

## Minutes of the Brixton Parish Council Meeting 24<sup>th</sup> June 2015

### Brixton Community Room, 7.00pm

**In attendance:** Cllr Michael Wills (Chair), Cllr Ian Calvert, Cllr Brenda Huxtable, Cllr Patrick Loxdale, Cllr Gay Murch, Cllr Ian Martin, Cllr Roger Wakeham, Cllr Helen Williams, District Councillor Basil Cane, District Cllr Daniel Brown, County Councillor John Hart

**Members of Parish in attendance:** 63

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

Pam Davis – noted that a comment from Cllr Oates in the minutes of the April Meeting had implied that there was tarmac and plastic in spoil from the Solar Farm Site and this had not in fact been the case.

Irena Nikolaison stated that the Post Office - based in the Village Stores – had their operating hours cut in 2013. She believes that Brixton Parish Council held a meeting about the shop and Post Office and excluded members of the public from it.

It was clarified that this was not the case. Brixton Parish Council had not held any meetings, the Post Office had held a viability consultation and Brixton Parish Council representatives had been invited to attend a meeting held by the Post Office. Brixton Parish Council had written on several occasions to the Post Office stating the importance of Post Office services and the village stores and requesting that opening hours remain as they were and not be reduced. They also encouraged Parishioners to use the local shop. The letters were read out to those present by Cllr Wills.

Cllr Martin emphasised that it is the position of the Parish Council to support local businesses.

Joan Northmoor noted that footfall was far greater when there were longer opening hours and this should be included in a letter to the Post Office.

The representative from Elburton Post Office - Tina Debenham clarified that the Post Office is not going to close and Outreach hrs will remain the same. There are 2 Outreach kits for 6 villages and she does her very best to serve the community within the hours allowed to her by the Post Office. Cllr Wills expressed thanks for her efforts.

Rosemary Deeley stated that previously £7,000.00 had been raised to have a Post Office so she felt that the village was entitled to have it.

District Cllr Cane stated that all individuals should write and voice their own opinion. The Parish Council can write however strength of opinion is expressed in numbers.

Cllr Calvert will put the information on facebook

Cllr Wakeham suggested a petition.

Shirley Henwood – stated that she had heard that the Parish Council had suggested that the Post Office should be run from the Pub.

Cllr Wills state that this was not correct. The Parish Council, when consulted by the Post Office had stated that the preferred venue would be the local shop.

The Post Office representative confirmed that the Post Office would have looked at the viability of alternative venues as part of a viability process. The pub and the church were both looked at.

Pat Cane queried where the Post Office would run from if the Village Shop closed?

The potential of a community run shop was raised.

Vernon Bellamy stated that he understood the shop was on the market.

It was noted that the lease for the shop is being advertised. The Post Office representative noted that the Outreach Services Manager – Colin Pound, would approach any new leaseholder about running Outreach services.

Cllr Loxdale noted that it would be useful to have an up to date list of all the services on offer at the Post Office prominently displayed and for everyone to make sure they use the Post Office when it is open rather than anywhere else. The Post Office representative stated that she would look into this. Shirley Henwood noted that volunteer drivers used to be used mainly for medical appointments but now it was increasingly for access to Post Office services. It was also noted that many people used supermarket deliveries rather than the local shop.

Peter Williams noted that the Post Office has been in several locations over the years, and old signs may be misleading people into thinking that the Post Office is closed.

Rosemary Deeley raised the issue of the bus seats. It was confirmed that this is ongoing. She also noted that the village is looking untidy and the sandbags around the cheese blocks are unsightly. It was noted that it had been requested that these be removed.

Cllr Calvert noted that with increasingly tight budgets the community will need to come together and do some smaller jobs themselves. It is understood that there are elderly people in the community but there are others who can help out and keep the Parish well maintained for all.

#### **Open Forum Closed**

#### **1. Welcome & Apologies:**

Cllr Wills welcomed everyone to the meeting

Apologies had been received from Cllr Hitchins.

It was noted that a motion would be discussed in full meeting following the issue of the Post Office raised in Open Forum.

#### **2. Police Matters:**

From 24<sup>th</sup> April to 22<sup>nd</sup> June

Brixton : Between 20<sup>th</sup> – 24<sup>th</sup> April theft of political party signs from Chittleburn Hill CR/028507/15

Between 21<sup>st</sup> April -2<sup>nd</sup> May attempt theft from car CR/029987/15

Overnight 4<sup>th</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup> May theft of political party signs from Chittleburn Hill CR/030711/15

7<sup>th</sup> May report of a dog not under proper control, advice given CR/031236/15

Overnight 14<sup>th</sup> -15<sup>th</sup> May criminal damage to car, paintwork of car scratched while parked on A379 CR/033322/15

15<sup>th</sup> criminal damage caused to roof of building, enquiries ongoing CR/034069/15

Between 22<sup>nd</sup> May -2<sup>nd</sup> June criminal damage caused to play park Cr/034069/15

6<sup>th</sup> June report of a dog not under proper control, advice given, CR/039787/15

19<sup>th</sup> nuisance phone calls, enquiries ongoing CR/042762/15

Staddicombe: 7<sup>th</sup> May, Common assault, no further action taken, CR/031418/15

15<sup>th</sup> June, theft from a car CR/041980/15

It was noted that there have been incidences of fly tipping and when reported to 101 the wait to get through was very, very long. Fly tipping should be reported to South Hams District Council who will investigate.

PCSO 30540 Andy Potter, Ivybridge Police Station, Tel no 101

### **3. Report from County Councillor John Hart:**

Road works on the A379 between Brixton and Yealmpton – there is a high pressure gas main underneath which has caused some delay.

There have been several reported thefts from farms in the area. Signs have now been put up stating that items are postcode marked.

He will contribute financially from discretionary budget towards the bus seats.

Noted that in the proposed Electoral Boundary changes Brixton and Wembury remain the same. Sherford New Town has been taken into account and population increase can be accommodated for the next ten years minimum.. The amount of Electoral areas down from 62 to 60.

Questions: Rosemary Deeley – residents are not allowed to go to Chelson Meadow but Ivybridge offers poor service and long waits especially when lorries are unloading. She was told to carry her rubbish up several steps, not possible for older residents.

Cllr Hart – There is a new recycling site due to be built. Plans to be sent.

Cllr Martin – on the A379 where the road works are, wooden barriers are not robust enough to prevent cars from travelling through in the event of an accident. This would lead straight onto Silverbridge Way Footpath.

Cllr Hart will take this up with Devon County Council (DCC).

Bunty Salisbury noted that speed is still a problem – this will go to traffic management.

### **4. Reports from District Councillors:**

#### **District Councillor Cane:**

Roger Croad – Ivybridge Recycling Centre – could be invited to Parish Meeting to address concerns. In South Hams District Council (SHDC) many staff have left especially in planning. Plymouth Planning Officers are helping out.

Executive agreed to give £400,000.00 to Dartmouth for an indoor swimming pool. The land is owned by SHDC – it is hoped that the Town Council will take over it.

**District Councillor Brown:** Pleased to see so many of the community in attendance introduced himself. He has been attending lots of training and presentations following his election.

Localities Ground Team – this is a team who will be visible to local communities, Tim Pollard is the Locality Officer for our area and will be meeting with the District Councillors to discuss how best to work with Wembury and Brixton. It is the role of the Locality Officer to assess needs and signpost.

District Cllr Brown will give a progress report in the July meeting.

Cllr Loxdale asked if SHDC pursue fly tippers – Yes, they look for any identifying evidence. Will clarify if the report from Cllr Wakeham has been followed up.

Cllr Martin – how is any prosecution publicised as a deterrent? – Publicise in magazine and on facebook.

Cllr Murch – possibility of signs in fly tipping prone areas with the number to call if you see fly tippers? - Will look into this.

### **5. Declarations of Interest:**

Cllr Huxtable declared a personal interest in Item 8.3

Cllr Martin declared a personal interest in item 8.3

## **6. Confirmation of the minutes of the previous meetings**

Cllr Wakeham proposed to accept the minutes of the meeting on 29<sup>th</sup> April 2015 as an accurate record of the meeting.

Cllr Loxdale seconded.

Cllr Murch, Cllr Calvert and Cllr Martin abstained as they had not been present.

All other in attendance were unanimous.

The chair signed the minutes.

## **7. Matters Arising:**

**Planning Concerns:** The Clerk had contacted neighbouring Parish Clerks to ascertain if their Councillors would like to meet with SHDC Development Management Representatives to discuss concerns raised over planning processes and decisions. Wembury had confirmed that they would. Yealmpton did not wish to attend discussions but would like to be kept informed and Newton and Noss were to be asked tomorrow evening, Clerk to confirm.

## **8. Local Issues and Councillor Reports**

**8.1 Electoral Boundaries:** This item has been covered under County Councillor Hart's report.

**8.2 Solar Farm Development:** Solar panels are all now in place. The entrance to the lay down area is closed. The hedge is being reinstated as per planning conditions. There was an old gateway there that is to be reinstated.

**8.3 Canes Orchard Phase 2:** It was noted that whilst Cllr Martin and Cllr Huxtable cannot take part in a vote on this item they are able to contribute to discussions and set up meetings. The meeting arranged for Friday 19<sup>th</sup> June was postponed at the request of the Developers to give more time for preparation of a presentation. Date to be confirmed.

**8.4 Recreation Plan:** There was a meeting on 8<sup>th</sup> June at the Plymouth Albion Oaks Rugby Club to discuss how to develop a Parish Sport and Recreation Plan. Looking into extending public footpaths in the area to link up with existing and planned facilities at Horsham Playing Fields, also looking at facilities for Parish as a whole. Welcome ideas from parishioners – there will be a consultation at the village fete.

**8.5 Sherford Development:** There was a meeting of the Sherford Liaison Group on 21<sup>st</sup> May. The issue of communication was discussed and a meeting at Follaton House was arranged for 22<sup>nd</sup> July. BPC has requested an open line of communication with the Site Manager when appointed. A Community Trust is to be set up, BPC are to be represented on this. No traffic should come through Brixton it should all come off the Deep Lane junction of A38. There are no plans to improve Red Lion Hill to enable better access as it should not be used. It was highlighted that there could potentially be a risk of vehicles for the Quarry Site coming off at this junction at the same time and using the Sherford Route – this should be raised with DCC.

**8.6 Appointment of new Clerk:** Cllr Wills stated that the Clerk had handed in notice to 22<sup>nd</sup> August. A handover period is required and Cllr Wills asked for a motion to be proposed to provide dual payment for the handover period.

Cllr Williams proposed that this motion be brought to vote.

Cllr Calvert seconded.

Unanimous agreement.

The Clerk noted that the closing date had passed for applications and short listing was taking place. Interviews to be held on Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> July.

**8.7 Emergency Plan:** Thanks were extended to all those who had helped distribute leaflets. A meeting to collate this information and write the plan was taking place in July.

**8.8 Neighbourhood Plan:** Cllr Wills read a statement from David Croot – Chair of the Brixton Parish Neighbourhood Plan Group – BPNP:

The BPNP group membership and terms of reference were formally approved by Parish Council at its meeting in April.

The group has been meeting fortnightly to progress the development of the BPNP.

The Parish Council approved the designation of the BPNP area at its meeting in April.

The designated area was submitted to SHDC on May 10<sup>th</sup>. SHDC initiated a formal 6-week consultation process on the proposed designated area. That consultation closed on June 19<sup>th</sup>.

Provided no objections arise from the consultation, the designated area will be approved by SHDC.

In the meantime, the BPNP group have met with representatives of Ugborough Parish

Neighbourhood Plan group to learn lessons from their progress and with Dave Chapman an

independent consultant who specialises in community planning and is co-author of a guide to

Neighbourhood Planning. Our chair has also had two meetings with strategic planning officers in

SHDC to ensure that our Neighbourhood Plan is working with the emerging SHDC strategic plan.

The group will build on the Parish Plan (2012) and the associated questionnaire/survey(2009) to

develop preliminary ideas about planning priorities as voiced by residents.

The main thrust of the BPNP group's activity at the moment is ensuring that the parish community

are aware of the plan and more importantly understand that their positive engagement with the

process is vital to its success. To that end the group will have a stand at the church fete on 27<sup>th</sup> June,

where residents of the parish will have an opportunity to learn more about the process and have

some initial inputs. (If attendance at the fete is less than we hope, then the group will take the

display and scoping questionnaire out around various sites throughout the parish on a Saturday

morning in the summer to try to engage as many more parishioners as possible).

The group aim to engage the community in more formal consultation in the autumn, by which time

we hope to have learnt more about parishioners' priorities, based on the Parish Plan and ideas put

forward at the village fete and other events.

We would like to hear from any parishioners who are interested in joining the BPNP working group.

If you or anyone you know is interested please get in touch with the group chair, Dave Croot (e-mail

[drdavidcroot@gmail.com](mailto:drdavidcroot@gmail.com) or phone 01752 880934).

### **8.9 Cllr Reports:**

Cllr Wakeham: concerned regarding a tree stump in the hedge of Winstone Lane just by the bridge.

Has photographed – could slip onto road. Will send photo to Clerk to forward to Highways and flag

as concern and write to landowner, Mr Bastard.

Cllr Huxtable: Footpaths – has been updated and several volunteers and helpers have come

forwards. Jack Gilbery will still be assisting.

Has been notified that in the last 10 weeks there have been three head on collisions in the lanes

around Hareston and Garlofen. Residents have put together a petition. This is an area where there

are stables and horses frequent the lanes. Possibility of horse warning signs? This is to be taken to

the next Traffic Management Meeting.

Cllr Martin proposed that the Parish Council write to the Post Office to express the views of the Parish in regard to the Post Office – that hours of opening should not be reduced and it should remain in its current location within the village shop. Cllr Murch seconded this. Unanimous agreement.

Cllr Calvert queried whether or not Plymouth City Council had reneged on their agreement to complete the cycle track between Chittleburn area and Elburton? Clerk will clarify PCC's position on this.

Cllr Loxdale confirmed he now had all the required information on the Hele Trust.

Cllr Murch: The Composters Group had held their AGM on the 1<sup>st</sup> June with Anthony Junman as their guest speaker who delivered a very interesting presentation.

It was noted that applications for funds are always welcomed and will be reviewed by the group.

Monthly updates will be provided by the group to BPC.

**No further reports.**

## 9. Planning Matters

Applications:

07/1219/15/F, 07/1220/15/F Three Corners, Lodge Lane, Brixton – Site visit planned.

07/1225/15/F, 3 Chittleburn Hill, Brixton – Site visit planned

07/1272/15/RM, 07/0677/15/RM, 07/0678/15/RM, 07/0679/15/RM, Sherford New Community – planning meeting took place on Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> June. Cllr Martin is to forward the Clerk the report to send to Development Management once it has been agreed by all.

07/1196/15/F & 07/1197/15/O Development site at SX 550 522 adjacent to Venn Farm – the planning meeting for this was postponed at the request of the developers – to be rearranged to allow more time for a presentation to be prepared.

## 10. Financial Matters:

Receipts:	Amount	Fund
Cash Deposit Gentle Exercise	£130.00	Gentle Ex
Cheque Donation Gentle Exercise	£120.00	Gentle Ex
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>£250.00</b>	

Payments:	Amount	Fund
Community Room Hire Councillor Training	£13.50	General
Plants for the Green (Tony Davis)	£22.00	General
Voucher - Prize for Progress St Mary's School	£25.00	General
Admin Fee - Insurance	£42.71	General
Stephen Cane - Composters AGM Room and Catering	£130.00	Composters
Clerk Pay	£529.50	General
Clerk Expenses (Postage & Mileage)	£18.37	General
Clerk Office	£20.00	General
Local World - Job Advert	£405.00	General

South Hams Newspapers - Job Advert	£268.80	General
P Burrige Silverbridge Way Maintenance	£120.00	General
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>£1,594.88</b>	

<b>Statement balance 19th May 2015:</b>	
<b>Current Account:</b>	£23,589.92
<b>Deposit Account:</b>	£24,178.70
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>£47,768.62</b>

<b>Current Balance: 22nd June 2015</b>	
<b>Gentle Exercise</b>	£89.00
<b>P3</b>	£332.50
<b>Composters</b>	£1,940.51
<b>Sherford Reserve</b>	£14,858.69
<b>Silverbridge Way</b>	£552.00

**10.1** Cllr Martin proposed to accept the financial statement for June.

Cllr Williams seconded.

Unanimous agreement by show of hands.

**10.2** Cllr Wills proposed the motion to transfer the balance of the Gentle Exercise fund to Dementia Friendly Parishes Around The Yealm who will now manage the finances for the group.

Cllr Calvert seconded.

Unanimous agreement by show of hands.

### **11. Correspondence for Discussion**

It was noted that damage to the fence on Silverbridge Way had been reported. Cllr Huxtable proposed that Brixton Parish Council accept to share the cost of repairing the damage with the addition of some stock wire to prevent livestock escaping.

Cllr Calvert seconded. Unanimous agreement.

The contractor who cuts verges on the highways had offered to also do the area outside Ladybirds nursery for an additional four pounds per cut.

Cllr Williams proposed to accept this offer and permit additional payment.

Cllr Loxdale seconded. There was unanimous agreement.

The Chairman of SHDC will attend a Parish meeting in the coming year if BPC would like. It was agreed that this would be appreciated and Councillors will give thought to any specific issues that could be raised.

### **12. Date of Next Meeting**

The Annual Brixton Parish Council meeting will take place on Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> July 2015.

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

Rosemary Deeley noted that the guidance for public participation at Parish Council meetings on the village website was out of date.

Rosemary Deeley asked if cheese blocks could be removed and bollards put in or pavement raised. It was noted that the cheese blocks are a temporary measure to assess whether or not blocking the area is successful and a permanent measure would then be put in place, suggestions will be taken to Traffic Management.

Bunty Salisbury queried whether or not there had been an extension to the consultation date regarding the development at Canes Orchard as the meeting had been postponed. Cllr Martin confirmed it was his intention to still meet the deadline.

Meeting closed at 9.08pm

**Clare Parkinson, Clerk to Brixton Parish Council**