

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting
held on Wednesday, 27th February, 2008 at 7.30 pm
in the Village Hall, Abbots Bromley, pursuant to notice having been given

Present: Cllrs: PJ Charles, S Coxon, L Fox, RSV Jarman, C Veitch, BJ Waring

In attendance: Mrs S Buxton (Clerk)
Martin Beavis from ABB – the PFI contractor for Staffordshire

Apologies: Cllr D Eatough – work commitment; Borough Cllr A Fox
Agreed to accept the apologies of Cllr Eatough

Members of the public attending: 14 residents

Contents:

Minute 111: Public Session.....	1
Minute 112: Minutes of previous meetings	2
Minute 113: Declarations of Interest	2
Minute 114: Matters Arising and Matters of Report.....	2
Minute 115: Planning.....	3
Minute 116: Financial Matters.....	3
Minute 117: Group Reports.....	4
Minute 118: Correspondence, bulletins and reports	6
Minute 119: Co-option to Council Vacancy.....	6
Minute 120: Jubilee Cup and Parish Assembly	6
Minute 121: Items for Next Meeting	7
Minute 122: Date, time and place of next meeting.....	7

Minute 111: Public Session

Dog fouling – how do you get someone prosecuted? It can be reported to ESBC and it is acknowledged as a very frustrating and worsening problem

Young people – they asked about the developments with regards to a youth club and why a meeting has not been arranged. It was noted that a youth club requires a leader(s). The young people stated that they often feel harassed and asked the following questions:-

- What is there for young people?
- Where can they go?

The council had offered to meet the young people and Mrs Turvey had not arranged this.

Lighting Project – Martin Beavis from ABB. He explained that lighting has to be provided at a predetermined level, although a conservation area does give a little more leeway. All the lights on the main street are on the sides of buildings but there are no wayleaves in existence. ABB has agreed with SCC that the lighting level can be two levels lower than the predetermined British Standard. Building mounted lights will involve replacement wiring and replacement of the lighting unit with a similar looking unit, which is very much state of the art. There will be a letter sent to everyone on Main Street over the next 7 to 10 days, and those with lights on their properties will have a return slip. If there is an objection the parish council will be notified to see if gently lobbying could be undertaken. If there is no agreement then standard columns will be installed. There are 31 properties affected by wallmounted lighting. There is no offer from SCC to pay any wayleaves. The

lighting is to be white as preferred for conservation areas and this has already been agreed. The only area that cannot be lit from wall mounted lights is the Crown Green, so two street lights will be installed on the green area. SCC have offered to provide funding to allow a more aesthetically pleasing lighting column (basically a standard column, painted and with an embellishment kit added) to be installed as under the terms of the PFI contract, ABB do not have to provide anything other than standard columns.

Parking by the shop on Lichfield Road – this presents great danger, particularly at school times.

Normal business was resumed at 8.10 pm

Minute 112: Minutes of previous meetings

RESOLVED: *that the minutes of the meeting held on 30th January, 2008, be signed as a true and correct record*

RESOLVED: *that the minutes of the meeting held on 22nd February, 2008, be carried forward to the next meeting for approval as they had been tabled at this meeting*

Minute 113: Declarations of Interest

St Giles Hospice – Cllr Charles

Minute 114: Matters Arising and Matters of Report

114.1: Clerk's log

This had been circulated to members

114.2: Land adjacent to Church View, Goose Lane

A reply has been received from the solicitor, Hand Morgan and Owen, outlining the limited progress to date. From the Land Registry they have determined that the land in question is unregistered but both of the adjacent pieces of land do have registered titles. It is likely that the land was within the builder's original title, but the company changed its name to Friary Holdings Ltd and was dissolved in 1999, so if the land had been owned by the company then it would have passed back to the Crown. There now appears to be two options to try to register the property in the name of the parish council:-

- apply to the Treasury Solicitor for a transfer of property (on which some work had been done by the previous clerk)
- apply for possessory title as the council has looked after the land for some time (may not be successful)

The solicitor suggests the way forward would be to arrange a site visit

RESOLVED: *that a site meeting be arranged involving Cllrs Eatough, Charles and Jarman*

114.3: Retirement of Clerk

RESOLVED: *that a letter of thanks be sent to Mr Roy by the clerk after clearance by the chairman*

114.4: Windfarm Questionnaire Boxes

The clerk reported that she had done letters of thanks to the three shops who had looked after the boxes for the return of questionnaires

Minute 115: Planning

115.1 Applications Received

546 – TN/18689/006: St Nicholas Churchyard: Crown raise one Deodar Cedar. Received: 01/02/08 Due: 20/02/08. Response: the council has no objection to this application

547 – PF/07197/007: Park Farm, Radmore Lane: Erection of an agricultural building for the storage of fodder. Received: 21/02/08. Due: 11/03/08. Response: the council has no objection to this application

RESOLVED: the clerk notify these responses to the planning authority

115.2 Decisions

The following applications have been **AGREED**:-

PA/26905/009: Bagots Park: Erection of 70m high wind monitoring mast for a temporary period of 18 months

PA/12768/013: Land adjacent to 39 Paget Rise: Erection of a detached dwelling

HO/01789/014: Sycamore House, Radmore Lane: Erection of a part two storey, part first floor side extension and rear orangery

HO/26896/002: Dunstall High, Swan Lane: Erection of a single storey side extension and detached garage

HO/05235/015: Marsh Farm, Uttoxeter Road: Retention of detached garage

115.3 Other Planning Matters

Electronic Consultations – the major concerns are about the sheer size of some planning documents and the limits of domestic broadband

RESOLVED: to agree to trial electronic planning consultations for three months, but with the proviso that for a very large development a paper copy could be requested

Minute 116: Financial Matters

116.1 Financial Report for January 2008

RESOLVED: that the report be approved and the chairman sign the report

116.2 Report on payments made since the last meeting

The clerk reported that no payments had been made

116.3 Payments to be made

The Clerk introduced the following for payment:

<i>Vch/Chq</i>	<i>Payee</i>	<i>Amount</i>	<i>Details</i>	<i>Powers</i>
61/879	Graham McCulloch	150.00	Devolved maintenance	LGA 1972 s.101
62/879	Graham McCulloch	360.00	Removal of trees between MG and Alfred Lyons Close	LGA 1972 S.101
63/880	Christopher Dunmore	945.87	Restoration of MG path	PHA 1961 s.52
64/881	Eric Roy	433.04	Clerk's salary/expenses	LG(FP)A 1963 s.5 & LGA 1972 s.112(2)
65/882	Richard Blower	40.00	Repair bench Schoolhouse Lane	PHA 1961 s.52
66/883	Alan Elkington	5.35	Laminating posters for BKV competition	LGA 1972 s.137
TOTAL payments		<u>1934.26</u>		

RESOLVED: That the above payments be made.

116.3 Section 137 requests

The S137 requests circulated prior to the meeting were considered

RESOLVED: that the following payment be made:-

<i>Vch/Chq</i>	<i>Payee</i>	<i>Amount</i>	<i>Details</i>	<i>Powers</i>
67/884	Victim Support	<u>100.00</u>	Donation	LGS 1972 s.137
TOTAL payments		<u>100.00</u>		

116.4 Other Financial Matters**116.4.1 Report of the Internal Auditor**

This has been circulated to members and there are no matters to discuss. The work of Eric Roy in maintaining the financial records was noted

116.4.2 Accounts Software

The clerk reported that new Quickbooks software was incompatible so had been returned. A free patch is awaited for use with Windows Vista so that the Quickbooks software can be operated

116.4.3 Community Footpaths Initiative Scheme

The Footpath Society has submitted an application for surveying the footpaths with a view to updating the walk booklets, incorporating new narrative, illustrations and photographs, and to investigate the use of Adobe Acrobat to make the information downloadable from the village website

RESOLVED: that the clerk submit the application for a grant under the Community Footpaths Initiative Scheme

Minute 117: Group Reports**117.1 Recreation**

No report was available on the work on regenerating the Millennium Green

Cllr Coxon reported that the under 5's playground is locked at dark, but the notice does not reflect this

RESOLVED: Cllr Coxon will renew the notice of opening times at the Nuttery

A discussion took place on the issue of the young people and provision for them.

RESOLVED: that the clerk arrange a meeting in the Village Hall, if available, inviting the young people and a representative from the Staffordshire Council for Voluntary Youth Services with Cllrs Coxon and Mrs Veitch, to discuss ideas, viability and the way forward

117.2 Village Property

The clerk reported that the bench on Schoolhouse Lane had been repaired

117.3 Traffic, Parking, Highways

The clerk has discussed the parking issues in the village with PC Boulter. He appreciates what the problems are. He will visit the village and speak to the owners of the cars and check whether the pavements are still fully accessible

A complaint has been received regarding the state of the pavements following cable laying last year. Cllr Fox had not received the emails which were sent to him regarding the matter as the email address used had been incorrect. The problem is prevalent on Friary Avenue, St Nicholas Way and Goose Lane

The condition of the manhole covers on Ashbrook Lane is a cause for concern as they have sunk and now rattle very badly. These have been reported to CLARENCE but they do not appear to have been attended to

RESOLVED: that all councillors should identify Highway issues in their area of the village and notify them to Barrie Waring, so that a list of problems can be drawn up

RESOLVED: that the clerk arrange a meeting with Cllrs Waring, Charles and Jarman with Richard Rayson from SCC to discuss the issues raised above, any other issues councillors identify and the extension of the 30 mph limit on Goose Lane

Further to the problems which are caused in the village by HCV traffic using the roads as a short cut, Cllr Waring read out draft letters to be sent to all local HCV companies and a letter to ESBC and SCC asking for their help in identifying roads in the village on OS maps which are unsuitable for non local traffic, when they complete their response to the current review of mapping, which will feed into satellite navigation systems

RESOLVED: that the clerk liaise with Cllr Waring regarding the issue of the above letters to all local HCV companies and Staffordshire County Council and East Staffs Borough Council

117.4 Competitions

An organiser is required for the Best Kept Village Competition

RESOLVED: that this be carried forward to the March meeting

117.5 Newsletter

The future editing and production of the newsletter need to be resolved.

RESOLVED: that Cllr Jarman will discuss the technicalities of the newsletter with Eric Roy

117.6 Richard Clarke First School

Nothing to report

117.7 RISES

Cllr Mrs Fox reported that £560.38 had been banked and she will calling a meeting to discuss what the money is to be used for. Dog bins will be included as an item for consideration

117.8 Village Hall

The notes of the last Management Committee have been received

Minute 118: Correspondence, bulletins and reports

118.1 SPCA Training

The clerk reminded councillors of the forthcoming training sessions being run by the SPCA

118.2 Consultation on Orders and Regulations: Code of Conduct

This had been circulated to all members and the closing date for comment was 15/2/08

118.3 New Model Publication Scheme

This had been circulated to members

RESOLVED: the clerk will compare the new model publication scheme with the one currently adopted by the parish council and report to the next meeting

118.4 Horn Dance Traders

The clerk had received an enquiry regarding having a stall at this years Horn Dance

RESOLVED: that the issues of who takes bookings, should there be limits on who can have stalls etc should be discussed at the March Meeting

Minute 119: Co-option to Council Vacancy

A discussion took place with regards to the two people who had expressed an interest in serving as a parish councillor

RESOLVED: that Mr Roger Mills be invited to serve on the parish council, and the clerk will make the necessary arrangements prior to the next meeting

RESOLVED: the clerk will write to the other applicant thanking him for taking the time to express an interest in the parish council

Minute 120: Jubilee Cup and Parish Assembly

120.1 Award of Jubilee Cup in 2008

A discussion took place on the nominations received and a decision made on the recipient

RESOLVED: Cllr Charles will contact the intended recipient to establish their willingness to accept the cup

120.2 Parish Assembly

A brief discussion took place on the format and speakers

RESOLVED: that the council finalise the details of the meeting at the next parish council meeting

Minute 121: Items for Next Meeting

None besides those identified elsewhere in the minutes

Minute 122: Date, time and place of next meeting

***RESOLVED: that the* next meeting should be held at 7.30pm in the Memorial Room at the Village Hall on Wednesday 26 March, 2008**

The Meeting concluded at 22.50 pm

Chairman

Date: 26th March, 2008