

BRIXWORTH PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday, 29 March 2011 at 7.15p.m. in the Community Centre, Spratton Road, Brixworth

Present: Councillors: I Barratt, C Bament, R Chattaway, Mrs J Fitzgerald, M Lacey, R Low, R Monk, Mrs E Nunn, D Parnaby, S Pointer, M Ward and Mrs E Wiig

In Attendance: Mrs J Macken – Parish Clerk
Mr M Nice - Centre Manager
Northants Police - Sgt M Grady
Mr R Hall - NCC, Travel Choice Manager
Two members of public

11/1142 Apologies for absence

Apologies had been received from County Cllr C Millar.

11/1143 Declaration of Interest on Agenda Items

Cllr E Wiig declared a personal interest – Member of another Local Authority and Member of the District Council Planning Committee
Cllr R Monk – Declared a personal interest – Member of the Friends of the Church

11/1144 Signing of the Minutes of the Last Meeting 22 February 2011

The minutes of the last meeting held on 22 February 2011 was signed by the Chairman as a true and correct record of this meeting.

11/1145 Public Open Forum

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

11/1146 Resignation from Parish Councillor

The Chairman reported that Cllr Frank Wiig has resigned. The Clerk was asked to send a letter of appreciation. It was noted that Cllr Wiig had been a Parish Councillor for the past eleven years. He had been involved in several projects that had benefited the community and his wealth of knowledge and experience would be greatly missed.

The Clerk will notify the Returning Officer at Daventry District Council and display the statutory notice.

11/1147 Police Representative Report

Sgt Grady reported the following : -

- 18-19.2.11 Damage to car following a party held in the Knoll
- 14.3.11 Parts stolen during the winter months from a boat at the sailing club
- 19-20.3.11 Bike stolen from Stannard Way
- 22-23.3.11 Damage to fence in Shelleycoates
- 24.3.11 Farmers pick up stolen from a field, Station Road
- 25-26.3.11 Theft in Horseshoe Close – CD stolen from car

Year on Year there have been 20% fewer crimes reported . 184 crimes last year compared to 146 crimes this year. Sgt Grady has assurance from the Police Force that all the staff and the Brixworth office are secure and will not be affected by the 'cuts'. The team has a quantity of smart water, which will be deployed, to certain vulnerable areas within the community.

The street football has been a huge success with approximately 39 youngsters taking part on St David's Recreation Ground on Thursday evenings.

11/1148 County Councillors Report

Cllr Millar had sent his apologies.

11/1149 Proposal for New Signage for A508 Crossing

Mr Richard Hall, Travel Choice Manager, from NCC who oversees the Rights of Ways, introduced himself to the meeting. Mr Hall reported that originally a bridge over the A508 had been included in the budget, costing in the region of £600,000. However last year NCC decided to spend the budget on a number of small community schemes rather than on one particular scheme. During the year NCC has improved the visibility of the crossing, installed new signs and cleared overhanging shrubs and trees. NCC is now proposing to install a bespoke pedestrian activated warning signs, 100m from the crossing. These flashing signs will warn drivers to slow down, due to people crossing the road. People crossing the road will not be aware of the signs being activated.

It was noted that it is not possible to have a speed limit on the bypass or stop the traffic at a pelican type crossing. The bypass was designed to alleviate traffic travelling through the village and was built so that the traffic can travel quickly from one roundabout to the next.

Following a vote it was resolved for the Council to support this proposal, which is scheduled to be installed in April 2011. It was noted that the Parish Council would still like NCC to consider installing a bridge, in the future, which was originally agreed when the bypass was built.

The chairman thanked Mr Hall for attending the meeting.

Planning

11/1150 Minutes of Meetings 7 March 2011

The Minutes of the Committee Meeting held on the 7 March 2011 having been previously distributed were accepted.

DA/2011/00152 Mr G Clarke, JDECO Contracts Ltd. Land at corner of Highfield Close/ Froxhill Crescent, Brixworth. Work to tree subject to a tree preservation order

The committee held a site meeting on 29 March 2011 and it was agreed not to object to the application as long as the work is carried out by a qualified tree surgeon, only the minimum amount is removed and that the officer is satisfied that the tree will not be threatened by the extent of the work which is to be done. The Parish Council would also like to see the tree's symmetry maintained.

DA/2011/0153 Amended Rev Watkins, All Saints Church, Brixworth, Construction of metal handrails to door

A revised application had been received, which had been mentioned at the Planning Committee meeting. The Parish Council has no objection to the concept of improving access for the disabled it does not consider that metal handrails are appropriate and

recommends that hardwood e.g English Oak alternatives are sourced which would be much more in keeping with this ancient building.

11/1151 Land off Froxhill Crescent

It has been reported that surveyors have been undertaking work on the land south of Froxhill Crescent, in connection with a development of possibly 500 houses. This area was identified for possible development in the SCHLAA (Housing land Assessment report). No official details have been received by the Parish Council. Cllr E Wiig, stated that this land is identified in Daventry District Council's saved Local Planning Policy HS14 which states that no further housing should be built outside the village confines. This land is on the edge of an area designated as a Special Landscape Area by the District Council because of its natural beauty and is excellent farmland.

11/1152 Approvals and Refusals March 2011

The following approvals and refusals were noted.

Approved

DA/2011/0008 Mrs Willis, 1 Burrows Vale, Brixworth

First Floor side Extension

24.1.11 PC No objection

21.2.11 DDC Approved

Refused

DA/2011/1010 1 Grange Farm Cottages, Holcot Road

Conversion of detached garage to dwelling

21.12.10 PC Objects

14.3.11 DDC Refused

11/1153 Pre-submission Joint Core Strategy Consultation

The planning committee provided a draft response for the consultation, which was agreed. A local consortium, which consists of five neighbouring Parish Councils, has been set up to respond to this consultation and will be responding on the Councils' behalf. Brixworth Parish Council supports this consortium but wishes to make its own response.

11/1154 Feasibility of a Parish Plan

This item was referred to the Planning Committee to consider the scope of a parish plan. It was also agreed to ask a representative from ACRE to attend a Council meeting to discuss Parish Plans.

Finance

11/1155 Income Received for February 2011

The Clerk reported the following income for February 2011.

| <u>Received from</u> | <u>Details</u> | <u>£</u> |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------|
| AFC Crown FC | Hire of Ashway PF C/Rooms & pitch | 408.00 |
| Moulton Ladies FC | Hire of Ashway PF C/Rooms & pitch | 240.00 |
| Northants ACRE | Grant for Parish Questionnaire | 500.00 |
| | | 1,148.00 |

11/1156 Bank Reconciliation as at 28 February 2011

The bank reconciliation as at the 28 February 2011 was reported and accepted as follows:

| | |
|---------------------------------------|-------------|
| Current Account | £10,072.05 |
| Reserve Account | £132,668.60 |
| Less Cheques outstanding | £4,113.61 |
| Balance Carried forward as at 1.03.11 | £138,627.04 |

11/1157 Income and Expenditure & Reserves Report for February 2011

The Council accepted the Income and Expenditure and reserves report for February 2011. All budgets are not overspent, there are a few minor variances, but overall the expenditure has been well controlled. The income for the year has been achieved.

11/1158 To Approve the Annual Membership to CPRE

It was resolved to renew the annual membership to CPRE at a cost of £29.00.

11/1159 Payment to Northants Police towards the Rent of the Brixworth Safer Community Team's Office

It was resolved to approve the payment of £4,800 towards the Brixworth Safer Community teams office.

11/1160 Bills for Payment for March 2011

A schedule of payments, to be made in March 2011 was available to each member at the meeting.

It was resolved for the following accounts to be passed for payment; therefore the Chairman signed the schedule of payments.

| Chq No. | Minute | Payment To | Reason for Payment | £ |
|----------------|---------------|--------------------------|--|------------------|
| 4508 | | Groundsman | Groundman's Salary Mar 2011 | 1,084.89 |
| 4509 | | Clerk | Clerk's Salary Mar 2011 | 1,061.35 |
| 4510 | | Part Time Groundsman | P/T Groundsmans wages Mar 2011 | 134.10 |
| 4511 | | Litter Picker | Litter Picker wages Mar 2011 | 237.10 |
| 4512 | | Cleaner | Cleaner Comm. Centre wages Mar 2011 | 319.35 |
| 4513 | | HM Revenue & Customs | PAYE Tax & NI Mar 2011 | 782.01 |
| 4514 | | NCC | Pension Contribution Mar 2011 | 360.80 |
| 4515 | | Mrs J Macken | Clerks Allowance, postage | 82.68 |
| 4516 | | Mr I Barratt | Chairmans Tel. Allowance & expenses | 62.40 |
| 4517 | | ESPO | Stationery | 99.52 |
| 4518 | | Euromec Contracts Ltd | Fuel filters for Kubota | 24.38 |
| 4519 10/068e | | E.ON Uk | Replacement of street lamp - Swedish Hses | 305.23 |
| 4519 11/1330 | | E.ON Uk | Paint visor of new street lamp | 45.00 |
| 4520 11/1327 | | Mower Shop N/pton Ltd | Petrol Hedgetrimmer | 270.00 |
| 4521 11/006r | | D G Salisbury | Sand for Football Pitches - St Davids Rec Grd | 78.00 |
| 4522 | | Information Commissioner | Data Controller Registration | 35.00 |
| 4523 | | Hassett Fencing Ltd | Posts for car park | 65.57 |
| 4524 | | Avenue Agricultural Ltd | Gate hinges | 31.82 |
| 4525 10/062e | | BTCV | Work to Millennium Garden | 336.00 |
| 4526 11/1300 | | Brixworth Bulletin | Printing and distribution of Spring Newsletter | 200.00 |
| 4527 | | Brixworth Bulletin | Printing of questionnaire | 350.00 |
| 4528 | | Northants Police | Contribution towards Brixworth SCT office | 4,800.00 |
| 4529 | | CPRE | Annual subscription | 29.00 |
| 4530 | | AH Blason & Son | Fuel | 229.97 |
| | | | | 11,024.17 |

It was noted that the Council Tax for this year has increased by 0.3%, but the precept had decreased by £30. This is due to a decrease in the Tax Base (£1858.41 in 2010 compared to 1852.30 in 2011), which is the formula used to work out the number of eligible properties paying council tax.

Recreation and Amenities Development

11/1161 To Accept Minutes of Meeting 22 March 2011

The Minutes of the Committee Meeting held on the 22 March 2011 having been previously distributed were accepted.

11/1162 Tenders for Annual Grounds Maintenance Work

The Clerk reported that she had received three tenders for the annual grounds maintenance.

| | |
|-------------|--------|
| Quote One | £4,195 |
| Quote Two | £5,900 |
| Quote Three | £4,700 |

It was resolved to accept quote one, D Salisbury, at a cost of £4,195. It was noted that this tender is for a period of three years.

11/1163 Queen Elizabeth II Fields Challenge

This item was discussed at the committee meeting. Further details are required before the Council can make a decision as to which 'field' it wished to nominate. The Clerk was asked to find out if more than one field could be nominated and whether or not the Ashway playing field would be eligible.

Highways and Environment

11/1164 To Consider Location for Free Compost from DDC

The District Council has 10 tonnes of compost to give away free to residents. A suitable location is required within the village, to enable residents to collect the compost. The Clerk was asked to contact the allotment holders and this matter was delegated to the Highways and Environment committee to consider at its next meeting in April.

11/1165 Parish Questionnaire & Distribution

The edited questionnaire had been previously circulated and was approved by the Council. It was resolved for the Questionnaire to be printed and circulated by the Brixworth Bulletin at a cost of £350.00 and to provide a web-based survey at a cost of up to £50.00.

11/1166 Parish Council Surgeries

It was agreed to have a trial period of Parish Councillor Surgeries, once a month. The District Council has agreed for members of the Council to use their office, in the Community Centre, on the 1st or 3rd Saturday in the month, when it is closed.

The first surgery is to take place in June, with the launch of the Parish Council Questionnaire.

Correspondence for discussion

11/1167 Pitsford Water Users Meeting 12 April 2011

Cllr Parnaby agreed to attend the Pitsford Water Users meeting on 12 April 2011 at the Fishing Lodge.

11/1168 NALC Policy Consultation – The Right to Buy and the Right to Challenge

These consultations were noted.

11/1169 Correspondence for information only

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

11/1170 Date of Next Meetings

The next Full Council Meeting is to be held on 26 April 2011 in the Community Hall, Library/Community Centre.

Urgent Matters For Report Only

11/1171 Request for 20mph speed limit in Silver Street

The Chairman reported that he had received an email regarding a request for a 20mph speed limit in Silver Street. This item was referred to the next Highways and Environment committee.

There being no other business the meeting closed at 9.20pm

..... Chairman

Signed as a true record of the above meeting.

Dated 26 April 2011