

Draft Minutes of the Brixton Parish Council Meeting 17th December 2014

Brixton Community Room, 7.00pm

In attendance: Cllr Liz Hitchins (Chair), Cllr Michael Wills (Vice Chair), Cllr Basil Cane, Cllr Debbie Jessop, Cllr Gay Murch, Cllr Martyn Oates, Cllr Ian Martin

Members of Parish in attendance: 11

Open Forum (these notes do not form part of the official minutes)

Parishioners had been informed that during open forum the matter of spending money from the Sherford Reserve Fund on Steer Point Quarry issues would be discussed to confirm that all were in agreement. Mr Curtis pointed out that this should be itemised in the agenda. It was agreed that this would be discussed under Councillors reports and Steer Point Quarry would subsequently be a standing agenda item. The discussion of the money was for transparency. Mr Dale noted that trust was placed in the SPQPWG to make correct and informed decisions and to use money wisely. Mrs Deeley read from a prepared statement; she felt that it was the role of a councillor to support the Parish and represent parishioner's views. Querying why social connections should prevent people from voting on an issue as council members should be impartial and all votes should be for the public benefit.

Cllr Oates noted that councillors are required to follow a code of conduct which sometimes means they have to declare a personal interest. Parish Councillors always have to ask themselves if they are impartial on each matter. If you abstain this can be seen as trying to protect the interests of the Parish if it is felt you are not completely impartial. The Clerk noted that it is important for no one to be disenfranchised and the subject of personal interest is a complex matter. Advice is sought when queries arise and declarations are made in accordance with the advice of the Monitoring Officer.

Mrs Nikolaisen expressed thanks to the Parish Council for their efforts in ensuring that the drainage works had been completed. Cllr Hitchins noted that this had been a much larger job than anticipated and confirmed that the cheese blocks were now also in place to prevent parking on the zigzag markings by the pedestrian crossing.

Mr Curtis queries whether Cllr Hosking had been invited to the meeting. This was confirmed.

Open Forum Closed

1. Welcome & Apologies:

Cllr Hitchins welcomed all to the meeting and noted that the Clerk was recording the meeting for the purpose of the minutes. All agreed to the recording.

Apologies had been received from Devon County Councillor John Hart, Devon County Councillor Richard Hosking, PCSO Andy Potter, Cllr Gray.

2. Police Matters:

Brixton area

3rd early hours attempt burglary, attempt made to enter outbuilding of rural property CR/119911/14
12th indecent photograph offence [sent via face book] enquiries ongoing CR/122373/14

Staddiscombe area

9th shoplifting, enquiries ongoing CR/120986/14

Early hours of 26th burglary at the Co-Op Crossroads Garage enquiries ongoing CR/125279/14
PCSO 30540 Andy Potter

3. Report from County Councillor John Hart:

Apologies had been sent, the Clerk read the report:

Noted that the drain by the bus shelter had been done and the cheese blocks put in place.

The school had a wonderful Carol sing-a-long last Friday and were well featured on both radio and television. The outstanding report from OFSTED for Brixton St. Marys School is now making it very popular and a school that parents outside of the Brixton catchment area are considering sending their children to.

Please wish all attending the meeting a very Happy Christmas.

4. Reports from District Councillors:

District Cllr Cane

SHDC had now appointed the second of the two Executives in the new structure.

£7k grant had been awarded for the T18 Transformation Programme. SHDC receiving £434k and West Devon Borough Council receiving £266k. This is a good endorsement from Government.

The budget gap is currently £381k with the aim for nil by spring.

The hope is for no increase in Council Tax.

District Cllr Squire

Wait to hear how the Chancellor's autumn statement will affect Councils.

Public spending is expected to continue to fall. Pay restraint will continue. 12 billion will have been saved by 2015 with the public sector pay restraint.

Revenue Support Grant will cease by 2020 via a gradual reduction yearly. This could have a serious impact. Cllr Squire will confirm the implications of this for Brixton Parish Council.

The Affordable Housing Capital Investment Policy has been extended to 2020.

At the full SHDC meeting on 18th Dec a recommendation has been made for the 2015/15 municipal year for reorganisation: reduce the Executive from 7 to 6 members, Development Management to remain at 12 members and for the 3 Scrutiny Groups to be disbanded and replaced with one with 13 members.

5. Declarations of Interest:

Cllr Hitchins declared a financial interest in Item 10.1 as she is the Secretary for Dementia Friendly Parishes. There were no further declarations.

6. Confirmation of the minutes of the previous meetings

Cllr Wills proposed to agree the minutes of the meeting on 26th November 2014

Cllr Murch seconded

The proposal was agreed by all members who had been present. Cllr Cane, Cllr Calvert and Cllr Jessop abstained.

7. Matters Arising:

TAP Funding: Cllr Murch fed back regarding the discussions on Youth Funding. It was noted that no actual proposal had been received.

Cllr Cane proposed to support items 1-5 in the TAP Funding Proposals.

1. Wembury – Car Park Feasibility Study
2. Wembury – Highways Self Help Contract
3. Yealmpton – Highway weed spraying – Contract to spray A379 from Dunstone Cross to Plymouth boundary twice yearly.
4. Yealmpton – Road Sweeping – Contract to sweep A379 on a weekly/fortnightly basis during October and November 2015.
5. Modbury – Defibrillator for Pavilion Building

Cllr Jessop seconded.

Unanimous agreement. The Clerk will follow up. **(Clerk)**

Bus Shelter Seats: The Clerk had followed up on previous quotes and requested a further quote from 100% Stainless Steel. Clerk will look into option of funding and also consider for the future the example of the new bus stops in Yealmpton. **(Clerk)**

P3 Database of Landowners: Cllr Oates and Cllr Jessop are going to create a data base of landowners by March 2015. **(Cllr Jessop, Cllr Oates)**

Query regarding the ownership of footpaths in Sherford area by Redtree. This can go forwards for the next Sherford Liaison meeting agenda **(Clerk)**

Design Code for Sherford: The Clerk had requested multiple copies and had received one hard copy and some electronic links to documents. To request again from Redtree **(Clerk)**

Lengthsman Schedule Online: Nick Colton had confirmed that recently the lengthsman had not been working to a programme as they had been allocated to emergency works requiring full traffic management. The schedule should be available in the New Year.

Flashing Speed Sign: The Clerk had followed up with County Cllr Hart. This is being actioned and it has been confirmed that the lamp posts can take the signs.

Support Grants: The Clerk has followed up and ensured that all are paid.

Spriddlestone Roads: Cllr Calvert and Cllr Oates have both been to see the condition of the area. There is a significant issue. The Clerk has made Nick Colton aware of the matter. It was confirmed that there was no salt bin in the vicinity and this and the state of the roads could lead to difficulties in emergency situations. To be put on the agenda for Traffic Management Group meeting. **(Clerk)**

Fly-tipping on Private Land: The Clerk confirmed that SHDC will investigate reports of fly-tipping on private land and incidents can be reported on the website or by phoning customer services on 01803 861234. The responsibility of clearing the area lies with the landowner. Clerk to put detail on face book. **(Clerk)**

8. Local Issues and Councillor Reports

8.1 40mph Speed Limit between Brixton and Yealmpton: It was noted that Yealmpton PC had previously discussed this and decided not to pursue. Would Brixton PC Support?

Discussion regarding pros and cons.

Cllr Wills proposed that the investigation of a 40mph Speed limit should be supported.

Cllr Murch seconded.

In Favour: Cllr Jessop, Cllr Murch, Cllr Hitchins, Cllr Wills

Against: Cllr Calvert, Cllr Cane, Cllr Martin, Cllr Oates

In this instance the Chair has the casting vote. Clerk to contact Yealmpton PC to request that they discuss. **(Clerk)**

8.2 Yealm Harbour Authority Elections: Elections are taking place at the end of February 2015. Cllr Oates explained the process and eligibility. There will be more information in the Parish magazine nearer the time.

8.3 Our Plan: Strategic Planning Newsletters had been received by council members. Feedback has been requested. The Parish Council will respond. Individuals are asked to look at these and respond if they wish. Clerk to put links on face book. **(Clerk)**

8.4 Youth Services: Cllr Murch had attended the meeting in which ideas had been discussed to ensure there were youth services in the area following large cuts. It was noted that there had not been much representation from young people and that perhaps an alternative format for discussion and ideas may have been more helpful.

8.5 Code of Conduct: In reference to discussion at the previous meeting the Clerk confirmed that Brixton Parish Council and its members have acted in accordance with the Code of Conduct. Advice had been sought from DALC and the Monitoring Officer. Any Enforcement issue is the jurisdiction of SHDC to follow up and not Brixton Parish Council.

8.6 Road Warden: Information regarding the Community Self Help Scheme has been distributed to Council members. There is a member of the Parish who is interested in undertaking the Chapter 8 training and potentially becoming the Parish Road Warden. There is also a half day Health and Safety Course that individuals can take who would like to carry out voluntary work in the parish. Maps have been forwarded of all the drainage features in the village.

DCC would pay for the training of a road warden, public liability insurance and some limited materials. The Parish would recompense for hours worked.

All members of the parish council were in agreement that this should be pursued.

8.7 Emergency Plan: A meeting had been held at the beginning of December. Cllr Hitchins, Cllr Wills, Baukje Gregory, John Hollow, Tony Garrett and the Clerk had been in attendance. If anyone else is interested in joining please contact the Clerk. A questionnaire will be distributed in the New Year and a plan drafted.

8.8 Neighbourhood Plan: An advert has been placed in the Parish Magazine asking for anyone interested to get in touch. An email has been received from Ugborough Neighbourhood Plan Working Group offering support and advice.

Cllr Reports

Cllr Hitchins: Steer Point Quarry: current position remains the same as with the last meeting. Confirmation from Parish that monies should be spent. Decision notice and section 106 not as yet published by DCC. This item will be on the agenda in the future as a standing item.

Canes Orchard Section 106: decisions need to be made regarding this money. Potentially a survey could be carried out. Interest expressed from the Scouts. Vision and ideas needed. To be placed on the agenda for the next meeting. **(Clerk)**

Parish Poll regulations: the matter to be included on the agenda in January. **(Clerk)**

Cllr Cane: Would like to congratulate the School on everything it has achieved, great Ofsted result and community engagement. Clerk to write on behalf of Brixton PC. **(Clerk)**

Cllr Jessop: Noted the listed building covered in scaffolding at Spriddlestone. This is a listed building under private ownership. The only obligation of the owner is to prevent deterioration.

Last winter a lot of trees came down during bad weather in Horsham fields and recreation area.

Clerk to clarify ownership of areas. **(Clerk)**

Cllr Martin: Landslip on A379 from Elburton to Brixton. Traffic lights are in place.

No further reports.

9. Planning Matters

9.1 Planning Applications and Decisions:

Applications:

07/3054/14/VAR

Mr & Mrs J Serpell

Retail Shop and Store, Blackpool Farm, Yealmpton.

Variation of Condition 4 (uses) for planning approval 07/2385/14/F

Cllr Martin noted that no site visit was required as this had recently been approved following a site visit and was a wording amendment for one of the conditions.

Cllr Jessop proposed to support.

Cllr Calvert Seconded.

Cllr Cane abstained all other members voted to support.

07/3037/14/F

Mr & Mrs P Fuller

SX 545 523 Hilltop Cottages, Brixton

Outline application for erection of 2 x residential dwellings

Cllr Martin has pencilled in a site visit for 2pm Tues 23rd December.

10. Financial Matters:

10.1 Financial Statement for December 2014 (partial)

INCOME

Gentle Exercise Cash Participants	100.00
Gentle Exercise Payment Dementia Friendly Parishes	64.00
Total	£ 164.00

EXPENDITURE

Physiotherapy, Sarah Macpherson	84.00
Physiotherapy, Sine Rickard	126.00
Clerk's salary	450.00
Office rental	20.00
Clerk, Mileage	5.40
Clerk Stationery Expenses	51.98
CVS Donation	100.00
Samaritans Donation	100.00
CAB Donation	100.00
Brixton Scouts Donation	100.00
1 st Yealm Guides Donation	100.00
RBL Parish Wreath Donation	25.00
Church Tower Lighting Donation	50.00
Dementia Friendly Parishes Donation	100.00

Total: £1412.38

STATEMENT OF ACCOUNT 16th DECEMBER 2014

Current a/c General	10517.27
P3 funds	234.00
Composters funds	1,083.30
Gentle Exercise funds	221.00
SBW funds	32.30
Sherford Reserve fund	27,875.00
Deposit a/c General	8,095.95

Total £48058.82

Cllr Wills proposed to accept the financial statement for December.

Cllr Martin seconded.

Cllr Hitchins abstained.

All other members present voted in agreement.

11. Correspondence for Discussion

11.1 TAP Funding: Wembury Parish Clerk has forward a proposal for the current year drainage contract.

Cllr Jessop proposed to accept.

Cllr Cane seconded.

Unanimous support.

11.2 Road Traffic Notice for 9th – 12th February – Gentian Hill to Hareston Cross, Temporary prohibition of traffic. Clerk to put on face book. **(Clerk)**

12. Date of Next Meeting

The next parish meeting will be held on Wednesday 28th January 2015 at 7pm, Brixton Community Room.

OPEN FORUM (these notes do not form part of the official minutes)

Cllr Squire wished all a Happy Christmas and Prosperous New Year. Brixton PC wished the Parish a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

The meeting closed at 9.14 pm

Clare Parkinson, Clerk to Brixton Parish Council