

BRIXWORTH PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday, 27 September 2005 at 7.15p.m. in the Olive Branch Coffee shop, Brixworth Library/Community Centre, Spratton Road, Brixworth

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

In Attendance: Mrs J Macken – Parish Clerk
Mr M Nice – Community Centre Manager
C.B.O. Jackie Stublely – Northants Police
Police Officer
Nine members of the public

05/272 Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr S Mabbutt, Cllr C Timm, Cllr F Peacock, Cllr P Fox, Cllr K Redley, County Cllr C Millar and District Cllr N Bunting.

05/273 Declaration of Interest on Agenda Items

Declarations of Interest were received from: -

Cllr F Wiig – Director of Brixworth Youth Foundation 05/284

05/274 Signing of the Minutes of the Last Meeting 30 August 2005

The minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday, 30 August 2005 were agreed and signed by the Chairman as a true and correct record of this meeting.

05/275 Questions from the Public

The meeting adjourned for members of the public to address the Council.

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

The meeting reopened at 7.30pm

05/276 Police Representative Report

CBO Jackie Stublely reported that the crime figures for the past six months reflected an improvement compared to the previous six months.

Tickets for littering have been issued to youths. The Police have confiscated motor vehicles and motorbikes, which has resulted in an improvement in behaviour. The owner has 21 days to pay the fine in order to have their vehicle released.

CBO Stublely reported that the Police received one call in September and several during August from residents regarding the anti social behaviour in the Pocket Park area. The residents were urged to contact the Police and report incidents and it was noted that Inspector Thomas was aware of the problem and had agreed to address the situation. CBO Stublely agreed to meet with the residents and to form a plan of action. It was agreed for a letter to be sent to the Police reinforcing the resident's plight.

Correspondence for discussion

05/277 Letters from Residents – Pocket Park Anti Social Behaviour

Due to the number of residents present regarding this matter this item was brought forward for discussion.

Three letters from residents have been received regarding the anti social behaviour being experienced in the pocket park area in the evenings (copies of which had been circulated to all members). Due to the lack of police response the residents have requested that the Council consider erecting an eight-foot metal fence and gate, similar to the Ilmor fencing. Local residents have volunteered to open and close the gate in the evening and in the morning.

The Clerk was asked to obtain quotes for such a fence and gate. It was agreed for a special meeting to be held to discuss this matter.

Planning

05/278 To Accept the Minutes of Meetings 4 & 26 September 2005

The Minutes of the Planning Meetings held on the 4 & 26 September 2005 having been previously distributed were accepted.

05/279 DDC Planning Approvals and Refusals – September 2005 Report

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

Approvals

DA/2005/0539 Land adjoining 1 New Street, Brixworth
Form pair of 2-bed semi detached low cost affordable housing (revised scheme
25.5.05 PC No Objection 17.8.05 DDC Approved

Refusals

DA/2005/0803 Mr James, 45 Stannard Way, Brixworth
Two-storey extension to provide larger bathroom and utility room.
15.8.05 PC No Objection 8.9.05 DDC Refused

05/280 Village Design Statement

A letter from Daventry District Council had been received stating that the Village Design Statement has been adopted by the District Council and is used by the planning department as supplementary planning guidance. Copies are available from the District Council at a cost of £10.00.

Finance

05/281 Income Received for August 2005

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

Received from	Details	£
Community Centre	Hall Hire	598.80
All Saints Football Club	First Instalment Ground Rent - St Davids	351.50
		<hr/>
		950.30

05/282 Bank Reconciliation as at 31 August 2005

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

Current Account	£14,222.67
Capital Reserve Account	£155,838.04
Less Cheques outstanding	£5,176.36
Balance Carried forward as at 1.9.05	£164,884.35

05/283 Income and Expenditure Statement & Reserves for August 2005

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

05/284 Brixworth Youth Foundation

It was resolved to approve a grant of £5000.00 to the Brixworth Youth Foundation, under the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976 section 19. This sum assists with the cost of the lease, to the District Council, for the Youth Club building. It was noted that this sum had been included in the budget, for the purpose of the 'new youth facility' and is listed under amenity development.

05/285 Bills for Payment for September 2005

The list of payments to be made in September 2005 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	£
3024	Groundsman	Groundman's Salary Sept.2005	929.75
3025	Clerk	Clerk's Salary Sept. 2005	1,000.67
3026	PT Groundsman	P/T Groundsmans wages Sept. 2005	190.72
3027	Cleaner	Cleaner Comm. Centre wages Sept. 2005	148.12
3028	Litter Picker	Litter Picker wages Sept. 2005	165.18
3029	Inland Revenue	PAYE Tax & NI Sept. 2005	791.12
3030	Mr M Sugden	Sand, cement & gravel	11.46
3031	Mrs J Macken	Clerks Allowance, postage, mileage , Land Reg.	95.68
3032	Mrs E Wiig	Chairmans Allowance	30.00
3033	R W Heygate	Remove gravel - Ashway, Remove hedge - St Davids	822.50
3034	D G Salisbury	Roll & mark out Ashway, Cut Outfield - St Davids	381.87
3035	ESPO	Stationery	30.52
3036	ESPO	Junior & Senior Freestanding Goal Posts	902.40
3037	Complete Weed Control	Weed Control - Ashway & St Davids	538.15
3038	SMP (Playgrounds) Ltd	Replacement section for basketball arena	465.17
3039	BACA	Wheelbarrow	34.66
3040	ABB Ltd	Street lights maintenance July - Sept. 05	25.05
3041	Eurooffice Ltd	Cartridge for Clerks printer	41.68
3042	Lovell Hardware	Materials for groundsman	46.51
3043	A H Blason & Son	Fuel for tractor, kubota, puncture repair	127.79
3044	Mr M Nice	Community Centre Manager - expenses	21.34
			<hr/> <hr/> 6,800.34

05/286 Internal Auditors Comments for Financial Year 2004/2005

A letter from the internal auditor had been received following the internal audit for 2004/05, which had been carried out in September 2005 (a copy of which had been previously circulated to all members). The Council noted and agreed the following: -

Cheque 2699 payment

The sum of £3.38 to Mr M Nice, reference cheque payment number 2699, was retrospectively authorised.

VAT Claim

The comments with reference to payments, which are not covered by a proper VAT invoice and the photocopying of receipts was noted.

Risk Assessment

The Council agreed that it needed to establish its risk assessment as a matter of urgency. It had been agreed for the Highways and Environment Committee to carry out the first risk assessment as an example for the other committees to follow. This is to be discussed at the next Highways & Environment meeting in October 2005.

Minuting of Payments

The comment with reference to the payment of salaries was noted. All payments will be listed separately in future.

Reserves

The Council discussed this comment; members agreed that the suggested 'level of reserves of 45-50% of precept for a Council of this size' is excessive. On proposal by Cllr F Wiig and seconded by Cllr Chattaway it was resolved to aim to achieve 25% of the precept total in the general reserves.

However the Council noted the comment regarding the placing of the reserves for the Ashway Development into its 'own funding heading'.

05/287 Date of Finance Meeting to Discuss Next Years Budget

The next Finance committee meeting is to be held on Tuesday, 18 October 2005 at 7.30pm, the committee is to consider the budget and precept for the next financial year.

Recreation and Amenities Development

05/288 Report on the Ashway Playing Field Development

The Chairman reported that she still had not received a response from the David Wilson Homes Chairman, despite having received two acknowledgement letters and agreed to send a follow up letter.

It was noted that Anglian Water have confirmed in a letter dated 16 September that they have 'no objections to the proposed foul connections'. This has been sent together with a copy of the Highways CR2 form to David Wilson Homes. The CR2 form was sent from Highways to Daventry Planning, in response to the consultation of the Councils planning application, stating that Highways have 'no objections in principle to the proposal on highway grounds'. The Council have now sent everything that David Wilson Homes have requested.

It was resolved that if the Parish Council have not had a positive response from David Wilson Homes by the next Full Council meeting in October 2005, then it would ask Daventry District Council to enforce the Section 106 agreement.

It was suggested that members of the Recreation & Amenity Development Committee might wish to start exploring alternatives. It was agreed that a working group was required to deal with the Ashway development project, as this is a large project for the Recreation & Amenity development committee to deal with, considering all the other matters it is involved with.

05/289 To Consider Purchasing/Hiring a Container/Toilet Unit for the Ashway

The Clerk reported that she had obtained prices for a container, for use on the Ashway for storing sports equipment and possibly toilets at a rental cost of £12.00 per week. Chemical mobile toilets would cost £22.50 each per week and insurance £43.00 per annum. Cllr Chattaway agreed to obtain further details and Cllr Savage agreed to contact the Football Association. It was agreed to defer this matter to the next full Council meeting in October.

05/290 To Consider Purchasing Wheels for Freestanding Goal Posts

The Red Lion Club had raised their concern regarding the moving and securing of the new goal posts at the Recreation meeting. It had been suggested at the Recreation meeting that wheels were required, at a cost £123.00 a set and that concrete posts at a cost of approximately £50.00 each were required to secure the goal posts to.

Following a discussion it was proposed by Cllr Monk and seconded by Cllr Killick and resolved for the Council to review this situation at the end of the football season next year.

05/291 Repairs to Safety Surfacing on St David's Recreation Ground

The Clerk reported that she had received a quote for the repairs to the safety surfaces as per the annual inspection report, however a further quote is required.

05/292 Repairs to the Tennis Court fencing

The Council agreed not to carry out this work at this time.

05/293 Repairs to the Play Area fencing

It was resolved to approve the quote to Mancraft fencing for the repairs to the chain link fencing in the play area on St Davids Recreation Ground. It was suggested that due to the fact that the Council always has to have the chain link fencing repaired due to vandals, that the Council consider installing a metal fence in the future.

05/294 New Cradle Seat from Wicksteed

It was resolved to approve the purchase of a new cradle swing for St Davids Recreation Ground at a cost of £75.00 plus VAT.

05/295 Items In Annual Inspection Report For Consideration

St Davids Recreation Ground

The report states that ROSPA recommends a minimum of 1m between seats and fence – it was noted that the Council will be considering a new fence in the future and this will be taken into account.

Spratton Road Recaretion Ground

The report recommends seats, litter bins should be no more than 3m from seats and benches and that the safety surface for the swings needs extending – it was noted that the Council is intending to redevelop the Spratton Road Recreation Ground, which includes replacing the swings, and that all the comments will be taken into account.

05/296 Removal of Skateboard Ramp

Three quotes had been received for the removal of the skateboard ramp, which were in the region of £850.00 to £1010.00. It was reported that the ramp is in constant use and therefore agreed to defer the removal.

Highway and Environment

05/297 New Street Signs for Church Street/Froghall/Station Road

A letter from the District Council had been received advising the Council that six new street signs are to be installed in Church Street/Station Road and Froghall/Church Street.

General Purposes

05/298 Local Strategic Plan (L.S.P.) Update

Cllr Charlton reported that she had attended the inaugural meeting and two out of three of the Local Strategic Partnership meetings. The idea of the L.S.P. is for the local government services to work together, coordinated and as a team. The L.S.P. has been developed over the past two – three years and is ongoing. Cllr Charlton was thanked for attending these meetings.

Correspondence for discussion

05/299 Letter from Brixworth Centre – Financial Support for Trafalgar Celebration

A letter from the Brixworth Centre Management Committee had been received (copy of which had been circulated to all members), requesting financial assistance for a children’s party on the 21 October 2005, in support of the national Trafalgar weekend celebrations. On proposal by Cllr Monk and seconded by Cllr Killick it was resolved to award a community grant of £100.00 under the Local Government Act 1972 section 137.

05/300 Correspondence for information only

The Chairman reported that the correspondence file would be circulated for all members to read at home this month. Due to the time taken for the file to be circulated it was suggested that a new procedure was required. A sheet listing all the items in the correspondence file is to be circulated at the meeting. Members wishing to receive the file should put their name on the sheet; the file will only be circulated to the members on the sheet.

05/301 Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting is to be held on Tuesday, 25 October 2005 at 7.15pm.

Urgent Matters For Report Only

There being no other business the meeting closed at 9.300pm

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

Dated 25 October 2005

Minute of matters raised by the members of the public.

1. Several residents who live near to the Pocket Park raised their concerns regarding the anti social behaviour in the pocket park and in Eaglehurst, which is being experienced late at night and into the early hours of the morning. The residents feel that the Police have not responded to their telephone calls and would like to have some Police action. Three residents have written to the Council, which are to be discussed later on during the meeting.