

BRIXWORTH PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday, 27 March 2007 at 7.15p.m. in the Heritage Centre, Church Street, Brixworth

Present: Councillors: I Barratt (Chairman), R Chattaway, S Dobson, T Everard, P Fox, D Kennedy, J McFadyen, R Monk, F Peacock, S Verallo and E Wiig.

In Attendance: Mrs J Macken – Parish Clerk
Mr Sercombe - Member of Public
Cllr C Millar - County Councillor (attended part of meeting)

07/091 Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were received from Sergeant Grady.

07/092 Declaration of Interest on Agenda Items

Cllr Fox declared a personal interest – Member of the Bulletin Team, Husband Parish Council Representative for the Thomas Roe Foundation and Millennium Garden.

Cllr Verallo declared a personal interest – Member of the Bulletin Team and School Governor.

Cllr Wiig declared a personal interest – Member of another Local Authority

Cllr McFadyen declared a personal interest – Resides adjacent to the Ashway Playing Field

07/093 Signing of the Minutes of the Last Meeting 27 February 2007

The minutes of the meeting held on 27 February 2007 were agreed and signed by the Chairman as a true and correct record of this meeting.

The meeting continued, as there were no members of the public wishing to address the Council.

07/094 Parish Councillors Vacancies

The Chairman reported that Cllr Lynn Stevens has resigned due to personal reasons. The District Council will be notified and the appropriate notices are to be displayed. The Council has not received any enquiries or applications for the current vacancies. This means that there are now three parish councillor vacancies.

07/095 Police Representative's Report

Unfortunately no one from the Police could attend the meeting, however Sgt Grady had sent a report, which was circulated, to all members. It was noted that the crime figures had remained stationary. A shopkeeper, in the village, is due to appear in court for selling alcohol to under age and without a license.

07/096 Brixworth Action Group Meeting 28 February 2007

The Chairman reported the following: -

- Meeting attended by local businessmen, Police and Neighbourhood Watch members, District and Parish Councillors.

- Mike Downing – Crime Prevention Officer presented his ideas to the meeting.
- NCC will not contribute financially to a CCTV scheme.
- Parish Council has £2000 in the current budget for a possible CCTV/crime prevention scheme.
- The group is waiting for a quote for a system that could be linked to St Johns. This system would be monitored by staff at St Johns at set times. The cameras record all the time, however would need to be angled in the right direction. Cameras record in colour and could be used in court as evidence.
- Brixsecure – a local security company presented two proposals to the meeting. Supersonic system with 16 channels costing £37,000 and a cheaper system with 5 cameras £7,900. The cameras could be fitted behind the shops, which was welcomed by the shopkeepers. The systems would only be monitored by a volunteer. Legal clearance may be required.

It was suggested that perhaps the two schemes could be mixed, to enable coverage to the rear of the shops, which was a concern to the shopkeepers. It was also suggested to look into a Business Improvement District (BID). BID is a partnership between a local authority and the local business community that develops and takes forward projects and services that benefit the trading environment and the public realm.

07/097 Parking on Junction Kennel Terrace / Northampton Road

It was noted that the local police are placing notices on vehicles parking on and within 15m of the junction of Kennel Terrace and Northampton Road. Concerns were raised that residents may park their cars on the opposite side of the road where the bus stops. Sgt Grady would be asked for a report on this matter at the next Council meeting. It was agreed that a residents meeting might be required to help resolve this matter.

Planning

07/098 To Accept the Minutes of Meeting 12 March 2007

The Minutes of the Planning Meeting held on the 12 March 2007 having been previously distributed were accepted.

07/099 DDC Planning Approvals and Refusals – March 2007 Report

The planning approvals and refusals for March 2007 were noted as follows: -

Approvals

DA/2006/1304 McInerney Homes Ltd, Unit B Basset Court, Loawe Close, Grange Park, Northampton

Land at Holcot Road, Brixworth

Demolition of existing industrial buildings and erection of 14 new dwellings with associated roadway and parking areas and garages.

18.12.06 PC No Objections 27.2.07 DDC Approved

DA/2007/0037 Mr & Mrs Harkness, Hadleigh Cottage, Holcot Road, Brixworth

One and a half storey extension to side and rear to form family room and two further bedrooms with detached double garage at front of dwelling

29.1.07 PC No Objection 1.3.07 DDC Approved

DA/2007/0044 Mr R Watkins, Beech Hill, 25 Church Street, Brixworth

Demolition of conservatory and outhouse, construction of extensions to house and new detached garage.

29.1.07 PC No Objection 6.3.07 DDC Approved

DA/2007/0061 77 Northampton Road, Brixworth

Outline appliciton for demolition of outbuildings and erection of one new dwelling, alteration to vehicular access

29.1.07 PC No Objection 5.3.07 DDC Approved

DA/2007/0065 Land at rear of 24 Northampton Road, Brixworth

Three terraced dwellings with vehicular accesses onto Broad Street

29.1.07 PC No Objection 6.3.07 DDC Approved

DA/2007/0078 Mr C Tyrrell, 25 Holcot Road, Brixworth, Northants

Single and two storey rear extensions

19.2.07 PC No observations 12.3.07 DDC Approved

DA/2007/0093 Miss J Nolan, The Gables, Holcot Road, Brixworth

Retrospective planning permission for the extension to rear.

27.2.07 PC No observations 12.3.07 DDC Approved

Refusals

None

07/100 NCC – Minerals and Waste Development Framework – Issues and Options Paper for the Core Strategy and Locations for Minerals and Waste

Item deferred until Cllr C Millar arrived.

07/101 Purchase of Planning Guides

It was resolved to purchase four copies of the ‘LGIU Planning for Parish Councils’ at a cost of £9.50 each.

Members were pleased with the development in Kennel Terrace. Also queries were raised with regards to the development at Rosemount on the Northampton Road. Cllr Chattaway agreed to look into this.

07/102 Letter from Resident – Land on The Ashway

7.50pm Standing Orders were waived in order to adjourn the meeting to allow a member of the public to address the Council with regards to a letter he had sent. This item had been brought forward. The meeting reconvened at 7.55pm.

A letter had been received from a resident in the Ashway, (a copy of which had been previously circulated) requesting to purchase a parcel of land, which was to be transferred to the Council by Taylor Woodrow. This strip of land is adjacent to the resident’s property. The resident would like to purchase the land in part or wholly to

enable him to build a single storey extension to his house. The resident maintains the piece of land, which the Council acknowledged. Plans of the area showing the proposed extension were circulated for members to consider.

Following a discussion and vote it was resolved to enter into negotiations with Mr Sercombe to sell the land wholly or in part subject to the satisfactory safeguard for the maintenance of the land and acceptance of the liability of the services crossing that land.

It was noted that the land is yet to be transferred to the Council by the developers. It was suggested for a covenant to prevent the moving of the fence on to the parcel of land, to ensure the open space remains open. The Clerk read out the procedure the Council would need to follow, in order to sell the land.

Finance

07/103 Income Received for February 2007

The Clerk reported the Income received for February 2007, which was as follows: -

<u>Received from</u>	<u>Details</u>	<u>£</u>
DDC	Funding towards Changing Rooms	14,000.00
NCC VSSU	Funding towards Changing Rooms	5,000.00
Alliance Cornhill	Insurance Claim for Litterbins	450.35
BCC	Second instalment of ground rent - St Davids	379.25
Community Centre	Hall Bookings	437.35
BCF	Fourth instalment of rent and electricity charges	442.50
DDC	Cleaning of DDC Information Service Office Jan - Mar	100.00
		<u>20,809.45</u>

07/104 Bank Reconciliation as a 28 February 2007

The bank reconciliation as at the 28 February 2007 was reported and accepted as follows:

Current Account	£27,293.72
Capital Reserve Account	£121,639.70
Less Cheques outstanding	£41,629.58
Balance Carried forward as at 1.3.07	£107,303.84

07/105 To Approve Final Payment to Thurstons Building Systems

The Clerk reported that it is anticipated that the changing rooms will be handed over to the Council week commencing 2 April 2007. A final inspection is to be carried out and it was agreed that the final payment would not be handed over until the Council was totally satisfied that all the work had been completed. It was noted that there is no retention, due to it being a local government contract. On proposal by Cllr Peacock and seconded by Cllr Monk it was resolved to approve the final payment of £12,843.36 plus VAT, subject to a satisfactory handover.

07/106 Income and Expenditure & Reserves Report for February 2007

The Council accepted the Income and Expenditure and reserves report for February 2007.

Cllr Monk reported that the total expenditure pro rata would be 92% against budget, discounting the Spratton Road Regeneration Sum of £10,000, currently there is 79.1% spent against budget. Areas under spent include budgets for vandalism, Community Centre running costs and village maintenance (however the repairs to the market cross needs to be included). The total income is 118% against budget.

07/107 To Approve the Bills for Payment for March 2007

A schedule of payments, to be made in March 2007 was copied to each member. It was resolved for the following accounts to be passed for payment; therefore the Chairman signed the schedule of payments.

Cllr Chattaway declared a personal interest – Parish Councillor expenses

Payment Approved Retrospectively

<u>Chq.</u>				
<u>No.</u>	<u>Minute</u>	<u>Payment To</u>	<u>Reason for Payment</u>	<u>£</u>
3402	07/006r 07/063	Ravensthorpe Construction	Drainage sewer connection - C/rooms	8,715.55

Payments Approved at Meeting

<u>Chq.</u>				
<u>No.</u>	<u>Minute</u>	<u>Payment To</u>	<u>Reason for Payment</u>	<u>£</u>
3403		Groundsman	Groundman's Salary Mar 2007	956.73
3404		Clerk	Clerk's Salary Mar 2007	1,034.23
3405		Part Time Groundsman	P/T Groundsmans wages Mar 2007	98.08
3406		Litter Picker	Litter Picker wages Mar 2007	170.04
3407		Cleaner	Cleaner Comm. Centre wages Mar 2007	174.40
3408		HM Revebue & Customs	PAYE Tax & NI Mar 2007	790.93
3409		Mrs J Macken	Clerks Allowance, postage & stationery	77.43
3410		Mrs L Compton	Shared Mileage cost to White Paper Seminar	13.00
3411		Mr M Sugden	Roofing felt for bus shelter	40.47
3412		Mr I Barratt	Chairmans Tel. Allowance	32.50
3413		Mr R Chattaway	Cllrs expenses - printer cartridge	17.93
3414		Lovell Hardware	Materials for groundsman	30.85
3415		NCC	Shared cost for New Sign - Community Centre	179.14
3416		ABB Ltd	Street Light maintenance - Jan - Mar 07	25.05
3417		Friends of All Saints	Hire of Heritage Centre 27.2.07	10.50
3418		ESPO	Cleaning materials for Community Centre	97.86
3419		Trevor Iles Ltd	Replacement Litter Bin	314.90
342006/061		T Foster	Repairs to Market Cross	500.00
3422		AH Blason & Son	Fuel - Pick up and Kubota	132.15
3423		Thurstons Building Systems	Final Payment for Changing Rooms	15,090.94
				28,502.68

It was noted that the Market Cross had been repaired. Concerns were raised regarding the light coloured mortar, which had been used. Therefore the Clerk was asked to ask the contractor for a verbal assurance that the mortar would weather.

Recreation and Amenities Development

07/108 Minutes of Meeting 19 March 2007

The Minutes of the Recreation and Amenities Meeting held on the 19 March 2007 having been previously distributed were accepted.

07/109 Charges for Use of Ashway Changing Rooms and Sports Pitches

On proposal by Cllr Verallo and seconded by Cllr Peacock and all agreed, it was resolved to approve the charges for the use of the Changing Rooms and football pitches, as recommended by the committee. (All prices are subject to VAT).

	Mini Soccer	Under 18's	Senior
Village Clubs	15.00	20.00	35.00
Outside Clubs	15.00	25.00	40.00

07/110 New Seat - St David's Recreation Ground Play Area

Cllr Peacock reported that the bench in St David's Recreation Ground play area had been vandalised and subsequently removed. The committee had recommended purchasing an all-metal seat as its replacement. Three options were considered. It was resolved to purchase a red all metal seat from Urbanscape at a cost of £480.00.

07/111 Report on Changing Rooms Development

The Clerk reported the following: -

- The footpath and patio area to be completed this week.
- Thurstons have been asked to repoint areas where the pointing is significantly different.
- Plumbers and electricians to finish this week.
- All utility connections completed.
- Building inspector to make final inspection to look at footpath, access to building and drainage.
- £19,000 Funding received from the District Council and County Council.
- Hand over to be possibly week commencing 2 April 2007.

07/112 Fencing and Shrubbery surrounding Changing Rooms

The Clerk stated that she had met the Crime Prevention Officer on site to look at the fencing and shrubbery surrounding the changing rooms. He recommended that the closed boards be replaced with a post and rail type fence to open up the area. He said that he would prefer not to have trees and shrubs along the roadside. Following a vote it was resolved to accept the following quotes from Brixworth Landscaping: -

- To replace the shrubs removed by drainage contractors £440
- To remove closed boards and replace with rails (posts to remain) £490.00
- To reinstate hawthorn hedge along fencing £215

07/113 Additional Costs for Footpath and Soak away on Ashway Playing Fields

The Clerk stated that the contractors had tendered for the work before the building had been delivered; consequently there are extra costs to consider. Also the access to the building needed to satisfy the building inspector and fire officer. On proposal by Cllr Peacock and seconded by Cllr Kennedy it was resolved to accept the cost for the extra work which was as follows: -

- Extra length of path to facilitate wheeled traffic coming off the car park and keep foot traffic away from muddy part of car park £140.
- Rolled granite gravel and fines to footpath surface (as opposed to rolled tarmac scrapings), more suitable for wheeled traffic £280.
- Extra slabs for step up to doors £300.
- Soakaway from lowest point of car park where water gathers to site boundary £634.
- Level path from playing field to building £1040.
- Drainage from building to shrub area. £407. This work should have been carried out by Thurstons, who have agreed for this sum to be deducted from the final payment.

07/114 Revised Budget for Changing Rooms

It was resolved to accept the following revised budget for the Changing Rooms: -

Ashway Changing Rooms Building Costs

		<u>PC Budget</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Variance</u>
Building	Total	87,000.00	99,019.75	12,019.75
Foundations	Total	17,500.00	18,436.70	936.70
Utilities / Groundworks	Total	14,400.00	11154.68	-3,245.32
Professional Fees	Total	4,000.00	2,400.00	-1,600.00
Patio & footpath	Total		7,160.00	7,160.00
Contingency	Total	10,000.00		
	Grand Total	132,900.00	138,171.13	5,271.13

Soakaway –car park

634.00

07/115 Insurance for Changing Rooms

The Clerk reported that she had completed an insurance proposal form for the changing rooms with an insured sum of £129,000. The changing rooms cannot be covered for subsidence due to the nature of the building being on pad foundations. The commencement date for cover is 1 April 2007. The cost is to be confirmed.

07/116 Tenders for Annual Grounds Maintenance of Sports Pitches

The Clerk informed the meeting that she had sent out three invitations to tender for the annual grounds maintenance of the sports pitches. This tender is for the next three years. Only two tenders had been received.

Quote One £3130

Quote Two £3010

It was resolved to accept the second quotation from D G Salisbury for £3010. It was noted that this sum also included work in addition to the specification, which Dave Salisbury has carried out in the past few years.

07/117 Spratton Road Recreation Ground Group Meeting 21 March 2007

Minutes of the last group meeting had been previously circulated to members. Cllr Peacock and Cllr Wiig had attended. The group have a new plan of the area. Two junior swings proposed to be located to the west of the toddler play area, not on existing site. Goal post to be installed in the kick about area. It was agreed to ask the group to present the new plan with their final report at the next Council meeting.

07/118 Removal of Play Equipment on Spratton Road Recreation Ground

Three quotes have been received for the removal of the existing play equipment.

Quote One £5,500

Quote Two £3,500

Quote Three £2,330

It was agreed to wait until the next meeting, after the group have presented their new plan to the Council. The Clerk was asked to find out the cost for removing all the equipment except the swings. It was suggested that the swings could remain until the new swings are installed.

Cllr C Millar arrived

07/119 NCC – Minerals and Waste Development Framework – Issues and Options Paper for the Core Strategy and Locations for Minerals and Waste

Cllr Millar informed members of Daventry District Councils opinion for the proposed Brixworth and Scaldwell site. The District Council has agreed to oppose to all the proposals in the document. Members raised their concerns on the affect this facility would have on the parish, in particular with regards to the increase in traffic through the village. The Council supports recycling, but wishes to ensure that the proposed site is in proportion to the village's size and that the transport network is sufficient to meet the increase in traffic. It was agreed that this matter would be fully discussed at the next planning committee meeting. Members unable to attend were asked to forward their thoughts to Cllr Chattaway beforehand.

Cllr C Millar left the meeting

Highways and Environment

07/120 Annual Maintenance for Irrigation System for Millennium Garden

Cllr Fox reported that the cost for the annual maintenance for the irrigation system, from Verdant and Bright, would be £150.00. This was agreed.

07/121 Ground Covering Plants and Mulch for Millennium Garden

It was resolved to accept Brixworth Landscaping quote for planting ground covering plants and covering the borders with mulch at a cost of £350.00.

07/122 Complaints Regarding Residents Overgrown Bushes

Two separate complaints had been received by members with regards to residents overgrown bushes overhanging the footpath and the highway in Far Brook. The Clerk was asked to send polite letters to the residents asking them to trim back their bushes.

07/123 Report on Thomas Roe Land

Cllr Fox reported that at the last Council meeting the Clerk was asked to write to the Foundation of Thomas Roe and register an interest in their land, which the Council could possibly consider using as a suitable place for BMX/skateboarding. A reply from the Foundation had been received. It stated that 'the trustees were prepared to consider leasing one parcel of land (six acre field) to the Parish Council and granting a lease for five years from the end of December 2007 at a rent of £800 per annum'. A response to the Foundation is required by September 2007. It was agreed for members to go and look at the field and discuss the matter at the next Council meeting. A letter of thanks is to be sent to the Clerk to the Trustees.

07/124 Report on Offer for Planting Trees along Northampton Road

Cllr Fox stated that two residents had offered to supply and plant trees along one side of the Northampton Road, from the last house on the left hand side until the entrance to the allotments (opposite Merry Tom Lane). Following a vote it was resolved not to pursue this matter at this time. The Council wished to pass on their thanks to the residents.

07/125 Brixworth Lions Village Litter Pick

Cllr Fox reported that the Brixworth Lions have arranged two dates for litter picking in the parish, which are the 22 April 2007 and 14 October 2007. Details are to be circulated.

Cllr Verallo reported that vehicles have been parking on the grass verge in Pytchley Way next to the Fish and Chip shop. This item is to be referred to the next committee meeting.

07/126 Annual Parish Meeting (APM) 9 May 2007

It was resolved to invite all the village organisations to come along and meet the Parish Councillors and to have a cup of tea and a biscuit before the meeting started. The organisations, which had received a community grant in the past year, would again be invited to give a short presentation about the group and how the money had been spent. It was noted that this meeting is open to all members of the Public. The Parish Council's Annual Report will be available at the meeting. The Chairs of the committees were reminded to compile their reports.

07/127 Annual General Meeting (AGM) 16 May 2007

Following a vote it was resolved to hold the Annual General Meeting in the Olive Branch on 16 May 2007.

Correspondence for discussion

07/128 Brixworth Primary School PTA – Funding for Play Equipment

A letter from the Brixworth School PTA had been received (a copy had been previously circulated), regarding the grant the Council had awarded the group for new play equipment. Further fundraising had been necessary, however a supplier has now been sourced and the play equipment is due to be installed by the end of June 2007.

07/129 Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting is to be held on Tuesday, 24 April 2007 at 7.15pm.

07/130 Urgent Matters For Report Only

Cllr Monk asked the Highways and Environment committee to consider organising a couple of litter picks a year, in conjunction with the Brixworth Lions. This item was referred to the next committee meeting.

There being no other business the meeting closed at 10.15pm

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

Dated 24 April 2007