

BRIXTON PARISH COUNCIL

MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL SEPTEMBER 2008

Minutes of the MEETING of the Parish Council held at Brixton Community Hall on Wednesday September 3rd at 7.30 p.m.

Present

Chairman Cllr. J. Davies

Councillors B. Cane S.H.D.C. , D Curtis, J. Edwards, M. Foweraker, J. Hart S.H.D.C., L. Hitchins, L. Lang, I. Martin, J. Squire S.H.D.C., M. Trower

Parish Clerk N. Powell

9 members of the public

1. Apologies

Apologies from PC J. Nolan and Community Support Officer Sid Lawrence

2. Declarations of Interests

Cllr. Cane stated that he will abstain on all Planning matters as he sits on the S.H.D.C. Planning Committee.

3. Police Report -

August Report:

1. Between 10a.m. and 1p.m. on Friday 11th July, a pick up type vehicle was parked and unattended in Brixton when it had an industrial hedge trimmer valued at £400 stolen from the rear of the vehicle. There are no witnesses to the incident, which at this time remains undetected.

2. On Sunday 27th July a patron at the Foxhound Inn placed his mobile telephone on the bar. It was left there for a while, and unfortunately stolen by persons unknown. This crime is undetected.

September Report:

J1/08/731 Criminal damage to a vehicle

Overnight on the 19th and 20th August a car and a horse box had a total of six tyres slashed at a remote farm in the Brixton area. Police have a possible suspect in mind and enquiries are continuing.

J1/08/746 Criminal damage to a building

During the early hours of the 31st August the brick works in Steer Point Road were targeted and 3 windows were smashed. Police at this time have no suspects and the crime remains undetected. In addition there were two recorded domestic incidents - however it is policy not to disclose information on these matters.

South Hams and West Devon Policing

A letter from Superintendent Sarah Sharpe.

Devon and Cornwall Constabulary - Keyholder Details

Details changes in the system for recording details of keyholders for house and business alarm systems. (*Details to Parish Magazine*)

Emergency planning coordinator

A request from the Police for a named contact. The clerk agreed to fill the role. (*Clerk to advise Police*)

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

Cllr. Hart reported on the proposed work to be carried out at the Green and Stamps Hill. The clerk advised Cllr. Hart that a email had been received from Mr Halliday stating that the work was being progressed and would be completed by the end of the financial year. A discussion then followed with members of the public regarding the work and parking problems in the area.

Concerns were raised by the public about the lack of consultation and the ownership of The Green. (*Clerk to check ownership of The Green with DCC*)

5. To consider and approve the minutes of the Meeting 2nd July 2008 (Parish Council)

Cllr. Hitchins requested that two items re: Training Courses be added to Councillors reports.

19th July (Planning)

16th August (Planning)

They were unanimously accepted.

6. Matters Arising

Meeting with Mr Cox to discuss Youth Issues

Cllr. Hitchins reported that she had met with PC J. Nolan and Mr Cox and it was agreed that PC Nolan would talk to the youths concerned and report back to enable discussions to continue at the next School Governors meeting.

Village Sweeping

Mr Chris Lucas SHDC has agreed to investigate the benefits of using a mechanical sweeper. Cllr. Cane agreed to follow up this request and obtain support from other parishes.

Residents Parking

The clerk has written to DCC who have responded stating that a member of the Traffic Management Team will visit the site and look into the parking issues that have been raised.

Silverstream Way Play Area

The clerk has written to Tor Homes who have not responded. Cllr. Martin still considered that the area had been neglected and was a danger to children. (*Clerk to contact Tor Homes*)

Blocked Lanes

The clerk has contacted DCC who stated that the lanes were cut back at the end of August. DCC also state that the lanes are still 'highways' but are now only maintained for pedestrian access.

Brixton - Yealmpton Footpath

Cllr. Hitchins reported that all questionnaires needs to be in by 12th September. She also stated that a public meeting was taking place at Yealmpton on Saturday 13th September to discuss the proposed Sustrans cycle track.

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

Cllr. Cane reported that SHDC were in receipt of a £1 million government planning grant for meeting its targets. It was only one of three District Councils in the country to qualify for this grant.

Cllr. Curtis then asked Cllr. Cane if he had made progress with Mr Munday SHDC with regard to the villages interests in the Sherford 106 agreement. Cllr. Cane had nothing new to report on this topic but stated that he would raise the issue with Mr Munday and report back.

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

Cllr. Squire reported that the District Council had received a Government grant of £33k to provide free swimming for the over sixties.

Also for 2008/2009 the government had stated that the District Council will only receive a half percent increase in its grant.

Cllr. Squire then stated that he had met with Mr Robinson SHDC regarding the status of Sherford. He was advised that negotiations were continuing with the developers Redtree and no final figures/agreement had yet been reached. Cllr. Squire then reported that he understood that a recent government directive indicated that Sherford would have to absorb a additional 500 houses.

8. Sherford Update

Letter From Devon Primary Care Trust

Outlines the proposed health care services for Sherford and the surrounding area. It was agreed that Mrs Sue Scivener be invited to attend the November meeting to further explain her letter. (*Clerk to arrange*)

9. Village Plan

Cllr Hitchins has provided all members with details of a draft article that is proposed to go in the Parish Magazine. A draft 'Flyer' has also been circulated. All councillors agreed with the draft article and 'flyer'. (*Clerk to arrange to put in Parish Magazine*)

Cllr. Hitchins stated that the 'Event' would take place in the Community Room on Wednesday 29th October starting at 7pm. It was unanimously agreed that the Parish Council would fund the costs involved in holding this event.

10. Boundary Commission

This item was discussed at length by Councillors prior to the start of the meeting. It was agreed that no formal decision would be made by the council until councillors have had the opportunity to attend public meetings being held by both SHDC and DCC. The council will then meet again and decide on its position.

The following time table applies:

Monday 15th Sept. 7pm Stowford Hall, The Watermark Building, Ivy bridge

Tuesday 16th Sept. 7 pm Stowford Hall, The Watermark Building, Ivybridge

Wednesday 17th Sept. 7pm Parish Council Meeting, Brixton Community Room

11. Correspondence

Samaritans

A letter requesting financial support. It was agreed to refer this request until the end of the financial year.

Long Life Learning Network Conference

Details of a conference taking place at Newton Abbot racecourse on 11th September. Cllrs. Hitchins, Cane and Davies agreed to attend.

(Clerk to arrange)

Councillors Make a Difference

An awards programme to celebrate and highlight what can be achieved by town and parish councillors working in their communities. Cllr. Curtis nominated Past chairman Mr Paul Lowden. It was unanimously agreed. Cllr. Curtis agreed to complete the necessary documentation.

Affordable Housing Surgery

A list of surgeries that are open to Town and Parish Councils.

Parish Paths Partnership, Drop in Days 2008

Five events organized around Devon for P3 co-ordinators and volunteers.

Phone Boxes

Information from DCC regarding the removal of the village BT phone boxes. Cllr. Hitchins has made a response. The closure date has passed for the Parish Council to make a collective response; however the issue of the Parish Council adopting the phone boxes after BT have removed the telephones was discussed at length. After a lengthy debate it was agreed by eight votes with one member abstaining not to adopt the telephone boxes.

Councillors Code of Conduct

Information regarding the new Code and asking whether or not Parish Councils are interested in indemnifying their members from legal costs arising from defending an allegation in respect of breaching the code.

Plastic Packaging Course

A one day course being held at Exeter on 28th November. (Details to Cllr. Hitchins.)

Devon Association of Parish Councils

Gives details of the AGM and seminar scheduled for 27th September. Also gives details of the proposed subscription rate increase of 4.5% Cllr. L. Lang is the Parish Representative and agreed to attend. (Clerk to arrange)

Digital UK

A letter from the team dealing with the switchover to digital in August 2009.

Police Liaison Meetings

Gives details of meetings at Dartmouth on 15th September and Yealmpton on 1st December starting at 7.30 pm.

South Hams LDF (Draft)

A consultation period runs until 10th October. It was unanimously agreed that Cllr. Curtis would respond on behalf of the council. (*Cllr. Curtis to complete*)

S. Hams Young Sports Person of the Year Sports Award

Nominations are requested before 3rd October. Cllr. Trower nominated Jack Hardman and agreed to complete the nomination form. (*Cllr. Trower to complete*)

12. Open Forum

A debate followed on the plans to change the parking in the Village Green area. Cllr. Cane advised the public on the reasons and need for the scheme to go ahead.

Because of the obstructed views when motorists are approaching the village pedestrian crossing, it was suggested that 'pelican crossing lights' be fitted. (*Clerk to discuss with DCC*)

A complaint about the excess of weeds on the pavements in Cherry Tree Drive and generally on the pavements within the village was made. (*Clerk to request weeds are sprayed*)

13. Finance

(a) Current Financial Situation

Full financial details given to all Councillors prior to the meeting

(b) Payments

The following payments were unanimously agreed:

808 L. Hitchins 32.80

809 Mr G. Searle 50.00

810 Veaseys Printers 100.00

811 M.Trower 332.91

812 P. Lowden 70.00

14. Planning

New Planning

Application Applicant: Mr S. Cane

Application number: 07/1542/08/F

Proposal : Extension to existing agricultural building

Location : Field west of Torr Hill Farm, Spriddlestone.

Date of receipt of valid application : 4th August 2008

Cllr. Cane left the room

It was unanimously agreed to support the application.

Applicant : Mr N. Adams

Application Number : 07/1601/08/F

Proposal : Resubmission of application 07/0849/08/F for the conversion of barns to three dwellings.

Location : Butlass Farm, Plympton

Date of receipt of valid application : 13th August 2008

Cllr. Cane abstained

It was unanimously agreed to support the application.

Tree Preservation Order

The Lawns, Brixton

Ref: PS/TPO 805

A New Order for three trees on the western side of the driveway to the Lawns.

T1 Yew

T2 Beech

T3 Beech

The preservation was supported. (*It was unanimous*)

Planning application Granted

07/0919/08/LB Mr/Mrs Sanders, Spriddlestone - Construction of access ramp and installation of roof light.

07/1287/08/F Mr/Mrs Sanders, Spriddlestone - Ramp to provide wheelchair & pushchair access to upper ground floor.

07/1104/08/F The Governors - St. Mary's School - Erection of extension

07/1248/08/F Rodgers Garage- Erection of industrial building for storage and retails sale of motor trade spare parts.

15. Councillors Reports

Cllr Cane: gave the clerk details of skip hire costs for future reference.

Cllr Trower: Reported that the village Post Office had received official notification that it is not included in the present list of closures.

Cllr Curtis: Reported that after struggling to obtain details of fire hydrants in the village a list had been obtained and after inspecting them with Cllr. Trower he can report that all defects that they reported had been speedily rectified.

Reported that a large amount of 'rubbish' and possible illegal building had been reported in Adens Acre.

Cllr. Cane reported that the enforcement officer had been advised and he would report back on her progress.

Cllr. Hitchins: Reported on her recent attendance at the Senior Council For Devon. She passed newsletters to all members and stated that she was the 'Local Active Committee Member for Brixton'

Cllr. Hitchins requested that the Sustainable Communities Act be made a agenda item for October.

(Clerk to put on agenda)

Meeting closed by the **Chairman Cllr. J. Davies** at 9.45 p.m.

Next Meeting **Wednesday 1st October at 7.30 pm**

N. Powell

Parish Clerk

Date:4th September 2008