

BRIXWORTH PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday, 30 November 2004 at 7.15p.m. in the coffee shop, Brixworth Library, Spratton Road, Brixworth

Present: Councillor E Wiig (Chairman)
Councillors: I Barratt, A Charlton, R Chattaway (Vice Chairman),
P Fox , D Kennedy, S Killick, S Mabbutt, R Monk, F Peacock,
K Redley, P Savage and F Wiig.

In Attendance: Mrs J Macken – Parish Clerk

04/368 Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from County Councillor Chris Millar.

04/369 Declaration of Interest

Declarations of Interest were received from: -

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

Cllr F Wiig - Planning Applications – District Councillor on DDC Planning Committee.

Cllr Redley – Library/Community Centre – Employee at the Olive Branch Coffee Shop, Library/Community Centre.

Cllr Chattaway – Member of BRAUD – Personal Reasons

Cllr Charlton – Member of BRAUD – Personal Reasons

Cllr Monk – Director of a Housing Association with Rural Housing Interests

04/370 Signing of the Minutes of the Last Meeting 26 October 2004

The minutes of the meetings held on Tuesday 26 October 2004 were agreed and signed by the Chairman as a true and correct record of this meeting.

Questions from the Public

There were no members of the public present.

04/371 County Councillors Report

Unfortunately County Councillor Chris Millar was unable to attend the meeting.

04/372 Police Representative Report

Cllr F Wiig reported that he had attended a Police patrol of the village with Chief Superintendent John Millar during the evening of Friday, 26 November 2004 for four hours. During this time the village was generally quiet, with only one incident reported.

Cllr F Wiig informed the meeting that the Western Area Police Force may be amalgamated with the Northampton Police Force in the future. Should this amalgamation take place it would be detrimental to the current rural policing and would be something that the Parish Council should consider making representation to.

Cllr F Wiig reported that there is now one Anti Social Behaviour Contract (A.B.C.) in place, with a possibility of another four being issued. The conditions of the A.B.C. includes not being allowed in the Library/ Community Centre and the Co-op and the youth must be at home by 8.30pm, this has been fully supported by the parents.

The Chairman reported that at a meeting with Chief Superintendent John Millar, she was introduced to a Special Constable who patrols the village most Friday evenings, which was thought to be most encouraging to have a police presence in the village.

It was agreed that should a Police representative not be able to attend the Council meeting then perhaps the Police could issue a report with crime figures being reported quarterly.

Planning

04/373 To Accept the Minutes of Meetings 27 September & 17 November 2004

The Minutes of the Planning Meeting held on the 27 September and 17 November 2004 having been previously distributed was accepted.

04/374 DA/2004/1398: Mr. D. Hodgson, 79 Northampton Road, Brixworth Extension to property to form a dining room and WC

This planning application was discussed at the planning committee meeting on 17 November and it was agreed that a decision on this application be deferred to the next full meeting of the Parish Council, pending a site visit by the planning officers from Daventry District Council. The planning officers stated that the work currently being undertaken by the builders was permitted development.

Following a discussion the Parish Council agreed to Object to this planning application for the following reasons:-

1. The property stands in the heart of the Conservation area and is clearly visible from all sides.
2. The Parish Council have concerns over the loss of the stonewall.
3. The work already carried out on two trees, will now have to be removed.
4. The application states an extension to form a dining room and WC, the works being carried out do not indicate this and according to the builders currently working on the property, it is being renovated to form flats. If this were the case, surely permission would be needed for multi occupancy.

5. This property is of historic importance to the village and we believe the development is out of character and will do nothing to enhance the conservation area.

04/375 To Report On The Site Meeting At Rigiflex On 29 November 2004

The Chairman reported that she had attended a site meeting at Rigiflex with District Planning officers, Councillors of the District Council Planning Committee, Cllrs K Redley, R Chattaway, P Fox and A Charlton and several residents.

It was noted that the Rigiflex planning application is to be considered by the District planning committee on Wednesday, 1 December 2004. County Cllr Millar, Cllr Bunting, Cllr Mabbutt and Cllr Fox would all be speaking at the meeting.

04/376 DDC Planning Approvals and Refusals – November 2004 Report

The planning approvals and refusals for November 2004 were noted as follows: -

Approvals

DA/2004/1176 - S Frisby & E Gillett, 97 Northampton Road, Brixworth
Demolition of boundary wall and formation of vehicular access (retrospective)

15.9.04 PC Objected 20.10.04 DDC Approved

DA/2004/1209 - Ray Bell & Sons, The Old Pitsford Brickworks, Harborough Road, Brixworth
Erection of a two-storey office building to replace the existing single-storey building.

6.10.04 PC No Objection 20.10.04 DDC Approved

DA/2004/1242 - Mrs J.C. Innes, 1A Lorayne Court, High Street, Brixworth –
Ground floor extension and extension above existing garage.

6.10.04 PC No Objection 2.11.04 DDC Approved

DA/2004/1257 - C J tyrrell, 25 Holcot Rd, Brixworth
Work to beech tree TPO

6.10.04 PC No Objection 2.11.04 DDC Approved

Refusals

DA/2004/1005CAC - Ms L Foreman, Rear of 5 Newlands, Brixworth
Demolition of existing workshop to allow construction of three new dwellings.

4.8.04 PC Objected 8.9.04 DDC Refused

DA/2004/1116 - Mr & Mrs J Maeers, Barns to the rear of the Lodge, Harborough Road, Brixworth
Conversion of Barns to dwelling (revised application following refusal)

15.9.04 PC No Objection 21.10.04 DDC Refused

DA/2004/1117LB - Mr & Mrs J Maeers, Barns to the rear of the Lodge, Harborough Road, Brixworth

Conversion of Barns to dwelling (revised application following refusal)

15.9.04 PC No Objection 21.10.04 DDC Refused

04/377 To Discuss the Printing of the Village Design Statement

The Chairman reported that Paula Jones, Chairman of the VDS Committee, had enquired as to how many copies of the VDS the Parish Council would like to produce. It was resolved to print the minimum copies of 150 at a cost of £340.00.

04/378 To Approve Payment of £200.00 for maps for VDS

It was resolved to approve the payment for £200.00 to the University College Northampton for the printing of the maps for the VDS.

04/379 To Appoint A New Chairman of the Planning Committee

Cllr Mabbutt reported that due to other commitments he wished to resign as Chairman of the planning committee. On proposal by Cllr F Wiig and seconded by Cllr Fox, Cllr Redley was appointed as the new Chairman unopposed.

Cllr Mabbutt was thanked for doing an excellent job in the short term.

Finance

04/380 To Report the Income Received for October 2004

The Clerk reported the Income received for October 2004 was as follows: -

Receipts for September 2004

Omitted from Octobers Report

<u>Received from</u>	<u>Details</u>	£
NatWest Bank	Capital Reserve Account Interest July - Sept 04	888.52
DDC	Precept - second instalment	43,526.72
		<hr/>
		<u>44,415.24</u>

Receipts for October 2004

<u>Received from</u>	<u>Details</u>	£
Community Centre Bookings	Sep-04	320.75
BJFC	First Instalment Ground Rent 2004/05	342.00
BCF Action Ltd	Electricity Chgs Contribution	121.67
		<hr/>
		<u>784.42</u>

04/381 To Report and Accept the Bank Reconciliation as at 31 October 2004

The bank reconciliation as at the 31 October 2004 was reported and accepted as follows:

Current Account	£14,477.49
Capital Reserve Account	£172,440.31
Less Cheques outstanding	£4,858.00
Balance Carried forward as at 1.11.04	£182,059.80

04/382 To Accept the Income and Expenditure Statement for October 2004

The Parish Council accepted the Income and Expenditure Statement for October 2004, which had been previously circulated.

Concerns were raised regarding the cost of fuel incurred by the tractor using Derv as opposed to red diesel. Following a discussion it was agreed for Cllr Chattaway and the Clerk to investigate the cost savings of running the tractor on red diesel and whether Blasons Garage would be prepared to store red diesel at the garage.

04/383 To Approve the Bills for Payment for November 2004

The list of payments to be made in October 2004 was circulated and signed by all members present. It was resolved for the following accounts to be passed for payment.

Chq No.	Payment To	Reason for Payment	£
2816	DDC	Planning Application - Changing Rooms	220.00
2817-2822	Employees & Inland Revenue	Salaries, wages , PAYE & NI	3,101.70
2823	Mrs J Macken	Postage, Stationery & OS Maps	104.83
2824	Mr M Sugden	Cement for posts	13.57
2825	Lovell Hardware	Materials for Cleaner & Groundsmen	36.79
2826	M & N Perkins	New Safety Surface / Repair existing	450.00
2827	NCC	Electricity Chgs July-Oct 04 Comm. Ctr	190.17
2828	HLB AV Audit Plc	External Audit 2003-04	411.25
2829	F G Watts	Pick up Annual Insurance	440.86
2830	F G Watts	Tractor Annual Insurance	130.00
2831	Wicksteed Leisure	New Play Equipment - St Davids	12,102.50
2832	Anglian Water	Water Charges Mill Gdn & Com Ctr	460.89
2833	SMP Playgrounds Ltd	4 No. bolts for Basketball Arena	9.16
2834	Queensbury Shelters	New Bus Shelter, Scaldwell Road	1,692.00
2835	RBS Accounting Solutions	Meeting with Accountant 23.10.04	235.00
2836	IGF Invoice Finance Ltd	Cartridge for Clerks Printer	43.46
2837	BT	Clerk Telephone	154.58
2838	HFS Timber	Timber for posts	17.98
2839	UCN	Maps for VDS	200.00
2840	P Underwood	Trim Hedge Spratton Rd/Library Border	333.00
2841	A H Blasons	Fuel	154.05
			<u>20,501.79</u>

04/384 To Accept the Minutes of Meeting 23 November 2004

The Minutes of the Finance Meeting held on the 23 November 2004 having been previously distributed were accepted.

04/385 To Consider Precept and Budget for 2005/06

On proposal by Cllr Monk and seconded by Cllr Savage it was resolved to accept and adopt the Precept and Budget figures for 2005/06, recommended by the Finance Committee. Copy of which had been previously circulated.

It was resolved that the Parish Council do precept upon Daventry District Council in the sum of £92,494.00, to be paid in two instalments in April and September 2005.

It was noted that this was an increase of 6.25% compared to an increase of 9.9 % this year. This means that the Council Tax for parish purposes for next year will be £55.44 for a band "D" property, compared to £52.20 this year.

04/386 To Approve and Accept the Annual Return 2003/04

It was resolved to accept and approve the Annual Return for 2003/04, copy of which had been previously circulated. The Notification of Completion of Audit is to be displayed on the Parish Council's Notice Board for fourteen days.

There were no matters arising from the audit, however the meeting noted the issues that the external auditor raised 'to assist the council to improve their internal controls or working practices'. The following points were raised: -

Expenditure Powers – The Parish Council currently minutes any payment made under S137 of the 1972 Local Government Act.

Minutes – All loose-leaf minutes are consecutively numbered.

Fidelity Guarantee – The Parish Council reviewed the Fidelity Guarantee sum on 27 July 2004, minute reference 04/249.

The Clerk was commended for a job well done.

Recreation and Amenities Development

04/387 To Accept the Minutes of Meeting 15 November 2004

The Minutes of the Recreation and Amenities Meeting held on the 15 November 2004 having been previously distributed were accepted.

04/388 To Report on the Ashway Playing Field Development and To Consider the Quotation from Thurston for the supply of Changing Rooms and associated works.

Cllr Chattaway reported that a firm quote for the building of the Changing Rooms and associated groundworks had been received from Thurstons.

The Cost for supplying and installing the Changing Rooms is quoted at £81,210.00 in accordance with OGC buying solutions contract prices.

The Cost for associated building works and connection of services is quoted at approximately £17,000.00.

Additional costs would be for groundworks estimated at a cost of £14,000.00, professional fees £3 - 4,000.00 and contingencies estimated at £10,000.00, which means that the overall development cost would be in the region of £126,000.00.

Cllr Chattaway showed the members a flyer which he proposed to hand deliver to the residents near to the Ashway Playing Fields, explaining the Parish Councils intentions and informing them of the display in the Library / Community Centre Foyer. The display will show the plans for the Changing Rooms, New Access and Car Park and will ask residents for suggestions for play equipment and location for the play area. The display will be in the Foyer during December.

Cllr Chattaway reported that the next issue of the Brixworth Bulletin, which is to be distributed by the end of week, mentions the proposed changes.

04/389 Planning Application for Changing Rooms £220.00

Cllr Chattaway reported that as soon as elevation drawings were received from Thurstons the planning application for the Changing Rooms, New Access and Car Park would be sent to the District Council, which he anticipated to be by the end of the week. The payment for £220.00 for the planning application was approved.

04/390 Letter from David Wilson – Adoption of Buffer Strip

The Chairman reported that a letter from David Wilson Homes regarding the adoption of the buffer strip had been received. The letter queried the sum to be paid, to the Parish Council, on adoption for maintaining the buffer strip. The original sum quoted was £50,000 however the letter stated that ‘ I have spoken to Mary Gallagher and yourself to ascertain how this sum was arrived at as it appears to be excessive for that extent of land, and likely future maintenance requirements of the area’. ‘Daventry District Council have provided the methodology and formula for calculating such a commuted sum assuming that piece of land were to be included within a Section 106 Agreement at today’s date’. A copy of the letter and formula was distributed.

The calculation for maintaining ‘general woodland’ is as follows: -

5,500m square x £0.25 per m square x 10 years = £13,750.

However, the letter stated ‘to suggest a compromise figure doubling the above rate to 50p per m square’, which equates to a revised sum of £27,500.

Following a discussion it was agreed to write to David Wilson Homes to point out that the area is not ‘general woodland’, but in fact a ‘shrub area’ which is calculated at £1.02 per m square for maintenance according to the District Council’s formula. This equates to £56,100.00, however the Parish Council agreed to accept the original figure quoted of £50,000.00.

Highway and Environment

04/391 Northamptonshire Local Access Forum Representative (NLAF)

Cllr Peacock reported that at the Highways and Environment meeting held on the 29 November 2004, it was agreed to defer the matter of a representative for the NLAF to the full Council meeting. The post is voluntary, and the representative must have a background in community issues and an interest in the countryside. The representative will be required to attend between two and six meetings a year, and expenses will be paid. Cllr Savage was appointed as the NLAF Representative.

General Purposes

04/392 To Accept the Minutes of Meeting 3 November 2004

The Minutes of the General Purposes Meeting held on the 3 November 2004 having been previously distributed were accepted.

04/393 To Discuss An Alternative Venue for Full Council Meetings

The meeting discussed possible alternative venues for holding Full Parish Council meetings. It was felt that the Olive branch was too small and that the fridges were at times noisy and disruptive.

It was agreed for Cllr Monk to discuss with the Head Teacher of Brixworth Primary School, the possibility of holding meetings in the school hall.

Correspondence for discussion

04/394 Victim Support – Request for Donation

The Chairman reported that a further letter from Victim Support, (copy of which had been previously circulated), had been received requesting financial support.

On proposal by Cllr F Wiig and seconded by Cllr Chattaway it was resolved to grant the request for financial support, for a nominal sum of £75.00 under section 137, of the Local Government Act 1972.

04/395 Scaldwell Parish Council – Unused Street Light

The Chairman reported that a letter from Scaldwell Parish Council (copy of which had been previously circulated), had been received enquiring whether the Parish Council would be willing to sell or donate the Parish Council's unused street lamp, to Scaldwell Parish Council.

The Parish Council resolved to donate the unused lamppost, which is currently stored at Blasons Garage, to Scaldwell Parish Council, to benefit the elderly residents of Scaldwell.

04/396 Northants Police – Unsung Heroes Award 2004/05

The meeting noted the letter from the Northants Police enquiring whether the Parish Council was interested in nominating an individual or group suitable for the Unsung Heroes Award 2004/05.

04/397 Northants ACRE – Newly Appointed Rural Housing Enabler

The meeting noted that Felix Marsh has replaced Dan Hannan as the Rural Housing Enabler at Northants ACRE.

04/398 Royal & Derngate Theatres – Request for Donation

The Chairman reported that a letter from the Royal and Derngate Theatres (copy of which had been previously circulated), had been received requesting financial support towards the future refurbishment of the Theatres. The fundraising campaign included purchasing a seat for £250.00 and having a plaque placed on the seat in recognition of the donor. It was agreed that the Parish Council would not make a donation to this cause.

04/399 Correspondence for information only

The Chairman reported that the correspondence file would be circulated for all members to read at home.

Urgent Matters For Report Only

04/400 Parish Council School Governor Representative

It was reported that the Parish Council was to review the appointment of the Parish Council representative on the School Governors at the beginning of the new academic year.

The Clerk was asked to write to the Chairman of the School Governors to ask what the current position is with regards to there being a Parish Council Representative on the School Governors and whether the Council will need to appoint a new representative.

There being no other business the meeting closed at 9.20pm

Signed as a true record of the above meeting.....
Dated 21 December 2004