

Draft Minutes of the Brixton Parish Council Meeting 29th October 2014

Brixton Community Room, 7.00pm

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

Members of Parish in attendance: 13

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

Peter Thompson – Queried the payments for Physiotherapists on the monthly financial statements. The Clerk explained that this was payment to registered physiotherapists who took the Gentle Exercise Classes at Venn Court. Cash payments were made for these classes and show as income, expenditure is shown for the payment of the physiotherapist's monthly invoices. This does not come from Parish Council general funds.

Phil Fuller – In reference to TAP Funding, grants and Project funds, previously in his capacity as a Community Policeman he had been involved in a project that set up a Youth Club. This was firstly situated in Tuscany's, then at the shop. DCC had provided some funding but cutbacks meant that this did not last. DCC surveyors and Steve Cox at the school had been in talks regarding the long term provision of this facility and had agreed to look at the possibility of using the area of ground close to the school gates. Could someone take this on as a possibility for taking forwards and investing in the youth of the village?

Cllr Hitchins – thanked Mr Fuller and noted that the Council is looking for ideas for projects to spend the Section 106 money from Phase 1 of the Canes Orchard Development. This idea will be taken to the group to be established for deciding how this money is to be spent and a Parish Survey will take place.

Phil Fuller – extended thanks to Clerk and noted that minutes were provided in a good format.

Derek Curtis – Steer Point Quarry – this is an issue that is not yet resolved. County Cllr Hosking should be invited to Parish Council Meetings whilst this is an ongoing issue as any questions cannot be answered by County Cllr Hart.

It was agreed that County Cllr Hosking will be invited to the next meeting. **Clerk to action.**

Open Forum Closed

1. Welcome & Apologies:

Cllr Hitchins welcomed all to the meeting.

Apologies had been received from Devon County Councillor John Hart, PCSO Andy Potter.

2. Police Matters:

Brixton Area: Theft, overnight 7th and 8th outboard motor stolen from boat stored in garden
[CR/105162/14]

Staddiscombe: Theft from motor vehicle, between 12th and 15th four wheels and radio stolen from car [CR/107028/14]

Common assault, on 21st minor assault dealt with by way of restorative justice, offender apologised to victim [CR/108539/14]

PCSO 30540 Andy Potter
Ivybridge Police Station
Tel no 101

3. Report from County Councillor John Hart:

It was noted that Cllr Hart was absent due to recovery from a scheduled operation. No report was forwarded.

4. Reports from District Councillors:

District Cllr Cane

SHDC and West Devon Borough Council working together has been a success. Torridge Council had been approached to join however had declined. It is Cllr Cane's personal viewpoint that in order to save money a Unitary Devon would be the best solution.

Transformation: this is progressing. 2 applicants had been successful in the process for recruiting the two Executive positions however one had ultimately declined the position. The advertising process has restarted. The junior positions are to be advertised.

It was noted that the Planning Office have a difficult job at the moment with high volume of work and some uncertainty over their jobs.

Waste: Cardboard can now be put into blue sacks. It was noted that there had been a bad batch of sacks and that new ones should be stronger.

The issue regarding the staff at the Ivybridge Waste depot had been addressed. Cllr Hitchins has had an email in response to complaints from County Cllr Croad, this is being taken seriously.

Peter Dale the Community Safety Officer, SHDC, has issued advice regarding telephone scams. Never give pin or bank details over the phone. Never withdraw cash and send by courier or taxi. Be careful when disposing of rubbish with personal details on it. SCAM leaflets have been put on the website and notice board.

District Cllr Squire

Housing Register: In the South Hams there are currently 2107 on the Housing Register. Of these, 171 fall into the Emergency Band. A guide is being published – Local Homes for Local People. This lays out in simple terms the Council's provision policy. It will be available to download.

Cllr Jessop asked if Cllr Squire could find out how many homes in the area were standing empty.

Cllr Squire agreed to look into this.

ACTION: Cllr Squire

5. Declarations of Interest:

Cllr Cane declared an interest in Matters Arising – Cane's Orchard Phase 2, Item 8.2 – Steer Point Quarry, Item 8.4 – Canes Orchard Phase 2, Item 9. Planning – Solar Farm. Cllr Cane will leave the room for discussions regarding Canes Orchard Item 8.4.

Cllr Oates declared an interest in Item 8.2 – Steer Point Quarry, Item 9, Planning – Solar Farm as he is a tenant of the applicant.

6. Confirmation of the minutes of the previous meetings

Cllr Calvert proposed to agree the minutes of the meeting on 24th September 2014

Cllr Wills seconded

Cllr Jessop abstained

The proposal was agreed by all other members present

An amendment was noted for the minutes of the 6th August 2014. Derek Curtis had been quoted in Open Forum when he had not in fact been in attendance. This should have read Derek Austin. Apologies were noted from the Clerk.

7. Matters Arising:

Path near Popplestone Gardens: Cllr Cane has spoken to the owner regarding this. Walked this evening and it is quite clear now. He has asked the owner if the hedge could possibly be straightened up.

Electricity Substation overgrown: The Clerk has reported this.

Canes Orchard Phase 1 Road works : meeting with Site Manager and those businesses affected: Cllr Hitchins has spoken to Ladybirds Nursery and Fish & Chip shop owners and the Site Manager to request a meeting before any further digging in the road takes place. This is a serious situation for these businesses which have been adversely affected. Cllr Squire made enquiries at a District Council level. The District Council is not in contact with the Site Manager, it is the County Council Highways dept that are dealing with this. Cllr Squire has confirmed this to local businesses.

Cllr Hitchins reported that the next road works are allegedly scheduled for the beginning of December.

Cllr Oates proposed that the Parish Council writes to DCC to voice concern regarding this. There have already been 12 weeks of road works and there are more to come. There seems to be a lack of urgency from the contractors. The end date for the works had not been observed and the road had remained closed for several days after the completion of the resurfacing.

Cllr Cane had also noted this and been told that the lack of road markings on the roundabout had been the reason for this.

Cllr Oates suggested that DCC should do the works on a week by week basis not over a six week period. The village cannot put up with the disruption indefinitely.

The Clerk is to draft a letter to DCC inviting a representative from Highways to meet with the local business owners and the site manager. Cllr Cane is also to attend. Cllr Hitchins to set up.

ACTION: Cllr Hitchins, Clerk

Quotes for Bus Shelter Seats: These have been requested. **Clerk to follow up.**

Road Signs: A dead end sign for Tapps Lane has been requested by the Clerk. Highways will provide a quote once they have assessed the area and decided on a suitable site for the sign. The damaged sign on Winston Lane has been reported, Highways will repair. The Clerk has been informed that staff shortages and a high volume of work are causing delays in the Highways Dept.

Cllr Oates reported that the drain by the bus stop in the village is scheduled to be cleared on 17th November.

Emergency Plan: Three names have been received showing an interest. This is enough to set up a group with all relevant parties and establish a plan in line with the template provided. This should not take more than 2-3 meetings. Cllr Hitchins to set up. This will be brought to the January meeting.

ACTION: Cllr Hitchins

Repairs to Mill Lane Bench: Derek Fuzeland has looked at the bench and will carry out required maintenance.

8. Local Issues and Councillor Reports

8.1 Emergency Plan: Cllr Hitchins will set up meetings and plan will be drawn up.

8.2 Steer Point Quarry: This is currently with the Planning & Environmental Consultant and advice is being sought on the legal situation. Cllr Gray queried the timeframe of this. Cllr Hitchins confirmed that once the decision notice had been posted the 12 week period began but this had not yet happened. A formal complaint had been made to DCC regarding how the process has been handled. Cllr Hitchins stated that this matter was being taken forward and although the Parish Council were committed to openness and transparency at this stage the details of the issue cannot be discussed. The Parish will be informed as soon as it is possible of any updates.

Cllr Calvert proposed that Brixton Parish Council should authorise spending the amount of approximately £2,000.00 on seeking further legal and professional advice.

Cllr Jessop seconded the proposal.

Cllr Cane and Cllr Oates abstained.

All other members present voted in agreement.

8.3 Sherford Development: Notes had been made by the Clerk at a meeting on 16th October of the Sherford Liaison Group. These are not official minutes. It was agreed that these would be posted to the Parish website.

The main artery route will come from the A38 and will be monitored.

There is no inert waste to come from Sherford.

Land is currently being farmed by the local farmers and this is being well managed.

The Primary School and Swimming Pool are due to be constructed in 2017.

Trees are being planted in advance of construction work.

There is an open house session planned by Red Tree to take place in Brixton Community Room in December – date to be confirmed.

The next meeting of this group will discuss the Community Trust, how this is set up and run and how the money available to the Parish in regards to this will be spent.

8.4 Canes Orchard Phase 2: Cllr Cane leaves the room.

Clarification has been sought from SHDC and Dave Kenyon has responded. The Clerk wrote to Dave Kenyon, SHDC on 25th September to request that Brixton Parish Council be made aware of and invited to any meetings regarding phase 2 development.

Cllr Hitchins requested that BPC members have an hour long meeting prior to public consultation.

ACTION: Clerk

Cllr Gray noted that it seemed disingenuous that a request for engagement with BPC had been sent but seemingly ignored as a meeting had taken place on 22nd October to which BPC had not been invited.

Cllr Oates noted that Cllr Hitchins and Cllr Martin had declared an interest in Phase 1 and had not done so for Phase 2.

It was noted that Cllr Hitchins and Cllr Martin had declared an interest when the Planning Application of Phase 1 was on the agenda and had abstained from voting due to social connections with the landowner. They will do the same when the application is on the agenda for Phase 2.

The Clerk will clarify the exact position of any declarations of interest regarding this. **ACTION: Clerk**

The consultation meeting is to be scheduled for a date in November to be confirmed.

The Clerk is to ask Dave Kenyon why BPC were not invited to the October 22nd meeting and request that a District Councillor be in attendance at any future meetings. (Cllr Squire) **ACTION: Clerk**

Cllr Oates noted that as a Parish Council we have not declared our position regarding these plans. Cllr Gray stated that these plans will be likely to have changed substantially from any previous and we need to see what they are before responding.

Cllr Wills reiterated that BPC need to see the plans and then respond.

Cllr Hitchins noted that the Phase 1 section 106 monies will be on the next agenda.

8.5 Newsletter this will be on the agenda in November.

8.6 Youth Engagement Funding – TAP funding: Funding applications are for one year only.

Proposals are:

Youth Worker: Cllr Gray pointed out that the post only being funded for a year would limit how meaningful this could be. Cllr Martin noted that this funding would enable a programme to be kick-started. Cllr Oates stated that this would need to be linked with what Phil Fuller had discussed in Open Forum. It was decided that in principle this could be supported but BPC would need more information on how this would be linked and the extent of the benefit to the Parish.

Feasibility Study into extending the Car Park at Wembury Beach: Wembury PC is asking for Brixton PC to support. District Cllr Squire stated that the current car park facilities are often overwhelmed and this would be very beneficial to the area. Clerk is to contact Wembury PC Clerk to confirm the cost. **ACTION: Clerk**

Keeping the public toilets open throughout the winter in Noss Mayo: Newton and Noss PC are asking for Brixton PC to support. It was noted that BPC understood the concerns of the Newton and Noss Parish and a public convenience is a necessity however it could not justify supporting the proposal as benefitting this parish and there was the issue of where funding would come from in the future. It was discussed that the possibility of sponsorship from a local business in the area may be a better long term solution.

Road Warden: to be discussed at next meeting once information has been looked at.

Defibrillators: Modbury PC are asking for Brixton to support them in their bid for a defibrillator.

Brixton Parish Council Clerk is looking into which Parishes have access defibrillator and establishing a centralised point of information and accessibility guide. Cllr Oates thought that funding was available for this and would look into it. **ACTION: Cllr Oates**

Lengthsman: It was noted that several parishes were interested in revisiting the previous bid for a lengthsman. As projects have to be new this would have to differ from the previous proposal and the Clerk is to link up with Wembury Parish Clerk to discuss the possibility of summer work and highways maintenance. **ACTION: Clerk**

8.7 Budget saving proposals for Waste Management: 1) Discretionary payment for textiles is to be discontinued. 2) Further charges for disposal of no-household waste are to be introduced at Devon's Recycling Centres. The legal definition of household waste does not include renovation waste and there is no obligation for sites to accept this. The aim is to save £265,000.00 in 2015/16

The issue of fly tipping was raised as a concern. Cllr Oates stated that there was a difficult balance regarding not paying for others waste and not encouraging fly tipping. A solution may be that when a planning application was submitted a waste management proposal should also be submitted and evidence would need to be provided to show that this had happened. Such a process would be hard to enforce as two separate authorities would be involved.

Cllr Martin noted that these charges had been in existence in Cornwall for some time.

Cllr Gray pointed out that additional costs incurred by increased fly tipping would probably have been anticipated when looking into the annual savings.

Cllr Oates asked how much Brixton and Wembury paid for the Ivybridge recycling facility and was informed that it was £70,000, but this was not available from DCC for parishes to use alternative facility at Chelson Meadow.

It was noted that in the past a ticket system had existed and for a small charge renovation waste would be accepted.

Cllr Murch suggested that an updated system would be beneficial with payment via smart phones as a possibility.

The legal issues surrounding the disposal of asbestos and Japanese Knotweed were emphasised as important to familiarise yourself with.

It was noted that this issue should be raised with County Cllr Hart at his Road show.

Clerk is to respond for the deadline of 19th November on behalf of the Parish Council. Individuals may also respond on their own behalf.

ACTION: Clerk

8.8 P3 Workshop: Cllr Hitchins attended the workshop on the 14th October. Feedback: Cuts in budgets had meant that there was a suggestion by DCC of a Community Road Warden Scheme, similar to the Snow Warden Scheme. An individual would be a volunteer Community Road Warden; DCC would provide training to Chapter 8 Level, materials and Public Liability Insurance. Work could involve sign cleaning, sign repairs, hedge trimming, small pot hole repairs etc. This is in line with the move towards Parish Resilience and self help. Discussion followed regarding this proposal and that fact that it would be hard to find someone who would commit to such a role on a voluntary basis. Cllr Oates noted that DCC seemed to spend money on signs and bollards that had not been requested but action was very slow on issues that had been requested.

Cllr Hitchins reminded all that cuts are going to be made in the future and proposals such as this will have to be seriously considered. The efforts which are currently made by individuals were acknowledged. A lot of maintenance is carried out parishioners voluntarily in order to maintain the area.

The Clerk is to scan and disseminate the information from Cllr Hitchins.

ACTION: Clerk

If a Neighbourhood Plan is drawn up for the Parish the issue of access to the countryside and regulations and responsibilities regarding dogs needs to be considered. On Dartmoor there have been significant problems with dogs worrying livestock. TAP funding has been received in order to have a funded Warden post for 1 year.

It was noted that P3 funds for the Parish need to be spent. Peter Guy is looking into replacing some stiles with gates. The gates are to be provided, BPC would pay for installation. **Cllr Oates and Cllr**

Jessop are to look at possible stiles for replacement. This will be reported back at the next meeting. Cllr Oates emphasised that the landowner's permission was required for any such changes.

Cllr Reports

Cllr Jessop: Elize Hele Trust is selling Close Reach, the old grammar school building to raise funds to be able to help support children in the area making grants for education. Currently an offer is in for approximately £50-60,000.00 which is far less than originally anticipated.

Cllr Calvert: A metal detector had uncovered Bronze Age items in the locality and there is the possibility of an archaeological dig being funded.

Cllr Gray: Raised the issue of water pooling on the road between Brixton and the A38. Clerk to ask Highways to look into this. **ACTION: Clerk**

Cllr Cane: Noted that the date had been set regarding the drain at the bus stop being cleared – 17th November 2014. Irana Nikolaisen, resident at Brook Cottage noted that the problem of the drain at the bus stop made even more problems as the leat on the other side of the road is blocked and as this is private land this is not cleared. There has been fly tipping which makes the situation worse and the cottage is at real risk of flooding. This is a constant worry for Mrs Nikolaisen as the resident. The work that private residents do to try to maintain areas was noted and it was discussed that if this work on the bus stop area does not take place on the stated date this will be followed up with County Cllr John Hart.

Cllr Oates suggested that a list of works not yet actioned should be drawn up and published in the parish magazine.

Cllr Hitchins: Asked that the sum of £20.00 plus VAT be paid to Mr Davis for the wallflowers planted on the Green. Cllr Wills proposed this as a motion, Cllr Cane seconded. All members present agreed. **ACTION: Clerk**

Cllr Hitchins requested that it be noted how nicely the Green was kept by Mr Davis and Mr Gilbery. Peter Wearne will be donating a Christmas tree for the Parish. Thanks were noted.

The last meeting of the Project Group for Silverbridge Way had taken place. It was noted that the contract of maintenance cost £480.00 per annum and this sum is to be split equally between Brixton and Yealmpton Parishes.

Ros Mills will provide some signs from the Forestry Commission showing people how to use existing structures for resistance training.

Neighbourhood Plan is to be on the agenda for the next meeting. There is a grant available to fund local workshops for this and the Parish needs to discuss whether or not to go forwards with a Neighbourhood Plan.

9. Planning Matters

Applications:

07/2385/14/F

Extension to existing retail building

Retail shop and store, Blackpool Farm, Yealmpton PL8 2LF

Site visit took place on 20th October 2014. It was noted that BPC were in support of the application.

Decisions:

07/2057/14/F

Proposed studio at SX53335155, Spriddlestone, Plymouth

Reconstruction of linhay with new roof over existing stone walls to form studio

07/2058/14/LB (Listed Building application as above)

Approved with conditions.

07/0815/14/AG

Agricultural Determination: erection of agricultural barn.

Prior approval not required. Required to inform SHDC upon completion.

07/2047/14/F

Barnwell House, Steer Point Rd, Brixton

Conversion of existing dwelling into 2no. Residential units

Approved with Conditions

07/1814/14/F

Solar Farm, Land adjacent to Balls Wood.

Approved with conditions.

07/1947/14/MIN

23, The Crescent, Brixton

Non Material minor amendment to approval 07/0983/14/F

Approved with Conditions.

10. Financial Matters:

FINANCE OCTOBER 2014

INCOME

Gentle Exercise 150.00

Total £ 150.00

EXPENDITURE

Physiotherapy, Sarah Macpherson 126.00

Physiotherapy, Sine Rickard 84.00

Clerk's salary (net) 360.00

Office rental 20.00

Clerk, Mileage 10.80

SHDC Payroll Annual Fee 2014/15 120.00

C Hopkins, Planning & Environmental Consultant 750.00

P Burrige, Grounds Maintenance SBW Quarterly 120.00

Total: £1590.80

STATEMENT OF ACCOUNT October 2014

Current a/c General	13028.63
P3 funds	234.00
Composters funds	1,083.30
Gentle Exercise funds	435.00
SBW funds	32.30
Sherford Reserve fund	27,875.00
Deposit a/c General	8,095.95
Total	£50784.18

Cllr Jessop proposed to accept the financial statement for October

Cllr Gray seconded

All members present voted in agreement

11. Correspondence for Discussion

11.1 Highways Services Consultation: Updates are regularly put on the new Highways website. The Clerk is to scan and send the consultation document to all Cllrs and this is to be tabled on the next agenda in order to respond for the deadline. **ACTION: Clerk**

11.2 Mobile Library: The new timetable has been published and is available on the notice board, online and in Venn Court. This service will take place on Thursday every third week starting from 22nd January in Venn Court, 15:55 to 16:30.

11.3 Cardboard Waste Collection: Cardboard will now be collected in the blue bags. There is a notice to this effect on the board and the **Clerk will forward the details to Cllr Jessop for Carrollsland.**

11.4 Super Cluster Meeting: This is to take place on Wednesday 26th November at Follaton House. Cllr Murch is to attend and feedback. **ACTION: Cllr Murch**

11.5 Remembrance Service: Tom Veitch, reporter for Ivybridge and South Hams Gazette, would like the details of the Parish Remembrance Service for publication. **ACTION: Cllr Wills**

12. Date of Next Meeting

The next parish meeting will be held on Wednesday 26th November at 7pm, Brixton Community Room.

*****The December meeting is to be held on Wednesday 17th December 2014 at 7pm, Brixton Community Room*****

The meeting was declared closed at 9.34pm

Clare Parkinson, Clerk to Brixton Parish Council