

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting  
held on Wednesday, 30 June 2004 at 7.30 p.m.  
in the Village Hall, Abbots Bromley, pursuant to notice having been given.

Present: Cllrs: PJ Charles (Chairman), C Cook, AE Elkington, RT Esling,  
KA McLoughlin, JA Needham

Also present: EA Roy (Clerk)

Apologies for absence: Apologies for absence were received and accepted from Councillors  
Eatough, Fox and Jarman. Apologies were also received from Borough  
Councillor Fox.

Members of the public attending: Lynne Hill and Steve Grocock (Trent & Dove Housing)

Minute 26: Public Session .....	1
Minute 27: Approve and sign the Minutes of the previous Meeting .....	2
Minute 28: Matters arising and matters of report .....	2
Minute 29: Declarations of interest.....	2
Minute 30: Planning.....	2
Minute 31: Financial Matters .....	4
Minute 32: Group Reports .....	5
Minute 33: Correspondence, bulletins and reports .....	6
Minute 34: Items for agenda of next meeting .....	7
Minute 35: Date, time and place of next Meeting .....	7

### **Minute 26: Public Session**

The Chairman welcomed Lynne Hill (Development and Regeneration Co-ordinator) and Steve Grocock (Director of Property Services) from Trent and Dove Housing and invited them to address the meeting.

Mr Grocock introduced himself and Lynne as relative newcomers to the organisation and gave a brief overview of how Trent & Dove had come about and a view of the future. East Staffordshire Borough Council had transferred their housing stock into T&DH as a response to their inability to bring the housing stock up to the required standard. Since then the "decent homes" standard created an extra unforeseen need for further investment that has now been met by additional borrowing. Changes in communications with tenants have been introduced to improve the flow of information. Losses of up to 100 properties a year under the "right to buy" process, means that it is now necessary to replace stock by development or regeneration. There is a lack of funding from the Housing Corporation due to prioritisation of areas such as Stoke and Sandwell. This means that TD&H are limited in what they can do at present. If land became available, shared ownership housing might be a possibility for Abbots Bromley. Planning for the long term involves considering the needs of an increasing population of over 65s and the need to create accommodation that is built to standards allowing access with wheelchairs for example.

In response to a question it was explained that T&DH was a limited company and had full title to the properties transferred from ESBC. There was no means of undoing this transfer. It was noted that there needed to be some synchronisation between the development of housing and provision of public transport.

As there were no other members of the public present, normal business was resumed at 19:55.

## **Minute 27: Approve and sign the Minutes of the previous Meeting**

*It was proposed (CC), seconded (AE) and agreed that the Minutes of the previous meeting be signed as a true record of proceedings.*

## **Minute 28: Matters arising and matters of report**

- 28.1 Parish "Top Team" Quiz:** Some time ago parishes were asked if they wished to support the resurrection of the "Top Team" quiz. We have been informed that of the 11 parishes who responded, only 6 were willing to offer support. This was considered insufficient to enable re-introduction of the quiz.
- 28.2 SLCC one-day conference:** Cllr Elkington and the Clerk attended a one-day SLCC regional conference in Worcester on the theme of "Community Projects". This dealt principally with the issues involved in locating and applying for project funding, but also covered some aspects of managing the subsequent projects. Speakers were good quality and provided helpful insights into the issues. There remains the challenge of finding the right backers for each particular project although some useful sources of help on this were suggested.
- 28.3 Cross of Hands:** Following the uninvited guests at the Cross of Hands, the Clerk has discussed this with Richard Rayson who is responsible for the land that was occupied. He confirms that County Highways are considering whether they should fence in the area to prevent a repeat visit.
- 28.4 Additional grass cutting:** Following further discussions with Graham McCulloch and Richard Rayson, it appears that there is little scope for further work to be transferred from County - mainly due to the type of equipment required. New contractors for the County have now been appointed and verges should be being brought up to their normal standard.
- 28.5 Horn Dance slides:** These have been requested but not yet received.
- 28.6 Allotment:** Cllr Cook reported that Graham Gill had indicated he might be leaving and would therefore wish to end his tenancy of the land between the Millennium Green and the Royal Oak. The Clerk was asked to write and outline the need to formally give notice of an intention to cease the tenancy and outline whether he intends to clear the site.
- 28.7 Horn Dance:** Clerk to report back to Simon Wilson on trader licences for Horn Dance day and confirm his willingness to continue issuing them.

## **Minute 29: Declarations of interest**

There were no declarations of interest in the agenda items.

## **Minute 30: Planning**

### **30.1 Applications**

**340 - HO/24422/003: 11 Swan Lane:** Erection of a front porch  
Received: 27/05/04 Replied: 22/06/04 Response: The Parish Council raises no objections to this application. There is an observation from one councillor that the application states storm water disposal to mains but the specification indicates use of a soak away.

**341 - HO/01298/005: 1 Swan Lane:** Erection of a single storey front and two-storey side extension

Received: 27/05/04 Replied: 22/06/04 Response: The Parish Council does not object to the application in principle but has the following observations/questions: (1) The proposed layout effectively creates a second dwelling and goes some way beyond being a "granny flat" (2) Parking/garaging provision does not seem adequate for a dwelling of this size (3) Would it be possible for the ridge lines to match up?

**342 - LB/03149/014: Inglenook Cottage, Bagot Street:** Erection of a front canopy

Received: 14/06/04 Replied: 01/07/04 Response: The Parish Council raises no objection to this application.

**343 - PA/03149/015: Inglenook Cottage, Bagot Street:** Erection of a front canopy

Received: 14/06/04 Replied: 01/07/04 Response: The Parish Council raises no objection to this application.

**344 - HO/16267/006: The Radmores, Radmore Lane:** Erection of a two storey rear extension

Received: 21/06/04 Replied: 08/07/04 Response: The Parish Council raises no objection to this application.

**345 - PA/02885/019: Land at Ivy House, High Street:** Erection of 20 residential units, garaging and alterations to existing vehicular access (including demolition of shop)

Received: 30/06/04 Due: 19/07/04

**346 - PA/02885/020: Land at Ivy House, High Street:** Erection of 20 residential units, garaging and alterations to existing vehicular access (including demolition of shop)

Received: 30/06/04 Due: 20/07/04

Agreed to have a special meeting to consider the Ivy House applications on Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> July at 7:30pm. Both applications to be circulated before hand.

### 30.2 Decisions

The following applications have been AGREED:

**331 - HO/08085/014: The Former Presbytery, Church Lane:** Erection of a single storey rear extension

**332 - LB/03261/006: Norfolk House, High Street:** Retention of satellite dish on chimney stack

**333 - PA/28176/005: High Elms, Port Lane:** Erection of a stable block

**338 - PA/01717/014: Doctors Surgery, Schoolhouse Lane:** Erection of single storey front and side extensions

**339 - HO/05304/009: Brooklyn, Ashbrook Lane:** Erection of a two storey side extension

**340 - HO/24422/003: 11 Swan Lane:** Erection of a front porch

No applications have been REFUSED, WITHDRAWN or DEFERRED.

**30.3 Correspondence and other planning matters**

- 30.3.1 The Clerk reported that Redrow Homes had advised him that they were submitting a further application for the Ivy House site and were considering a one-day exhibition in the village to display and explain their plans.
- 30.3.2 Although we have yet to be formally notified, the Clerk understands that the new planning officer for Abbots Bromley will be Steven Mott.
- 30.3.3 The Clerk was asked to respond to the recent ESBC draft supplementary planning guidance on parking provisions.

**Minute 31: Financial Matters****31.1 Financial report for June**

The financial report for June was introduced by the Clerk who also reported receipt from the Cricket Club of a further repayment of £1000 on their loan. ***It was proposed (KM), seconded (JN) and agreed that the statement be approved.***

In making his report, the Clerk observed that the cheque for the grant made to the Scouts in March had still not been presented. The Chairman offered to enquire whether it had been received and it was agreed that in future the Clerk will request confirmation of receipt from those receiving grants. This practice will also be incorporated into the Financial Regulations when they are next updated.

**31.2 Report on payments made since the last Meeting:**

The following payments had been made with the approval of the Chairman and Vice Chairman:

<i>Vch/Chq</i>	<i>Payee</i>	<i>Amount</i>	<i>Details</i>	<i>Powers</i>
18/604	SLCC	58.00	Conference booking	LGA 1972, s.111
19/605	G McCulloch	240.00	Grass cutting	OSA 1906, s.10
	<b>TOTAL payments</b>	<b>298.00</b>		

**31.3 Bills to pay**

The Clerk introduced the following for payment:

<i>Vch/Chq</i>	<i>Payee</i>	<i>Amount</i>	<i>Details</i>	<i>Powers</i>
20/606	Information Commissioner	35.00	Data protection registration	LGA 1972, s.111
21/607	Paul Sweetman	589.74	Village Agent salary/expenses	[Vital Villages]
22/608	Graham McCulloch	110.00	Work on/around bus shelter	LG(MP)A 1953, s.4
22/608	Graham McCulloch	195.00	Milestone, Narrow Lane etc	LGA 1972, s.101
23/609	AB Village Hall	72.50	Room hire for meetings	LGA 1972, s.150
	<b>TOTAL payments</b>	<b>1002.24</b>		

***It was proposed (CC), seconded (RE) and agreed that the above payments be made.***

**31.4 Section 137 payments**

The Clerk reported that no requests had been received.

Cllr Cook gave a report on his recent visit to the Donna Louise Trust and their plans to extend the scope and of their services which would need additional fund raising.

### **31.5 Other financial matters**

The Clerk reported that the SPCA are again holding an annual Clerk's training day and the theme this year will be preparing to apply for Quality Status. ***It was proposed (AE), seconded (JN) and agreed that the Council fund attendance by the Clerk at this event.***

## **Minute 32: Group Reports**

### **32.1 Recreation**

The Clerk read a letter from Mr Steve Coxon writing on behalf of Project Playground agreeing to the conditions for handover of the completed playground. He also asks that the Parish Council consider making a grant to the project from the Recreation fund. Clerk asked to write to say that will be considered at next meeting and request additional information to help understand the overall funding position.

The Clerk reported that the fitter was visiting the following day to install the new seat swings and at the same time would be asked to provide advice/estimates on slide noise reduction and the multi-play barrier height.

The Clerk was asked to contact David Duckitt to see if the expected progress on the transfer of the access strip to the Schoolhouse Lane site had been made.

### **32.2 Village Property**

The Clerk reported that the only issues identified in the recent inspection that were not yet complete were:

- Restoration of the information poster under the Butter Cross
- Hoar Cross bus shelter

As requested, he had investigated the history of the Hoar Cross shelter and provided a brief summary. It was agreed that the roof would be removed before it became hazardous, and the response to this action would help identify the importance others attached to this facility. The Chairman offered to carry out this task and his offer was accepted.

### **32.3 Traffic, Parking, Highways**

Cllr Needham reported that Cllr Fox had expressed her concerns about the number of vehicles parking near the Hoar Cross junction, and asked that the Council be made aware of the potential dangers this created. In discussion it was noted that there were other issues that we might regard as having overall higher priority. Cllr Cook agreed to discuss the subject with the Community Police Officer and seek his views.

The Clerk reported that he had emailed the group in Bagot Street inviting their participation in the Community Speed watch team, but had received no response. Cllr Cook explained that he had discussed it with them and it seems that their work may make attending the training difficult. In other areas the PTA have been involved and this may be a possible source of volunteers.

The Clerk was asked to find out what progress was being made on the bus stop marking at the end of Goose Lane.

The Clerk reported on recent correspondence from Peter Gee with regard to extension of lighting and speed limit in Goose Lane. This indicated that if a case had been successfully made for the extension of street lighting, then adjustment of the 30mph boundary was more likely. It was agreed that we should pursue additional

lighting and the Clerk was asked to contact Peter Harrison to see what the next steps would be.

Cllr Cook reported that there would be a vintage car rally passing through the village on Saturday and this might cause some congestion in the middle of the day.

### **32.4 Competitions**

Cllr Elkington reported that the prizes for the Best Kept Village Poster Competition had been presented. Some plants were left over from the school planting and these could be used. He also reported that the competition organisers had warned us that BT are no longer willing to allow non-BT attachments to telegraph poles.

### **32.5 Newsletter**

Delivery of the last edition seems to have been patchy. Several addresses round the Market Place seem to have been missed including Meadows and the Vicarage. Cllr McLoughlin agreed to check that the schedule covered these locations. It had been suggested that a copy be sent to the Clerks of Blithfield and Kingstone.

### **32.6 School Governor's Report**

Nothing to report.

### **32.7 Village Plan**

Cllr Esling reported that the Action Plan is expected to be issued around the end of July or beginning of August.

### **32.8 RISES**

Nothing to report.

### **32.9 Community First Responders**

Cllr Esling reported that an application for funding from Uttoxeter Plus had been updated and was due to be reviewed on 17<sup>th</sup> June - but no feedback has been received. An application has also been made to the ESBC Community Fund.

### **32.10 Village Hall**

Nothing to report.

## **Minute 33: Correspondence, bulletins and reports**

- 33.1 An NALC Legal Topic Note 56 "Code of Practice for Local Councils in Handling Complaints" had been received. The Clerk offered to produce a draft procedure for local use.
- 33.2 SPCA Advisory Notes issue 101 had been received. Agreed to make an agenda item of the PAYE issues to see if a change in policy is required.
- 33.3 An invitation from SPCA to (a) make nominations for election to the Executive Committee, (b) make nominations for the officers of the association, (c) propose resolutions for AGM had been received. Agreed to see if someone could come and explain more about the working of SPCA and why we should involved.
- 33.4 A letter has been received from St Nicholas PCC outlining issues relating to the safety of memorial stones and asking the Parish Council to consider how they might assist. Agreed to offer help with publicity via the Bulletin and request further information on what type of help would be required.

**Minute 34: Items for agenda of next meeting**

Finance:

- Horn Dance – review of charges for Trader’s Licences and other arrangements
- Recreation – possible grant to Project Playground
- Clerk’s PAYE

Visiting speaker to SPCA visitor

**Minute 35: Date, time and place of next Meetings**

It was agreed that the next meetings should be held as follow:

- 7.30pm on Thursday 15 July only to consider the planning application for Ivy House and any other applications received before that date
- 7.30pm on Wednesday 28 July for a normal agenda

Both meetings to be held in the Memorial Room at the Village Hall.

The Meeting concluded at 22:08 pm.

Chairman ..... Date: .....

Proposed: ..... Seconded: .....