

**MINUTES OF THE MONTHLY MEETING OF BRIXTON PARISH COUNCIL HELD AT THE
COMMUNITY HALL ON WEDNESDAY FEBRUARY 6th 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 2
 County Councillor 1
 District Councillor 1
 Police 0

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies from Cllr Calvert and the Police

2. POLICE MATTERS

PCSO Andy Potter emailed his January report as follows:

Staddiscombe area

1st Jan. theft, shoplifting [JI/13/4], dealt with by way of restorative justice, offender apologised for the errors of their ways.

Brixton area

Overnight 2nd / 3rd Jan

Theft, van broken into, tools stolen [JI/13/7]

Attempt theft, van broken into, fortunately no property within it [JI/13/8]

Burglary, garden shed broken into [JI/13/9]

Burglary, garage broken into [JI/13/12]

(All above crimes believed carried out by same offender/s as occurred over same night and locations were in close proximity, unfortunately enquiries have had a negative result.)

18th theft, report of property stolen from a house [JI/13/58], enquiries ongoing

25th non crime domestic reported [JI/13/77]

3. REPORT FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR

Cllr Hart reported that:

- Winstone Lane. Will review the work done as not to original specification
- Lengthsmen. Planning to make proposal shortly about creating more local men shared between villages. Manpower increased from 17 to 24 and now working in pairs.
- Grass cutting. DCC will provide 4 cuts between May and October for highway grass. SHDC has opted out of providing this service. Logistics to be advised. May consider giving funds to parish to coordinate all cutting.
- DCC budget will be released next week and will be nil % increase
- Visited school last Friday and very impressed with both children and teaching staff. All have been invite to visit County Hall, Exeter.

Hart

Hart

Hart

4. REPORTS FROM DISTRICT COUNCILLORS

Cllr Squire reported that :

- Budget deficit of £479k. Various savings options under consideration.
- Staff and Member pay awards at +1%

- Considering closure of some public toilets over winter period

Cllr Cane reported that:

- An extra £10k has been awarded to the CAB this year
- Boundary Commission review. SHDC accept reduction of District Councillors from 40 to 30, applicable from next elections.

A discussion about toilet closures concluded with BPC not supportive of this proposal. The elderly population require toilets to be available all year around.

5. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

- 5.1 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.
- 5.2 Cllrs Cane declared a pecuniary interest in item 7.2
- 5.3 Cllrs Hitchins and Martin declared a personal interest in item 7.2
- 5.4 Cllr Oates declared that Mimosa Farms Ltd (his business) has made representations re Venn Farm Devl't regarding environmental protection

6. MINUTES OF PARISH MEETINGS

Minutes of the monthly meeting on January 9th were proposed by Cllr Wills and seconded by Cllr Cane as an accurate record. Approved.

7. LOCAL ISSUES AND REPORTS

7.1 Emergency Planning. Nothing to report. Meeting with YPC yet to be arranged.

7.2 Venn Farm development. Discussed under agenda item 8

7.3 Staddiscombe notice board. Location agreed by Tor Homes. Cllr Oates proposed and Cllr Wills seconded that Cllr Jessop and the Clerk be authorised to spend up to £500 on the purchase of a suitable board. Approved.

7.4 Victorian light plaque. Cllrs Hitchins advised that the plaque had been approved by the PCC and Feoffee Trust. It was proposed by Cllr Martin and seconded by Cllr Gray that Cllrs Hitchins and Wills should proceed with the purchase of the plaque up to £200. Approved.

7.5 Traffic group report. Nothing to report. Volunteers needed for group.

7.6 Play trail. Cllr Hitchins advised that SHDC was no longer prepared to help with the planting of the bank on Steer Park Road. Tor Homes are reviewing the costs and maintenance of the seat and planting suggested.

7.7 Parish lengthsman. The Clerk restated that DCC are reviewing the options to improve this service. BPC might join with neighbouring parishes to employ a contract man to do the drains and ditches work in the winter and weeding and general tidying work in the summer months. The Clerk was asked to establish for what activity Sparkwell Parish received TAP funds. BPC need to create a list of urgent actions for the visits by the lengthmen under the current system

7.8 Electoral Review. SHDC is consulting about the proposal to reduce the number of councillors from 40 to 30 at the next election. Cllr Squire advised that parishes will not be 'split' between councillors. The preferred option is to achieve one member per ward by increasing the number of electors per member from 1800 to 2800 (approx). After debate, it was concluded that the proposal was acceptable as long as BPC maintains its full representation with at least one councillor.

7.9 Councillors and Clerk reports.

- Cllr Oates advised that the idea to relocate the public right of way at the end of Cheery Tree Drive had not met with any agreement from residents

Hitchins

Jessop/Clerk

Hitchins/Wills

Clerk

Hitchins

Clerk

Clerk

Clerk

Clerk

- and would not be pursued.
- Cllr Oates agreed to put up more ‘dog fouling’ notices.
 - Cllr Wills advised that he had received a quote for £135 to fabricate a seat for the bus shelter. Approved to proceed.
 - Cllr Wills said that British Legion was offering the bench by Tuscanys to the village. Thanks expressed and agreed in principle but site to be located.
 - Cllr Hitchins reminded councillors about the visit by Angela Rippon to Otter Nurseries on Feb 22nd at 12.45pm to “open” the Dementia program.
 - Cllr Hitchins congratulated Alan Powell on his award from DCC for “best community volunteer for ‘green’ activities”.
 - Feoffee Trust is seeking more volunteer drivers.
 - Cllr Gray advised that the Welcome Pack was about to be updated.
 - The Clerk reminded all that any road potholes should be reported to “My Devon” either online or by phone.
 - Neighbourhood Planning. Meeting cancelled on Feb 25th. This now to be covered at Cluster Meeting.
 - Grass Cutting. The Clerk to write to DCC for funds to cut the highway grass within the 30mph limits in 2013. Cllr Cane asked that local contractors be given quoting opportunity for this work.
 - Councillor Training. Course for Cllrs Jessop and Calvert is on July 9th at South Brent. This is a full day course.

Councillor Cane left the meeting and did not return.

PLANNING MATTERS

8.1 Venn Farm development. Cllrs Hitchins and Wills and the Clerk had attended a meeting at SHDC on Jan 15th at which the contractor had been requested to re-align the ‘employment land’. This new drawing had been emailed to the chairman.

After an extended discussion a) it was agreed that the re-orientation of the employment land was acceptable and b) the position of the access road into the future development (phases 2 & 3) was not acceptable. The Developer promised verbally on Nov 27th 2012 that the green lane walls would be retained. The access as shown goes through the walls and not through the gateway to the north as agreed. This to be passed on urgently to SHDC Planning Dept.

9.FINANCIAL MATTERS

9.1 The tabled expenditure of £885.78 was approved after proposal by Cllr Wills and seconded by Cllr Cane. Approved.

10. CORRESPONDENCE

None

11. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next General Meeting will take place on Wednesday, March 6th 2013 at 7.30 in the Community Room.

The meeting was declared closed at 9.56pm

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

No issues raised by those members of the public in attendance.

