

BRIXWORTH PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday, 20 May 2008 at 7.15p.m. in the Village Hall, Holcot Road, Brixworth

Present: Councillors: I Barratt (Chairman), C Bament, R Chattaway, T Everard, A Gunnett, D Kennedy, R Low, S Pointer, S Whiffen, Mrs E Wiig and F Wiig

In Attendance: Mrs J Macken – Parish Clerk
Sgt Grady – Northants Police
PCSO J Hillier – Northants Police
Mr D Hymas – Member of the public

08/138 Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were received from County Cllr Millar, Cllr Lacey and Cllr Monk

08/139 Declaration of Interest on Agenda Items

Cllr E Wiig declared a personal interest – Member of another Local Authority and member of Brixworth Village Hall Committee.

Cllr F Wiig declared a personal interest - Member of another Local Authority and Chairman of Brixworth Village Hall Committee. Chairman of District Council Planning Committee (It was noted that Cllr Wiig would not take part in discussions about particular planning applications, but would offer general advice on planning matters).

08/140 Signing of the Minutes of the Last Meeting 29 April 2008

The minutes of the meeting held on 29 April 2008 were agreed and signed by the Chairman as a true and correct record of this meeting.

The meeting adjourned to allow the member of the public to address the Council. A note of the matter raised is attached to the minutes.

The meeting reconvened at 7.40pm

08/141 Police Representative's Report

Sergeant Grady reported the following : -

- There had been 14 crimes in April, May had been significantly quieter.
- Mercedes Benz had plant machinery stolen.
- Garden lights stolen in Honey Holme
- A disagreement between to men in Froxhill Crescent
- An ebay fraud
- An unprovoked attack in Brampton Way
- Pedal cycle stolen in St Davids Road

Casualty Reduction Time Meeting to be held on 11 June 2008.

Traffic survey carried out on Harborough Road and High Street, shows that 20% are over the limit of 35mph or more. To take any further action the records should show that 85% of the traffic is travelling at 36mph or more. Speeding tickets have been issued.

Concerns were raised by members regarding the parking of cars on the bend outside the Red Lion on the Harborough Road. Sgt Grady agreed to monitor as and when. It was suggested that perhaps marks on the roads might slow vehicles down, this to be discussed at the next Highways & Environment meeting.

Planning

08/142 To Accept the Minutes of Meeting 14 May 2008

The Minutes of the Committee Meeting held on the 14 May 2008 having been previously distributed were accepted.

08/143 DA/2008/0435 Mr Richard Monk, Hornton House, Silver Street, Brixworth Demolition of existing garage and replacement with new garage with access onto Hall Farm Close

Members of the Planning Committee attended a site meeting on Monday 19 May 2008 to consider this application. It was noted that letters of objection had been received from all the residents in Hall Farm Close.

The following decision was resolved: -

The Parish Council objects to this planning application for the following reasons: -

The proposed garage and the removal of a low stonewall with a fence above it will be detrimental to the street scene. It would be immediately in front of a living room window of one of the existing houses separated only by the width of the road, which is barely wide enough for two vehicles to pass at the same time. This situation does not occur anywhere else in the Close.

The low stonewall is believed to be in the conservation area and even though it has been altered in other places should be retained as it still forms an effective and pleasing boundary of a rural nature between the Close and the rear of properties in Silver Street.

Although parking in Silver Street will be reduced a little it is a one-way street whereas Hall Farm Close is two way and no wider in places.

Hall Farm Close is already very congested. Several vehicles were parked on the roadside and it is considered that any amount of extra traffic, however small, and additional vehicle movements would be undesirable.

The new access would be highly likely to lead to disputes, as it would be prone to obstruction by vehicles used by residents and their visitors.

08/144 Letter from DDC – Request for a scoping Opinion in Respect of a Proposed Wind Farm at Lodge Farm (North of Brixworth)

The District Council had asked the Parish Council for its opinion in respect of a proposal for seven wind turbines between Brixworth and Hanging Houghton. The Chairman reported that the wind turbines would be 2-3 times larger than the church and would have a life span of twenty-five years. The Parish Council has been contacted by nearby Parish Council's for its opinion. The Chairman agreed to liaise with these Councils.

Following a discussion the following two questions were raised: -

1. What would be the efficiency of the wind turbines in that area.
2. The appropriateness of these proposed wind turbines in a designated Special Landscaped Area, with the Historical Brixworth Church in view.

Due to the limited time for replying and the Clerks holiday, it was agreed for Cllr Chattaway to speak to Mr K Thursfield at the District Council and then to reply on behalf of the Council.

It was suggested that an Action Group/Public Meeting might be required soon to establish the public's feelings.

The Clerk reported that Arcus had contacted her asking for suggested names and addresses of willing residents who would allow noise-monitoring equipment to be placed in their garden for two weeks. A resident in Station Road and Silver Street were identified.

Finance

08/145 Income Received for April 2008

The Clerk reported the Income received for April 2008, which was as follows: -

<u>Received from</u>	<u>Details</u>	<u>£</u>
DDC	First Instalment of Precept for 2008/09	49,516.00
Community Centre	Hall Bookings	685.80
HM Revenue & Customs	Refund of VAT - Jan - Mar 08	3,625.56
		<u>53,827.36</u>

08/146 Bank Reconciliation as at 30 April 2008

The bank reconciliation as at the 30 April 2008 was reported and accepted as follows:

Current Account	£32,657.70
Capital Reserve Account	£93,226.82
Less Cheques outstanding	£23,128.80
Balance Carried forward as at 1.05.08	£102,755.72

08/147 Income and Expenditure & Reserves Report for April 2008

The Council accepted the Income and Expenditure and reserves report for April 2008.

08/148 To Approve the Bills for Payment for May 2008

A schedule of payments, to be made in May 2008 was available to each member at the meeting. It was resolved for the following accounts to be passed for payment; therefore the Chairman signed the schedule of payments.

<u>Chq No.</u>	<u>Minute No.</u>	<u>Payment To</u>	<u>Reason for Payment</u>	£
3739		Groundsman	Groundman's Salary May 2008	1,022.61
3740		Clerk	Clerk's Salary May 2008	1,008.88
3741		Part Time Groundsman	P/T Groundsmans wages May 2008	206.40
3742		Litter Picker	Litter Picker wages May 2008	178.60
3743		Cleaner	Cleaner Comm. Centre wages May 2008	258.20
3744		Inland Revenue	PAYE Tax & NI May 2008	777.64
3745		NCC	Pension Contribution - May 08	330.29
3746		Mrs J Macken	Postage	6.48
3747		Shoosmiths	Refund of solicitors fees received in error	1,249.62
3748		Lovell Hardware	Materials for Groundsman	97.23
3749		BT plc	Clerks telephone & broadband - May -July 08	168.83
3750		ESPO	Stationery	25.82
3751		British Gas Business	Electricity Chgs - C/rooms Apr 08	48.14
3752		Sage UK Ltd	Renewal of Sage instant payroll cover 08/09	105.75
3753		C.A.I.	Padlock & chain	28.16
3754		A H Blason	Fuel	90.19
3755	08/055	D G Salisbury	Annual Grounds Maintenance	4,770.50
3756	08/038	Clive Wood Signwriter	Rework to Millennium Beacon Sign	75.00
				<u>10,448.34</u>

08/149 Annual Accounts For the Year Ending 31 March 2008

It was resolved that the Annual Accounts for the Financial Year ending 31 March 2008, copy of which had been previously circulated, were adopted and signed by the Chairman and Clerk.

08/150 Approval of Section 1 & 2 of The Annual Return For the Year Ending 31 March 2008

The Council agreed to Section 1 and considered the answer 'yes' to all the questions on section 2 – Statement of assurance for the Annual Return for the Financial Year ending 31 March 2008.

08/151 Sage Accounts Computer Software Upgrade

It was resolved to purchase the Sage Accounts Upgrade software at a discounted price of £47.92.

Recreation and Amenities Development

08/152 Committee Meeting 19 May 2008

The minutes to be shortly circulated. The Committee was concerned that the Red Lion Football Club had ceased and would no longer be using the Ashway Playing Fields facilities. In the short term a Kingsthorpe team will be using the pitch for six weeks during the summer months. It was agreed that a permanent team would be preferred rather than different teams on an ad hoc basis. Nick Bunting to be contacted to enquire whether a rugby team could use the facilities.

The meetings will now be on Tuesdays, instead of Mondays as from 22 July 2008.

Highways and Environment

08/153 Letter from WBC – Climate Friendly Communities

A letter from Wellingborough Borough Council had been received, following the Induction event at Sixfields. £200 is available to kick start the projects activities. It was agreed for the members of the Green Issues Task Panel to meet and decide on launching a project. Cllrs S Whiffen (Chair), D Kennedy, C Bament, T Everard and S Pointer agreed to join the task panel.

08/154 To Report on Emissions from CPL Aromas

Complaints from residents had been received regarding the emissions of odours from CPL Aromas. The Chair advised the new members that the Council had met with the Directors in the past to talk about these emissions. Subsequently matters improved and all complaints were logged and investigated by CPL. The Clerk reported that she had reported an incident to CPL, which are still logging any complaints. It was noted that residents must notify the District Council's Environment Dept. immediately of any significant incident, so that they can investigate the matter.

Correspondence for discussion

08/155 Discontinuance of Meals on Wheels

Following on from Mr Hymas's letter and comments made earlier on in the meeting, Cllr F Wiig confirmed that he had spoken to the County Council and that the service will continue to be supplied in Brixworth. The County Council will go to tender for the work in the next 1-2 years. Volunteer cooks and drivers are still required. It was agreed that the Parish Council would monitor this situation.

08/156 DDC – Parish & Town Council Meeting 24 June 2008

The next Parish and Town Council meeting is to be held on 24 June 2008. The Chairman and Cllr C Bament would like to attend; however it is the same date as the next Full Council meeting.

08/157 Daventry Villages Together

A report from Daventry Villages Together had been received and circulated to all members. It was noted that the Council could join the group for a membership of £90.00.

08/158 DDC – Operation Spring Clean

This item was deferred to the next Highways and Environment committee meeting.

08/159 Shoosmiths – Adoption of Open Public Spaces

A letter from Shoosmiths had been received (copy of which had been circulated to all members) confirming the transfer of the public open spaces in the Ashway and the Ridings, plus the grass verges in Iron pikes and the Ashway. It was noted that the sum of £29,032.56 had been received for the future maintenance of these areas from Taylor Woodrow developers.

08/160 Parish Council Quality Status

The Chairman reported that since the Council had 100% elected members it could now start to work towards gaining Quality Status. It was suggested to ask a member of NCALC to attend a future Council meeting to discuss the requirements.

08/161 Correspondence for information only

The Chairman reported that the correspondence file was available for circulation.

It was noted that two thank you letters had been received from the Brixworth Youth Foundation and Ladybirds Pre-School.

08/162 Date of Next Meeting

The next Full Council meeting is to be held on Tuesday, 24 June at 7.15pm in the Village Hall.

It was noted that Elaine Ferguson from the District Council is able to come to the next Council meeting to discuss the Housing Needs Survey; unfortunately Joanne Richardson from NRHA is not.

Urgent Matters For Report Only

08/163 Street Trading Consent – Harborough Road

The Chairman had received a street trading consent application for a mobile unit in Harborough. This is to be considered at the next Planning Committee meeting to be held on 2 June 2008.

There being no other business the meeting closed at 9.30pm

Signed as a true record of the above meeting.

Dated 24 June 2008

Notes of matters raised by Members of the Public

1. Mr David Hymas, a volunteer driver, had sent a letter to the Council, making it aware of the current situation regarding the Meals on Wheels service provided by the County Council through the WRVS. The tender had been left in the 'lurch', WRVS would stop arranging the delivery of the food as from 22 May 2008. Mr Hymas attended a meeting held on 14 May 2008 and is concerned that volunteers would no longer be required. The volunteers provide a personal touch and often carry out little jobs whilst they are delivering.