

BRIXWORTH PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday, 25 April 2006 at 7.15p.m. in the Olive Branch Coffee shop, Brixworth Library/Community Centre, Spratton Road, Brixworth

Present: Councillors: I Barratt (Chairman), R Chattaway, P Fox, D Kennedy, S Killick, F Peacock, J McFadyen, R Monk and P Savage

In Attendance: Mrs J Macken – Parish Clerk
Cllrs E & F Wiig – District Ward Councillors
Mr M Nice - Centre Manager
Mrs Jackie Clacken – Bromford Housing Association
CSPO G Simkins – Northants Police
Three members of the public

06/123 Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr J Stublely, County Cllr C Millar and District Cllr. N Bunting.

The Chairman announced that sadly Mr John Ruch, a former Parish Councillor, had recently died; the Council wished to pass on their best wishes to the family.

06/124 Declaration of Interest on Agenda Items

None

06/125 Signing of the Minutes of the Last Meeting 28 March 2006

The minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday, 28 March 2006 were agreed and signed by the Chairman as a true and correct record of this meeting.

06/126 Signing of the Minutes of the Finance Meeting 18 April 2006

The minutes of the meeting held on 18 April 2006 were agreed and signed by the Chairman as a true and correct record of this meeting.

Questions from the Public

*The meeting adjourned to allow members of the public to address the Council.
A note of the matters raised are attached.*

Meeting reconvened at 7.40pm

06/127 Bromford Housing Association

Jackie Clacken introduced herself and Bromford Housing Association to the meeting. The association is a registered social landlord and charity. It provides properties for shared ownership or rent in the Midlands. It allocates properties in Brixworth to people who have a connection with the village (ie. family ties). There are approximately forty properties in Brixworth, which consist of two and three bed houses and there are no plans for future development in the village, which would be dealt with by the District Council. 75% of the properties are allocated to people nominated by the District Council, this means that only one in four properties that become available are allocated to people on the associations waiting list. It was

suggested that the Council may wish to take the matter, of preference and consideration of nominations, up with the District Council. Mrs Clacken agreed to keep in contact with the Clerk. The Chairman thanked Mrs Clacken for attending the meeting

06/128 County Councillor's Report

County Cllr C Millar had sent his apologies. The Chairman reported that Cllr Millar was unable to attend last months meeting due to not being able to open the side door to the building, due to a damaged handle. This handle had been repeatedly damaged by vandals and has now recently been replaced. It was noted that as Council meetings are open to members of the public they should have access at all times.

06/129 Police Representative Report

CSPO Gemma Simkins informed the meeting that there were thirteen crimes reported over the past month. These included two dwelling burglaries, damage to public house, theft of motor vehicle stereos and damage to the Library.

06/130 Second Bye election

The Chairman reported that Mr Anthony Everard has been nominated and will be duly elected unopposed after the 4 May 2006. There are still two vacancies, which will need to be filled by a third bye-election, which is to be held in June 2006.

06/131 Parish Councillor Vacancies

The Chairman reported that an application had been received for the co-option vacancy. The Council agreed to consider the co-option at its next meeting in June.

Planning

06/132 To Accept the Minutes of Meeting 3 April & 24 April 2006

The Minutes of the Planning Meetings held on the 3 & 24 April 2006 having been previously distributed were accepted.

06/133 DDC Planning Approvals and Refusals – April 2006 Report

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

Approvals

DA/2006/0071 Mr M Porter – The Old Vicarage, Church Street, Brixworth
Listed Building consent for internal alterations, creation of new bathroom and en suite
bathrooms.

30.1.06 PC No Objection

14.3.06 DDC Approved

Refusals

None

Finance

06/134 Income Received for March 2006

The Clerk reported the Income received for March 2006, which was as follows: -

Received from	Details	£
Community Centre	Hall Hire	411.35
BCF Action Ltd	Fourth instalment of rent, Electricity chgs	511.06
Red Lion FC	Ground Rent 05/06 - Ashway Playing Fields	50.00
Natwest Bank	Bank Interest Jan - Mar 06	951.51
		<u>1,923.92</u>

06/135 Bank Reconciliation as at 31 March 2006

The bank reconciliation as at the 31 March 2006 was reported and accepted as follows:

Current Account	£18,432.39
Capital Reserve Account	£157,847.59
Less Cheques outstanding	£6,534.98
Balance Carried forward as at 1.04.06	£169,745.00

06/136 Income and Expenditure & Reserves Report for March 2006

The Council accepted the Income and Expenditure and reserves report for March 2006, which had been previously circulated. This had been discussed at the Finance meeting.

06/137 Renewal of Council's Annual Insurance

The Chairman reported that the Clerk had updated the Parish Council's inventory, which now included the re-valued sums insured; the current total sum insured is £139,283.05. Copies of the inventory are available from the Clerk.

It was resolved to approve the payment for the renewal of the Council's insurance at a cost of £2,129.22 to Allianz Cornhill Insurance.

06/138 To Approve the Bills for Payment for April 2006

The list of payments to be made in April 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	£
3177	Groundsman	Groundman's Salary Apr 2006	956.37
3178	Clerk	Clerk's Salary Apr 2006	1,033.87
3179	PT Groundsman	P/T Groundsmans wages Apr 2006	171.75
3180	Litter Picker	Litter Picker wages Apr 2006	170.04
3181	Cleaner	Cleaner Comm. Centre wages Apr 2006	174.40
2182	HM Revenue & Customs	PAYE Tax & NI Apr 2006	812.33
3183	Mrs J Macken	Postage	6.91
3184	Mr M Sugden	Soil & turf - St Davids Rec. Grd	58.72
3185	J B Farming	Glyphosate	56.47
3186	DDC	Emptying of bins - 1.4.06/30.6.06	255.12
3187	Powergen	Street Light Electricity - Qtr	44.01
3188	Allianz Cornhill Ins Plc	Renewal of Council Insurance	2,129.22

3189	Lovell Hardware	Materials for groundsman	41.88
3190	NALC	Training course - Off to flying start	25.00
3191	ESPO	First Aid Kit, eye wash & tabard	25.03
3192	Mr M Nice	Centre Manager expenses - keys, stationery	75.68
3193	AH Blason & Son	Fuel - Pick up, tractor & Kubota	148.99
			<u>6,185.79</u>

Recreation and Amenities Development

06/139 Report on the Ashway Playing Field Development

Following a discussion, in the absence of a Chairman of Recreation, it was agreed for Cllr Chattaway to assist the Clerk with regards to the transfer of land from David Wilson Homes.

The Clerk circulated a report on the history of the Council's legal fees incurred by Hewitsons solicitors to date, which is currently £2,500.00. The Council seems to be in a stalemate situation and would like this matter to be resolved as soon as possible before further costs are incurred. Following advice from Daventry District Council the Council agreed to write to David Wilson Homes enquiring whether they would increase the amount they would pay. The current amount agreed is £1,250.00.

The Council is disappointed that Hewitsons did not obtain a further undertaking once the initial sum of £750.00 was reached (although it acknowledges that Hewitsons did write to David Wilson Homes at this stage) and that there was a time delay before this matter was pursued again. Therefore it was also agreed to write to Hewitsons enquiring whether they would review their fees with this in mind.

06/140 DDC – Summer Sports Development Road Show

The District Council is arranging a two day Summer Sports Development Road Show in twelve locations throughout the school holidays. The Council agreed for St David's Recreation Ground to be used for this purpose. It was suggested that the District Council might wish to contact the Central Sports Club to book the pavilion as well.

06/141 NALC – Playground Inspection Training Course June 2006

It was resolved for Cllr Killick, Mr M Sugden (Groundsman) and Mrs J Macken (Clerk) to attend the playground inspection-training course in June at a cost of £25.00 per person.

Highway and Environment

06/142 Minutes of Meeting 4 April 2006

The Minutes of the Highways & Environment Meeting held on the 4 April 2006 having been previously circulated were accepted.

06/143 Potential Projects for BTCV Environmental Improvements

Following a discussion it was agreed that there are not currently any projects that BTCV could do. However it was agreed to bear the group in mind for future projects. It was noted that BTCV charge £240.00 per day.

06/144 Village of the Year Competition

Cllr Peacock reported that the judges would be visiting Brixworth on Thursday, 18 May 2006 from 10.00am until noon. Cllr Peacock, Cllr Fox, Mr Nice and the Clerk agreed to meet with the judges. If the planters on Spratton Road have not been removed in time, then Cllr Fox, Cllr Chattaway, Cllr Barratt and Cllr Killick agreed to tidy them up prior to the 18 May 2006.

06/145 Update on Pocket Park

This matter was discussed earlier on in the meeting. The Clerk was asked to write to the Land Registry to enquire that as the majority of the residents agree and no one has objected to the amendment to the Land Registry Title, would it be sufficient to go ahead. Eight out of the eleven adjacent land owners have agreed to amending the Land Registry Title, so that it would not be available 'at all times for recreational purposes', the other three land owners have not replied, despite follow up letters and ample of time to reply.

General Purposes

06/146 Approve Parish Plan Questionnaire

Cllr Monk agreed to forward a copy of the revised parish plan to all members.

06/147 Report on Village Hall AGM

Cllr Fox reported that there had been only five people in attendance at the Village Hall AGM, including herself. Mr L Tyrer and Mr H Fox wished to step down as Chairman and Treasurer but nobody has come forward to replace them. Mr Tyrer had agreed to write to all the users of the hall, the Parish Council and an article for the Bulletin stating that if no one comes forward then the hall will have to close. The administrator had resigned, but it was hoped that a replacement had been found.

06/148 Informal Meeting for the Committee Members of all the Community Premises in the Parish.

Following a discussion it was agreed to arrange an informal meeting which Cllr Monk agreed to facilitate for the benefit of the committees of community buildings in the village. The Chairman of the Village Hall, two Centres, Sports Pavilion, Youth Club and Heritage Centre would be invited to discuss possible ways of working together to help resolve any problems.

Cllr Monk left the meeting

06/149 Report on Annual Parish Meeting – 10 May 2006

The Annual Parish Meeting is to be held on Wednesday, 10 May 2006 at 8.00pm in the Community Hall. Unfortunately Richard Wood from Daventry District Council is unable to attend this meeting to discuss the future development of Brixworth, but would like to discuss this issue with the Parish in the foreseeable future. Therefore, as agreed, the Clerk has invited all the village organisations to which the Council has awarded a community grant to over the past year, to come along to give a short report on how the grant was spent.

Correspondence for discussion

06/150 Letter from resident – Fencing in Spratton Road Recreation Ground

A letter had been received from a resident concerned about the damaged fence in Spratton Road Recreation Ground, which she understood is the property of the Council's (a copy of which had been previously circulated to members). This chain link fence runs along side the residents conifers. Due to the damaged fence youths and dogs had entered the residents garden through the conifers. The Council agreed to look into whether the palisade fencing, which was in storage, could be reused. Cllr Killick agreed to measure up the fencing.

It was reported that the Council wishes to involve the residents in the redevelopment of the Spratton Road Recreation Ground.

06/151 NCC Highways – Wording & Illustration for Map Panel

A copy of the suggested wording for the map panel had been received from the County Council (a copy of which had been previously circulated to members). It was agreed to ask Mr John Dawkins of the Brixworth History Society to assist with the wording.

06/152 Northamptonshire Law Society – Complaints Handling Procedures

The Council noted the complaints handling procedures received from the Northamptonshire Law Society (a copy of which had been previously circulated to members).

06/153 Northants Community Fund – Grants

A letter from the Northants Community Fund had been received (a copy of which had been previously circulated to members). The Clerk was asked to request for an application form. It was suggested that funding could be used towards the Spratton Road Recreation Ground redevelopment.

06/154 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.

06/155 Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting is to be held on Tuesday, 23 May 2006 at 7.15pm.

Urgent Matters For Report Only

06/156 Library/ Community Centre CCTV Proposal

Cllr Fox enquired how this project is going to be progressed and who will be managing it. Cllr Savage agreed to look into this matter.

06/157 Olive Branch – Revamp of coffee shop

It was noted and agreed for the Olive Branch counter to be relocated.

06/158 Caitlin McClatchey – Commonwealth Gold Winner

The Chairman confirmed that he had presented Caitlin with a bouquet of flowers, together with Cllr Fox. The Bulletin's photographer had taken photos for the next edition.

06/159 Letter to Chairman from Brixworth Youth Club

The Chairman reported that he had received a letter from the Youth Club, concerned about the new procedure for the grant applications. It had been recently agreed that the Council would consider applications twice a year in July and January. This presented the youth club with a problem and could possibly affect other organisations this year that may need to know before July whether or not they would be receiving any money and if so how much.

There being no other business the meeting closed at 9.25pm

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

Dated 23 May 2006

Matters raised by members of the public

1. District Cllr E Wiig enquired when the planters on Spratton Road are to be removed by NCC Highways. The Clerk was asked to chase this matter up with Atkins. Should the planters not be removed before the arrival of the Village of the Year judges on the 18 May 2006, Cllrs P Fox, I Barratt, S Killick and R Chattaway offered to tidy the planters.
2. District Cllr E Wiig enquired as to why the replacement goal post had not been installed at Spratton Road Recreation Ground. The Chairman reported that the transportation of the goal post from St David's to Spratton Road is a problem.
3. A resident from Eaglehurst enquired whether the Council had received a reply from the other residents. The Chairman confirmed that the Council had not had a reply from the two residents; copies of minutes had been sent and follow up letters. This item was discussed later on in the meeting. The Chairman passed on details to the resident regarding Neighbourhood Watch Scheme.
4. A resident raised her concern regarding the vandalism to the chain link fence, which borders her garden on the Spratton Road Recreation Ground. The resident believes that the fence is the Parish Councils. This item was discussed later on in the meeting.