

**Brixworth Parish Council
Newsletter
14th Edition, Winter 2012**



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Chairman's report



As I sit to write this message, it is early January; so it should not be out of place for me to wish you a Happy New Year. But then you will not be reading this until, perhaps, March or April - a little late for such greetings! So, although I

wish you happiness, let us address at least a couple of issues that need to be considered this year.

You may have read that Northamptonshire County Council is considering saving money by reducing police coverage, particularly the coverage afforded by Police Community Service Officers (PCSOs) and although this does not necessarily mean we will be without coverage, whatever coverage we may get will likely be limited as a consequence – perhaps too limited; leading to an increase in crime and anti-social behavior, just as we are seeing the fruits of the effort that has been ongoing in Brixworth for several years now.

One solution is for the village to fund the cost of a Brixworth PCSO which is about £34 thousand per year, or, if you prefer, about £1.50 per month per household, however, the question needs to be asked – is this and the enhanced security it would bring something that the people of Brixworth want? Or should the Parish Council just sit on their hands and insist they really are saving money?

It may not be an easy question, nor is the question of future development within and around the village.

Although one proposal to build housing south of the village was recently rejected by the Daventry District Council Planning Committee;

A new application is looming that will also move the village towards the town of Northampton which is equally busy moving towards us with the threat of eventually engulfing Brixworth; as it has Kingsthorpe. I, as much as anyone, would like Brixworth to keep a safe distance from the urbanisation of Northampton. But, if we say we will have no housing development in Brixworth, we are pretty much assuming our children will - in fact must - move elsewhere.

Surely, if we agree development south of the village is not on the cards, we should be looking to see where development; for the future growth of our families and our village, might take place? As it is, there are several busloads of kids that journey to Moulton School every day and they read signs saying Brixworth is Full – so where will they go when they leave school? Where will they set up their future homes if Brixworth is too full for them? Moving away should be an option, not a necessity.

Therefore the goal should be managed development that includes developing housing and also demands that the village go out and secure new employment possibilities for our future generations, shouldn't it? I would welcome your views on how we might make Brixworth an inviting place for our children and grandchildren, whilst keeping the village character we all enjoy.

There will be an election in May and if you think you can help resolve questions like these, I would encourage you to stand for election to the Parish Council. Some councilors will stand for re-election, some won't; I am sure that if you stand, you will find it worthwhile and interesting.

Michael Lacey mlacey@brixworthpc.org.uk



For more information or to contact your Parish Councillors go to our website at

www.brixworthpc.org.uk

Or contact Parish Clerk Jane Macken on 01604 881243

MEETING

DATE

Planning	Monday, 12 March
Full Council	Tuesday, 20 March
Recreation & Amenity	Tuesday, 27 March
Planning	Monday 2 April
Highways & Environment	Tuesday 3 April
Finance	Tuesday 17 April
Annual Parish Meeting	Wednesday 18 April
Planning	Monday 23 April
Full Council	Tuesday 24 April
Planning	Monday 14 May
Annual Council Meeting	Tuesday 15 May
Recreation & Amenity	Tuesday 22 May
Full Council	Tuesday 29 May

Agendas will be displayed at least four days before the meeting, please check for any changes to meetings.

Contact details for the Clerk and Councillors are available on www.brixworthpc.org.uk and in the Library.

Full Council Meetings are at 7:15 PM
Committee Meetings are at 7:30 PM

Parish Council Election 3 May 2012

It is expected that Parish Councils will inherit more power to take decisions, make plans and act on behalf of their communities in the coming months, in part because of the provisions of the recently passed Localism Act that intends local people to have more influence on issues that concern them.

If you think you would like to join the Parish Council to contribute to the future wellbeing of our community, here are some of the steps to take.

A prospective candidate must deliver a valid Nomination Paper, or send it by post, to the Returning Officer for the election. This form is obtained from the Returning Officer at Daventry District Council or the Clerk to the Parish Council.

To identify each candidate, the Nomination Paper includes the candidate's surname, forenames, residence and description (if required) plus his or her number and prefix letter from the current register of electors. The Returning Officer and Clerk to the Parish Council have a copy of this register.

The nomination paper must also contain similar particulars of a Proposer and a Second for the Candidate, both of whom must also be electors for Brixworth Parish.

The nomination paper must be completed and returned to Daventry District Council by noon on Wednesday, 4 April 2012.

If you have any questions about this process, the Clerk to the Parish Council would be happy to help.

GRANT APPLICATIONS

ARE YOU A BRIXWORTH VILLAGE VOLUNTARY ORGANISATION LOOKING FOR FUNDING, IF SO CONTACT THE PARISH COUNCIL FOR MORE DETAILS. THE CLOSING DATE FOR THE NEXT ROUND OF GRANT APPLICATIONS IS THE 31 MARCH 2012.

Please contact the Clerk for an application form on 01604 881243 or email clerk@brixworthpc.org.uk

Also available on the website for downloading www.brixworthpc.org.uk

Meet your Parish Councillors

The Parish Council will be holding surgeries in the Library/Community Centre foyer on the following Saturdays from 10.00 am – 12 noon.

**3 March
7 April
5 May**



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