & Parish Cllr. Cane; County Cllr. Hart. Tom Veitch, Ivybridge Gazette and 115 members of the public.

A message from the Chairman was read out with an update from the consultation of last Friday 28th March 2014, regarding the Steer Point Quarry. Devon County Council will continue to take representations from the public. (Message attached with these minutes).

Open Forum for parishioners.

Mr. Springbett – would like to ask each councillor whether he/she is for or against this proposal.

This will be answered when Council is in committee.

Dr. Fitch – the children and staff of Brixton St. Mary's Primary School submitted a signed petition against this quarry infill due to the proposed number of lorry movements. Petition from the school read out, and attached to these minutes.

H. Levan – Steer Point Road is used for recreation every day. Why were some councillors at the meeting on Friday who did not support the protest?

Graham Searle – strong feeling in this room against this proposal – shouldn't the council represent us?

There is a due process to be followed by parish councillors.

Mr. Blackler – when was the Parish Council made aware of this application?

20th February 2014 along with the notification to residents. This was brought to the Council meeting 6th March 2014 when the decision was taken to run a consultation exercise; finally achieved last Friday.

Mr. Bastard – owner of the land in question. The traffic issues have been noted, and have been taken back to Devon County, especially the request that no lorries go past the school. Also investigating a different route for the lorry movements. Clarification of the material; mostly rock and subsoil. There is a legal obligation to fill the quarry. Sincerely regrets that the Parish was not involved at the beginning of the negotiations.

Tony Steer – no confidence in the figures given. Does not require inert infill; feel it is being used as a waste disposal point. Concerned about the amount of traffic coming in.

Chris George – why does it have to be filled in? Why cannot some other use be found for this site?

County Cllr. Hart - had asked the Development Management Committee to defer this discussion/decision to June. Good to hear the views of the people of Brixton.

David Croot- no alternative proposals have been put forward to manage the water. Why does it have to be infill? Can we have an alternative please?

Jenny Smith – concerned about the destruction of the wildlife with the traffic going down the lanes.

Catherine Couchman – which road are the lorries planning to use? Red Lion Hill? It is a fatal accident waiting to happen. These lorries will destroy the village.

Graham Searle– where is the inert waste going to be screened? So that it is safe and we all know what is in it?

Mr. Springbett – why was this planning application put into the North Devon Journal? Why was it talked about for 2 years before Brixton gets to hear about it?

This planning application was an agenda item for Brixton Parish Council on 6th March 2014.

Derek Curtis – was a councillor in 1999 and dealt with an extension to the quarry at that time. The condition was that it had to be restored, not filled. Devon County Council has not enforced their own regulations. Request a councillor to be at the meeting with MP Gary Streeter and DCC.

Jackie Lowe – seek assurances from the Parish Council to fight this proposal.

Sarah Greenham – assurances if an alternative route is decided upon, we will be made aware of where it is to go and for us to be involved in this process.

Mark Couchman – there are many examples of disused quarries in this country with an increasing diversity of wildlife. Why does this one have to be filled?

Mrs. Deeley – pollution in the village from the lorry movements over the next 10 years.

Mr. Powell – agreed with all the objections tonight. If this application is opposed by Council, the issue is how to take this forward. Would Council consider handing over the lead on this issue to an action group? .

Mr. Curtis – prepared to help if Council wishes.

Tony Steer – is this a proposal or a license for the next 10 years.

The answer is not known.

County Cllr. Hart – Devon County Council have asked this question and not yet received an answer.

Letter from Wayne Gillbard read out. Filed with the minutes.

Letter from Roy Axell read out. Filed with the minutes.

Paul Bassett – who is going to represent Brixton at the hearing at Devon County Council?

David Croot – there is a petition circulating around the village opposing this plan both paper and electronic.

Catherine – the quarry at Plymstock has not been filled in.

Question from the Chair.

If an alternative route is found would you support this infill plan? Outright rejection of the quarry plan by show of hands.

Brenda Huxtable – what else could be done with this site?

Mrs. Gregory – has safety concerns.

Joan Northmore – suggests there is money involved. By whom and to whom?

1. **Apologies for absence:** M. Stickland, clerk to the council. On holiday.
2. **Declarations of Interest:** Cllr. Oates, tenant of land owner; Cllr. Cane – rent land from the landowner. Granted dispensation to speak by the Clerk.

3. **Planning Matters**

To consider and make a recommendation on County Planning Matter Planning Application Town & Country Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) (England and Wales) Regulations 2011.

Importation of inert waste for the purpose of filling the void as part of the restoration of Steer Point Quarry, at Steer Point Quarry, Steer Point Road, Brixton PL8 2DQ. Ref: DCC/3638/2014

Each Cllr. had prepared a statement about his/her views on this matter and was asked to speak in turn.

Cllr. Oates; opposed; Cllr. Calvert; opposed; Cllr. Jessop mentioned the bridge; opposed; Cllr. Wills is it really needed? Opposed; Cllr. Gray; opposed; Cllr. Martin: opposed; Cllr. Murch: opposed; Cllr. Cane: opposed; Cllr. Hitchins; opposed.

Cllr. Hitchins read her report.

Cllr. Wills proposed that the Parish Council write to Devon County Council stating that the planning process has not been conducted properly. The impact assessments are inadequate. This application goes against Devon County Council's own waste management policy. That Brixton Parish Council object to this planning application. Seconded by Cllr. Jessop. All in favour of the motion objecting to the application by show of hands.

4. Legal Advice.

To consider a parishioners suggestion to obtain counsels opinion/legal advice in respect of the above planning application.

Proposed by Cllr. Jessop; seconded by Cllr. Gray. All in favour by show of hands.

Three legal chambers are being considered. A financial ceiling was agreed at £3,000 at this time.

Proposed by Cllr. Wills seconded by Cllr. Murch. All in favour by show of hands

It was also agreed that Brixton Parish Council will form an Action Group assisted by members of the parish.

Contact Chairman Cllr. Hitchins in the first instance.

Cllr. Gray asked for a formal letter of complaint to be written to Devon County Council about their handling of this application, with a copy to Eric Pickles MP, Minister for Communities.

Meeting closed at 10pm.

Date of next meeting 7th May 2014, 7.30pm.

Signed.....

Date.....

Position.....