

BRIXTON PARISH COUNCIL

MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL DECEMBER 2008

**Minutes of the MEETING of the Parish Council held at Brixton Community Hall on Wednesday
December 4th at 7.30 p.m.**

Present

Chairman Cllr. J. Davies

Councillors: D. Curtis, M. Trower, L. Lang, M. Foweraker, I. Martin, L. Hitchins

Councillor: J. Squire S.H.D.C.

Parish Clerk N. Powell

9 members of the public

1. Apologies

Apologies received from C.S.O. Sid Lawrence, Cllrs. J. Hart, B. Cane and J. Edwards

2. Declarations of Interests

None

3. Police Report

None

4. Report of Cllr. J. Hart D.C.C.

N/A

Proposed Traffic Regulation Order for Brixton

Details of the DCC draft order for the proposed 'Control of Waiting' traffic Regulation Order for Brixton was discussed. After a debate it was agreed that DCC Highway management should be advised that the council consider that the 'No waiting' parking restriction should end approximately 100 Metres from the Tapps Lane junction when heading north down Stamps Hill.

Clerk to advise DCC

It was also agreed that the full details/pictures of the proposed changes be displayed in the Village Shop and Post Office once DCC issue the Traffic Regulation Order. Clerk to arrange

5. To consider and approve the minutes of the Meeting 5th November 2008 (Parish Council)

They were unanimously accepted.

6. Matters Arising

Codes of Conduct for local authority members and employees

To be discussed at the next meeting.

Clerk to arrange

Cherry Tree Drive - Quality of Workmanship

The clerk has contacted DCC who have replied that the work has been inspected and is to their approved standard.

Elliotts Hill Hedge

The school have reported that the hedge is being cut by their grounds maintenance contractor. Now completed.

Village Shop Post Box

The clerk has written to Royal Mail who have stated that they have no plans to relocate the post box.

Lodge Lane Green Area

The clerk has contacted DCC who have stated that they do not wish to fit bollards etc. around the area. They will however write to 'offenders' who park vehicles on the area if we can supply names. This is ongoing.

Elliotts Hill Pothole

Reported to DCC and contracted out for repair

Large Scale Parish Map

The clerk has obtained a large scale map from SHDC. so that grassed areas can be identified and agreed with SHDC Parks Dept. It is hoped that next year the District Councils contractors will cut all council owned grassed areas.

Cllrs. Curtis, Trower and Clerk

7. Report of Cllr. B. Cane S.H.D.C.

N/A

Report of Cllr. Squire S.H.D.C.

Cllr. Squire reported that the District Council still had a budget shortfall of £900,000 and more savings would have to be made to reduce this figure. He then stated that £1.25 million of the District Councils money had been deposited in Icelandic banks. He affirmed that the correct guidance and procedures had been followed when investing these reserves and hoped that the money would eventually be recovered.

With regard to Sherford he stated that conflicting reports were in circulation. Our local MP Gary Streeter had written in the press saying that he was expecting a possible 2 year delay in the project. Talks between the developers Redtree and SHDC over the 106 Agreement are continuing. Full planning permission can not be given until the 106 agreement is agreed and approved by SHDC. It was considered that an extension to the December 15th deadline was most likely.

Cllr. Squire then reported on his difficulty in arranging a meeting with Mr Robinson to discuss the 106 agreement with the Parish Council. He promised to press the issue as he considered that the South Hams Officers actions were unacceptable.

He then reported that because of a shortfall in car parking revenue, charges may go up. This will be resolved in future budget meetings. He concluded by saying that second home owners can vote twice (at both locations) in local elections but only once in national elections.

8. Sherford Update

Cllr. Curtis reported that the meeting for tomorrow (Dec 4th.) had been cancelled. He then said that the newspaper articles released by Gary Streeter MP raised the concerns of the last meeting of the Community Group.

9. Brixton - Yealmpton Footpath/Cycle Track

Cllr. Hitchins reported on yesterdays (2nd Dec) meeting with Yealmpton Parish Council that she attended with Cllrs. Davies and Curtis. It was agreed at this meeting that Cllr. Robbins (Yealmpton P.C.) would arrange a meeting with Sustrans to discuss and hopefully clarify the options. Cllr. Curtis then stated that that the correspondence from Kitley had put a different slant on the footpath options. A discussion then followed that concluded with the Council stating that they have, independently, always supported both plans.

10. Correspondence

Digital TV

The latest information on the April 2009 changeover.

Stop the Drop

A 'toolkit' supplied by the Campaign to Protect Rural England designed to support a anti-litter campaign.

Tor Homes Estate Walks

Tor Homes plan to 'walk' Brixton on Wednesday 8th January at 10am.

Clerk to advise TOR Homes that Cllrs. Martin and Hitchins will attend

Local Government Review

A letter from the leader of SHDC explaining recent developments.

Do Your Bit for Local Traders

Information from the Economic Development Officer at South Hams on how we can support local traders in these difficult times. Cllr. Hitchins advised the meeting that this information had been condensed for inclusion in the parish magazine.

Economic Downturn 2008

A briefing note from SHDC regarding action taken and support available during the economic downturn.

Freedom of Information Act

A new model scheme that all public sector organisations must adopt from 1st January 2009. It was unanimously agreed to adopt the new scheme.

Clerk to implement

11. Life Long Learning Conference

Cllr Hitchins reviewed the conference held at Newton Abbot race Course on 11th September. She outlined the views and aims of the conference and made reference to the many envisaged changes facing Parish Councils in the future. Her report has been circulated to all councillors.

12. Village Plan

Cllr. Hitchins reported that the steering groups first meeting was held yesterday 2nd December. It was agreed that a timescale of a year was set to produce the plan. Monthly meetings will be held on the first Tuesday in the month in the Community Room. Meetings are open to the public who are most welcome to attend. Full details of the progress of the plan will go in the parish magazine and on the village website.

13. Open Forum

A report of trees overhanging the pavement by the bus stop on the north side of the A379 was made.

Cllr. Cane to follow up A discussion then followed on recyclable waste that may or may not end up in a land fill site. Cllr. Squire stated the position of the District Council and the future policy/use of a dedicated incinerator.

14 Finance

(a) Current Financial Situation

Full financial details given to all councillors prior to the meeting.

(b) Payments

The following payments were unanimously agreed:

821 Cllr. L. Hitchins (Parish Plan Meeting Costs) 40.47

822 Society of Local Council Clerks (Annual Fee) 94.00

823 Mr P. Lowden (Garden/grass cutting) 45.00

824 Mrs L. Hitchins (Mileage) 38.08

(c) 2009 - 2010 Budget and Precept

After a discussion it was unanimously agreed to set the Precept at £11250 for the year 2009/2010. Because of the global financial situation it was agreed not to increase the figure from last year. The budget figures were also unanimously agreed.

Clerk to forward duly authorised form to SHDC.

15. Planning

New Planning Application Applicant: Mr & Mrs G. Lanning

Application number: 07/2210/08/F

Proposal : Amendments to approval 07/0197/05/CU for conversion of dwelling to four self contained flats.

Location : Kingsland, Brixton, PL8 2AX

Date of receipt of valid application : 18th November 2008

It was unanimously agreed to support the application

Clerk to advise SHDC

Applicant: Mr & Mrs J. Kneen

Application Number : 07/2243/08/F

Proposal : Variation of Condition 2 of planning consent 07/1666/07/F to allow barn to be occupied without complying with holiday occupancy condition.

Location : Barn, Gorlofen Farm, Brixton, PL8 2DN

Date of receipt of valid application : 21st November 2008

It was unanimously agreed to support the application.

Clerk to advise SHDC

Revised Plan

07/2045/08/F Rear extension to provide third bedroom with bathroom over and side extension to provide dining area - Hexthill Cottage, Brixton Torr.

Planning Responsibilities

The chairman reported that he had passed the responsibility for 'Planning' to Cllr. M. Foweraker.

16. Councillors Reports

Cllr. Foweraker: Reported that he had written to Gary Streeter MP regarding the Consultation on the Pharmacy Government White Paper and received a reply stating that Mr Streeter had been advised (by the government) that changes were not envisaged to rural communities. Both he and Mr Streeter found this hard to believe.

Cllr. Foweraker then reported on the recent Police Liaison meeting that he had attended at Yealmpton and was happy to report that the serial burglar reported in last months police report had been apprehended.

Cllr. Hitchins Reported that daffodils had been planted in the Village Green. Asked that parishioners responsible be sent a letter of thanks from the Parish Council.

Cllr. Hitchins to provide Clerk with details

Also stated that parishioners were willing to site barrels with flowers on Green with Parish Council approval/funding.

Agenda item for January

Requested that a road sign be sited at the junction of Steer Point Road and Elliots Hill indicating 'School Entrance and Community Room'

Clerk to contact DCC

Cllr. Martin: Reported that he was still trying to obtain funding for the school playground. He then relayed a report regarding the recent Police Liaison Meeting that covered speeding motor bicycles and other local concerns. It was considered to be a very good meeting.

Meeting closed by the **Chairman Cllr. J. Davies** at 9.30 p.m.

Next Meeting Wednesday 7th January 2009

N. Powell

Parish Clerk Date:4th December 2008