

## **BRIXWORTH PARISH COUNCIL**

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

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

**In Attendance:** Mrs J Macken – Parish Clerk  
Mr Ola Kaelleniks - Managing Director Mercedes Benz  
Representative from Mercedes Benz  
Approximately 70 members of the public

#### **08/283 Apologies for absence**

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr M Lacey, Cllr S Dobson, Cllr R Monk, Cllr S Whiffen and Sgt M Grady.

#### **08/284 Declaration of Interest on Agenda Items**

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

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

#### **08/285 Police Representative's Report**

Sgt Grady had sent a report to the Council. The following was reported: -

End Sept - Car aerial and wipers taken, Eastfield Road  
6th Oct - Theft from a washing line Broadlands  
10th Oct - Car scratched St Davids Road  
13th Oct - Pumpkins stolen from the allotments  
17th Oct - Dwelling burglary St Davids Road, plasma TV taken - detected to suspect along with 7 other burglaries, 17yr old bailed to court 3rd November  
19th Oct - Attempt to take HGV tractor unit Ferro fields  
24th Oct - Car scratched St Davids Road (linked to offence 10th Oct and being investigated)

96 crimes year to date compared to 108 in 2007. Nothing alarming, mostly small increase in vehicle interference (attempt thefts of motorcycles)

#### **08/286 Signing of the Minutes of the Last Meeting 30 September 2008**

The minutes of the meeting held on 30 September 2008 were agreed and signed by the Chairman as a true and correct record of this meeting.

*The meeting adjourned at 7.20pm to allow members of the public to address the Council.*

*Matters raised by members of the public are attached to the minutes as Appendix A.*

*The meeting reconvened at 8.05pm.*

## **Planning**

### ***08/287 Minutes of Meetings 13 October 2008***

The Minutes of the Committee Meeting held on the 13 October 2008 having been previously distributed were accepted.

### ***08/288 DA/2008/0997 Mercedes-Benz Technology Centre, Morgan Drive, Brixworth***

*Two wind turbines, foundations and ancillary equipment, new access to site*

*Cllr F Wiig and Cllr E Wiig left the room*

The Chairman reported that new montages had been received and circulated to members. Letters and emails received from residents had been circulated to members. A blimp is to flown during the weekend of 1-2 November 2008. This blimp will indicate the height of the proposed two turbines. Mercedes Benz HPE also hoped to provide efficiency data to the Council before the planning meeting. Mercedes Benz HPE will be holding an Open Day on 13 November 2008 in the Village Hall, where members of the public can view the proposal and ask questions.

It was resolved to defer making the decision to the planning committee meeting on 3 November 2008, to enable members to see the blimp at the weekend and to receive the efficiency data.

*Cllr F Wiig and Cllr E Wiig returned back into the room.*

### ***08/289 DDC Planning Approvals and Refusals – October 2008 Report***

The planning approvals and refusals for October 2008 were noted as follows: -

#### ***Approved***

#### **DA/2008/0686 Mr C Peck, The Granary, Church Street, Brixworth**

*Listed building consent for internal alterations to remove staircase, enlarge bathroom and separate bedrooms*

***14.7.08 No objection***

***18.8.08 DDC Approved***

#### **DA/2008/0823 Mrs Bird, 50 Brackenborough, Brixworth**

*Conservatory to rear of dwelling*

**1.9.08 No Objection**

**26.9.08 DDC Approved**

### ***08/290 Report on the Proposed Wind Farm at Lodge Farm (north of Brixworth)***

Cllr F Wiig confirmed that the District Council has not yet registered the application, as it is waiting for further clarification and information. Once the application is registered it will be available for viewing on the DDC website, a press release in the Chronicle & Echo and a letter is to be sent to every household.

## **Finance**

### ***08/291 Income Received for September 2008***

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

<b>Received from</b>	<b>Details</b>	<b>£</b>
DDC	Precept - Second instalment	49,516.00
Community Centre	Hall Hire	433.94
ASFC	First Instalment Ground Rent - St Davids/Ashway	406.25
AFC Crown	Hire of Ashway PF Pitch & C/rooms	80.00
Natwest Bank	Bank Interest - July - Sept 08	693.65
BCF Action Ltd	Second instalment Rent Olive Branch	290.96
Shoosmiths Solicitors	Accrued Interest of Funds Held by Solicitors	29.74
		<b><u>51,450.54</u></b>

### ***08/292 Bank Reconciliation as at 30 September 2008***

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

Current Account	£14,056.90
Capital Reserve Account	£146,872.40
Less Cheques outstanding	£6,746.00
Plus Credits not yet lodged	£1,240.89
Balance Carried forward as at 1.10.08	£155,424.19

### ***08/293 Income and Expenditure & Reserves Report for September 2008***

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

### ***08/294 Donation for Parish Council Poppy Wreath***

It was resolved to donate £16.50 to the British Legion towards the purchase of a Poppy Wreath for Remembrance Sunday, under the Local Government Act 1972 section 137.

### ***08/295 To Approve the Bills for Payment for October 2008***

A schedule of payments, to be made in October 2008 was available to each member at the meeting.

It was noted that The Employers side of the National Joint Council (NJC) for Local Government Services has made a final pay offer for 2008/09 of 2.45%. No agreement has been reached and this failure to agree has been referred to arbitration by the Trade Union Side. The Employers have acceded to this request.

Given the time that has elapsed since the award was due, and the likelihood of further delays arising from the arbitration process, the two sides of the NJC have now decided that the Employers' final offer should be implemented, with effect from 1 April 2008.

Both the National Association and the Society of Local Council Clerks jointly recommend that the interim award based on this decision by the National Joint Council for Local Government Services is implemented with immediate effect. A further briefing will follow once the arbitration process referred to above is complete indicating the implications (if any) on the award affecting salaries in 2008/09.

So whilst this isn't the final salary agreement for the current year, it is at least official authorisation to increase salaries by 2.45% pending any further adjustments once arbitration has been completed. The pay for October 2008 includes backpay and increase.

It was resolved for the following accounts to be passed for payment; therefore the Chairman signed the schedule of payments.

<b>Chq No.</b>	<b>Payment To</b>	<b>Reason for Payment</b>	<b>£</b>
3856	Groundsman	Groundman's Salary Oct 2008	1,177.15
3857	Clerk	Clerk's Salary Oct 2008	1,168.75
3858	Litter Picker	Litter Picker wages Oct 2008	212.40
3859	Cleaner	Cleaner Comm. Centre wages Oct 2008	265.60
3860	PT Groundsman	P/T Groundsmans wages Oct 2008	139.00
3861	HM Revenue & Customs	PAYE Tax & NI Oct 2008	926.26
3862	NCC	Pension Contribution Oct 2008	386.95
3863	Mrs J Macken	Postage & Mileage	33.35
3864	Lovell Hardware	Groundsman materials	9.55
3865	The Mower Shop	Service parts for mowers	63.76
3866	Eurooffice Ltd	Printer cartridge	50.51
3867	Eon	Street Light Electricity Chg - 1.07.08 - 30.09.08	62.74
3868	Avenue Agricultural	Roundup	123.38
3869	Complete Weed Control	Spray weeds- Sports fields	599.25
3870	Brixworth Village Hall	Hall Hire for Council Mtgs - Oct - Dec 08	65.46
3871	BDO Stoy Hayward	External Audit for year ending 31.03.08	646.25
3872	RBL Poppy Appeal	Poppy Wreath - Donation to Poppy Appeal	16.50
3873	AH Blason & Son	Fuel	123.40
			<b>6,070.26</b>

***08/296 To Accept Minutes of Meeting 14 October 2008***

The minutes are yet to be circulated.

***08/297 Health and Safety Policy***

It was resolved to adopt the Health and Safety Policy as recommended by the Finance Committee.

***08/298 Model Publication Scheme and Guidance for Information***

It was resolved to adopt the Model Publication Scheme issued by the Information Commissioner's office, together with the Guide to Information.

***08/299 Amendment to Adopted Complaints Procedure***

It was resolved to amend the Complaints procedure to include the following: -

10. If you are still not happy after using our own complaints procedure the Information Commissioner will investigate complaints relating to Freedom of Information and Data Protection. Contact details are:

Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF Help Line: 01625 545 745 Email: mail@ico.gsi.gov.uk

## **Recreation and Amenities Development**

### ***08/300 Resignation of Chairman***

The Chairman reported that Cllr Everard had resigned from the Chair of Recreation and Amenity Committee. Cllr Everard was thanked for his positive work and proactive approach as Chair. A new Chairman will be elected at the next meeting.

### ***08/301 Trimming of St David's Recreation Ground Hedge and Trees***

It was resolved to approve the quote from E M Pell for the trimming of the trees and shrubs on St David's Recreation Ground at a cost of £480.00.

### ***08/302 Removal of Dying Horse Chestnut and Replace with an Ash Tree on St David's Recreation Ground***

It was resolved to accept the quote for the removal of the dying Horse Chestnut and replace with an Ash tree, at a cost of £130.00. It was noted that a dwarf species of Ash would be preferable and that an Ash tree would be hardier than a Horse Chestnut in that location, which had been advised by the tree surgeon. The cost includes for a metal protective surround.

## **Highways and Environment**

### ***08/303 To Accept Minutes of Meetings 7 October 2008***

The Minutes of the Committee Meeting held on the 7 October 2008 having been previously distributed were accepted.

### ***08/304 Daventry District Housing Estate and Village Walkabout***

Daventry District Housing (DDH) is hoping to arrange some regular Estate and Village walkabouts within the district in the near future to discuss any arising issues and carry out an environmental audit of the areas it owns. This may take place once a quarter and the Parish Council has been invited along to the walkabout. It was agreed for the Clerk to arrange a walkabout with DDH.

### ***08/305 Cost of Flag Poles and Flags***

Cllr Bament confirmed the cost of the 10metre flag pole from Zephyr would cost £454.95 ex VAT. It was resolved to purchase a Union Jack flag and a Saint George flag at a cost of £79.95 each. Carriage charge would be £65.00, however Cllr Bament offered to collect the flagpole using his trailer.

### ***08/306 Action for Vehicles Parking on Northampton Road Grass Verge***

Concerns were raised at the committee meeting regarding the damage to the grass verge in Northampton Road, near to the Ashway roundabout, by parked vehicles. The County Council, who are responsible for grass verges, had agreed to write to the owner of the vehicles to request that they cease parking on the verge.

### ***08/307 Use of Library/ Community Centre Foyer for Wind Farm Display***

Stop the Brixworth Wind Farm Group had asked the Community Centre Manager whether they could put up a display in the foyer, once the planning application had been received. The Council agreed that both sides should be allowed to exhibit in the foyer if required.

### **Correspondence for discussion**

#### ***08/308 NCC – Transport & Highways Top 10 Local Priorities***

The County Council has asked the Parish Council for its Top Ten local priorities, regarding transport and highways, in Brixworth. The following were put forward: -

- Resurface Footpaths – Harborough Road, parts of Northampton Road and Station Road.
- Footbridge for A508 and or red marking of crossing on A508 road
- School Crossing Patrol Person – Northampton Road
- Friday and Saturday late evening bus service from Northampton to Brixworth for young people.
- Resurface Merry Tom Lane
- Tidy up Ashway/Northampton Road Roundabout
- Change priority of Spratton Road / Northampton Road junction. So that the road runs from the shops on Spratton Road and turns right into Northampton Road.
- Traffic calming along route from Coach and Horses to the Red Lion.
- Provide pedestrian access from Northampton Road/A508 roundabout junction to Brixworth Country Park. To include marking of crossing on the road.

#### ***08/309 East Midlands Regional Assembly – East Midlands Regional Plan Partial Review***

This was referred to the Planning Committee.

#### ***08/310 Chairman’s Correspondence***

The chairman reported that he had received details from a local carpenter, which will be kept on file, together with a letter from a gentleman regarding the Declaration of Independence, which was noted. In addition he had also received a letter from an ex soldier who would like to see a Remembrance Parade in Brixworth. The Chairman had informed this ex soldier that there was a Remembrance service at the church, at which the Parish Council lays a wreath and that he may wish to take this matter up with the P.C.C.

#### ***08/311 Affordable Housing Needs Survey***

This item was deferred to the next Full Council meeting.

#### ***08/312 Parish Council Newsletter***

Cllr Monk had prepared a draft Parish Council Newsletter. The Council approved the newsletter, which is to be printed and circulated with the next edition of the Brixworth Bulletin at a cost of £200.00.

*Cllr Millar arrived*

#### ***08/313 County Councillors Report***

Cllr Millar reported the following :-

- Asda planning application for a Wind Turbine had been refused by the WNDC for health and safety reasons.
- The double yellow lines are in the process and should be completed by Christmas.

- The legal costs for the licence for the 'old' A508 land is to be funded by Cllr Millar's empowerment fund (£2,000.00). The Parish Council will need to pay for the two signs required at a cost of £250.00.
- The Clerk reported that she had been advised by DDC IT department that the Parish support has been withdrawn and that the Parish Council would have to provide a new computer if her current one was beyond repair. Cllr Millar suggested contacting Cllr Colin Poole.
- Brixworth Household Recycling Centre is to stay, as it is well used.
- The suggested Landfill site wind turbine has been withdrawn.
- Concerns with regards to the size and number of the proposed wind farms in the area. An appeal is hard to be upheld.
- Brixworth Travel Club had received funding from the Empowerment fund.

The Parish Council thanked Cllr Millar for his assistance with regards to the double yellow lines and the land on the A508. Also Cllr Millar's assistance was required with regards to chasing up the School Crossing Patrol.

**08/314 Correspondence for information only**

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

**08/315 Date of Next Meeting**

The next Full Council meeting is to be held on Tuesday, 25 November 2008 at 7.15pm in the Village Hall.

**Urgent Matters For Report Only**

**08/316 Street Lamp**

Mr John Blason wished to remind the Council that an old unused street lamp is still being stored in his yard.

**08/317 JAG Meeting**

Cllr F Wiig reported that at the JAG meeting it was noted that funding is available for youth projects from the District Council (Money for Youth). Applications are to be made by young citizens. This may be appropriate for the development of the A508 land.

**08/318 Village Carnival**

It was noted that there has been a couple of interested members in the community who would be prepared to be on the organising committee. Cllr F Wiig suggested for the committee to be formulated into a charity organisation, which could distribute any funds made. This to be discussed further at the next Full Council meeting.

There being no other business the meeting closed at 9.25pm

Signed as a true record of the above meeting.

Dated 25 November 2008

**Matters raised by members of the public**

Some of the points raised by members of the public in relation to Mercedes Benz HPE planning application for Two Wind Turbines are as follows:-

- No information provided regarding the data of the wind speeds over the last year
- Concerns that one of the turbines would be sited on a former landfill site.
- Concerns for Health and Safety to nearby homes. Nearest properties 490m away. 100m from A508 road, adjacent landfill site.
- Concerned about the visual impact to Saxon Church in Brixworth and Grade II listed church in Scaldwell.
- Concerns about the possible noise and shadow flicker to nearby properties.
- Adjacent to special landscaped area as per Brixworth Village Design Statement
- Three times the height of the church, which has been an ancient landmark for 1300 years.
- Known to be a low wind speed area
- Concern for local wildlife
- Distraction for drivers
- Congestion of increased traffic and concerns to new access on A508.
- Can Mercedes Benz HPE reduce the car park lighting
- Concerns over the toppling of wind Turbines, broken bits flying off and the turbines catching fire (especially the one on the former landfill site).
- Normally wind turbines are 26 – 28% efficient. Burton Latimer turbines recorded to be 18.6% efficient.
- The turbines would be heavily subsidised by the Government
- What would be the economic justification?
- Brixworth would not benefit directly from the Wind Turbines

Mr Ola Kallenius, MD, Mercedes Benz HPE made the following points: -

- The German company acquired Ilmor Engineering, it employs approximately 450 people and has invested half a million in the infrastructure in Brixworth.
- Mercedes Benz HPE has shown and will continue to show its commitment to staying in Brixworth. The F1 production will move from Stuttgart to Brixworth.
- The calculations will be made available to the Parish Council
- When both turbines are turning, they will generate enough power for the entire factory.
- The Country is committed to Renewable Energy
- Notes of the questions raised at the meeting have been made
- Pending CAA approval and weather permitting a Blimp is to be flown during the weekend 1-2 November 2008, in the car park, to indicate the proposed height of the turbines.
- Public Open Day 13 November 2008 – Brixworth Village Hall.