

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting
held on Wednesday, 30th April, 2008 at 7.30 pm
in the Village Hall, Abbots Bromley, pursuant to notice having been given

Present: Cllrs: D Eatough; PJ Charles; S Coxon; A Elkington; RSV Jarman; R Mills;
Mrs C Veitch; B J Waring

In attendance: Mrs S Buxton (Clerk)

Apologies: Cllr Mrs L Fox – holiday and Borough Cllr A Fox
RESOLVED: to accept the apologies of Cllr Mrs Fox

Members of the public attending: None

Contents:

Minute 134: Public Session.....	1
Minute 135: Minutes of previous meetings	1
Minute 136: Declarations of Interests.....	1
Minute 137: Matters Arising and Matters of Report.....	2
Minute 138: Planning.....	3
Minute 139: Financial Matters.....	4
Minute 140: Group Reports.....	5
Minute 141: Correspondence, bulletins and reports	7
Minute 142: Parish Assembly and Jubilee Cup	8
Minute 143: Horn Dance	8
Minute 144: Parish Clerk.....	8
Minute 145: Items for Next Meeting	8
Minute 146: Date, time and place of next meeting.....	8

Minute 134: Public Session

None

Minute 135: Minutes of previous meetings

RESOLVED: that the minutes of the meeting held on 26th March, 2008, be signed as a true and correct record after amendments as follows:-

- **Minute 129.1 Recreation – paragraph 9, to add “but this was a self build” after “ Mayfield Youth Shelter cost around £1,000), and “Simon Tonking expressed an interest in helping with a self build project” at the end of the paragraph.**
- **Minute 129.3 Traffic, Parking and Highways, to amend last paragraph to read:- “ – the barriers appear unsightly, this is because they have to meet with EEC rules. This was noted but it falls outside Abbots Bromley.”**

Minute 136: Declarations of Interests

None

Minute 137: Matters Arising and Matters of Report

137.1 Clerk's Log

ESBC letter asking if parish council would like to use ES News to advertise future parish council vacancies

RESOLVED: that the clerk inform ESBC that Abbots Bromley Parish Council would be interested in using this service

Clerk's Gratuity – a letter of thanks has been received from Eric Roy which has been circulated to all members

NALC Circular – Sub National Review – details of consultation on going until 20th June 2008

RESOLVED: that the clerk would forward a copy and details to Cllr Coxon who would review the document and report to the next meeting of the council

NALC Circular – Participatory Budgeting – details of consultation on going until 10th June 2008

RESOLVED: that the clerk would forward a copy and details to Cllr Mrs Veitch, who would review the document and report to the next meeting of the council

Resignation of Cllr David Eatough – Cllr Eatough will be resigning as a councillor at the end of May. The clerk reported that the notice of vacancy cannot be published until there is an actual vacancy

137.2 Lighting in Abbots Bromley

Bagots Barn – ABB has confirmed that the owners have now given written permission for the reinstatement of the wall mounted street light and the free standing light will be removed as soon as the contractors are on site

Wall mounted street lights – ABB has had written consent from most of the residents affected by the wall mounted street lights giving permission for them to be installed

Lighting fittings and work – ABB has now ordered the necessary light fittings for the work, but there has been a slight delay in ordering which will delay the beginning of the work in the village

137.3 Land adjacent to Church View, Goose Lane

A site meeting had taken place with the solicitor Mr Sanders from Hand Morgan and Owen. He sees two possible options:- firstly write to the Land Registry and ask informally if they would be prepared to consider an application for possessory title as the council has cared for the land for over 30 years, but they may be loathe to agree to this as the Council has not possessed or occupied it. The expected cost for a formal application would be around £310. The second option would be to go to the Treasury Solicitor as the title of the property may well have reverted to the Crown on the dissolution of the original building company, but this could be a bit of a "wild goose chase".

RESOLVED: that the solicitor be asked to contact the Land Registry with a view to applying for possessory title on the land

137.4 Publication Scheme

The draft Publication Scheme circulated by the SPCA was not intended for circulation to parish councils and is a consultation document for county associations only. The Information Commission has automatically extended all parish council schemes approved in 2002 until the end of 2008, but has not notified parish councils of this fact. A new model publication scheme will be issued by the end of the year for all parish councils to adopt as it stands.

Minute 138: Planning

138.1 Applications Received

554 - HO/02495/007: Crofts Cottage, Bagot Street: Erection of a single storey side extension

Received: 29/03/08 Replied: 15/04/08 Response: The parish council wishes to make the following observations:- the maintenance of the continuity of the external finish to be in keeping with the existing building and conservation area, with bricks that match the existing building. It is assumed that the pitch to the existing roof will be acceptable for tiles

555 - LB/02495/008/CEH: Crofts Cottage, Bagot Street: Erection of a single storey extension including the demolition of the existing garage

Received: 29/03/08 Replied: 15/04/08 Response: The parish council wishes to make the following observations:- the maintenance of the continuity of the external finish to be in keeping with the existing building and conservation area, with bricks that match the existing building. It is assumed that the pitch to the existing roof will be acceptable for tiles

556 - RM/24590/008/CEH: Woodland Barn Nurseries, Heatley Lane, AB:

Reserved matters application for the erection of a detached agricultural workers dwelling, including details of siting, design, scale, access and landscaping

Received: 07/04/08 Replied: 23/04/08 Response: The council has no objection to this application

557 - TN/28257/002/CEH: Northwood House, Bagot Street, AB: Lopping one willow tree

Received: 07/04/08 Replied: 23/04/08 Response: The council has no objection to this application

558 - HO/20488/015/CEH: Portfields, Port Lane, AB: Erection of a two storey side extension, a rear conservatory, a single storey side extension to form swimming pool, steam and sauna rooms, triple garage, gymnasium and lounge area, formation of a basement area consisting of snooker room, changing facilities and store rooms and erection of a boundary wall and entrance gates (Amended scheme)

Received: 11/04/08 Replied: 23/04/08 Response: The council has no objection to this application as it stands, but does have the following concerns:- with 9 en-suite bedrooms is this the beginning of a commercial enterprise, if it does become a commercial enterprise is the parking adequate and are local roads and services adequate?

RESOLVED: that the clerk notify the above response to East Staffs Borough Council

138.2 Decisions

542 - HO/20841/010: Chase View, Lichfield Road: Erection of a two storey side extension and log store

545 - HO/10489/002: 7 St Nicholas Way: Erection of single storey side and rear extensions

546 - TN/18689/006: St Nicholas Churchyard: Crown raise one Deodar Cedar

551 - HO/09870/006: 6 Preedys Close: Erection of a first floor side extension, front porch and front canopy roof

138.3 Other Planning Matters

Land to the rear of Ivy House – the public enquiry will take place on 15th July, 2008 at Burton Town Hall

Wind Farm – this application will be considered by the planning committee at East Staffordshire Borough Council in June or July, although it could be delayed further because of environmental issues. There has been a considerable amount of press coverage expressing a range of views on this application

East Staffs Design Guide SPD, East Staffs Site Allocations and Policies DPD and East Staffs Sustainability Appraisal for SPD on Design Guidance: these draft documents have been considered by Cllrs Jarman and Mills, who felt that a response was required on the site allocations and policies DPD. There is an area of land earmarked in some way at the rear of the village hall in Abbots Bromley.

RESOLVED: that the clerk will enquire of ESBC what the area is

RESOVLED: that Cllr Mills will draft a parish council response on the Site Allocations and Policies Document and then forward to the clerk for sending

Minute 139: Financial Matters**139.1 Financial Report for March 2008**

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

139.2 Report on payments made since the last meeting

The clerk reported that no payments had been made

139.3 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>
01/893	Public Works Loan Board	1661.27	Village Hall loan repayment	LGA 1972 Sch. 13
02/894	Viking Direct	104.32	Stationery	LGA 1972 s.142
03/895	S Buxton	357.40	Salary and taxable expenses	LGA 1972 s.112(2) & LG(FP)A 1963 s.5
04/896	S Buxton	240.75	Expenses	LGA 1972 s.112(2) & LG(FP)A 1963 s.5

<i>Vch/Chq</i>	<i>Payee</i>	<i>Amount</i>	<i>Details</i>	<i>Powers</i>
05/897	G McCulloch	296.00	Grasscutting	OSA 1906 s.10
	G McCulloch	30.00	Treatment of Japanese Knotweed at Cedar Cottage	LGA 1972 S 137
	TOTAL	2689.74		
	payments			

RESOLVED: That the above payments be made.

139.3 Insurance

The council's insurance is due for renewal at the May meeting. All councillors had received a copy of the schedule of insurances held.

RESOLVED: that Cllr Elkington and the clerk would review the council's assets prior to the next meeting

RESOLVED: the clerk would query the increase in the premium with Allianz to ensure that the best price had been obtained

Minute 140: Group Reports

140.1 Recreation

Bus Service to Burton on Trent – the clerk reported that SCC only provide a subsidised service 3 days a week to fit in with the markets in Burton and it is not intended to be available for college students. SCC suggest the parish council could contact the college direct. Burton College does provide a bus service to some local areas, including Kings Bromley and Yoxall, but has no plans to extend this to include Abbots Bromley. The college has severe financial limitations on its budgets and it sees it as a parental responsibility to ensure a young person gets to college and quite often they take their bus services off due to lack of patronage.

The council discussed the issue of buses and felt that everything that can be done to encourage youngsters to attend college should be done. A major difficulty is establishing how many young people would use a bus service to Burton College if it were provided. The clerk has received one email from Mrs Froggatt whose daughter would like to go to Burton College in September but cannot get there.

RESOLVED: the clerk investigate whether numbers of 16 – 18 year olds in Abbots Bromley can be obtained from anywhere e.g. electoral roll, SCC Education department, 2001 census

RESOLVED: the clerk write to Burton College asking them to consider provision of transport from Abbots Bromley to the college

Youth Shelter – the clerk reported on her discussion with ESBC with regards to planning permission. If the land is owned by the council planning permission is not required for a shelter up to 200 cu m or 4 m in height. If the shelter is on someone else's ground then an application for planning permission must be made. A discussion on possible location took place, ideally it needs to be near to the village hall to allow lighting and for monitoring purposes. It was felt that a councillor should attend the next management committee meeting to explain the parish council's plan with regards to a Youth Shelter

RESOLVED: the clerk should write to the Village Hall Management Committee and ask if they would allow the siting of a youth shelter close to the village hall adjacent to the basket ball court

RESOLVED: Cllr Waring will attend the next management committee meeting to explain the youth shelter plans and answer any questions

Youth Initiative – the distribution of the leaflet for the last meeting had only been partially successful, as the young people had not really got to grips with the distribution. Mark Koszak had led the meeting and it had become apparent that it would be necessary to form a group to move the project forward and this was agreed at the meeting. Those present included Lorraine Copland, Mark Ganning, Karen Johns and 4 or 5 teenagers. The group needs to form and establish roles and responsibilities and this meeting will take place on 12th May, 2008. Immediately before the meeting there will be a representative from the Youth Forum to discuss issues with the young people that are important to them. E.g transport. Cllrs Coxon and Mrs Veitch would like to take a step back from the group once it is formed and let the young people and interested adults run it for themselves. The merits or otherwise of a councillor attending the Youth Forum meetings took place
RESOLVED: that Cllr Elkington will attend the meeting on 12th May, 2008 as an observer

140.2 Village Property

Millennium Green Litter bins – one bin has been set alight

Millennium Green Play equipment – some graffiti has appeared on the play equipment and it will be interesting to see how easy it is to remove now the anti graffiti paint has been applied.

RESOLVED: the clerk discuss cleaning off the graffiti with Graham McCulloch

140.3 Traffic, Parking, Highways

HCV Traffic – a further letter has been received from another HCV company - Ed Weetman – following the parish council letter to all local companies

Goose Lane Ditch – the clerk reported on the ditch between Butt Cottage and the farm which had become filled in due to traffic running over it. SCC had stated that under the Highways Act 1980 the occupier of the land is normally responsible, however, he would look at the possibility of piping the ditch so that it can be filled in later in the year. The council queried whether this is something which could be looked at under the lengthsman scheme

RESOLVED: the clerk investigate whether the ditch could be piped under the lengthsman scheme

Goats Head Parking – the clerk reported that SCC had advised that two options could be a waiting restriction – which takes a long time to establish whilst all the consultation requirements are met or yellow lines – which may not be appropriate in the village and may set a precedent, with lines being put in elsewhere throughout the village. It is a hazard and the parking of cars on the road around this corner is a concern as often pedestrians have to walk in the road.

RESOLVED: to defer any decision on parking issues around the corner by the Goats Head

RESOLVED: to consider inviting Richard Rayson from SCC to the June meeting of the parish council

Speedwatch – the questions was asked as to whether there were any plans to resurrect the speedwatch programme, but at the moment until the findings are taken seriously there seems little point

East Staffs Parish Forum Annual Meeting with SCC – this will take place on 15th July, 2008 and the sole item on the agenda will be Highways matters

RESOLVED: that Cllr Waring would attend the meeting

140.4 Competitions

BKV – Cllr Elkington is looking after this on a temporary basis only and to date the publicity has not been put up. The arrangements for display of publicity were discussed.

Calor Village of the Year – the council does not wish to enter this competition

140.5 Newsletter

Cllr Jarman reported that following his discussions with Eric Roy, the council needs to purchase Microsoft Office Publisher. Quotes for this are Amazon £139 and Ebuyer £80.45.

RESOLVED: that the council should buy a single copy of Microsoft Office Publisher and that the clerk should investigate through the SPCA whether there is any scheme in place to allow parish councils to purchase software at a competitive rate

Cllr Jarman is willing to edit the newsletter and then forward to the clerk for printing and distribution in the normal way.

RESOLVED: to aim for an edition of the newsletter at the end of June/early July and that the clerk should check the frequency with which the newsletter has to be produced to meet the requirements of the Quality Parish scheme.

140.6 Richard Clarke First School

Cllr Coxon reported that the new headteacher had started and that there had been some issues with the use of the Hall

140.7 RISES

It was noted that there have been some changes to the recycling bins behind the Crown, so that tins, bottles and plastic now go into one. No report was available otherwise.

140.8 Village Hall

No report

Minute 141: Correspondence, bulletins and reports

141.1 Web contact – a message had been posted regarding a mini crime wave in Abbots Bromley. The situation was discussed and the chairman stated that it is very important that people report incidents to police, as this is the only way the police are informed about incidents in the village.

141.2 Allotments – the clerk reported that she had received an enquiry re: the allotments in the village and how they are allocated.

RESOLVED: the clerk discuss this with ESBC who are responsible for the allotments

141.3 SPCA – the clerk reminded members of forthcoming training opportunities

141.4 SCC Lengthsman Scheme Agreement – this had been received today. The clerk reported that in the last few years this has not been spent in full and needs to be reviewed by the council at a future meeting.

Minute 142: Parish Assembly and Jubilee Cup

142.1 Award of Jubilee Cup in 2008

The clerk has sent a formal invitation to the Parish Assembly to the recipient

142.2 Meeting Arrangements

The main hall has been booked for the meeting. Both the police and Staffs Council for Voluntary Youth Services have indicated their willingness to attend.

The clerk will arrange the tea/coffee and biscuits and Cllr Mrs Veitch will assist in the serving of refreshments

RESOLVED: to ask Mark Koszak of SCYVS if he had any displays to bring along to the meeting.

Cllrs Mrs Fox and Jarman tendered their apologies for the meeting

Minute 143: Horn Dance

A discussion took place on arrangements, putting up the stalls and access to a vehicle and trailer

RESOLVED: that Cllr Jarman will contact everyone who has had stalls in the past and any new stall holders, and the clerk will forward the details to him

It was noted last year that there had been problems with the car parking and Eric Roy was to speak to Terry Bailey regarding possible solutions.

RESOLVED: that Cllr Jarman will discuss this issue with Eric Roy to see what action was taken after last year's event.

Minute 144: Parish Clerk

144.1 Review of Clerk's Appointment – the clerk has now complete the three month probationary period since appointment

RESOLVED: that the clerk's appointment be confirmed on a permanent basis

144.2 Review of Allowances paid to clerk for use of home office - it is three years since the last review of costs. The paper prepared by the clerk was considered.

RESOLVED: that the clerk's allowances be revised slightly from the report and that the payments for the next three years should be as follows:-

<i>Provision of parish office</i>	<i>£400 per annum</i>
<i>Provision of computer</i>	<i>£ 60 per annum</i>
<i>Phone rental</i>	<i>£140 per annum</i>

Minute 145: Items for Next Meeting

None other than those already mentioned in the minutes

Minute 146: 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 28th May, 2008

There being no other business, the chairman declared the meeting closed at 9.50 pm

Signed _____

Date 28th May, 2008