

BRIXTON PARISH COUNCIL

MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL JUNE 2008

Minutes of the MEETING of the Parish Council held at Brixton Community Hall on 4th June 2008 at 7.30 p.m.

Present

Chairman Cllr. J. Davies

Councillors D. Curtis, M. Trower, J. Edwards, L. Lang, L. Hitchins, M. Foweraker, Councillor J. Hart D.C.C., B. Cane S.H.D.C., P.C. J. Nolan

Parish Clerk N. Powell

3 members of the public

1. Apologies

Mrs S. Axell Feoffee Trust and Cllr. J. Squire

2. Declarations of Interests

Cllr. Cane states that he will abstain on all Planning matters as he sits on the S.H.D.C. Planning Committee. Cllr. Cane was then congratulated by Cllr. Curtis and all the council for obtaining his new position as Chairman of South Hams District Council.

3. Police Report Poor Police Attendance

The clerk has contacted Inspector Chivers who has responded by email stating when he would expect his Officers to attend meetings.

P.C. John Nolan then addressed the meeting and submitted the following crime report: Sometime overnight between 13th and 14th May, a complete front bumper was removed from a Nissan Terrano 4x4 vehicle which was parked secure and unattended in an open air compound at Rodgers Garage. There are no witnesses or suspects to this crime. At this time it remains undetected.

A discussion then followed on how local youths could be constructively helped. Permissive use of the school football pitch was raised. It was decided that a meeting would be arranged with the Headmaster Mr S. Cox to discuss the issue. P.C. J. Nolan, Cllrs. Cane and Hitchins to meet with the Headmaster.

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

Cllr. Hart reported on the email received from Mr Halliday DCC regarding associated work and traffic order costs to improve parking at The Green and regulate traffic at Stamps Hill. Cllr. Hart stated that he had money available that could be made available to help this project. After a discussion the council unanimously agreed to request that Mr Halliday proceed with the project. Clerk to write to Mr Halliday

Cllr. Trower raised the ongoing problem with the drains at the bottom of Lodge Lane. Cllr. Hart stated that he would raise the issue again with the Highways Department. Cllr. Hart to raise with Highways Cllr. Hart then gave a resume of the DCC concept that had been presented to the Boundary Commission.

5. Council Vacancy

A notice advertising the vacancy has been posted on the Parish notice board. Mr Foweraker is the only applicant. The chairman proposed that Mr Foweraker be appointed as a Councillor. It was unanimously agreed.

6. To consider and approve the minutes of the Meeting

May 7th (AGM); May 7th (Parish Council)

Cllr. Curtis requested a amendment to his report which was duly carried out. They were then unanimously accepted and signed by the Chairman.

7. Matters Arising

Brixton - Yealmpton Footpath

Cllr. Hitchins reported that a meeting has been arranged for the 10th June. This meeting will decide on the format for the steering group. The chairman then read a email that had been received from a DCC Planning Officer that raised concerns about possible illegal tipping along the proposed route. The Planning Officer has been contacted by the clerk and fully advised on the councils stance on this issue. It was agreed that a certain amount of 'misinformation' had been circulated regarding this proposed project.

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

Cllr. Cane reported that a home for single young mothers was being set up at Ivybridge at a cost of £200K. Funding for the project would come from council tax raised from second home owners.

£145,000 was also being spent at Bishops Court, Newton Ferrers to convert two unused flats to social housing use.

Cllr. Cane then stated that 9 shops had recently closed at Ivybridge. To help the local shop keepers the District Council had decided to allow free parking between 10a.m. and 2p.m. It was predicted that this would result in a £37,000 loss of parking revenue.

He then talked about job losses because of the closure of the local brickworks.

The District Council will help in any way possible to help with these 45 job losses.

A discussion then followed on the way that the village is now cleaned and the role of the street cleaner. Cllr. Curtis agreed to provide Cllr. Cane with the Parish Councils street cleaning schedule so that he can raise the issue with District Council officials.

9. Sherford Update

Cllr. Curtis reported that he attended the last Steering Group meeting with Cllr. Lang. He stated that full planning permission for Sherford had not yet been granted, but was expected to be finalised on 15th December when legal work on the 106 agreement and Page 3 other issues regarding affordable housing etc. were expected to be agreed. Work on the project was then expected to start in Feb. 2009 with houses being sold in 2010.

Sherford 106 Agreement

The Clerk has written to Mr S. Munday at South Hams regarding the councils input. No response has been received. Cllr. Cane agreed to raise the issue with Mr Munday SHDC

10. Boundary Commission Devon Structural Review

A letter from Plymouth CC offering the opportunity to arrange a meeting to discuss concerns raised by the proposed changes. Follow up letter on 2nd June commenting on the DCC concept. Local

Government Reorganisation A letter from SHDC regarding the Review. The above letters and issues were discussed by the council and it was agreed that the council would wait until The Boundary Committee publish the draft proposal on 7th July before formulating any response. It was agreed that the Clerk should reply to the above stating this policy. Clerk to write.

The Chairman stated that we would need a additional meeting in July to discuss the proposals. Arrange date at July Meeting.

11. FEOFFEE Trust Report

Nothing to report

12. Correspondence

New Waste Services Leaflet and Calendar

New information from SHDC mailed to all residents in the parish.

Devon Playing Fields Association

Details of the AGM on 10th July at Ipplepen and vacancies on the committee.

Long Life Learning Network

Conference Taking place at Exeter on 15th July.

South Devon AONB Management Plan Review 2009 - 2014

Details dates of meetings/surgeries at Follaton House plus information about a detailed questionnaire.

Western Power Distribution - Proposed Business Plan 2010-2015

Details of the consultation process and how to forward views.

Cllr. Edwards agreed to study the report

Time For Life - Community Mentoring Project - Department of Health Partnership for Older People

A project to help the over 50's who may have recently undergone some type of life change. i.e. bereavement, illness, disability etc. The project is now working in this area. Details to Parish Magazine

13. Parish Plan

Cllr. Hitchins reported on the information gathering and suggested that a open meeting be arranged for September or October when it would be hoped that Mr Paul Edwards from the Community Council of Devon would attend. From this meeting it would be planned to attract suitable people to form a steering group. Cllr. Hitchins to supply information for the Parish Magazine / Brixton-Village website to have link to the Community Council of Devon

14. Councillors Photographs

Decided to leave this item until the next meeting. Agenda item for July

15. Open Forum

A request was made for the Parish Council to provide a skip for general use. Concerns were raised on how the skip contents would be monitored for 'illegal substances'. Clerk to find costs etc.

16 Finance

(a) Current Financial Situation

Full financial details given to the finance committee prior to the meeting

(b) Payments The following payments were unanimously agreed:

802 D.A.P.C. (Training) 123.00

803 Mr P. Lowden (Grass cutting) 35.00

Income

V.A.T. Recovery 81.88

(c) Councillors Travel Expenses

A discussion followed on this topic. Because of the high cost of fuel it was proposed that Councillors, who wish, be reimbursed for travel expenses when travelling on Parish Council business. The following proposal was made ' Reimbursement for travel costs at 40p per mile may be claimed by Councillors for attending any agreed Parish Council business activity outside of the parish'. It was unanimously agreed.

17. Planning

New Planning Applications

Applicant: Mr & Mrs N.M. Adams

Application number: 07/0849/08/F

Proposal : Conversion of barns to three dwellings

Location : Butlass Farm

Date of receipt of valid application : 28th April 2008

Cllr. Cane abstained

It was unanimously agreed to support the application. However it was requested that every effort be made to retain the features on the barn brickwork. Clerk to advise Planning Department

Applicant : Dr. Sanders

Application Number : 07/0848/08/F

Proposal : Formation of private swimming pool in rear garden.

Location : Pentwyn. Spriddlestone

Date of receipt of valid application : 25th April 2008

Cllr. Cane abstained

It was unanimously agreed to support the application

Clerk to advise Planning Department

Applicant : Mr & Mrs G. Sanders

Application Number : 07/0919/08/LB

Proposal : Listed Building Consent for construction of access ramp and installation of roof light.

Location : Pentwyn, Spriddlestone

Date of receipt of valid application : 6th May 2008

Cllr. Cane abstained

It was unanimously agreed to support the application

Clerk to advise Planning Department

Planning Application Granted

07/0546/08/F - Dr. Withers, Riverbank, Brixton Torr - Construction of conservatory/garden room.

07/0573/08/F - Mr & Mrs Brown, Polston Park Farm - Resubmission of application

07/1575/07/F for two storey extension to side and front of property.

Planning Application Refused

07/0540/08/F - Mr D. Vosper, 2 Sunderland and Spencer Cottages - Amendment to approval 9/07/0983/97/3 for alterations to garage.

Planning Appeal

07/2069/07/F Kingsland Residential Home - Erection of two storey dwelling. An appeal has been made to the Secretary of State in respect of this application. Previous comments made by this council will be carried forward.

18. Councillors Reports

Cllr Trower: Reported that 103mm of rain fell in May which was similar to last year.

Cllr. Hitchins Stated that Brixton Community Association would hold its AGM on 3rd July starting at 7p.m. Also reported on details of long grass and poor condition of the play area off Elliots Hill.

Supply details to clerk for onward report to SHDC

Cllr Edwards: Reported on the recent meeting of the Elize Hele & John Lanyon Education Foundations. Stated that 17 education grants had been made during the year. However none were to the parishes.

Cllr. Davies : Raised the issue of Post office closures. Gave details and figures of the possible future network. Cllr. Davies spoke about the changes to the Post Office card account and the detrimental effect this would have on small Post Offices 'Protest' cards were distributed. The clerk was requested to formally write on behalf of the Parish Council.

Clerk to write

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

Next Meeting Wednesday 2nd July at 7.30 pm

N. Powell Parish Clerk

Date:5th June 2008