

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting
held on Wednesday, 23 February 2005 at 7.30 p.m.
in the Village Hall, Abbots Bromley, pursuant to notice having been given.

Present: Cllrs: PJ Charles (Chairman), C Cook, DT Eatough, AE Elkington, RT Esling,
L Fox, RSV Jarman, KA McLoughlin, JA Needham

Also present: EA Roy (Clerk)

Apologies for absence: Apologies were received from Borough Councillor Fox.

Members of the public attending: Penny Ward, Village Agent

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Minute 100: Public Session

The Chairman introduced Penny Ward, Village Agent, and invited her to address the Council.

Mrs Ward began by giving a brief update on the Action Group that had been meeting since September, and summarised the actions that were already in progress.

She also enquired how the Council would expect to see cross-parish initiatives moved forward. Feedback suggested that the latter would best be addressed on a case by case basis.

She also asked about funding for publicity, and this was to be discussed later in the Council meeting.

She asked the members if they would like to express their own priorities and say what they hoped to see happen over the next year or so. The issue seemed to be more one of enough people resource to carry out any work, rather than just priorities.

A discussion of some traffic issues followed, and this indicated an area of common interest with Blithfield which may be an opportunity for joint action.

The issue of how to keep people informed was discussed and a parish-specific newsletter allowing some form of response was suggested as a means of establishing continuing priorities and identifying others who might like to be involved.

Different measures to draw back in those who had drifted away were discussed, and it was agreed that it would be worth trying to re-involve them. A newsletter distributed via the shops and Post Office would be the first priority.

The Chairman thanked Mrs Ward for her contribution. Normal business was resumed at 20:00.

Minute 101: Approve and sign the Minutes of the previous Meeting

RESOLVED: *That the Minutes of the previous meeting on 26 January 2005 be signed as a true record of proceedings subject to the following corrections: list of attendees, in minute 95 the bus shelter is in Uttoxeter Road and the Chairman is researching suitable notice board options.*

Minute 102: Declarations of interest

There were no declarations of interest.

Minute 103: Matters arising and matters of report

103.1 East Staffordshire Parish Councils' Association: The Chairman and Clerk had attended an annual liaison meeting of this group with Staffordshire County Council and gave a brief summary of the content.

103.2 Circulated documents: No points were raised.

Minute 104: Planning

104.1 Applications

382 - PA/26905/004: Bagots Park, Dunstall Lane: Erection of seven wind turbines, upgrade existing access tracks from the site access off B5013, extraction of stone from borrow pits, construction of site access tracks and passing places, temporary hardstanding and site office facilities and sub-station
Received: 03/02/05 Due: 07/03/05
Discussion of this item deferred until an extraordinary meeting planned for 2 March.

383 - 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)(Amended plan received 22/09/04) (Amended plans received 04/01/05, 01/02/05 & 25/01/05)
Received: 10/02/05 Replied: 21/02/05 Response: Although the Parish Council welcomes the changes in this latest amendment to the plans, the previous comments still stand.

384 - HO/16267/006: The Radmores, Radmore Lane: Erection of a two storey rear extension (Amended plans received 27/01/05)
Received: 10/02/05 Replied: 21/02/05 Response: The Parish Council raises no objection to this application.

385 - PA/08027/008: Blithfield Reservoir, Waters Road: Erection of a single storey extension to form additional boat storage
Received: 11/02/05 Replied: 24/02/05 Response: The Parish Council raises no objection to this application.

386 - CU/18945/009: Bromley House, Uttoxeter Road: Conversion and alterations to existing doctors surgery to form dwelling including a two storey side extension
Received: 11/02/05 Replied: 24/02/05 Response: The Parish Council raises no objection to this application.

387 - LB/18945/010: Bromley House, Uttoxeter Road: Conversion and alterations to existing doctors surgery to form dwelling including a two storey side extension

Received: 11/02/05 Replied: 24/02/05 Response: The Parish Council raises no objection to this application.

388 - OU/10825/007: Land adjacent The Old Chapel, Hall Hill Lane:

Outline application to develop land by the erection of a dwelling

Received: 14/02/05 Replied: 24/02/05 Response: The Parish Council raises no objection to this application but requests that conditions are attached to any permission such that adequate provision for off-road parking is made.

389 - HO/17207/003: 8 Radmore Lane: Erection of a first floor rear and side extension

Received: 23/02/05 Replied: 24/02/05 Response: The Parish Council raises no objection to this application.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk communicate these responses to the local planning authority.

104.2 Decisions

The following applications have been **AGREED** subject to stated conditions

375 - HO/14807/020: The Croft, Uttoxeter Road: Erection of detached single storey building to form gymnasium/study room, store and WC (AMENDED PLANS)

377 - CU/02131/008: Bagots Park Estate Farm Buildings: Change of use of part of building to form brewery and formation of service yard

No applications have been **REFUSED**

The following applications have been **REVISED**

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

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

No applications have been **WITHDRAWN**

104.3 Correspondence and other planning matters

104.3.1 To assist in the public understanding of the wind farm application, an extended surgery was held on Saturday 19 February in Church House and this was publicised through posters, web site and press releases. Public meetings have been organised by ESBC on 1st March in both Uttoxeter and Abbots Bromley – details of these are also being publicised and were given out at the surgery.

Minute 105: Financial Matters

105.1 Financial report

The Clerk introduced the financial report for February.

RESOLVED: That the statement be approved and the Chairman sign the report.

105.2 Report on payments made since the last meeting

The Clerk introduced the schedule of payments made since the last meeting.

<i>Vch/Chq</i>	<i>Payee</i>	<i>Amount</i>	<i>Details</i>	<i>Powers</i>
65/649	Silvio Scalpello	100.00	Public access to Goat toilets	PHA 1936 s.87
66/650	Penny Ward	247.83	Village agent salary/expenses	[Vital Villages]
	TOTAL payments	347.83		

105.3 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>
67/651	Staffs County Council	1000.00	Contribution to lighting	PCA 1957 s.3
68/652	LCR	39.00	Subscription to LC Review	LGA 1972 s.143
69/STO	AB School for Girls	1.00	Annual rent on Nuttery	OSA 1906 s.9
70/653	Shaw and Sons	27.00	Parish Councillor's Guide x 2	LGA 1972 s.111
71/654	Abbots Bromley Village Hall	14.50	Room hire for meeting	[Vital Villages]
72/655	East Staffs Borough Council	110.00	Planning application for Nuttery	PHAA 1907 s.76
73/656	SPCA	43.00	Training on new LDF	LGA 1972 s.111
74/657	Abbots Bromley PCC	17.00	Newsletter printing	LGA 1972 s.142
	TOTAL payments	1251.50		

RESOLVED: That these payments be made.

105.4 Section 137 payments

The Clerk reported that no new requests had been received for grants under section 137 and reminded members that there was still £821.05, provided for in the budget, but not yet distributed.

105.5 Other financial matters

105.5.1 The Clerk reported that the Footpath Society was making no proposals this year for bids to the County Council Community Footpaths Initiative.

105.5.2 The Clerk reported that he had been unsuccessful in gaining quotations for the provision of a new notice-board for footpaths information. Other suggestions were made and will be followed up.

105.5.3 The Clerk reported that Bryan Sullivan would be making his first audit visit on Tuesday 1 March and asked if there were any additional items that the Council would wish him to consider? There were not.

Minute 106: Group Reports**106.1 Recreation**

The Clerk reported that he had prepared a planning application for the Nuttery using information supplied by Mike King and formally notified the Abbots Bromley School for Girls of the intention to develop the play area. The application would be forwarded via David Truslove who had offered to deal with the planning department on behalf of the Under 5s Team.

106.2 Village Property

The Chairman reported that he had asked Richard Blower to look at the possibility of an open notice board for the bus shelter in Uttoxeter Road. There was no obvious solution to a board at the Pinfold shelter.

The Clerk was asked to enquire about progress on repairs to the Butter Cross.

106.3 Traffic, Parking, Highways

Cllr McLoughlin drew attention to the continuing problems in Narrow Lane and the Clerk gave an update on the reports made to Highways with no action so far taken. The Chairman believed that there was a blocked pipe that needed clearing before assessing what other remedial action was required.

A further discussion on HGV movements ensued. Was it possible that these were related to the Rugeley bypass construction? Agreed to observe and see if there were any patterns.

The Clerk reported that Highways maintenance were unwilling to provide white lines at the junction of Church Lane with Bagot Street. Such lines are provided only where they help residents with problems getting access to their properties. He had been recommended to contact Nick Miller in Highways Community Projects who had explained that no piece-meal solution could be offered. If his team were involved, they would carry out a total review of parking along the main street and would almost certainly impose enforceable restrictions resulting in some net loss of parking. He suggested that with the growth in car ownership, this would have to be done at some stage. Due to problems with traffic flow, such a scheme might be imposed anyway.

The Clerk reported that the extension of the 30mph speed restriction in Goose Lane to the end of the new lighting was not likely to be carried out by Highways as it would not be of sufficient priority.

The Chairman reported that the bridge on Footpath 68 was still not replaced. The Clerk was asked to enquire on progress.

106.4 Competitions

Cllr Elkington reported that the Best Kept Village entry form had been deposited and his next aim was to communicate with each of the village organisations about the competition. Plans for screening the bins in the car park had faltered previously, due to risk of accidents and issues of insurance. This could be looked at again. Bird boxes for the conservation area will be installed visibly and with a notice to indicate their presence.

106.5 Newsletter

Cllr McLoughlin introduced printed copies of the newsletter and advised that their distribution was urgent due to inclusion of the wind farm meetings on 1 and 2 March.

106.6 School Governor's Report

Cllr Eatough had attended a first full governors meeting with Mrs Kelly. Admissions are higher than expected, which is excellent. New rules on use of teacher time could have significant financial impacts with the need to buy in more staff time. There were some changes in the make up of the governing body.

106.7 Village Action Plan

The Clerk introduced notes from, and provided feedback on, the meeting held with Mithra Tonking and outlined a possible way ahead for the Action Group.

106.8 RISES

Cllr Fox reported that the committee would like to donate the balance of the fund to the Under 5s playgroup, as soon as the details of their bank account were known.

106.9 Community First Responders

Cllr McLoughlin reported that the team had all passed their final test and, since starting operation, had been called out seven times. Initial feedback has been very positive.

106.10 Village Hall

Cllr Cook had nothing to report.

Minute 107: Correspondence, bulletins and reports

- 107.1 Issue 102 of the SPCA Advisory Notes were distributed at the previous meeting. There were no points arising.
- 107.2 Alun Michael has written on the subject of the new Clean Neighbourhoods and Environment Bill passed into law in December. Agreed that we ought to ask SPCA to provide further information.
- 107.3 Sustainable Staffordshire have invited attendance their AGM on Wednesday 16 March and also seek nominations for officers. Noted.
- 107.4 The Standards Board have written with accompanying leaflets to announce that they are carrying out a thorough review of the operation of the Code of Conduct. They invite participation.
- 107.5 Staffordshire County Council are creating a play strategy and invite participation from interested parties.
- 107.6 An invitation from the Chairman of Staffordshire County Council to the annual Civic Service in Audley on Sunday 10 April 2005 was noted, but no one wished to attend.
- 107.7 East Staffordshire Borough Council Scrutiny Team are conducting a review of street cleaning. We have been asked to provide feedback comparing the situation now with 2001. The Clerk introduced a proposed response that he was asked to send.
- 107.8 An invitation to the Mayor's Ball was noted, but no one wished to attend.

Minute 108: Jubilee Cup

- 108.1 The Chairman invited nominations for the Jubilee Cup and these were discussed. Cllr Fox was asked to make contact and establish if the person was willing to accept the nomination.

Minute 109: Standing Orders and Financial Regulations

- 109.1 The Clerk introduced a summary of proposed changes to the Standing Orders and a recommendation that the Financial Regulations not be changed but that a number of items should be noted for amendment in the next revision.
- 109.2 A motion to amend the Standing Orders in line with the proposal was proposed, seconded and then adjourned until the next meeting in accordance with Standing Order 71.

Minute 110: Items for agenda of next meeting

Planning for the Parish Assembly
Annual review of risk management
Amendments to Standing Orders
Councillor's expenses

Minute 111: Date, time and place of next Meeting

It was agreed that the next ordinary meeting should be held at 7.30pm on Wednesday 30 March 2005 and noted that there would be an extraordinary meeting at 7:30pm on Wednesday 2 March. Both meetings are to be held in the Memorial Room at the Village Hall.

The Meeting concluded at 21:49 pm.

Chairman Date:

Proposed: Seconded: