

BRIXWORTH PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday, 31 January 2006 at 7.15p.m. in the Olive Branch Coffee shop, Brixworth Library/Community Centre, Spratton Road, Brixworth

Present: Councillors: I Barratt, R Chattaway, P Fox, D Kennedy, S Killick, R Monk, F Peacock and P Savage

In Attendance: Mrs J Macken – Parish Clerk
Mr Nice – Centre Manager
Mrs K Redley – Member of the Public
CBO J Stubbley – Northants Police
Sgt Grady – Northants Police
Cllr C Millar – County Councillor (Arrived later)

Cllr R Monk chaired the initial part of the meeting, until a new chairman had been duly elected.

06/001 Apologies for absence

Apologies had been received from District Cllr N Bunting.

06/002 Cllr Audrey Charlton

The Council paid their respect to Cllr Charlton who had sadly died since the last Council meeting. Cllr Charlton was an active member of the community and had been involved with Meals on Wheels, a contributor to the Village Design Statement, a founder and active member of the Bugle and Braud. Cllr Charlton will be missed by members of the Council and the community.

06/003 Resignations From Parish Councillors

Cllr Monk reported that resignations had been received from Mrs E Wiig, Mr F Wiig, Mrs K Redley and Mr C Timm. The resignation letters were available for viewing after the meeting by members only, due to personal information contained.

Following Mrs E Wiig's resignation the Council needed to elect a new Chairman.

06/004 Election of Chairman

On proposal by Cllr Monk and seconded by Cllr Fox, Cllr Barratt was nominated. Cllr Barratt accepted the position and was duly elected as Chairman unopposed. Cllr Barratt signed the declaration of acceptance of office as Chairman.

06/005 Election of Vice Chairman

On proposal by Cllr Chattaway and seconded by Cllr Kennedy, Cllr Savage was nominated. Cllr Savage accepted the position and was duly elected Vice Chair unopposed.

06/006 Declaration of Interest on Agenda Items

None

06/007 Signing of the Minutes of the Last Meeting 29 November 2005

The minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday, 29 November 2005 were agreed and signed by the Chairman as a true and correct record of this meeting, after the following amendment.

05/402 Grants Policy

To delete the words 'for example £500'.

Questions from the Public

The meeting was adjourned to allow members of the public to address the Council

A minute of matters raised by the public is attached.

The meeting was reconvened at 7.35pm

06/008 Police Representative Report

Sgt Grady introduced himself to the meeting. Since the 6 January 2006 the Spring Hill office has been closed due to lack of funds. The Police would like to establish a new office within Brixworth and are looking for suitable accommodation. There has been overall a decrease in crime year on year. There has been an increase in patrolling during the evenings and the Police hope to continue this. With an increase in presence it is hoped to tackle anti social behaviour problems.

06/009 Parish Councillor Vacancy

The Chairman reported that an application had been received for the Parish Councillor vacancy. It was resolved for the Council to consider Co-opting a member at its next meeting in February.

It was noted that Daventry District Council had received a petition by ten electors, requesting for a bye-election to be held to fill the five vacancies, which had occurred due to the four resignations by Councillors and by the death of one Councillor. It was agreed that it would be preferable for the bye-election to be held at the same time as the District elections in May 2006. This would reduce the costs to the Parish Council and allow a longer period for nominations. The Clerk was asked to request a copy of the petition.

Planning

06/010 To Accept the Minutes of Meeting 9 January 2006

The Minutes of the Planning Meeting held on the 9 January 2006 having been previously distributed was accepted.

06/011 Planning Meeting 30 January 2006

Cllr Chattaway reported the following:

H3G installation of 3 no. 1.7 metre tall antennae with dishes on the Anglian Water Tower. A representative from H3g had attended the meeting. A Declaration of Conformity with ICNIRP Public Exposure Guidelines for the site would be lodged with the Local Planning Authority. The Council would not make any further comments until a formal planning application is submitted.

Appeal Decision: Rigiflex Site, demolition of factory and new development of 34 residential units. The Planning Inspector had allowed the appeal & granted planning permission subject to 10 conditions which included the provision of a footpath approved by the Local Planning Authority between Northampton Road and the school boundary.

East Midlands Regional Rural Development Framework . Cllr Savage agreed to look at the consultation document

06/012 DDC Planning Approvals and Refusals – January 2006 Report

The planning approvals and refusals for January 2006 were noted as follows: -

Approvals

DA/2005/1241 Gat Developments, The Old Farmhouse, Harborough Road, Brixworth

Additional bedroom and bathroom in roof space of bungalow – 1 Newlands, Brixworth

28.11.05 PC No Observations 19.12.05 DDC Approved

DA/2005/1253 Rachael Warwick, Brixworth Nursery Farm, Holcot Road, Brixworth

Removal of condition 7 of planning permission DA/2003/0337 (Personal to applicant)

28.11.05 PC Object 14.12.05 DDC Approved

DA/2005/1256 Mrs Bevan, Cartgate, Brixworth Hall Park, Brixworth

Single storey rear extension

28.11.05 PC No Observations 13.12.05 DDC Approved

DA/2005/1268 Ms A Pound, 2 Eastfield Road, Brixworth

Single storey extension to side and rear

28.11.05 The Parish Council would like to see provision made for additional parking in the front garden of this property due to the loss of the garage.

19.12.05 DDC Approved

DA/2005/1280 Mr & Mrs Skuce, 96 Froxhill Crescent, Brixworth

First floor extension

19.12.05 PC No Objection 6.1.06 DDC Approved

DA/05/1273C Raybell & Sons Surfacing Ltd, Old Brickworks, Harborough Road, Pitsford.

To provide a canopy over the soil storage and treatment area at the existing waste transfer station

28.11.05 PC No observations 10.1.06 NCC Approved

Refusals

DA/2005/1239 The Co-Operative Group, PO Box 101, 1 Balloon Street, Manchester, M60 4EP

Install 24 hour ATM machine into existing shopfront.

Brixworth Post Office, 5 Hunters Way, Brixworth

28.11.05 PC Raises concerns 19.12.05 DDC Refused

Finance

06/013 Income Received for December 2005

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

Received from	Details	£
Community Centre	Hall Hire	393.14
DDC	Contribution for Cleaning One Stop Shop	100.00
DDC	Contribution for Utility costs	76.00
HM Customs & Excise	Refund VAT 1.8.05 - 30.11.05	1,046.55
Natwest Bank	Interest Oct - Dec 05	<u>1,052.00</u>
		2,667.69

06/014 Bank Reconciliation as at 31 December 2005

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

Current Account	£8,857.11
Capital Reserve Account	£178,896.08
Less Cheques outstanding	£333.93
Balance Carried forward as at 1.01.06	£187,419.26

06/015 Income and Expenditure & Reserves Report for December 2005

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

It was noted that the total of the Chairman's allowance had been allocated, therefore the Clerk was asked to contact Mrs E Wiig to retrieve a quarter of this amount. The Clerk advised the meeting that the Sports Clubs had been invoiced in January for the second instalment of the ground rent.

06/016 To Approve Payment to QMP for Design Work of Changing Rooms in 2004

On proposal by Cllr Killick and seconded by Cllr Monk it was resolved to approve the reduced payment to QMP for the design work for the Changing Rooms at a cost of £2,680 plus VAT. QMP had agreed for the Council to pay 50% as opposed to 70% of the pre-contract tender price agreed in 2003.

06/017 To Approve the Bills for Payment for January 2006

The list of payments to be made in January 2006 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	£
3114	Groundsman	Groundman's Salary Jan 2006	929.77
3115	Clerk	Clerk's Salary Jan 2006	1,000.69
3116	Part Time Groundsman	P/T Groundsmans wages Jan 2006	119.09
3117	Litter Picker	Litter Picker wages Jan 2006	222.96
3118	Cleaner	Cleaner Comm. Centre wages Jan 2006	211.60
3119	Inland Revenue	PAYE Tax & NI Jan 2006	787.34
3120	Mrs J Macken	Postage	10.24
3121	Mr M Nice	Heater for community room	18.99

3122 Powergen	St Light electricity - July - Dec 2005	78.52
3123 Land Registry	First Registration - Spratton Rd Rec. Grd	30.00
3124 Lovell Hardware	Materials for groundsman	28.41
3125 DDC	Emptying wheelie bins - 1.1.06 -31.3.06	247.70
3126 BACA	Cleaning materials - Comm. Ctr	139.55
3127 Brixworth Landscaping	Work to Library border	587.50
3128 Wicksteed Leisure Ltd	Safety grass matting, parts for swings	1,427.63
3129 AH Blason & Son	Fuel for pick up	80.00
3130 QMP Ltd	Design work for Changing Rooms 2004	3,149.00
3131 Ashwood Tree Surgeons	Removal of skateboard ramp & fence	998.75
3132 Playdale Playgrounds Ltd	Parts for log trim trail	82.72
		10,150.46

06/018 Grants Policy

The Chairman circulated a draft copy of the grants policy to members. Following a discussion during which amendments were made to the document, it was agreed for the Chairman to revamp the application form for consideration at the next Council meeting.

06/019 Annual Subscription to Campaign to Protect Rural England CPRE

It was resolved to renew the annual subscription to CPRE at a cost of £26.00.

Recreation and Amenities Development

06/020 To Accept the Minutes of Meeting 16 January 2006

The Minutes of the Recreation & Amenities Meeting held on the 16 January 2006 having been previously distributed was accepted.

06/021 Report on the Ashway Playing Field Development

In a letter dated 18 January 2006 (copies of which had been circulated to members), Hewitsons confirm that 'David Wilson have agreed to the Councils wording regarding the indemnity and with regards to third party rights they are prepared to allow the Council to run services across the property to the playing fields and to access the adjoining playing fields from the property providing that the rights are only used in connection with the use of the adjoining land as playing fields'.

In a copy of a letter to Shoosmiths dated 25 January 2006 from Hewitsons, which included a copy of the transfer deed,(copies of which had been circulated to members), Hewitsons confirm that David Wilson are responsible for the Parish Council's legal fees which have now reached £2,300.

Following a discussion the Clerk was asked for clarification from Hewitsons regarding clause 5.3 of the transfer deed 'restrictive covenant by transferee'. It was agreed to wait for David Wilson's response regarding the legal costs.

Highway and Environment

06/022 Reply from the Land Registry – Pocket Park

A letter from the Land Registry had been received (copy of which had been circulated to members), stating that ‘all the owners of the surrounding land which has the use of right must join in the release’. This means that in order for the Council to consider altering the land registry title, to enable the pocket park to be closed at set times all the land owners adjacent to the pocket park would have to agree. The Clerk was asked to invite all the adjacent landowners to the next Council meeting in February to consider their views.

County Cllr C Millar arrived

06/023 Letter from Hunts & Combs – Millennium Garden Lease

A letter from Hunts and Combs had been received (a copy of which had been circulated), stating that ‘the request to cap the rent increases has not been approved’. The Clerk was asked to request that they reconsider capping the increase to 5%, bearing in mind that the Council will be looking after the Diocese land and that it is considered normal practice.

06/024 NCC – A Map Panel for Right of Way

The Access development officer at NCC, has contacted the Council to enquire whether the Council would consider contributing to a map panel. This map panel (A1 in size) would show some places of interest, county paths, connections out of the Parish, and the location of local services. The panel could be wall mounted or ideally installed lectern fashion for the benefit of wheelchair users, depending on availability of space and location. The cost, which is estimated to be in the region of £1300.00, is to be partly funded by Defra and NCC. It was resolved to contribute £100.00 towards the production of the map panel.

06/025 Clerks Report on Parish Council’s Land & Tree Inventory

The Clerk reported that after contacting the Land Registry and visiting the solicitors she had compiled a list of the land owned by the Council (copy of which had been circulated to members). Atkins report on the tree inventory for the parish has now been completed. This report identifies the ownership of all the trees in the parish, which are the responsibility of the Council, NCC and DDC.

General Purposes

06/026 Report on Scheduled Meeting for 3 January 2006

This meeting was abandoned due to it not being quorate.

06/027 Report on Parish Plan Meeting 15 February 2006

The first Parish Plan meeting is to be held on Wednesday, 15 February 2006 at 7.00pm. Cllr Monk agreed to send out further details in advance.

06/028 Village Hall Representative Report – Village Hall AGM

The Chairman was unable to attend the village hall AGM, due to it clashing with a Council meeting.

06/029 Clerks Success – Certificate in Local Council Administration

Members congratulated the Clerk on receiving a Distinction for the Certificate in Local Council Administration. The General Purposes committee agreed to review the terms and conditions for the Clerk, as per NALC/SLCC recommendations in 2005.

06/030 County Councillors Report

County Cllr Millar reported that at a recent Area Committee Meeting, NCC Highways had introduced a new pothole filling process, which reuses existing material and leaves no seam. Once an agreement has been negotiated the Uplands building will be handed over to Community organisations, such as the History Society and Friends of All Saints Church. County Cllr Millar also wished to comment on the Daventry Villages Altogether organisation. This organisation was set up to protect the villages surrounding Daventry, as they are concerned with the plans for expanding the town. Daventry District Council's policy basis is that Brixworth does not require any accelerator growth. The Parish Council must determine its own growth and local employment opportunities and advise the District Council accordingly.

Correspondence for discussion

06/031 Daventry Villages Together

It was agreed not to subscribe to the Daventry Villages Together.

06/032 Letter from Resident – Bushes/Trees Overhanging Public Footpath The Ashway

A letter from a resident had been received (copy of which had been previously circulated to members), regarding overgrown bushes on a public footpath along the Ashway. The Clerk was asked to send a polite letter to the owner of the bushes, asking for them to be cut back.

06/033 Letter from Resident – Harborough Road Grass Verges

A letter from a resident had been received (copy of which had been previously circulated to members), regarding the condition of the grass verges between the Coach and Horses and Red Lion, due to inconsiderate vehicles being parked on them. The Clerk was asked to report this matter to Atkins/NCC Highways.

06/034 DDC – Concessionary Travel Token Scheme

The District Council already operates a travel token scheme across the district for disabled residents and students. Parish Councils may extend this to certain members of the parish and this cost needs to be included in the precept. It was agreed to include this item as part of the parish plan questionnaire, to determine whether there is a need for such a scheme. Depending on the response the Council may consider this for the future.

County Cllr C Millar left the meeting

06/035 ODPM – Standards of Conduct in Local Government: The Future

The discussion paper which sets out its vision for a future comprehensive conduct regime for local authority members and employees was noted.

06/036 Daventry & South Northants NHS – Patient Led NHS Consultation

The consultation on the new strategic health authority, primary care trust and ambulance arrangements was noted.

06/037 Letters from Standards Board – Notification of Allegations Received

A letter dated 22 December 2005 had been received from the Standards Board advising the Council of a recent decision, of an allegation made against a Parish Councillor. The decision was that the allegation should not be investigated.

Another letter dated 19 January 2006 had been received, advising the Council of two allegations made against two Parish Councillors. The Standards Board have decided to refer both allegations to an Ethical Standards Officer for further investigation.

06/038 Correspondence for information only

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

06/039 Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting is to be held on Tuesday, 28 February 2006 at 7.15pm.

Urgent Matters For Report Only

06/040 Brixworth Youth Foundation

Cllr Fox handed out copies of the latest Brixworth Youth Foundation newsletter for members to read.

There being no other business the meeting closed at 10.05pm

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

Dated 28 February 2006

Matters raised by the members of the public.

1. Mr Nice reported that the culprit who had smashed the Community Centre glass door had been issued with a court order to pay £5.00 per week towards the cost of the damages incurred. If they default on the payments there will be a warrant for their arrest.