

BRIXWORTH PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday, 28 August 2007 at 7.15p.m. in the Olive Branch, Library/Community Centre, Brixworth

Present: Councillors: I Barratt (Chairman), C Bament, D Kennedy, R Monk, Mrs F Peacock, Cllr S Verallo & Mrs E Wiig

In Attendance: Mrs J Macken – Parish Clerk
Mr S Whiffen – Member of Public
Sgt M Grady – Northants Police

07/262 Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr M Lacey, Cllr R Chattaway, Cllr J McFadyen, Cllr Everard, Cllr P Fox and Cllr C Millar.

07/263 Declaration of Interest on Agenda Items

Cllr Monk declared an interest in reference number 07/267.

Cllr Wiig declared a personal interest – Member of another Local Authority regards to reference number 07/268

Cllr Wiig declared a prejudicial interest in reference numbers 07/283 and 07/292 – Member of the Village Hall Committee

Cllr S verallo declared a personal interest – Member of the Brixworth Bulletin

07/264 Signing of the Minutes of the Last Meeting 31 July 2007

The minutes of the meeting held on 31 July 2007 were agreed and signed by the Chairman as a true and correct record of this meeting.

There were no members of the public wishing to address the Council.

07/265 Police Representative's Report

Sergeant Grady reported the following: -

- Current crime figures are the same as this time last year (70).
- There has been a reduction in criminal damage
- Figures high due to thefts, which include thefts at the Co-Op and thefts from insecure vehicles.
- Recent dwelling car key burglaries in Knightons Way, Shelleycoats and Grass Slade.
- Push bike stolen from a shed
- Cash stolen from the Brixworth Tandorri
- PCSO Jemma Simkins will be taking a career break to travel the world. PCSO Jo Hillary will be taking over from Jemma. The Clerk was asked to send a letter of appreciation to Jemma and to wish her good luck in her travels.
- Crime prevention devices are available at cost from the Local Police
- The Police would urge any crime to be reported or mentioned to the Local Police.

07/266 JAG Meeting8. August 2007

The notes of the recent Joint Action Group meeting had been previously circulated to members, items of discussion had included inconsiderate parking, youth nuisance and speeding. District Cllr F Wiig had delivered a letter to all residents in Brampton Way, on behalf of the Police, who are affected by anti social behaviour by youths, asking for help to keep reporting the any incidents they see or hear to the Police.

The group had asked the Parish Council to consider funding or part funding Youth Shelters on all three playing fields.

Cllr R Monk arrived

Following a lengthy discussion and a vote it was resolved that the Parish Council in principal supports youth shelters in the right place.

07/267 Northants Rural Housing Association – Affordable Housing in Brixworth

Cllr Monk declared an interest and left the room.

The Parish Council had been contacted by NRHA, who had been contacted by a Land Agent regarding an exception site within Brixworth, in Froghall, and the possibility of providing affordable housing for local residents. The first step would be for a Housing Needs Survey to be carried out. This matter had been discussed at previous meetings. Following a lengthy discussion and with a casting vote, it was resolved with the proposed development in mind, not to have a Housing Needs Survey carried out at this time.

Cllr Monk returned back to the meeting

Planning

***07/268 DA/2007/0736 CPL Aromas Ltd, Quarry Road, Brixworth
Installation of new silo and bund wall to existing factory***

Cllr E Wiig did not participate in the discussion.

The meeting considered this planning application. The Parish Council is concerned about any further development on this site, which continues to cause a nuisance in significant areas of the village due to the emissions of offensive odours.

07/269 DDC Planning Approvals and Refusals – August 2007 Report

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

Approvals

DA/2007/0497 Mercedes Benz Technology Centre, Morgan Drive, Brixworth

New Manufacturing building and energy centre with associated staff restaurant and welfare facilities, extension of existing engineering and testing building, provision of new staff car parking, extension of site perimeter road with landscaping

4.6.07 PC No Objection

15.8.07 DDC Approved

DA/2007/0600 Mr Sercombe, 87 The Ashway, Brixworth

Construction of wind turbine

25.6.07 PC Objects

25.7.07 DDC Approved for 6 months

DA/2007/0621 Mr Gouldstone, 44 The Ashway, Brixworth

Single storey rear extension

25.6.07 PC No objection 19.7.07 DDC Approved

DA/2007/0666 Mr & Mrs D Linnett, 29 Windmill Glade, Brixworth

Two storey extension to include conversion of garage to playroom, a utility area and wc at ground floor and further bedroom at first floor

25.6.07 PC No objection 30.7.07 DDC Approved

DA/2007/0724 Mr & Mrs Billingham, 1A The Ashway, Brixworth

Two storey extension to side of dwelling

23.7.07 PC No objection 8.8.07 DDC Approved

DA/2007/0727 Mr Moriarty, 29 Queen St, Weedon.

31/33 Lesson Road, Brixworth.

Demolition of existing property and erection of 3 pairs of semi detached dwellings.

23.7.07 PC No objection 13.8.07 DDC Approved

DA/2007/0731 Mr & Mrs Bradbury, Rosemount, 22 Northampton Road, Brixworth

New conservatory

23.7.07 PC No objection 13.8.07 DDC Approved

DA/2007/0754 LA Trading Ltd, 22 High Street South, Olney

Land adjacent to 24 Northampton Road, Brixworth

Detached dwelling

23.7.07 No Objection 20.8.07 DDC Approved

NCC 07/00016/CCD Brixworth Primary School, Froxhill Crescent, Brixworth

Installation of a double mobile classroom unit

25.6.07 PC No objection 17.7.07 NCC Approved

Refusals

DA/2007/0731 Mr & Mrs Bradbury, Rosemount, 22 Northampton Road, Brixworth

New Vehicular access

23.7.07 PC No objection 13.8.07 DDC Refused

Finance

07/270 Income Received for July 2007

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

Received from	Details	£
Community Centre	Hall Hire	355.00
DDC	Cleaning DDC Office Apr - Sept. 07	206.00
DDC	Contribution to utilities costs for Comm. Ctr	204.49
HM Revenue & Customs	Reclaim VAT 1.4.07 - 30.06.07	<u>3,834.09</u>
		<u>4,599.58</u>

07/271 Bank Reconciliation as at 31 July 2007

The bank reconciliation as at the 31 July 2007 was reported and accepted as follows:

Current Account	£5,853.30
Capital Reserve Account	£101,509.68
Less Cheques outstanding	£6,008.68
Balance Carried forward as at 1.7.07	£101,354.30

07/272 Income and Expenditure & Reserves Report for July 2007

The Council accepted the Income and Expenditure and reserves report for July 2007. It was noted that the following expenditure costs were greater than expected against the budget 52% vandalism, 61% Millennium Garden and 77% Community Centre Running Costs, hedging/fencing 87%, training budget 53%. The remaining costs are as expected.

07/273 To Approve the Bills for Payment for August 2007

A schedule of payments, to be made in August 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.

<u>Chq. No.</u>	<u>Min. Ref.</u>	<u>Payment To</u>	<u>Reason for Payment</u>	£
3525		Groundsman	Groundman's Salary August 2007	1,014.92
3526		Clerk	Clerk's Salary August 2007	1,053.51
3527		Part Time Groundsman	P/T Groundsmans wages August 2007	199.10
3528		Litter Picker	Litter Picker wages August 2007	172.58
3529		Community Centre Cleaner	Cleaner Comm. Centre wages August 2007	193.55
3530		HM Revenue & Customs	PAYE Tax & NI August 2007	848.10
3531		Lovell Hardware	Materials for Groundsman	43.10
3532		BT	Clerks telephone, broadband	149.15
3533		ESPO	Cleaning materials & toiletries C/Rooms	162.24
3534		British Gas Business	Gas Comm. Ctr. 30.6.07 - 27.7.07	27.20
3535	07/045r	Brixworth Landscaping	Trimming of Spratton Rd Rec. Grd hedge	381.88
3536	07/056e	Trevor Iles Ltd	Replacement litter bin	279.65
3538		NCC	Comm Ctr Elec. Chg Qtr 2	294.61
3537		British Gas Business	Elec. C/Rooms July 2007	27.17
3539		AH Blason & Son	Fuel	230.69
				<u>5,077.45</u>

07/274 Close the Capital Reserve Bank Account and Transfer to a New Reserve Account with Higher Interest

The Clerk reported that the interest on the Capital Reserve account is to remain the same regardless of interest rate increases. The Capital reserve account has been superseded by the Reserve account. On proposal by Cllr Kennedy and seconded by Cllr Bament it was resolved to close the Capital Reserve account and transfer the closing balance to a new Reserve account at NatWest.

It was noted that the authorised signatures are to remain the same, Cllr Monk, Cllr Barratt, Cllr Kennedy and Cllr Peacock. The clerk is an authorised signature to only be able to transfer funds between accounts and to make general enquiries.

07/275 Mentoring of New Councillors

It was agreed that new Councillors might require a mentor to assist them during the first few months. Cllr Wiig had offered to mentor Cllr Lacey. It was also suggested for an induction pack to be developed for new members. Cllr Monk asked members to email him with suggestions.

Recreation and Amenities Development

The Chairman reported that Cllr Peacock has resigned as Chair for the Recreation and Amenities Development Committee. The new Chair is to be elected at the next Committee meeting.

07/276 Charges for the Ashway Changing Rooms and Pitches for the Junior Football Club

Cllr Kennedy reported that he and Cllr McFadyen had met representatives from the Junior and Red Lion Football Clubs to discuss the charges for the use of the changing rooms and pitches on the Ashway Playing Field. It was recommended for the Junior Football Club to be charged for the season £500 including VAT and the Red Lion Football to be charged £35 including VAT per match for this season. On proposal by Cllr Kennedy and seconded by Cllr Bament it was resolved to approve these charges.

07/277 New Play Equipment for Ashway Playing Field

The Clerk was asked to obtain three quotes from Play Equipment Suppliers, to provide equipment on the Ashway Playing Field. The Council currently has £10,000 from a S106 agreement to spend on play equipment.

07/278 Official Opening of Changing Rooms – 1 September 2007

The arrangements are as follows: -

- District Chairman Cllr Alan Hills to open the changing rooms
- County Cllr Chris Millar to attend
- Friendly match arranged by BJFC at 10.00am
- Cllr Wiig agreed to provide light refreshments
- Cllr Verallo to provide squash
- Chairman to provide drinking water and ribbon for cutting
- Local media to attend

Highways and Environment

07/279 To Accept the Minutes of Meeting 7 August 2007

The Minutes of the Committee Meeting held on the 7 August 2007 having been previously distributed were accepted.

07/280 Report on Flooding in Holcot Road

Atkins/NCC Highways have assured the council that the problem would be fully investigated in October this year. Atkins have agreed that there are problems with the

soakaway and that it is their intention to investigate and resolve the situation before Christmas.

07/281 Gas Meter for Community Centre

The Clerk reported that the gas meters had been checked and were found to be correct. The Clerk is to check that the foyer heating is included on the County Councils gas meter.

07/282 Report on the Seat at Brampton Way / Spratton Road

The Chairman had received concerns about anti social behaviour in the Brampton Way and Spratton Road area. The Police are aware as this was discussed earlier. It was noted that the plastic litterbin, which had been set alight, has now been replaced with a metal one.

Correspondence for discussion

07/283 Brixworth Village Hall – Request for Support

Cllr E Wiig declared a prejudicial interest and left the room

An email had been received from Mr Frank Wiig, Chairman of the Village Hall, enquiring whether the Council would send a letter, in support of the Village Hall applying for funding, to the funder. (Copy of which had been previously circulated to members). This was agreed and the Chairman signed the letter of support.

Cllr E Wiig returned to the meeting

07/284 DDC – Holcot Road Development

The District Council confirmed that the new development on the Holcot Road is to be named Swansnest, which had been suggested by the Parish Council. (Copy of which had been previously circulated to members). The name comes from an old local field.

07/285 NCC – Emergency Planning

The Parish Council had received details and suggestions for a self-help emergency plan (i.e. in case of flooding etc.) for parishes from the County Council. Cllr E Wiig agreed to look at the documents and report back to the Council.

07/286 NCC – Local Bus Services Changes during September 2007

Details of the revised bus services to Brixworth had been received. (Copy of which had been previously circulated to members). It was noted that these changes would not affect Brixworth.

07/287 Northants PCT – Closure of Yelvertoft Branch Surgery

It was noted that the Yelvertoft branch surgery is to close; it was thought that this probably would not affect Brixworth residents. (Copy of letter from Northants PCT had been previously circulated to members).

07/288 Northants ACRE – Sports Fields & Play Areas in Northants

Northants ACRE are holding a special event on 10 October 2007, to look at issues of managing sports playing fields and play areas in Northants. (Copy of which had been previously circulated to members). It was agreed for the Clerk to attend this event.

07/289 Amey – Strategic Partnership – Highways Engineering Contract

A letter had been received from Amey, a contractor bidding for the NCC Highways work, (copy of which had been previously circulated to members), asking for comments and suggestions for improvements in providing the service. The Council made the following comments: -

- Gullies and drains need cleaning more often than once a year
- Contractor to agree an annual programme with Parish Councils, which gives priority to the roads which need resurfacing
- Council concerned about the standard of the current road repairs
- The jet patcher appears not to be affective, in addition only some areas are filled in and others are left.

07/290 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.

07/291 Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting is to be held on Tuesday, 25 September 2007 at 7.15pm

07/292 To Consider Costs for Using the Village Hall for Council Meetings

Cllr E Wiig declared a prejudicial interest and left the room

Further to the last Council meeting, where the majority of members were in favour of holding future Full Council meetings at the Village Hall for a trial period. On proposal by Cllr Kennedy and seconded by Cllr Monk it was resolved to hold the Full Council meetings at the Village Hall for six months, starting from September 2007. The charge will be £6.82 per hour. It was agreed that the Council would pay the charge in the most advantageous way to the Hall.

Cllr E Wiig returned to the meeting

Urgent Matters For Report Only

07/293 County Cllr Chris Millar

The Chairman reported that Cllr Chris Millar has asked the Council, that if a large sum of money were made available to the Parish, for suggestions on how it would spend it. One suggestion was to perhaps buy out the lease on the Youth Club premises. The Chairman asked members to email him with suggestions.

There being no other business the meeting closed at 9.35pm

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

Dated 25 September 2007