

BRIXWORTH PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday, 16 December 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 Gunnet M Lacey, R Monk, Mrs E Nunn (after co-option), S Whiffen, Mrs E Wiig and F Wiig

In Attendance: Mrs J Macken – Parish Clerk
Three Applicants for Parish Councillor Vacancy
PCSO Jo Hillery - Northants Police
Sgt J Harris - Northants Police
Member of the Public

08/362 Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr S Pointer and Cllr R Low

08/363 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 M Lacey declared a personal interest – One of the applicants for the Parish Council vacancy is a neighbour

08/364 Signing of the Minutes of the Last Meeting 25 November 2008

The minutes of the meeting held on 25 November 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.

08/365 Co-option of Parish Councillor

The Chairman thanked the four applicants for applying for the vacancy. Unfortunately there is only one vacancy, which can be filled by co-option. However it was noted that Cllr Steve Dobson had resigned that morning, which means that the Council will be looking for another member in the near future and it was hoped that the unsuccessful candidates would consider applying for this vacancy.

Each of the four applicants had sent a letter to the Council (a copy of which had been previously circulated to all members), giving brief information about themselves and why they would like to be a Parish Councillor. Each one then had the opportunity to expand on their letter at the meeting.

The applicants and members of the public were asked to leave the room, to enable the Council to vote.

It was agreed to vote by signed ballot. Following a vote, it was resolved to Co-opt Mrs Elaine Nunn as a Parish Councillor.

Everybody was invited back into the room and Mrs Nunn joined the members and continued the meeting as a Parish Councillor, after signing her declaration of acceptance.

08/366 Police Representative's Report

PCSO Jo Hillery gave the following report: -

- A JCB had been taken from Mawsley Machinery
- Brixworth Country Park hide had been damaged
- Industrial Unit window smashed
- Theft at Boniface House
- Shoplifting at the Co-op
- Generator taken at the Rigiflex site

PCSO Jo Hillery had been bowling with 15 youths from Brixworth, which was a successful night out.

Cllr Whiffen reported that motorbikes had been riding on the Ashway Playing Field late one night; this was reported to the Police, who responded within 5 minutes.

Cllrs were invited to walk the 'beat' with officers one night.

The Council thanked PCSO Jo Hillery for the tremendous work she does in the village, the rapport she has built up with the young people, which has dramatically improved anti social behaviour.

Sgt J Harris stated that she hoped to work with voluntary organisations on long term developments supporting and providing resources for youngsters.

It was noted that courts are reluctant to issuing parenting orders.

Planning

08/367 Minutes of Meetings 15 December 2008

The Minutes of the Committee Meeting held on the 15 December 2008 having been previously distributed were accepted.

There will be a site visit on Saturday morning for the planning application in the Knoll and at Saxon House.

08/368 Pre-application consultation Mabbutts Woodyard, Station Road, Brixworth:

At the planning committee meeting a presentation was given by Richard Butterfield Group Managing Director of the Principal Group and his associates from A&DP, in which they outlined their aspirations to re-develop the former wood yard site in Station Road. This site has been derelict for twenty years. The developers are consulting with Parish Councils for a reaction of their intentions. The company needs to relocate when their current lease expires in the near future. They hope to obtain a reclassification of the site from B2 to B1 and develop it as a small commercial zone with offices, possibly light industry, and some housing. Cllr F Wiig stated that any new houses would have to be tied in with the employees on site. It was noted that there would be an increase in the movement of traffic, mostly cars, vans and delivery vehicles.

08/369 Mercedes Benz HPE - Two Wind Turbines

It was noted that Mercedes Benz has completely withdrawn its planning application. It has 'entered into a long term agreement with its current electricity supplier which

covers the complete electricity demand for the site to be generated from verifiable renewable sources. In essence providing Mercedes-Benz with “green” electricity’.

08/370 DDC Planning Approvals and Refusals – December 2008 Report

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

Approved

DA/2008/0941 Froghall Farm, 4 Froghall, Brixworth

Alterations to house, single storey extensions and alterations to barn to convert to residential accommodation

30.6.08 PC Objects 12.11.08 DDC Approved

DA/2008/1042 George Inn, Northampton Rd, Brixworth

Listed Building Consent for Replacement pub signage

3.11.08 PC No objections 26.11.08 DDC Approved

DA/2008/1085 Pharmacy, 4 Hunters Way, Brixworth

Illuminated Fascia Sign and Projecting sign

3.11.08 PC No objection 2.12.08 DDC Approved

Refused

DA/2008/0996 Mr S Mehra, The Manor, Harborough Road, Brixworth

Guest Wing comprising guest flat, function room, games room and storage, with roof terrace over function room and games room.

13.10.08 PC strongly objects 11.11.08 DDC Refused

08/371 Report on the Proposed Wind Farm at Lodge Farm (north of Brixworth)

The District Council has not yet registered the application, as it is still waiting for further clarification and information. The application is expected soon, if the consultation starts during the holiday period, Cllr F Wiig will ask for an extension.

Finance

08/372 Income Received for November 2008

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

Received from	Details	£
Community Centre	Hall Hire	513.60
NCC	Contribution for Cleaning foyer and toilets	606.51
Freestyle Soccer Academy	Use of St David’s Ground - October 08	88.13
		<u>1,208.24</u>

08/373 Bank Reconciliation as at 30 November 2008

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

Current Account	£13,043.54
Capital Reserve Account	£136,872.40
Less Cheques outstanding	£6,300.94
Balance Carried forward as at 1.12.08	£143,615.00

08/374 Income and Expenditure & Reserves Report for November 2008

The Council accepted the Income and Expenditure and reserves report for November 2008. There is nothing significant to report, most of the budgets compared to actual are as expected.

08/375 Renewal of Clerks Membership to SLCC

It was resolved to renew the Clerks membership to SLCC for £149.00.

08/376 Clerks Membership to The Institute of Local Council Management ILCM

The Clerk reported that as from January 2009, she has been a Clerk for five years and together with her Cilca qualification, qualifies to be a member of the Institute of Local Council Management. She is an active member of the Northants SLCC branch, as well as a member of the SLCC Executive Branch Committee.

As part of the membership she would need to carry out CPD Continuous Professional Development, which ensures that she is keeping up with training and personal professional development. This level of membership gives the Clerk letters that will signify her academic achievement and show the wider public and the Parish Council that they are employing a professional qualified clerk and that they are committed to training.

Following a discussion and a vote it was resolved to pay for the Clerks membership to the ILCM at a cost of £65.00.

08/377 To Approve the Bills for Payment for December 2008

A schedule of payments, to be made in December 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.

Direct Debit Payments

British Gas	Elec. Chgs. Comm. Ctr. Sept - Nov 08	189.42
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Cheque Payments

Chq. No.	Minute	Payment To	Reason for Payment	
3902		Groundsman	Groundman's Salary Dec 2008	1,063.83
3903		Clerk	Clerk's Salary Dec 2008	1,040.51
3904		Litter Picker	Litter Picker wages Dec 2008	229.30
3905		Part Time Groundsman	P/T Groundsmans wages Dec 2008	142.67
3906		Cleaner	Cleaner Comm. Centre wages Dec 2008	286.50
3907		HM Revenue & Customs	PAYE Tax & NI Dec 2008	785.63
3908		NCC	Contribution to Pension Dec 2008	338.38
3909		Mrs J Macken	Clerks Allowance, Postage & eye test	103.98
3910		Mr I Barratt	Chairman's Telephone Allowance	37.50
3911		Eurooffice	Printer cartridge for Clerks printer	53.80
3912		Post Office Ltd	Vehicle Licence renewal - Pick up	185.00
3913		ESPO	Stationery & Safety Boots	48.53
3914		Lovell Hardware	Materials for groundsmen	164.81
3915		E.ON	Street Light maintenance Oct - Dec 08	27.16
3916	08/312	Brixworth Bulletin	Printing and circulation of newsletter	200.00
3917	08/341	Northants ACRE	Annual Support	34.00
3918		SLCC	Renewal of Clerks Annual Subscription	149.00
3919		AH Blason & Son	Fuel for pick up	41.59
3920		Mrs E Bell	Caretaking Watercolour Art Classes	72.50
				5,194.11

It was noted that the Clerks pay is less than the Groundsman due to the Clerk being in the Councils Pension Scheme.

08/378 To Review Council's Fidelity Guarantee Insurance

The external auditor has raised the issue on the level of the Councils Fidelity Guarantee Insurance yet again, which is currently at £50,000. The auditor has asked the Council to review this sum annually and had issued guidelines for the Council to consider. 'It is recommended that the amount is sufficient to cover the maximum amount of money the Council holds at any one time during the year'. The Clerk pointed out that the Council would have approximately £170,000 in the bank in April 2009 (£120,000 at year end and £50,000 for half the precept). The cost for additional insurance would be in the region of £140.00 per £50,000 insured.

The Council resolved to increase the Fidelity Guarantee insurance sum to £150,000, subject to the Chair of Finance Committee going through the insurance document. In addition the Council is to obtain a comparison quote from Zurich and report back to the next Council meeting.

08/379 Purchase of a Replacement Fax/Phone/Answer phone for The Clerk

It was resolved to purchase a new Fax/Phone/Answerphone for the Clerk at a cost in the region of £102.00.

08/380 County Councillor Report

Cllr Millar reported the following: -

- It was thought that the yellow lines would have been completed by Christmas, however the Officer has not moved this forward, therefore Cllr Millar will be pursuing this matter.
- The Road Traffic Order for the former A508 land is being moved forward.
- The proposal for the West Haddon gravel extraction site has been removed
- Cllr Millar will keep the Council updated with regards to the Local Development Framework proposals, in particular the expansion of Northampton
- Buckton Fields Development to consist of 1500 homes
- Moulton College expansion proposal may cause traffic issues
- 10,000 homes approved for Daventry, S106 agreement includes new roads

Recreation and Amenities Development

08/381 Report on Meeting with BMX Contractors

Cllr Bament and the Clerk had met a contractor on site, who will provide the Council with a proposed BMX layout and a quote for the A508 land. It was agreed that the young people would be involved in the final design of the track.

Highways and Environment

08/382 Work to the Millennium Garden and Library / Community Centre Border

It was resolved to accept the quotation from Brixworth Landscapes to carry out work in the Millennium Garden and to the Library border at a cost of £355.

08/383 Report on the District Council Fast Food Litter Campaign

Commencing on 13 January 2009 Daventry District Council will be running a fast food litter campaign (Dirty Pig), targeting the public and fast food establishments to reduce the amount of fast food litter dropped on the streets. The District Council will increase enforcement patrols, run activities with schools and try to engage with businesses to ensure they are taking responsibility to reduce the litter originating from their premises. In addition it will be working with the Town Centre Partnership, Police, Parish Councils, Pubwatch and other departments within the authority.

The Parish Council agreed to support this campaign, especially to reduce the amount of litter in Hunters Way.

08/384 Update on the Public Open Space in the Ridings

The Chairman reminded members that the Council had agreed to review the situation of the use of the open space in the Ridings after six months. The Chairman had spoken to the resident who had confirmed that following the meeting in the Summer the situation had improved. It was agreed no further action is required.

08/385 Environment Working Group

Cllr Whiffen confirmed that he would be arranging a meeting with members and residents who have showed an interest in January 2009. Cllr Bament, Cllr Everard, Cllr Whiffen and Cllr Nunn agreed to join the working group.

It was suggested that a note about the group is mentioned in the next newsletter, asking anyone interested to contact the Council.

Correspondence for discussion

08/386 Letter from Resident - Parking in Froxhill Crescent Opposite Rigiflex Site

A letter had been received from a resident concerned about the tradesman from the Rigiflex site parking in Froxhill Crescent and blocking their drive. The residents enquired whether the Council could assist in getting the white line across their drive reinstated and extended to increase visibility.

Cllr Bament agreed to take this matter up with the Area Manager and to discuss further at the next Highways and Environment committee meeting.

08/387 Communities and Local Government – Consultation on Codes of Conduct for Local Authority members and Employees

The Chairman gave a brief overview of the document and referred to a couple of points. It was agreed not to respond but to note the document.

08/388 Chubb Fire Ltd – Merging with Kidde Fire Protection Services Ltd

It was noted that Kidde Fire Protection Services Ltd has now merged with Chubb Fire Ltd. Kidde carry out the servicing of the fire extinguishers and emergency lighting for the Changing Rooms.

08/389 Information Commissioner's Office – Freedom of Information

A letter from the Information Commissioners Office had been received, stating that the Council must adopt a new model publication scheme by 1 January 2009. The Council has already adopted this model together with guidance for information. It was

noted that the model publication scheme and guidance to information can be viewed at the Library and on the Brixworth online website.

08/390 NALC – NCC Conference for Parishes – 18 March 2009

This item to be deferred to the next meeting.

08/391 Gas Works – Harborough Road

The Chairman reported that he had received a call from Mr Hamson, concerned about the gas road works in Harborough Road, affecting his business. Apparently the work should have been completed at the beginning of December. Even though the road works are up, no further work appears to be carried out. The Clerk was asked to contact Transco and the County Council to express the Parish Council concerns.

(These road works were removed on 17 December 2008)

Cllr Monk declared a personal interest.

08/392 Correspondence for information only

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

It was noted that a thank you letter had been received from DACT.

08/393 Date of Next Meeting

The next Full Council meeting is to be held on Tuesday, 27 January 2009 at 7.15pm in the Village Hall.

Urgent Matters For Report Only

08/394 Christmas Dinner

The Council Christmas dinner is to be held at the George on Thursday, 18 December 2008 at 7pm.

08/395 Fly Posting

Concerns were raised with regards to fly posting, in particular near to the A508 roundabout to the country park. Following a discussion it was agreed to defer this matter to the next Highways and Environment committee meeting and to notify the local authority.

There being no other business the meeting closed at 9.25pm

Signed as a true record of the above meeting.

Dated 27 January 2009