

BRIXTON PARISH COUNCIL

MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL OCTOBER 2008

**Minutes of the MEETING of the Parish Council held at Brixton Community Hall on Wednesday
October 1st at 7.30 p.m.**

Present

Chairman Cllr. J. Davies

Councillors: D. Curtis, B. Cane, L. Lang, I. Martin, M. Foweraker

Councillor: B. Cane S.H.D.C. and J. Squire S.H.D.C.

Community Support Officer S. Lawrence

Parish Clerk N. Powell

4 members of the public

1. Apologies

Apologies from Cllrs. Hitchins, Trower , Edwards and Hart DCC plus Mrs S. Axell and PC John Nolan

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.

3. Police Report

Community Support Officer Sid Lawrence then presented the following report:

Possession of Drugs.

On Friday 5th Sept. Police Officers had a cause to stop and search a male who at the time was a customer at the Foxhound Inn. The male was found to be in possession of a quantity of white powder which, the male stated, was cocaine. The male was arrested, and if the laboratory tests prove positive for cocaine, the man will be charged in court.

Harassment

Between 15th July and 7th Sept., a family in Brixton have received a large number of nuisance telephone calls, which by their nature were becoming threatening. On 9th Sept. a female living in Plymouth was arrested. The female admitted making the calls. A 'Formal Caution' was given. Unfortunately the family have received further silent telephone calls which police suspect are being made by the same female. Investigations are still underway.

Theft

Between 11am and 2pm on Sat 13th Sept. a 'Quad Bike' was stolen from a isolated farm in Brixton. Offender/s entered a stable building by forcing the padlock and chain, and stole the vehicle. The crime remains undetected.

Theft

Between 23rd and 25th Sept a quantity of plants valued at £450 were stolen from Otter Nurseries. The crime remains undetected.

Theft

On Mon. 22nd Sept. 15x 5 gallon drums of retardant to the value of £675 were stolen from a farm situated on the Brixton/Plympton border. The crime remains undetected.

C.S.O. Sid Lawrence then stated that speed checks/radar traps would be operating in the Brixton/Yealmpton area for the foreseeable future.

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

Not present (see above)

5. To consider and approve the minutes of the Meeting

3rd September (Parish Council)

17th September (Parish Council)

They were unanimously accepted.

6. Matters Arising

Conference at Newton Abbot Race Course on 11th Sept.

Cllr. Cane reported on the conference and the proposals for the future of Parish Councils. A written report by Cllr. Liz Hitchins on the conference was distributed to all councillors.

Councillors make a Difference

Cllr. M. Trower and past Chairman Paul Lowden have been invited to County Hall on 15th October to attend the awards ceremony. Cllr. D. Curtis will also attend.

Pelican lights for Pedestrian Crossing

The clerk has written and spoken verbally to DCC who advise that they will inspect the site to see if the criteria can be met to install traffic lights.

Weeds On Pavements

Reports have been received that the weeds have now been sprayed. Several members stated that the whole village had not been completed. ***Clerk to follow up***

Other maintenance area of concern were raised in the village. A slippery pavement was reported by Brixton House bus stop. ***Clerk to follow up***

Hanging branches/brambles were also reported by Brixton House bus stop. ***Cllr. Cane to follow up.***

The chairman then reported that the drain outside of Eldridge House (by the bus stop) was blocked and overgrown with weeds. ***Clerk to follow up***

7. Brixton - Yealmpton Footpaths

No current report.

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

Cllr. Cane reported that the new government planning regulations came into force today.

Full details can be found on the South Hams website at www.southhams.gov.uk

He then talked about new affordable housing targets for new building projects and how it can help people in the South Hams. He stated that the over 60's would soon be entitled to free access to the council owned swimming pools.

He concluded stating that the annual round of budget talks had started. Savings, as always would have to be made.

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

Cllr. Squire reported on population trends in the South Hams. Although the deaths in 2006 were more than the registered births the projections were for a population increase through to 2026.

He then stated that the District Council had to ascertain the number of people 'sleeping rough'. A proper night time study would have to be undertaken to produce the figures.

51 sites for 'Residential travellers' would have to be found plus 5 transit pitches. He then stated that the now paid for pre-planning advice had raised £30K.

He concluded by saying that the Sherford development was now increased to take 6,000 houses - a increase of 9%. It was thought that the increase would have been included in the original plan. With regard to the progress on the development he understood that the developers Redtree were still in serious negotiations on the 106 agreement with South Hams although he had been informed that progress had slowed.

9. Sherford Update

Cllr. Curtis reported on the recent Steering group meeting held on Friday 26th September.

He understood that that a 15th December deadline had been set for completion of the 106 Agreement.

He believed that Redtree would still be keen to establish Full Planning consent but raised questions on who would eventually build Sherford and when.

He then stated that the Sherford Steering Group had now changed its name to the Sherford Action Group. South Hams and the developers would no longer be invited to attend meetings. The objectives of the group would now be to make sure that the detailed plans agreed for Sherford are strictly adhered to and not 'lost' or 'watered down' should Redtree, or any other developer, work on the site.

10. Correspondence

Annual Forum - South Devon AONB

A invitation to attend the Annual Forum being held at Yealmpton on 17th October

Parish Cluster Meeting

Scheduled to take place on Thursday 16th October. Cllr. I. Martin agreed to represent the council.

Community Council of Devon Training Courses

A list of five training days covering a range of subjects.

South Hams Council for Voluntary Service

Details of three training courses.

The Making and Enforcement of Byelaws - A Consultation

A consultation document that is inviting comments by November 20th.

Cllr. Edwards has agreed to study the document

Samaritans

An invitation to the AGM on 16th October

11. Open Forum

The ownership of the Green was raised. The clerk advised the meeting that he had asked the question and been told that the area is owned by Devon County Council. A Wembury Councillor then gave a short report on the recent Devon Association of Parish Councils A.G.M.

12 Finance

(a) Current Financial Situation

Full financial details given to the all Councillors prior to the meeting

(b) Payments

The following payments were unanimously agreed:

813 DAPC (AGM) 15.00

814 Mr P. Lowden 20.00

815 Erme Press 34.00

816 Staples 145.07

(c) Completion Of The Annual Audit

The certified Annual return for the financial year ending on 31st March 2008 has been returned to the Clerk. The appropriate paperwork has been duly completed and is being displayed, as required, on the Parish notice board.

13. Planning

New Planning

Application Applicant: Mr Williams

Application number: 07/1758/08/F

Proposal : Conversion of redundant barn to dwelling and associated access, car parking and curtilage provision.

Location : Coombe Farm, Wembury Road

Date of receipt of valid application : 11th September 2008

Applicant : Mr Williams

Application Number : 07/1759/08/LB

Proposal : Listed building consent for conversion of redundant barn to dwelling with associated access, car parking and curtilage provision. Date of receipt of valid application : 11th September 2008

Cllr. Cane abstained

It was unanimously agreed to respond to both applications together.

It was agreed that the council would support the applications providing that all the recommendations in the environmental and ecological survey reports are followed.

Planning applications Granted

07/1416/08/F Mrs J. Cole, Gential Hill Kennels - Conversion of stables to cattery

07/1496/08/F Mr Adams, Butlas Farm - Agricultural barn to store grain and farm machinery.

07/1473/08/F Mr M. Prout, Keaton, Cherry Tree Drive- erection of detached garage

14. Councillors Reports

Cllr Cane: Suggested that a list of blocked drains/defects be compiled and presented to our County Councillor J. Hart

Cllr Curtis: Asked that the clerk download copies of the new planning details. ***Clerk to copy***

Also requested that any District Council seminars on the new planning regulations be made available to Parish Councillors.

Clerk to check on availability of Planning Courses

Cllr Lang: gave a brief report on her attendance at the recent Devon Assoc. of Parish Councils A.G.M.

Cllr. Martin: Asked if the council would consider a donation to the school to provide fencing around the play area.

Clerk to retain for a later date

Meeting closed by the ***Chairman Cllr. J. Davies*** at 0835 p.m.

Next Meeting ***Wednesday November 5th at 7.30pm***

N. Powell

Parish Clerk

Date: 2nd October 2008