

**MINUTES OF THE MONTHLY MEETING OF BRIXTON PARISH COUNCIL HELD AT THE
COMMUNITY HALL ON WEDNESDAY FEBRUARY 1st 2012 AT 7.30pm**

Present:

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

* Denotes attendance @ Denotes absence

Also attending:

Members of the public	6
County Councillor	0
District Councillor	1
Police	1

11.093 APOLOGIES

Apologies from Cllrs Hart and Cane.

11.094 POLICE MATTERS

PCSO Andy Potter reported that no incidents had been reported in January.

11.095 REPORT FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR

No report received.

11.096 REPORTS FROM DISTRICT COUNCILLORS

Cllr Squire reported:

- Work in Jan has been Budget focussed. A recommendation of an increase in Council Tax of 2.5% is to be put to full Council next week. (=£3.36 for band D)
- Staff salaried likely to be frozen (= + 0%)
- Pension Fund to be increased by 15% over next 3 years to cover liabilities
- Parking charges. To be reviewed again in the spring.
- CAB has received an additional £10k to cover higher running costs

11.097 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None.

11.098 MINUTES OF PARISH MEETINGS

Minutes of the monthly meeting on January 11th were proposed as correct by Cllr Wills and seconded by Cllr Oates. Approved by those at that meeting.

11.099 LOCAL ISSUES AND REPORTS

7.1 Sherford.

1. The Clerk advised that the approved 'Maladministration letter' had been sent to SHDC and acknowledged.
2. Cllr Hitchins is organising a meeting for the Council with Redtree. A Parish meeting with Redtree will occur later.

7.2 Silver Bridge Way.

The next meeting is on Feb 3rd. Planning has not yet been approved by SHDC.

Hitchins

7.3 Devolved Services. The SHDC workshop attended by Cllrs Hitchins and Wills and the Clerk was fairly inconclusive but the officers have taken away many thoughts and ideas for consideration.

7.4 Active Village opportunities.

Jayne Wootton had been unable to attend this evening. Her visit will now be for the March meeting. Jayne is offering 'pump priming' funds for new activities. Bring your ideas to the March meeting.

All Cllrs

7.5 Jubilee Celebrations and 7.6 Olympic Torch Relay

Cllr White reported that the meeting on Jan 26th was attended by 19 parishioners and that a lot of ideas had been discussed. Notes have been posted in the Post Office and on the website. Clerk to apply for closure of Old Road for Mon July 5th. The Woodland Trust is keen to plant 6million trees around the country. Cllr Oates agreed to look for a suitable place for trees in Brixton.

White

Clerk

Oates

7.7 Local composting.

The meeting on Jan 16th was positive and an Action Plan has been drawn up. The visit to Bratton Fleming in North Devon was very useful to see the problems that they have encountered over the last 15 years. They have received £50,000 for the Community over this time.

White

7.8 Parish Plan.

Cllr Hitchins advised that the plan is going out for pricing this week. It will be printed during February in order to meet SHDC deadlines for funding.

Hitchins

7.9 Councillor vacancy.

The Clerk had circulated a 'job spec' for the casual vacancy that has arisen. This was approved with minor amendment. The vacancy will be advertised in the Brixton magazine and on the notice board and website. Closing date for applications will be March 16th with interviews in the evening of March 27th.

Clerk

7.10 Councillor reports.

1. Cllr Martin asked that the 'kissing gate' at the end of Woodland Way be retained when the new gate is installed. Cllr Oates agreed to find a suitable location within the Brixton footpath network.

Oates

2. Cllr Oates asked for information about Council minutes pre 2007. The Clerk to investigate.

Clerk

3. Cllr Oates referred to plants overhanging the pavements on the main road. It was agreed that the Clerk would write to Mr MacBean and that Cllr Oates would talk to Mrs Scott.

Oates/Clerk

4. Cllr White asked if some lighting could be made available on the path from Tuscany's up to Cherry Tree Drive. To be put on the Jubilee list.

White

5. Cllr Hitchins advised that Silver Wood play park now complete and fully funded. Ongoing responsibility is with Torr Homes. The next project is the 'play trail' to link and sign the play areas.

Hitchins

6. Cllr Hitchins updated council on the Dementia Group. CVS has volunteered to ask as 'host employer' for a Development worker. Funding is being sought.

7. There is a new course for cllrs on 'Planning under the new legislation' on Feb 29th. Cllr Hitchins to send off with names of interested cllrs.

Hitchins

8. Cllr Hitchins has received information from the Senior Council of Devon about a scheme called "stay well and warm in Devon". This will be posted on the website.

Hitchins

11.100 PLANNING MATTERS

No new applications.

11.101 FINANCIAL MATTERS

- a) The tabled expenditure of £666.37 for January was approved after proposal by Cllr Wills and seconded by Cllr Oates.
- b) Cllr Wills proposed and Cllr Martin seconded that “BPC will make available, on request by YPC, an interest free loan of £5000 for a period of 18 months. This loan is to be used exclusively for the funding of Silver Bridge Way.” Unanimously approved.

11.102 CORRESPONDENCE

1. The Clerk has received notification about the project to bring high speed broadband to rural communities in Devon and Somerset. The electronic questionnaire has to be returned by Feb 28th. Letter to be forwarded to all cllrs and Graham Searle for the website.

Clerk

11.103 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Brixton Parish Council will be held on March 7th 2012 at 7.30p.m. in the Brixton Community Hall

The meeting was declared closed at 8.35pm

OPEN FORUM

No subjects raised by those present.

M J Stickland, Clerk to Brixton Parish Council

February 2nd 2012