

BRIXWORTH PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 27 January 2004 at 7.15p.m. in the coffee shop, Brixworth Library, Spratton Road, Brixworth

Present: Cllr. L Tyrer (Chairman)
Councillors: Miss L Cramp, Mrs F Peacock, Mrs E Wiig,
Messrs. J Blason, B Chattaway, H Fox, S Mabbutt, R Monk, M Nice,
J Ruch and F Wiig.

In Attendance: Mrs T Stacey – Parish Clerk
Mrs J Macken – New Parish Clerk
Mr R Foster – (Brixworth Cricket Club)

The chairman welcomed the member of the public to the meeting.

Questions from the public

Mr Ray Foster referred to his letter to the Parish Council dated 2 January 2004, regarding the allocation of the facilities at St David's playing fields in April. Both the Brixworth Cricket Club and the Brixworth All Saints Football Club wished to use the ground on the 24 April 2004. The cricket club was unable to resolve this matter with the football club, so the matter had been raised at the Recreation Committee and subsequently brought to the attention of the Full Parish Council for the problem to be resolved.

The Chairman informed the meeting that for the past ten years there had been a "gentleman's" agreement that the Football Club would use the ground between October and April and the Cricket Club between May and September. However, Mr Foster explained that this agreement was no longer convenient and would like the unofficial period to be moved back one week from 24 April to 18 September.

The Chairman responded by reading a letter received from the Brixworth Football Club dated 25 January 2004, by honoring the "gentleman's" agreement, the Football Club during the month of September 2003 had to arrange 3 or 4 away fixtures and were unable to use the ground for training in the evenings during August 2003.

It was agreed that the Parish Council did not want to judicate and that the two clubs needed to resolve the problem themselves. Cllr. Blason agreed to approach both teams on behalf of the Parish Council, one suggestion being that the Football Club used the ground for evening games in August and in return the Cricket Club could use the field on the 24 April 2004.

04/001 Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Cllr. Peter Oliver (Vice-Chairman).

04/002 Appointment of Clerk

The Chairman reported that he had appointed Jane Macken as at 26 January 2004 following a successful interview held with representatives of the Parish Council. This appointment was ratified by the Full Parish Council and Jane was welcomed to the meeting. The Chairman thanked Tracy on behalf of the Parish Council for all her hard work, and explained that Tracy would be shadowing Jane until the end of February 2004.

04/003 Declarations of Interest

Declarations of Interest were received from: -

Cllr E Wiig – Planning Application – District Councillor on DDC Planning Committee.

Cllr F Wiig – Planning Application – District Councillor on DDC Planning Committee.

Cllr B Chattaway – Planning Applications

04/004 Signing of the Minutes of the Last Meeting 16 December 2003

The minutes of the meeting 16 December 2003 having been previously distributed were agreed and signed by the Chairman as a true and correct record at this meeting after the following amendment was made, following a vote of 8 in favour, 2 against and 2 abstentions. Cllr. F Wiig wished it to be recorded that he objected to both the original and amended minutes.

The Minutes were amended to read: -

03/468 DA/2003/1358 – Dr D Burston, Dallas Burston Group, Haywards Barn, Northampton Road, Brixworth, Change of use of land to cricket field.

Councillors E Wiig and F Wiig Declared an Interest and took no part in discussions or decisions.

The Parish Council support the site being used as a cricket pitch, but do have serious concerns regarding the tenure of this site and will therefore have to formally object to this application in their letter to DDC.

Matters arising from last minutes

04/005 DA/2003/1358 – Haywards Barn

The Parish Council agree with the terms of the letter which was sent to DDC and that it correctly reflected the opinion of the Parish Council.

Cllr. Ruch will try to attend the DDC planning meeting to express the views of the Parish Council with regard to this application.

04/006 Removal of hedge – St David's Recreation Ground

The hedge had now been removed and it was all agreed that this was a significant improvement. Grass seeds have been purchased and will be sown in the Spring. The groundsman would be asked to maintain the area preventing any further hedge growth.

04/007 Ashway Playing Fields – Changing rooms Planning Application

Planning approval by DDC had been received for the building of the Changing Rooms on the Ashway Playing Field. The Clerk was asked to notify our architects QMP of this decision and to proceed with obtaining building tenders.

04/008 Youth Meetings

The Chairman reported that he had received a letter advising him that a Drop in Centre is to commence on the 29 January 2004 at the Library/Community Centre. Cllr. Nice reported that unlike a Youth Club, the meetings are to be more formal with set times for arriving and leaving.

Cllr. E Wiig reported that a signed registration form was required from the parents and the young people, as well as a registration card, which could be cancelled at any time following misbehaviour. It was hoped this arrangement would be successful.

04/009 Youth Issues - Brixworth

The Chairman reported that he had received a copy of a memo from Chief Superintendent John Millar regarding the anti-social behaviour and nuisance caused by local youths at the Library/ Community Centre. The memo states that “the use of Anti-social Behaviour Orders is a matter which needs to be considered urgently”. The Parish Council support any progress in regard to improve the anti-social behaviour currently being experienced in the village.

04/010 Millennium Garden – Watering system

Cllr. Mabbutt was asked to obtain a further quote for the installation of a watering system to the Millennium Garden. This would be forwarded to Cllr. Fox who was authorised to accept the Best Value Quotation under £500.00.

04/011 Additional Floodlight – St David’s Rec.

It was agreed that the Football Club could apply for planning permission for additional floodlighting themselves. The Parish Council to formally write to the football club stating that they support the application and that they can legally apply for planning application themselves.

04/012 Ransom Gang Mower

The Clerk reported that she had received two quotations for the overhaul of the gang mower, the lowest being £1,271.85 + VAT. The Chairman asked that the specification

of quotations be compared and the Best Value is approved. Cllr. Chattaway proposed and Cllr. Blason seconded and all agreed.

Matters arising from Last Minutes Awaiting Response

The Chairman reported that matters arising from last minutes, which are awaiting response would be recorded as being outstanding. This was agreed.

a) Highway Signs – Recreation Grounds b) Cycle Barrier – The Ashway c) Memorial A508.

04/013 Police Update

Cllr, Nice reported his concerns with regard to T.J. who is known by the local police, whose anti-social behaviour has been a constant nuisance to Library/Community Centre staff. It was agreed that T.J. would not be allowed on the premises whilst he continues with this behaviour. The Clerk was asked to notify PC Alan Tinker of their decision

Cllr. E Wiig reported that she would be meeting with the Police on Wednesday 28 January 2004 to discuss this and other local issues.

Cllr. Nice reported that this was the last week the security guards would be patrolling the Library/Community Centre on Monday and Thursday evenings. Patrolling the Library/Community Centre, on these evenings, had helped to prevent disruption from youths to the Centre. It was hoped that the proposed removal of these guards in the next week would not re-instate this problem.

Ashway Playing Fields

04/014 Dog-fouling on playing field

Cllr. Nice reported that the Dog Warden had inspected the playing field and had fined two dog owners for allowing their dogs to foul the area. The Amenities Committee and the Sports Club are considering possible preventative measures.

Planning

04/015 Approvals

DA/2003/0981 - Mr D Longland, Manor Farm, Northampton Road, Brixworth
Fruit store, dutch barn and livestock building

PC 03/12/03 - No objection, provided application is still subject to the relevant conditions previously requested relating to advertising on the sides of the buildings, signage, and car parking.

Approved by DDC 17/12/03

DA/2003/1274 - G Camm, 20 Newlands, Brixworth - Replacement garage

PC No objection 12/11/03 - DDC Approved 08/12/03

DA/2003/1344 - Mr J Anderson, 16 Spratton Road, Brixworth - Single storey extension to side of dwelling - PC No objection 03/12/03 - Approved by DDC 18/12/03

DA/2003/1245 - Mr & Mrs J Howarth, The Boat House, Cross Hill, Brixworth Construction of one dormer window to south roof plane and two dormer windows to north roof plans (retrospective) - PC No objection 12/11/03 - Approved by DDC 17/12/03

DA/2003/1224 - Mr R Sawyer & Miss J Triggs, 1 Froghall Cottage, Froxhall, Brixworth - Demolition of lean to garage, erection of storey and single storey extension to side including garage.
PC No objection materials to be used should be in keeping and compatible with the existing building 12/11/03 - PC No objection 03/12/03 - Approved by DDC 05/12/03

DA/2003/1338 – Mr & Mrs Johnson, 9 Tantree Way, Brixworth - First floor extension and internal alterations - PC No objection 03/12/03, Approved by DDC 29/12/03

DA/2003/1374 – Mr C J McDonald, 32 Knightons Way, Brixworth – Single storey extension to rear of dwelling - PC No objection 03/12/03 - Approved by DDC 29/12/03

DA/2003/1357 - Mr A Scott, 27 Stannard Way, Brixworth - Front and rear dormer extensions and conservatory at rear

PC No objection 03/12/03 - Approved by DDC 09/01/04

DA/2003/1154 – Mr & Mrs J Maeers, The Lodge, Harborough Road, Brixworth Conversion of existing barns to one dwelling

PC 22/10/03 – No objection. - Additional plans received for info only
Approved by DDC 08/01/04

DA/2003/1155LB - Mr & Mrs J Maeers, The Lodge, Harborough Road, Brixworth Conversion of existing barns and outbuildings to one dwelling

PC 22/10/03 - This is an application relating to listed building regulations in respect of the above application (1154) for the conversion of the barns, which are listed. No objection. Additional plans received for info only
Approved by DDC 08/01/04

DA/2003/1362 – Ashway Playing Field – New Changing and store building serving the new playing fields – Approved by DDC 14.01.04.

04/016 Refusals

DA/2003/1352 – Mr & Mrs S Lockhart, 1 Grange Farm Cottages, Holcot Road, Brixworth - Detached garages with games room over - PC 03/12/03 – Objection to

two-storey development - new build in open countryside. No objection to single storey garages. - Refused by DDC 29/12/03

DA/2003/1353 - Ms P J Attwood, Chester House, Church Street, Brixworth - Two storey rear extension

Although the P.C. had previously objected to the proposed extension to this property, in view of the fact that the latest of the previous plans had been approved by D.D.C., it was decided by a narrow majority that we should not object to this revised plan, subject to conditions that:-

- a) the extension is built in stone,
- b) that suitable screening is provided alongside the approach to the church and at the bottom of the garden.

(Subsequent to the meeting additional information became available - this decision will be subject to ratification by the full P.C.) 03/12/03

PC - In view of this properties sensitive location and it's impact on the surrounding conservation and historically important area we request that any approval be subject to the following conditions:-

- a) The extension to be built in stone.
 - b) The roof to be of slate matching that of the original building.
 - c) The style of windows and surrounds be in keeping with the original building – detail to be approved by the conservation or planning officer.
 - d) Adequate natural broad leaved screening is provided within the plot alongside the approach to the church and at the bottom of the garden. 16/12/03
- Refused by DDC 08/01/04

04/17 Applications

DA/2003/1463 - Mr & Mrs Pratt, The Brambles, 3 Froxhill Crescent, Brixworth - Detached garage to front dwelling and conversion of existing garage

No objection. However the Parish Council would like to see the existing conifer hedge retained, or alternative screening in its place.

DA/22003/1473 - Mrs G K Manning, 24 Froxhill Crescent, Brixworth side extension over garage with front porch and utility.

No objection.

DA/2003/1474 - N Toseland, The Red Lion – 81 Harborough Road, Brixworth - Conversion of garage to bar/games area

No objection.

DA/2003/1485 - Lightskill Ltd, The Scrapyard, Newlands, Brixworth One new three bed roomed house and conversion of existing building to a two-bedroom single storey dwelling.

The Parish Council Object to the application for the following reasons

- a) The proposed development crams too much building on to this restricted site, resulting in a cramped development unsuitable for this location in the conservation area.
- b) The provision for car parking and vehicle manoeuvring is inadequate and will create a hazard on this narrow road.
- c) Because of the disparity in height the southerly facing windows and terrace will unduly overlook and impinge on the privacy of the neighbouring property to the rear.
- d) We believe the adjacent telegraph pole cannot be moved, and will be in the way

Note. Notwithstanding our objection to this application the Parish Council would like to see this derelict area redeveloped - they take the view that a previous application for Mews type cottages on this site was more appropriate than the current application.

***DA/2003/1496 - Mr & Mrs D Parnell, 53 Froxhill Crescent, Brixworth
First floor extension to side and conservatory to rear.***

No objection.

***DA/2003/1418 - Mr & Mrs Cook, 34 Church Street, Brixworth
Porch/cloaks extension and alterations***

No objection.

Finance

04/018 Income

The Clerk reported income as follows

Library/Comm Centre	Bookings received during November 2003	£468.50
Brixworth Junior FC	Contribution to groundworks carried out in Summer	£50.00
NCC	Cleaning & Maintenance of Community Centre	£1,087.89
Central Sports Club	Peppercorn Rent for St David's Recreation Ground	£1.00
H M Customs	VAT Refund '01/04 to 30.9.03	£3,331.88

04/019 Bills for Payment

It was unanimously agreed that the following accounts should be passed for payment.

Mr M Sugden chq 2590	Groundsman Salary Jan	£878.32
Mrs T Stacey chq 2591	Clerks Salary Jan	£307.91
Mr D Smith chq 2592	Groundsman Salary Jan	£112.82
Mrs B Smith chq 2593	Litter Picker Salary Jan	£158.18
Miss A Redley chq 2594	Cleaner Com Cent Jan	£192.50
Inland Revenue chq 2595	Employees Tax & NI	£472.12
Mrs T Stacey chq 2596	Postage/Vacuum Repair Comm Centre	£59.37
A H Blason & Son Chq 2597	Fuel for January	£60.00
Mr L Tyrer chq 2598	Telephone Allowance $\frac{3}{4}$	£110.00
W J Lovell chq 2599	Parts for Groundsman	£23.23
Brixworth Landscaping chq 2600	Fencing to St David's/The Ashway	£2664.90
Mrs J Hodges chq 2601	Postage/Stationery Comm Centre	£14.80
Rampchild Ltd chq 2602	Repairs to Skateboard Ramp	£881.25
K F Troop chq 2603	Xmas Tree Comm Centre	£40.00
Powergen Energy chq 2604	Street Lighting Electricity Sept to Dec 03	£39.36
DDC	Wheelie Bin Hire – Coffee Shop – St David's rec	£239.66
Mr M Redley chq 2606	Caretaking duties comm centre – Sept to Dec	£65.00
BACA chq 2607	Cleaning materials Comm Centre	£103.52
Northants Newspapers chq 2608	Clerks Advertisement	£179.78
G H Playground chq 2609	Repairs to playground equipment	£1508.70
The Mower Shop chq 2610	Parts for mower servicing	£173.93
Harlestone Firs Saw Mill – chq 2611	Wood for bench repairs	£14.69
Beck Turf Supplies – chq 2612	Supply and laying of Turf Pocket Park	£2250.00
Mr M Sugden – chq 2613	Grass Seed St David's Rec	£15.78
A H Blason – Chq 2614	Service pick up	£115.46
Tiffin Construction	Supply and lay cobbled area outside QMP & Boniface Hse	£2502.75

04/020 Expenditure Statement for December 2003/Bank Reconciliation

The Parish Council accepted the Expenditure Statement for December 2003 previously distributed.

The bank reconciliation for the month of December 2003 was reported and accepted as follows:-

Current Account	£10,202.43
Capital Reserve Account	£141,240.73
Less Cheques outstanding	£2,455.94
Balance Carried forward	£148,987.22

Cllr. Ruch reported that the expenditure statement was in line with budget predictions, but noted that there would be a slight overspend on salaries /wages due to the overlap of the existing and new Parish Clerks.

The Clerk confirmed that the Sports Clubs' final payment were due at the end of February.

04/021 Bank Mandate

The Chairman reported that due to the fact that Cllr. Fox and Cllr. Blason will not be standing for re-election, that two new signatories would be needed to sign the bank mandate. The Chairman proposed Cllr. Mabbutt and Cllr. Chattaway this was agreed. The new Clerk will also need to sign the bank mandate in order to transfer funds.

Recreation and Playing Fields

The minutes of the Meeting held on the 19 January 2004 having been previously distributed were accepted.

04/022 Palisade Fence

Cllr. Chattaway reported that an on site meeting is to take place on Sunday, 1 February 2004 12.30pm with the three clubs to discuss the rear of the pavilion, with the possibility of clearing unwanted shrubs and transforming it into a storage area.

04/023 Pavilion – Litterbin

Cllr. Chattaway reported that the Sports Club has asked if the Parish Council could install another litterbin in front of the Pavilion. A suitable position needs to be ascertained?

04/024 Grounds Maintenance

The Clerk reported that she had received two quotations for the annual grounds maintenance of St. Davids Recreation Ground, the Ashway Playing field and the Spratton Road Recreation Ground.

It was agreed to defer this until the next Full Parish Council meeting in February 2004.

Highways and Environment

04/025 DDC – CPL Aromas, Quarry Road

The Chairman Declared an Interest and did not take part in the discussion.

The Clerk advised the meeting that a reply had been received from DDC dated 11 December 2003. The letter stated that “an environmental Health Officer toured the village to assess the perfume odour in a range of surrounding streets but on no occasion, so far, has the odour been severe or persistent enough”. Therefore “the council is unable to take further action”.

Cllr. Monk agreed to reply to the resident and enclose a copy of the above-mentioned letter.

04/026 Speeding on the Ashway

Cllr. Mabbutt reported a resident’s request for traffic calming to be installed on the Ashway. The Chairman informed the meeting that the road had not been adopted and was therefore not the responsibility of the NCC Highways. It was suggested that the resident contact the developers.

04/027 Traffic Calming - Surrounding area to School

The Chairman reported that the governors of the Brixworth CEVC Primary School have sent a letter to NCC Highways Dept. supporting the proposal for a reduction in the speed limit on the roads surrounding the school premises.

04/028 Dog litterbin

The Chairman proposed a new location for the installation of a dog litterbin, near the Brixworth Village Hall on the Holcot Road; this would be forwarded to the Environment Committee for authorisation and from NCC Highways.

04/029 Urban Highway Grass Mowing 2004

The Chairman reported that NCC Highways had confirmed that their contribution to Urban Highway Grass Mowing for 2004 was £1,109.63, which is a slight increase from last year. Due to the urgency an emergency motion was needed as this was not an agenda item . It was agreed to allow NCC to maintain the Highway Grass Cutting Contract and not take up the offer of the contribution for 2004.

04/030 Exclusion of 7.5 tonnes

The Chairman reported that Cllr. Oliver had attended a meeting with Scaldwell and Old Parish Council to discuss the possibility of enforcing a Weight Limit Restriction through the villages including the fringe of Brixworth Parish.

Library/ Community Centre

04/031 Decorating the Library / Community Centre

Cllr. Nice reported that the decoration of the Library/Community Centre would be carried out, very soon, by Meakins as previously approved. NCC was still being pursued regarding replacement of locks for the outside door of the Library/Community Centre.

The Chairman formally thanked Cllr. Nice for all his hard work at the Library /Community Centre during this difficult winter.

Correspondence

04/032 Phil Sawford – Airport expansion

The Chairman reported that a letter from Phil Sawford had been received dated 18 December 2003, stating that “future air transport plans will not include a new airport between Coventry and Rugby”.

04/033 DDC – Sports Person Awards Ceremony

The Chairman reported that the above ceremony is to take place on Thursday 29 January 2004, anyone interested can attend.

Any other Business

04/034 AQA Certificate in Local Council training administration

Cllr Chattaway and the new Clerk would attend an information meeting on Wednesday, 4 February 2004 with regards to the above qualification.

04/035 Brixworth Bugle

The Chairman reported that he had received a letter from Paddy Fox, stating that she has decided to stand down as editor of the Bugle and will produce one final issue at the end February. Appeals were being made for someone to take over editorship.

The Chairman would write a letter to Mrs Fox and the Bugle team to formally thank and pass on their gratitude in keeping the community well informed over the years.

There being no other business the meeting closed at 9.40pm.

Signed as a true record of the above meeting

Dated 24 February 2004