

# **BRIXWORTH PARISH COUNCIL**

*Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday, 22 February 2005 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  
Mr M Nice - Community Centre Manager  
Cllr C Millar – County Councillor  
SPC S Humphries – Northants Police

## **05/031 Apologies for absence**

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr C Timm, District Cllr N Bunting and CBO Jackie Stubley.

## **05/032 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 Interest

Cllr Charlton – Member of BRAUD – Personal Interest

## **05/033 Signing of the Minutes of the Last Meeting 25 January 2005**

The minutes of the meetings held on Tuesday 25 January 2005 were agreed and signed by the Chairman as a true and correct record of this meeting.

## **05/034 Questions from the Public**

A separate minute for the matters raised by the member of the public is attached.

## **05/035 County Councillors Report**

County Cllr Millar confirmed that he had written to Sarah Lister at NCC Highways, regarding the Parish Council's request for a cycle barrier at the footpath entrance in Eastfield Road to The Ashway, as discussed at the last Council meeting.

It was reported that W S Atkins contract with the NCC Highways expires in 2006, this will either be extended for a further three years or another contract will be sought. Currently Atkins control when and where the work is carried out in the County. Cllr Millar asked for any feedback from the Parish Council and residents with regard to their views on Atkins work. Cllr Killick raised his concern regarding the re-tarmac of many roads in the village before Christmas, it was thought that this was not the ideal time of year to lay tarmac, due to roads being sprayed with salt, which could lead to potholes forming. Cllr Millar stated that £10M had been approved for expenditure by the financial year-end and Atkins needed to deliver the work at short notice and this included having to use sub-contractors. It was suggested that a planning scheme would have ensured that the money was spent wisely and perhaps would have prevented having to use sub contractors.

Cllr Millar reported that the County Council's funding for transporting pupils from Brixworth to attend Maidwell Primary School had been withdrawn. There are currently 34 pupils at the school, 10 of which are from Brixworth and concerns were raised that should these 10 pupils no longer be able to attend the school, then the school could face closure.

Cllr Millar confirmed that Spring Hill Police Station would not be closing, two sergeants are transferring to Daventry Police Station, however two sergeants will remain.

Cllr Monk arrived at the meeting.

#### **05/036 Police Representative Report**

The Chairman reported that CBO Jackie Stublely had agreed to report the crime figures on a quarterly basis. Recent crimes included a spate of theft from vans, broken windows to the Brixworth Centre, which resulted in an arrest and anti social behaviour near Far Brook.

The Chairman introduced Simon Humphries who is a Special Police Constable and patrols the village on a Friday night. SPC Humphries informed the meeting that he has been a Special for nine years and has spent the past five to six years working in Brixworth, helping in the community. The Chairman stated that the village owed him a debt of gratitude and thanked SPC Humphries for coming along to the meeting.

#### **Planning**

##### ***05/037 To Accept the Minutes of Meeting 9 February 2005***

The Minutes of the Planning Meetings held on the 9 February 2005 having been previously distributed was accepted.

##### ***05/038 DDC Planning Approvals and Refusals – February 2005 Report***

The planning approvals and refusals for February 2005 were noted as follows: -

#### **Approvals**



The Clerk reported the Income received for January 2005 was as follows: -

<u>Received from</u>	<u>Details</u>	<u>£</u>
Community Centre	Hire of Hall	1,126.75
Brixworth Central Sports	Annual Peppercorn Rent of land for Pavilion	1.00
ASFC	Second instalment Ground Rent 2004/05	342.00
BCF	Electricity charges for Olive branch	103.71
		<u>1,573.46</u>

#### ***05/041 Bank Reconciliation as at 31 January 2005***

The bank reconciliation as at the 31 January 2005 was reported and accepted as follows:

Current Account	£546.59
Capital Reserve Account	£158,506.49
Less Cheques outstanding	£2,067.42
Balance Carried forward as at 1.2.05	£156,985.66

#### ***05/042 Income and Expenditure Statement for January 2005***

The Parish Council accepted the Income and Expenditure Statement for January 2005, which had been previously circulated.

The Clerk clarified points raised by the members with regard to the Income and expenditure statement.

The Clerk was asked to note the anticipated cost of the Notice Board in the statement against the General Reserve.

It was agreed that a Finance meeting needs to be arranged in March 2005, prior to the year end.

#### ***05/043 Preparation of the Year End Accounts 2004/2005 by RBS Accounting Solutions***

On proposal by Cllr Barratt and seconded by Cllr Monk it was resolved for RBS Solutions to prepare the Year End Accounts for 2004/2005 at a cost of £290.00.

#### ***05/044 Brixworth Youth Foundation – New Youth Club***

Cllr Barratt reported that at a Council meeting held on 27 April 2004, the Parish Council had resolved to grant the new Brixworth Youth Club an amenities development grant of £5,465.00. £3,000.00 had been earmarked from the precept amenities development budget and £2,465.00 had been earmarked from the reserves from the previous year.

Cllrs E & F Wiig declared an interest.

The Brixworth Youth Foundation, which now had opened a bank account, had requested the grant to assist with the opening, which was scheduled for Wednesday 9 March 2005. This was all agreed.

Cllr F Wiig stated that the Club had obtained a new snooker table, football table and goal posts from Daventry District Council, along with donations of dartboards and other equipment.

#### ***05/045 Bills for Payment for February 2005***

The list of payments to be made in February 2005 was circulated and signed by all members present. It was resolved for the following accounts to be passed for payment.

<u>Chq No.</u>	<u>Payment To</u>	<u>Reason for Payment</u>	<u>£</u>
2887	Brixworth Short Mat Bowling	Community Grant	250.00
2888-2893	Employees & Inland Revenue	Salaries, Wages, PAYE & NI Feb 05	3,036.02
2894	Mrs J Macken	Postage	10.08
2895	Mr M Sugden	Ladder, gravel and roof felt	72.69
2896	Brixworth Centre Pre-School	Community Grant	250.00
2897	G H Playground Services	Repairs to swings - Spratton Rd Rec.	78.72
2898	Staffords Ltd	New Handset for Clerks telephone	33.88
2899	HFS Timber	Posts for village hall	23.97
2900	Vaillant Ltd	Replaced valve - Community Ctr boiler	195.95
2901	BT	Clerks Telephone - Quarterly bill	139.88
2902	NCC	Electricity - Community Ctr 28.10-26.1.05	223.11
2903	Wicksteed leisure Ltd	New Signs for Recreation Grounds	278.48
2904	A H Blasons & Son	Fuel for pick up & new fog lamp	89.88
2905	Lovell Hardware	Materials for Groundsman	19.27
2906	Brixworth Youth Foundation	Amenities Dev. Grant New Youth Club	5,465.00
			<u>9,916.93</u>

#### ***Recreation and Amenities Development***

##### ***05/046 Report on the Recreation & Amenities Development Meeting 21 February 2005***

Cllr Chattaway reported that the changing rooms were discussed at this meeting. A meeting with Thurstons had been arranged for Thursday, 24 March 2005 and that the current schedule was inline with the programme.

The results of the consultation from the recent display in the foyer, with regards to requests for new play equipment for the Ashway Playing Field, were reported as poor. Following a discussion it was agreed that a further consultation was needed, the Parish Council is to agree on suitable sites for the new play area and consult with the local Preschools and Toddler Groups. It was suggested that the new play area would be targeted for the under twelve year olds, as the teenagers would now have a new youth club to attend.

Cllr Chattaway stated that the meeting had raised concerns regarding the current condition of the Skateboard Park on the Spratton Road Recreation Ground. It was reported that the committee hopes to discuss removing and replacing the skateboard park in the future, with either a BMX bike park or something similar. The committee suggested forming a working party and would welcome any suggestions or ideas. It was noted that members were concerned with regards to the current safety of the skateboard park, following a discussion it was agreed for the Clerk to arrange for an inspection of this facility.

The Committee recommended for the Parish Council to use the same contractor for the Annual Grounds Maintenance of the sports pitches as last year and not to go out to tender. This is to maintain continuity with the contractor whilst the Ashway Playing Field is being established, this was agreed. It was noted that the Parish Council had tendered the previous year and that this contractor had been the lowest bidder, it was agreed that in future tenders for Grounds Maintenance should be for 3-5 years at a time, not annually.

It was noted that the Pick up had recently had its annual service and MOT, the Clerk was asked to compare costs this year to the previous year.

#### ***05/047 Report on the Ashway Playing Field Development***

Cllr Chattaway informed the meeting that Mr Nigel Toseland was obtaining quotes regarding the access. It was reported that the Parish Council would need to display a Public Notice giving three weeks notice of intent to place an order exceeding £10,000.00 and that Building control would take five weeks.

#### ***05/048 David Wilson Homes – Adoption of Open Space and Buffer Strip Update***

A letter from David Wilson Homes, which had been previously circulated to the members, confirmed the commuted sums of £27,500 and £12,000 for the maintenance of the buffer strip and open space respectively and stated that they had now instructed their solicitor to arrange the transfer. David Wilson Homes's solicitor has contacted Daventry District Council, who has requested confirmation that David Wilson Homes will be responsible for the full legal costs of the Parish Council.

### **Highway and Environment**

#### ***05/049 The Minutes of Meeting 1 February 2005***

The Minutes of the Highway and Environment Meeting held on the 1 February 2005 having been previously distributed were accepted.

#### ***05/050 Proposed Modifications to the Northants Waste Local Plan***

The consultation papers with regards to the proposed modifications to the Northants Waste Local Plan had been circulated to members, as requested at the last committee meeting. The Council had no comments or response to make.

#### ***05/051 Request for Dog Litter Bins on the Bridleways***

Cllr Peacock reported that the committee had recommended for new dog litterbins to be sited at the entrance to the two bridleways in the village, CG15 Merry Tom Lane and CG11 off Station Road. The District Council had agreed to empty the bins, as long as they were located close to the main road and the NCC Rights of Way Officer also approved. Concerns were raised that irresponsible dog owners would not use the bins irrespective of whether there were bins present. It was suggested for signs to be displayed along the bridleways and for the Dog Warden to be contacted. On proposal by Cllr Fox and seconded by Cllr Monk it was resolved to purchase two dog litterbins for the entrances of these bridleways.

#### ***05/052 Footpath from Eastfield Road to Brackenborough***

Cllr Chattway raised his concern with regard to the footpath from Eastfield Road to Brackenborough, which was recently impassable due to a large puddle, which had formed in the centre. The Clerk was asked to report the matter to the relevant authority.

### **General Purposes**

#### ***05/053 Dates for the Annual General Meeting and Annual Parish Meeting***

The Annual Parish Meeting is to be held on Wednesday, 11 May 2005 at 8.00pm in the Community Hall, members were asked to consider the format of the meeting and items to be discussed.

The Annual General Meeting is to be held on Tuesday, 17 May 2005 at 7.30pm in the Olive Branch Coffee Shop.

### **Correspondence for discussion**

#### ***05/054 New Lease for the Millennium Garden***

The Chairman reported that a letter had been received from Carter Jonas, Diocese of Peterborough's agent, regarding the terms of a new lease for the Millennium Garden, which expired in November 2004. (Copies of the letter were previously circulated to members).

The term of the new lease will be for a period of 20 years and shall include a break clause in favour of both tenant and landlord to expire the lease on the 5<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> anniversary. The new rent shall be £100.00 per annum initially payable in advance and will be reviewed on every second anniversary with the new rent calculated in accordance with changes in the retail price index during the period. The other terms and conditions of the new lease shall be similar to the former lease dated 13 November 1996.

The letter also stated that the Parish Council is to pay the agents' costs and the legal costs incurred by the landlord in the grant of a new lease.

Following a discussion it was agreed that the Parish Council would accept the new terms and conditions but would not agree to pay the agents and legal costs, which had been estimated to be in the region of £1,200.00 - £1,400.00. It was suggested that these costs should be borne by the landlord. The Clerk was asked to send a letter informing Carter Jonas of the Council's decision and ask that as the 'new lease shall be generally similar to the previous lease', why the legal costs would be so high.

#### ***05/055 Trafalgar Weekend 21 – 23 October 2005 – Registration of events***

The Chairman informed the meeting that a registration of events form had been received with regards to the Trafalgar Weekend. It was reported that the Brixworth Centre Management Committee and the users of the Centre were organising events to be held that weekend at the Centre. Cllr Fox, The Centre Representative, agreed to complete the registration form.

The Clerk was asked to email the website and circulate the information to members.

***05/056 Brixworth Junior F C – Request For Financial Support***

The Chairman reported that a letter from the Brixworth Junior Football Club had been received requesting financial support. (Copy of which had been previously circulated to members).

On proposal by Cllr Chattaway and seconded by Cllr Monk it was resolved to award a grant of £250.00 to the Junior Football Club, under The Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976 Section 19 Recreation Facilities.

***05/057 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***

***05/058 The Standards Board – Review of Code of Conduct***

The Chairman informed the members that a consultation paper had been received from the Standards Board, regarding the review of the Code of Conduct. The letter asks Councillors to complete a questionnaire on their views of the current Code of Conduct. A response is required by the 17 June 2005, questionnaires were handed out to some members and the Clerk was asked to email the details of the website to the remaining members.

***05/059 East Midlands Regional Assembly – Regional Freight Strategy***

The Chairman reported that a further consultation paper had been received from the East Midlands Regional Assembly, regarding the Regional Freight Strategy. It was agreed for this to be referred to the Highways and Environment Committee, the closing date for responses is the 14 April 2005.

There being no other business the meeting closed at 9.15pm

Signed as a true record of the above meeting.....

Dated 29 March 2005

Minute of matters raised by members of the Public 22 February 2005

1. Mr Nice enquired whether the Parish Council would consider planting spring bulbs this Autumn, ready for next year. The last spring bulb planting took place a couple of years ago and some of the bulbs will now need to be replaced. The Parish Council agreed that this was something that it wished to continue and consider later on in the year.