

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting
held on Wednesday, 29 October 2003 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 and JA Needham.

Also present: EA Roy (Clerk)

Apologies for absence: Borough Councillor A Fox

Members of the public attending: None.

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Minute 62: Public Session

There were no members of the public in attendance and no public session was held.

Minute 63: Approve and sign the Minutes of the previous Meeting

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

Minute 64: Matters arising and matters of report

64.1 War memorial valuation (44.6.1): At the time of preparing the agenda, we were in receipt of several apologies from Linford-Bridgeman, but no further forward in getting a valuation.

64.2 Tree Inspections (44.6.3): An inspection report has been received recommending action on a number of trees. This is included as an item for discussion under "Other finance".

64.3 Grass Cutting Contract (55.3): Invitations to tender have so far been issued to six potential contractors with responses requested by 25 November.

64.4 Speed reduction proposals (58.3.3): A meeting with Highways has been arranged for 8.30am on Tuesday 11 November and will take place in Church House.

64.5 Civilian Operated Speed Cameras (58.3.4): An interim reply has been received from Inspector Mason to an enquiry on this subject, and he writes: "I am looking into it. One thing, or two things I do know, are that Health and Safety is a very big issue and that it is a community initiative rather than a Parish Council initiative. The community do pay for the equipment including clothing

and signage and I have to be sure I have the administrative capacity to support the initiative re letter writing. Get back to you soon.”

- 64.5 CPRE Planning Seminar:** Cllr Esling attended an event organised by CPRE and reported that it had been a useful and informative day. The key message was that Parish Councils have most influence if they understand the contents of the Local Plan and other guidance documents and make any objections based on their contents. Notes from the session will be circulated.
- 64.6 New Councillor Event:** Cllr Elkington attended an event organised by SPCA for new Councillors that he thought tried to cram a great deal into too little time. Much of the material was familiar.
- 64.7 Older Peoples' Forum:** The Clerk had attended an event organised for the Uttoxeter area and provided feedback on the future plans. He was asked to pass more details to the Evergreens and WI.
- 64.8 Community First Responder meeting:** Cllr Esling reported that a meeting for those interested in Community First Responders had been held the previous week attended by sixteen people and with representatives from the Ambulance Service. A follow up meeting is proposed to start forming a group. Borough Councillor Fox is seeking funding from both ESBC and SCC on behalf of the group. The Chairman thanked Cllrs Esling and McLoughlin for their work on the project.
- 64.9 Staffordshire Playing Fields Association:** The Chairman reported that he had attended the AGM of the SPFA which was preceded by an interesting tour of some leisure facilities in Burton.

Minute 65: Adoption of Revised Standing Orders

- 65.1 At the previous meeting ***it was proposed (RE) and seconded (AE) that the revised Standing Orders be adopted*** but in compliance with Standing Order 71, the resolution had been adjourned until this meeting. It was unanimously agreed that the revised Standing Orders be adopted.

Minute 66: Budget Preparations 2004/5

- 66.1 The Clerk introduced an outline plan for the budget preparations proposing the key activities required to deliver a precept request to ESBC by 16 January 2004. It was agreed that the next meeting would consider project proposals for inclusion in the budget.
- 66.2 Related to this, the Clerk also suggested the following meeting dates for 2004:
- | | |
|--------------------------|--------------|
| January 14 (Budget) | June 30 |
| January 28 | July 28 |
| February 25 | September 29 |
| March 31 | October 27 |
| April 28 | December 1 |
| May 12 (Parish Assembly) | |
| May 26 | |

Minute 67: Planning

67.1 Applications

289 - CN/02885/016: Land at Ivy House, High Street: Demolition of dress shop and outbuildings
Received: 26/09/03 Replied: 14/10/03 Response: The Parish Council raises no

objection to this application.

290 - PA/02885/015: Land at Ivy House, High Street: Erection of 25 residential units, double garages, alteration to Ivy House to form 3 residential units, replacement of dress shop with a detached dwelling and alterations to vehicular access
Received: 26/09/03 Replied: 14/10/03 Response: The Parish Council welcomes the development of smaller homes in this part of the village and the aims of the developer to create an environment in keeping with the surroundings. However, the major concern is the inadequacy of parking provision for the scheme as currently proposed.

INADEQUATE PARKING: Although PPG3 quotes 1.5 off-road parking spaces per dwelling, it is clear that this is primarily aimed at urban areas. It is the view of the Council that the type of housing proposed will attract a significant number of couples - both owning cars due to the lack of public transport. Results from the 2001 Census, show that the within East Staffordshire the number of homes with two cars or more is above the national average. Furthermore, with the prevalent practice of using garages for storage rather than parking, the available space will in reality be considerably lower than the theoretical figure quoted. Combined, these factors indicate that with the proposed scheme we might expect from anywhere from 16-30 vehicles to overflow into the High Street for parking – even without taking visitors into account. The High Street is unable to accommodate this amount of additional parking and ANY overflow will interfere with the business of the Post Office which depends on the availability of short term parking for those customers from outlying areas and those with mobility problems.

HIGH DENSITY: Although PPG3 encourages effective land use, it also recognises the need to preserve the existing character of villages. Some Councillors feel that irrespective of the parking issues, the effort to produce a scheme sympathetic to the village is still undermined by the scheme density despite the reduced number of dwellings in the revised plans.

TRAFFIC & SAFETY: Some Councillors have expressed concern about road safety issues and these take two forms. Firstly, the quantity of traffic that the scheme will generate at peak times turning into and out of an already busy highway. Secondly, that the overflow parking will further impede the flow along the High Street and also considerably reduce visibility both for vehicles leaving the development and for those negotiating the bend towards the Village Green when parking extends in that direction.

291 - PA/24030/009: Breach House Farm, Pinfold Lane: Construction of a ménage and use of land for the riding of horses
Received: 27/10/03 Replied: 30/10/03 Response: The Parish Council raises no objection to this application.

292 - CU/08254/012: Dunstall Hall Farm, Dunstall: Change of use of existing building to a single holiday let unit
Received: 29/10/03 Replied: 30/10/03 Response: The Parish Council raises no objection to this application.

67.2 Decisions

The following applications have been AGREED:

283 - PA/22696/007: Ashlands Farm, Pinfold Lane: Retention of existing portacabin for a period of 60 months

288 - CU/19842/007: Bromley Park Farm: Conversion of agricultural building to form 2 holiday lets, associated parking, driveway and installation of septic tank

The following applications have been REFUSED.

286 - PA/27479/003: Willow Brook Farm, Bromley Hurst: Erection of two agricultural buildings for use as livestock housing and hay storage, and retention of existing livestock building

No applications have been DEFERRED or WITHDRAWN.

67.3 Correspondence and other planning matters

- 67.3.1 The Clerk reported that last month it was incorrectly recorded that application "**283 - PA/22696/007: Ashlands Farm, Pinfold Lane:** Retention of existing portacabin for a period of 60 months" had been refused. In fact it was "**279 - CU/22696/006: Ashlands Farm, Bromley Hurst:** Change of use and alteration of agricultural buildings to create agricultural workers dwelling and temporary worker/student accommodation, and installation of septic tank" that was refused.
- 67.3.2 Notification has been received of an appeal lodged against the refusal of permission for "**279 - CU/22696/006: Ashlands Farm, Bromley Hurst:** Change of use and alteration of agricultural buildings to create agricultural workers dwelling and temporary worker/student accommodation, and installation of septic tank". Any representations must be sent to the planning inspector by 7 November 2003. (Note: The Parish Council raised no objection to the application when reviewed.)
- 67.3.3 The Clerk read part of a letter from Borough Councillor Fox suggesting that the Parish Council consider responding to the Policy Document on Wind Turbines. Following a short discussion Cllr Eatough offered to provide a response on behalf of the Council.

Minute 68: Financial Matters

68.1 Budget report for first half-year

A comparison of actual spend against budget to the end of Q2 was introduced by the Clerk. ***It was proposed (RJ), seconded (RE) and agreed that this statement be approved.***

68.2 Financial report for October

The financial report for October was introduced by the Clerk. ***It was proposed (LF), seconded (AE) and agreed that this statement be approved.***

68.3 Report on payments made since the last Meeting:

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

Vch/Chq	Payee	Amount	Details	Powers
49/539	Rodney Helliwell	146.87	Inspection and report on trees	OSA 1906 s.10
50/540	Studiocraft	9.28	Paper for newsletter	LGA 1972 s.142
51/541	Abbots Bromley PCC	17.00	Printing newsletter	LGA 1972 s.142
52/542	Ingestre Sawmill	603.95	Timber for stile repairs	HA 1980 s.43
	TOTAL payments made	777.10		

68.4 Bills to pay

The Clerk introduced the following for payment:

Vch/Chq	Payee	Amount	Details	Powers
53/543	Public Works Loan Board	1661.27	Loan repayment – Village Hall	LGA 1972, Sch 13
54/544	E A Roy	829.83	Clerk's salary/expenses	LG(FP)A 1963 s.5 LGA 1972 s.112(2)
55/545	Npower	84.59	Electricity supply	PCA 1957 s.3
56/546	E A Roy (re Estate Signs)	37.60	Replacement sign	OSA 1906 s.10

<i>Vch/Chq</i>	<i>Payee</i>	<i>Amount</i>	<i>Details</i>	<i>Powers</i>
57/547	G McCulloch	226.00	Grass cutting	OSA 1906 s.10 PHA 1961 s.52
TOTAL payments		<u>2839.29</u>		

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

68.5 Section 137 requests

A request had been received from Bethany Dunmore for help towards an international Guides event in the USA. The Council felt constrained by the provisions of s.137 such that they could not support single individuals.

Cllr Charles declared an interest in St Giles Hospice. Cllr Fox proposed that we defer consideration of this until the budget preparation and this was agreed.

68.6 Other financial matters

68.6.1 The Clerk introduced the report on the condition of the Parish Council trees which recommended remedial action in several cases. He had obtained a quotation of £220 from Mr McCulloch to carry out this work. Although there was no specific provision in the budget, unspent and uncommitted funds held for the Millennium Green insurance could be used. ***It was proposed (LF), seconded (RE) and agreed that we commission Mr McCulloch to carry out the work.***

68.6.2 The Clerk reported that the Council has been asked to remove three dead cherry trees from the planting near the Millennium Green. Cllr McLoughlin declared an interest. ***It was proposed (CC), seconded (RE) and agreed that we ask Mr McCulloch to remove these in his Autumn tidy up of the area.***

68.6.3 It was proposed (CC), seconded (LF) and agreed that we purchase a wreath to be laid on Remembrance Sunday.

Minute 69: Group Reports

69.1 Recreation

69.1.1 Cllr Charles had attended another Under 5s meeting but there is no evidence of a committee being formed yet.

69.2 Village Property

69.2.1 The Clerk reported that Ms Morris had requested permission to remove a diseased cherry tree from the Lichfield Road allotment. It was agreed that this could be done providing it was replaced with something of suitable size for the space.

69.3 Traffic, Parking, Highways

69.3.1 A meeting of the Traffic Working Group with Staffordshire County Council Highways has been arranged for Tuesday 11 November. Cllr Jarman is unable to be present but Cllr McLoughlin would like to attend.

69.3.2 SCC Highways have requested Parish Council input to the Local Transport Plan and a form is available for this purpose. This will be completed after the meeting on 11 November.

69.3.3 A copy of a letter from Mr & Mrs Brown to SCC Highways which comments on the lack of consultation on the kerbing in Harley Lane was discussed. It was noted that the letter was addressed to Mr D Walters and required no response from the Council.

69.4 Competitions

69.4.1 Feedback from the Best Kept Village competition had been received. This was discussed and the actions already proposed by the Competitions Working Group should help address many of the issues raised.

69.5 Rural Housing

69.5.1 The Clerk reported that the Beth Johnson Housing Association had been in touch to let the Council know that all the shared ownership houses were now allocated.

69.6 Newsletter

69.6.1 Cllr McLoughlin reported that there was insufficient space for all the items submitted and some had been held over for next time. The next issue should be early in the New Year.

69.7 School Governor's Report

69.7.1 Cllr Eatough reported that he had attended his first governor meeting. The meeting for the governor's report to the parents included lively debate on healthy eating.

69.7.2 Cllr Fox reported that Mrs Potter had been in touch to ask for support in requesting the pub owner to plant the new bank. This was not something the Council could assist with.

69.8 Village Plan

69.8.1 Cllr McLoughlin attended the last meeting and this discussed the consultation process that would work with the comments received on the survey forms. The public meetings are early in November.

69.9 RISES

69.9.1 A bin for cans is now in place and has been publicised. A cheque for the first half-year will soon be due. The possibility of screening the bins was also raised. Cllr Fox offered to take this up with ESBC.

Minute 70: Correspondence, bulletins and reports

70.1 CPRE Staffordshire have written on the subject of "quiet lanes" and enclosed a short questionnaire they invite us to complete and return. Cllr Fox offered to investigate.

70.2 The ESBC forward plan for next four months has been received and a copy provided to all Councillors as an illustration of the format and example contents.

70.3 SPCA has supplied a notice and booking form for their Annual General Meeting and Conference taking place on Saturday 8 November.

70.4 Staffordshire Ambulance Service have invited us to visit their HQ – Cllr Elkington would like to attend and a visit to include some of the first responders will be arranged in the future.

70.5 A letter has been received from Bloomin' Gardens of Swadlincote, asking to be kept informed of any forthcoming grounds maintenance or gardening contracts. The Clerk was asked to send them a copy of the current invitation to tender.

70.6 Cllr Charles reported that he had received an invitation to the Civic Ball which he had declined.

Minute 71: Items for agenda of next meeting

Visit from Philip Somerfield to discuss the ESBC Rural Strategy
Review of tenders for grass cutting contract
Budget for 2004/2005
Traffic Issues

Minute 72: Date, time and place of next Meeting

It was agreed that the next meeting should be held at 7.30pm on Wednesday 3 December 2003 in the Memorial Room at the Village Hall.

The Meeting concluded at 10.02 pm.

Chairman Date:

Proposed: Seconded: