

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting
held on Wednesday, 28 March 2007 at 7.30 pm
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, J Needham

Also present: EA Roy (Clerk)

Apologies: Apologies were received from Borough Councillor Fox.

Members of the public attending:
None.

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Minute 106: Public Session

There being no members of the public present, there was no public session.

Minute 107: Minutes of previous meeting

RESOLVED that the minutes of the previous meeting on 28 February 2007 be accepted as an accurate record subject to correction of typographical errors in 99.1 and 100.6.

Minute 108: Declarations of interest

There were no declarations of interest.

Minute 109: Matters arising and matters of report

109.1 Circulated documents: There were no issues arising from circulated documents.

109.2 Ambulance Service merger: The Clerk reported that he had written to Michael Fabricant passing on thanks from the Council for his support over recent issues with First Responders and the Ambulance Service. He also reported that the Healthcare Commission had declined the opportunity to attend the meeting in view of their plan to meet with CFR co-ordinators the previous evening. Feedback from that meeting indicated that the duration

of the investigation would be several months and also provided additional background on the approach.

However, a meeting in April could be arranged if the Council had some specific input to make on the clinical governance issues that they were investigating. Agreed that this option would be kept in mind.

- 109.3 Parish Council surgery:** The Chairman reported on the Saturday morning surgery when the issues raised had been dog fouling, traffic, various highways matters, planning and a neighbours tree.

Minute 110: Planning

110.1 Applications

496 - HO/12487/003: 30 Swan Lane: Erection of a two storey side, single storey front and rear extension and first floor rear balcony
Received: 08/03/07 Replied: 19/03/07 Response: The Parish Council raises no objection to this application.

497 - PA/18945/019: Bromley House, Uttoxeter Road: Conversion and alterations to form three apartments and erection of screening wall
Received: 09/03/07 Replied: 28/03/07 Response: The Parish Council raises no objection to this application.

498 - HO/22041/012: Oak Lodge, Yeatsall Lane: Erection of replacement link conservatory
Received: 17/03/07 Replied: 28/03/07 Response: The Parish Council raises no objection to this application.

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

110.2 Decisions

The following applications have been **AGREED**

490 - LB/15646/005: Norman Villa, High Street: Erection of rear extension and installation of 4 replacement windows on the rear elevation

491 - LE/00897/019: Grange House, Ashbrook Lane: Application for a certificate of lawfulness to continue to occupy a dwelling without complying with the restrictive agricultural condition

492 - HO/05359/009: Knoyle House, 9 High Street: Erection of a porch to the rear elevation

The following applications have been **REFUSED** – None

The following applications have been **REVISED** – None

The following applications have been **WITHDRAWN** – None

110.3 Correspondence and other planning matters

The Clerk reported that the appeal against refusal for development of six dwellings and new garaging at Bagots Bromley Farm had been dismissed.

The banners on The Crown have been noted, but according to ESBC Planning these are not prohibited. This seems inconsistent with the guidance given over a previous similar incident at the Royal Oak.

Minute 111: Financial Matters

111.1 Financial report

The Clerk introduced the financial statement for March, and reported that since it had been prepared payments amounting to £750 had been received as grants towards the printing costs of the VDS.

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

111.2 Report on payments made since the last meeting

The Clerk reported that the following payment had been made since the last meeting.

Vch/Chq	Payee	Amount	Details	Powers
63/812	ESBC	1600.00	Return of unused VV grant	[Vital Villages]
	TOTAL payments	1600.00		

111.3 Bills to pay

The Clerk introduced the following for payment:

Vch/Chq	Payee	Amount	Details	Powers
64/813	Eric Roy	375.45	Clerk's salary/expenses	LGA(FP)A 1963 s.5 & LGA 1972 s.112(2)
65/814	HMCR	315.38	Tax/NI for Jan-Mar '07	LGA 1972 s.112(2)
66/815	NALC	40.50	LCR subscription	LGA 1972 s.143
67/816	Graham McCulloch	90.00	Clearing debris	LGA 1972 s.101
68/817	Blithfield Parish Council	583.77	Return of unused VV funds	[Vital Villages]
68/818	Kingstone Parish Council	752.44	Return of unused VV funds	[Vital Villages]
STO	Abbots Bromley School	1.00	Lease on Nuttery	OSA 1906 s.10
	TOTAL payments	2158.54		

RESOLVED: That these payments be made.

111.4 Section 137 payments

The Clerk reported that the balance of funds remaining for S.137 was £2229.87. After meeting the cost of printing the Village Design Statement, this would leave a sum of £897.37. He also noted that an earlier meeting had delayed consideration of a grant to St Giles until the year end.

The Chairman declared an interest in St Giles Hospice.

Vch/Chq	Payee	Amount	Details
69/819	Papyrus Consulting Ltd	1332.50	Village Design Statement prints
	TOTAL payments	1332.50	

RESOLVED: That the Council, in accordance with its powers under sections 137 and 139 of the Local Government Act 1972, should make the above payment which is, in the opinion of the Council, in the interests of

the area or its inhabitants and will benefit them in a manner commensurate with the expenditure.

111.5 Other financial matters

111.5.1 **Vital Villages Fund:** The Clerk explained that the Council had been acting as fund holder for the Vital Villages project since 2002 and then introduced a proposal for dispersal of the residual funds to the contributing Parish Councils.

RESOLVED: That the proposal be adopted and the payments made.

111.5.2 **Village Design Statement:** The Clerk reported the VDS team had been considering options for the distribution of the document and were assuming that Councillors would not be able to include this in a future delivery of the Bulletin. An alternate method of posting to all 703 homes is feasible, but at a cost of approximately 50p per item – amounting to £352. The Council agreed that it would prefer to distribute the VDS with the next issue of the Bulletin.

Minute 112: Group Reports

112.1 Recreation

The Clerk reported that he had received a letter of complaint about bad language graffiti on the play equipment. As this cannot be removed by cleaning, this now needs the equipment to be repainted. The Clerk was asked to commission Richard Blower to carry out this work.

No progress had been made in obtaining a quotation for the repair/replacement of fencing at the Millennium Green. The Chairman agreed to investigate further.

Payment of the cost of work on the access path to the Nuttery was still awaited from the developer bond.

Steve Coxon had asked if the Council were able to arrange removal of debris collected over the Autumn/Winter months from the Nuttery. Agreed that the Clerk would request Mr McCulloch to include this work on one of his visits.

112.2 Village Property

The Clerk reported on his discussions with Ray Wright about the land adjacent to Church View Farm and was asked to investigate the possibility of establishing the Council title to the land.

A number of Councillors and the Clerk had seen a demonstration of the proposed replacement lighting for the War Memorial. Based on the low energy LEDs shown, this would reduce the present 1200 watt power consumption to approximately 40 watts. Although the capital cost would be met by the lighting replacement programme, ongoing cost of power and maintenance would need to be met by the Parish Council. The Clerk had estimated that the energy costs would be less than £50 per annum and maintenance costs around £100 per annum. Agreed that it would not be appropriate to terminate lighting of the memorial and that a replacement scheme should be requested. The Clerk was asked to contact Brian Newey to appraise Royal British Legion of the proposed changes and confirm acceptance of the County proposal to Glynn Hook.

The Clerk outlined recent difficulties in the operation of the maintenance contract with Central Networks. Securing a simple lamp replacement had taken several weeks and four hours of his time - more than if we had commissioned the work on an ad hoc basis. His

recommendation that the contract not be renewed when it expired at the end of the month was accepted.

Cllr Elkington pointed out that the village entrance signs required cleaning and the Clerk was asked to include this in the devolved maintenance list for Mr McCulloch.

112.3 Traffic, Parking, Highways

The Clerk introduced a draft response to Clive Thomson that Cllr Eatough had requested the opportunity to review before it was sent. The Clerk was authorised to send this on behalf of the Council.

The Clerk reported that he had raised a call with Clarence following notification of a potentially dangerous wall at the junction of Narrow Lane with Friary Avenue.

112.4 Competitions

Cllr Elkington reported that an entry to the Best Kept Village competition has been submitted and arrangements have been made for use of additional display space with properties on the main street.

112.5 Newsletter

Cllr Esling passed on thanks from the CFR group for help in getting their leaflet out, and noted that there were some lessons to be learnt from this initial issue of the new format Bulletin.

112.6 School Governor's Report

Cllr Eatough reported that interviews for the new teacher had taken place and an appointment was being made.

112.7 RISES

Cllr Fox reported that there was no change from last month.

112.8 Village Hall

Cllr Cook summarised recent developments and reported that a Police Consultation meeting was held on Monday evening for local people in the Uttoxeter area. As no-one knew about it, there was probably no public attendance. The Clerk was asked to write to Andrew Mason and Jeff Morrison explaining the pointlessness of such a poorly advertised event and advise them that there are many who would appreciate the opportunity to participate in such an occasion. The publicity was too little, too late.

The Clerk reported that all Councillors were invited to attend the Annual General Meeting of the Village Hall at 7:30pm on Wednesday 11th April.

Cllr Fox reported that the Live and Local event had been successful.

Minute 113: Correspondence, bulletins and reports

113.1 **Community Council:** An all-day workshop is being held at six different locations covering funding, Parish Plans, RASP and LSP/LAA between 4th April and 14th May.

113.2 **East Staffordshire Borough Council Election Office:** Has supplied notices and other information relating to the Parish Council election. This asks the Parish Council to confirm

if they require poll cards to be issued in the event of there being a parish poll but no borough poll. Agreed that this would not be the case.

113.3 **Allotments:** The Council has been copied on letters to Matt Crossley, ESBC, advising him of the re-allocation of a single plot into half-allotments for two people on the waiting list.

Minute 114: Jubilee Cup and Parish Assembly

114.1 Cllr Esling reported that the proposed recipients were willing to receive the cup.

114.2 The Clerk reported on the availability of the Millennium Hall for the Assembly and the opportunities that this provided. Agreed to investigate the following:

- Cllr Esling to invite CFR to set up a stand
- Cllr Needham to bring mobile library display
- Cllr Fox to invite someone from ESBC to discuss re-cycling and see if anyone can provide information on grants for energy saving measures
- Cllr Eatough to invite the Scouts
- Clerk to see if any companies are able to supply low energy bulbs

Outline programme was:

- 1930-2000 Refreshments and opportunity to view displays
- 2000- Welcome
- 2005- Presentation of Jubilee Cup certificate and cup
- 2010- Receipt of United Charities accounts
- 2015- DVD presentation
- 2030- Panel

Minute 115: Items for agenda of next meeting

- Review of Parish Assembly
- Return of Parish Council documents
- Judging of competition entries

Minute 116: Date, time and place of next meeting

It was agreed that the next meeting should be held at 7.30pm on Wednesday 25 April 2007 in the Memorial Room at the Village Hall.

The Meeting concluded at 21:48pm.

Chairman

Date: