

BRIXWORTH PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday, 28 August 2008 at 7.15p.m. in the Village Hall, Holcot Road, Brixworth

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

In Attendance: Mrs J Macken – Parish Clerk
Mr Danny Moody – Principal Officer NCALC
Member of the public

08/225 Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr D Kennedy, County Cllr C Millar and Sgt Grady.

08/226 Declaration of Interest on Agenda Items

Cllr E Wiig declared a personal interest – Member of another Local Authority

Cllr F Wiig declared a personal interest - Member of another Local Authority and Chairman of District Council Planning Committee

Cllr T Everard declared a personal interest – House overlooks the Ashway Playing Field

Cllr S Whiffen declared a personal interest – House overlooks the Ashway Playing Field

Cllr R Monk declared a personal interest – Reference minute number 08/231

08/227 Signing of the Minutes of the Last Meeting 29 July 2008

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

There were no members of the public present wishing to address the Council.

08/228 Police Representative's Report

Sgt Grady had sent his apologies and had sent a report to the Clerk. The following crimes up to the 21 August 2008 was reported: -

- 9 August - adult female dealt with by Cannabis caution, found in possession Brixworth Country Park
- 30 July- 14 August - Paint stripper poured over car on Lesson Road
- 13-14 August - Burglary Horseshoe Close - entry via upstairs bathroom window (insecure)
- 16 August - Burglary - New Street - entry via window (forced) and old age pension taken
- 16 August - Lone Pine Court - foyer window smashed

Recent Court activity of note: -

- Well known ex Brixworth adult male burglar sentenced to 18months
- Well known Northampton adult male on court bail with curfew
- Well known Daventry adult male on remand in custody

All the above have been known or suspected to have committed crimes in Brixworth and area.

08/229 County Councillors Report

Cllr Millar had sent his apologies.

08/230 Quality Parish Council Scheme

Mr Danny Moody the Principal Officer for Northants County Association of Local Councils (NCALC) introduced himself. There are 8000 Parish and Town Councils in the country and only 618 of them have achieved Quality Status so far. Out of the 208 in Northants there are 8 Qualified Councils, Daventry Town being the largest and Scaldwell being the smallest Quality Council. The scheme provides a bench mark for Councils to achieve as a minimum standard. The ten areas to be tested are Electoral Mandate, A Qualified Clerk, Council Meetings, Communication and Community Engagement, Annual Report, Accountability, Code of Conduct, Promoting Local Democracy and Citizenship, Terms and Conditions and Training.

There are no financial benefits and it is not guaranteed that the principal local authority will devolve powers to the Parish Council. However, the Community benefits by having a better informed community, has a qualified Clerk, greater civic pride, use of the Quality Mark logo on letterheads etc, and greater credibility in the eyes of the community.

Should the Council wish to go ahead, a portfolio needs to be put together for consideration by the accreditation panel. The application fee costs £235.00. Additional costs could include website costs and additional Clerk's time putting the portfolio etc together. The Council would have to apply for re-accreditation every four years.

Planning

08/231 DDC Approvals & Refusals – August Report

Approved

DA/2008/0635 Co-op Pharmacy, Hunters Way, Brixworth

Install new shopfront with automatic sliding door

30.6.08 PC No Objection

4.8.08 DDC Approved

DA/2008/0645 Mr R Monk, Hornton House, Silver Street, Brixworth

Demolition of existing garage and replacement with new enlarged single storey garage.

14.7.08 PC No Objection

4.8.08 DDC Approved

Refused

DA/2007/1316 Mr Manoli, 7 Olde Forde Close , Brixworth 1 Hunters Way, Brixworth

Two one bedroom flats at first floor

17.12.07 PC Object

31.7.08 DDC Refused

**DA/2007/1317 Mr Manoli, 7 Olde Forde Close , Brixworth
2 Hunters Way, Brixworth**

One one bedroom flat at first floor

17.12.07 PC Object

31.7.08 DDC Refused

***08/232 Report on the Proposed Wind Farm at Lodge Farm (north of Brixworth)
and to consider distributing a Village Survey***

Cllr F Wiig declared an interest as Chair of DDC Planning Committee and did not take part in the discussion, and only offered general advice on planning applications. Cllr E Wiig declared an interest as a member of DDC Planning Committee and therefore did not take part in the discussion and only offered advice.

At the Full Council meeting held in July 2008 the Parish Council did not wish to make a decision on the proposed wind farm at the time, as it had not received a planning application and members wanted to see the exhibition in the Village Hall organised by the developers in August.

Cllr Lacey had produced a survey for consideration by the Council. It was proposed to circulate the survey to all the residents in Brixworth. It was reported that the latest edition of the Bulletin had been printed and was due to be delivered the following week. If the survey were to be delivered via the Bulletin it would have to be printed by noon the next day and that the Bulletin would only accept a survey, which had a neutral stance. It was noted that the planning application was due to be received by the District Council by the end of August and that there probably wouldn't be enough time to distribute the survey and receive back the replies in time.

Following a lengthy discussion and a vote it was resolved to wait until the planning application had been received and to consider it at a planning committee/Council meeting, which members of the public would be invited to attend. The meeting would be promoted by additional notices and by using local media.

Finance

08/233 Income Received for July 2008

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

Received from	Details	£
Community Centre	Hall Hire	497.30
AFC Crown	Hire of Ashway PF C/rooms and pitch	80.00
Central Sports Club	Peppercorn Rent Central Sports Pavilion	1.00
BCF	Rent for Oliver Branch, contribution to utilities	706.87
DDC	Contribution to utilities costs for Comm. Ctr	77.06
HM Revenue & Customs	Reclaim VAT 1.4.08 - 30.06.08	1,671.84
		<u><u>3,034.07</u></u>

08/234 Bank Reconciliation as at 31 July 2008

The bank reconciliation as at the 31 July 2008 was reported and accepted as follows:

Current Account	£7,156.39
Capital Reserve Account	£113,662.75
Less Cheques outstanding	£6,742.09
Balance Carried forward as at 1.08.08	£114,077.05

08/235 Income and Expenditure & Reserves Report for July 2008

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

Cllr Monk asked Committee Chairs to look at their budgets and anticipated projects for this financial year at their next meetings.

08/236 To Approve the Bills for Payment for August 2008

A schedule of payments, to be made in August 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.

Chq. No.	Min. Ref.	Payment To	Reason for Payment	£
3812		Groundsman	Groundman's Salary August 2008	1,022.81
3813		Clerk	Clerk's Salary August 2008	1,008.88
3814		Part Time Groundsman	P/T Groundsmans wages August 2008	206.40
3815		Litter Picker	Litter Picker wages August 2008	178.60
3816		Community Ctr Cleaner	Cleaner Comm. Centre wages August 2008	223.20
3817		HM Revenue & Customs	PAYE Tax & NI August 2008	777.44
3818		NCC	Pension Contribution August2008	330.29
3819		Mrs J Macken	Postage	6.48
3820		Lovell Hardware	Materials for Groundsman	47.24
3821		ESPO	Diary & Line Marking	26.96
3822		BT	Clerks telephone, broadband	181.73
3823		Euromec Contracts	Parts for Kubota	17.06
3824		B & Q Financial Svs	Gravel - Play Areas Entrances	12.38
3825 08/173		Matt Perkins	Welding of Goal Posts	117.50
3826		D G Salisbury	Cutting Outfield 5.6.08, Marking Snr Pitch	164.50
3827 08/031r		Brixworth Landscaping	Trimming Spratton Road Rec. Grd. hedge	381.88
3828		AH Blason & Son	Fuel	270.50
				4,973.85

Recreation and Amenities Development

08/237 Ashway Playing Field Working Group Meeting

Cllr Chattaway reported that a positive initial meeting had been held on 19 August 2008. The Youth Club will be putting together a survey for circulating to the young members of the community asking for their opinion on facilities in the village. This is to be considered at the next meeting in September. Several people agreed to visit a BMX facility at Gretton, which is located in a residential area. There had been a lot of opposition by local residents prior to the installation of the BMX facility, which apparently causes no problems now.

Highways and Environment- Cont.

08/238 To Accept Minutes of Meeting 5 August 2008

The Minutes of the Committee Meeting held on the 5 August 2008 having been previously distributed were accepted.

08/239 Results of Head Count Survey for A508 Crossing

Two head count surveys were undertaken on Sunday, 3 August and Wednesday, 20 August from 6.00am to 8.00pm. 349 pedestrians/cyclists crossed the A508 road on the Sunday and 186 on the Wednesday. The details have been sent to the County Council who will include the figures in a bid for funding for a pedestrian bridge across the A508 crossing.

08/240 Cars Parking on Grass Verges

It was noted that cars for sale are being parked on the Spratton Road grass verge, this had been reported to the Police. Concerns were raised with regards to cars generally parking on grass verges around the village, therefore it was agreed to defer this matter to the next Highways and Environment Committee.

08/241 Pedestrian Crossing/School Crossing Patrol Northampton Road

NCC Highways are waiting for a site meeting with the developers of the former Rigiflex site. The pedestrian crossing will not be installed until the utilities have been connected to the development, which has been ear marked for January 2009. Once the pedestrian crossing has been installed the County Council will then start the recruitment procedure for a new school crossing patroller.

Correspondence for discussion

08/242 Reply from DDC – Update on Housing Needs Survey

Following the last Full Council meeting, Elaine Ferguson from the District Council had confirmed that the Rigiflex development is covered by a S106 agreement and has a nomination cascade, which states who can qualify for a rental/shared ownership property on the development. In addition this new development does not meet the need for bungalows and two bed roomed houses indicated in the Housing Needs Survey results. The District Council would support a scheme providing no more than 16 dwellings. 6 units being bungalows, with the remaining being 2 and 3 bed roomed houses. The tenure should be two thirds social rented and one-third shared ownership, with the bungalows being 100% social rented.

08/243 Letters from Residents – Proposed Wind Farm

It was noted that the Council has received sixteen letters to date objecting to the proposed Brixworth Wind Farm.

08/244 East Midlands Fire & Rescue Control Centre

A new Fire and Rescue Control Centre is being set up to provide an emergency call handling facility for fire and rescue services in Derbyshire, Leicestershire, Lincolnshire, Northamptonshire and Nottinghamshire. This is part of the Governments initiative to establish nine regional fire and rescue services across the country. The East Midlands centre will be based at Castle Donington and will be fully operational in Summer 2010.

08/245 Eon Acquisition of Public Lighting Division of ABB Ltd

It was noted that Eon has acquired the public lighting division of ABB Ltd, which means that Eon will now be maintaining the Parish Council nine streetlights.

08/246 Four Year Plan

It was suggested that the Council considers what it wishes to achieve in the next four year term and plan and precept the money accordingly. It was agreed for each committee to consider projects it would like to carry out within the next few years.

08/247 Correspondence for information only

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

08/248 Date of Next Meeting

The next Full Council meeting is to be held on Tuesday, 30 September 2008 at 7.15pm in the Village Hall.

08/249 Urgent Matters For Report Only

Due to the sensitive nature of this matter it was resolved to exclude the public and press from the room whilst this matter was discussed, under the Local Government Act 1972.

There being no other business the meeting closed at 9.20pm

Signed as a true record of the above meeting.

Dated 30 September 2008