

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting  
held on Wednesday, 27 April 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, J Needham, KA McLoughlin

Also present: EA Roy (Clerk)

Apologies for absence: Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr RSV Jarman and also received from Borough Councillor Fox.

Members of the public attending: Lucy Robinson (ESBC), Mithra Tonking

Minute 1: Public Session.....	1
Minute 2: Approve and sign the Minutes of the previous Meetings.....	2
Minute 3: Declarations of interest.....	2
Minute 4: Matters arising and matters of report .....	2
Minute 5: Planning .....	2
Minute 6: Financial Matters.....	4
Minute 7: Group Reports.....	5
Minute 8: Correspondence, bulletins and reports .....	6
Minute 9: Parish Assembly.....	7
Minute 10: Items for agenda of next meeting .....	7
Minute 11: Date, time and place of next Meeting .....	7

### **Minute 1: Public Session**

The Chairman welcomed the members of the public who were present and invited them to speak.

Ms Robinson introduced herself and went on to explain that she was creating a housing strategy for the Borough and initially attempted to use results of a 2003 survey. This data was unfortunately too coarse to support a detailed strategy, and it is therefore proposed to do local surveys at a rate of three a year. She then drew attention to the proposed housing needs survey forms that had been circulated prior to the meeting. Her priority is to target the larger settlements and this is why Abbots Bromley has been chosen. The outcome could be to demonstrate a clear need or conversely, little or no need. Either way this provides substantive data that can form the basis for planning. It would be very helpful if the survey could be distributed with the newsletter to keep costs low.

Discussion brought out a number of points. A previous survey in Barton had a response rate of nearly 40%. Carrying out such a survey would create an expectation that something was going to be done, and – in reality – this might not be the case. Any development of affordable housing would be small and in keeping with the village and could only proceed if there was suitable land available. An accompanying letter could be used to explain the context and try to avoid raising expectations of short-term action.

It was agreed that the Council would deliver the survey with the June newsletter.

The Chairman thanked Ms Robinson for her contribution. Normal business was resumed at 19:53.

**Minute 2: Approve and sign the Minutes of the previous Meetings**

**RESOLVED:** *That the Minutes of the previous meeting on 30 March 2005 be signed.*

**Minute 3: Declarations of interest**

There were no declarations of interest.

**Minute 4: Matters arising and matters of report**

- 4.1 Circulated documents:** No points were raised.
- 4.2 Burton Road closure:** Highways have suggested a site meeting as a better alternative than a visit to a PC meeting so that alternatives can be fully explored. Cllrs Charles, Cook, Eatough, Elkington and Fox would be interested. Clerk to contact Mr Rayson and set up such a meeting.
- 4.3 Quality Council application:** Cllrs Charles, Esling, Elkington and the Clerk had met on 25 April to review the application. A plan to complete the required preparations for submission to the June accreditation panel had been agreed.

**Minute 5: Planning**

**5.1 Applications**

**400 - PA/29665/001: The Nuttery, Schoolhouse Lane:** Erection of play equipment for Under 5s play area

Received: 07/04/05 Replied: 22/04/05 Response: The Parish Council fully supports this application.

**401 - LB/11242/012: Bagot Arms, Bagot Street:** Installation of two replacement windows to rear and rear/side of premises

Received: 11/04/05 Replied: 28/04/05 Response: The Parish Council raises no objection to this application.

**402 - PA/29729/001: Gilleons Hall Farm, Bromley Hurst:** Erection of an agricultural workers dwelling, installation of septic tank and alterations to existing vehicular access

Received: 11/04/05 Replied: 28/04/05 Response: The Parish Council raises no objection as long as agricultural occupancy restrictions are applied.

**403 - HO/29741/001: The Cottage, Yeatsall Road:** Erection of a single storey side extension

Received: 11/04/05 Replied: 28/04/05 Response: The Parish Council raises no objection to this application.

**404 - HO/15245/004: Little Heatley Green Farm, Heatley Lane:** Erection of first floor side and single storey rear extension and front porch

Received: 11/04/05 Replied: 28/04/05 Response: The Parish Council raises no objection to this application.

**405 - HO/06641/002: Ashlands, Lichfield Road:** Erection of a single storey front and rear extension, and construction of a pitched roof over existing dormer and garage

Received: 13/04/05 Replied: 28/04/05 Response: The Parish Council raises no objection to this application.

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

## 5.2 Decisions

The following applications have been **AGREED** subject to stated conditions  
**378 - PC/01967/055: Abbots Bromley School for Girls:** Section 73 application of the 1990 Planning Act for the continued use of the Equestrian Centre and associated facilities without complying with condition 1 of PC/01967/053 dated 27/04/04 by use of the facilities for permanent commercial use.

**381 - HO/23104/005: Kerrera, Ashbrook Lane:** Erection of a two storey side extension, single storey rear extension and new detached double garage

**384 - HO/16267/006: The Radmores, Radmore Lane:** Erection of a two storey rear extension (Amended plans received 27/01/05)

**385 - PA/08027/008: Blithfield Reservoir, Waters Road:** Erection of a single storey extension to form additional boat storage

**386 - CU/18945/009: Bromley House, Uttoxeter Road:** Conversion and alterations to existing doctors surgery to form dwelling including a two storey side extension

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

**394 - HO/17207/003: 8 Radmore Lane:** Erection of a first floor rear and side extension (Amended plans and description)

The following applications have been **REFUSED**

**347 - CN/02885/017: Land at Ivy House, High Street:** Demolition of shop and outbuildings

**348 - CN/02885/018: Land at Ivy House, High Street:** Demolition of shop and outbuildings

**364 - PA/02885/019: Land at Ivy House, High Street:** REVISED PLANS: Erection of 20 residential units, garaging and alterations to existing vehicular access (including demolition of shop)

**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)

No application has been **REVISED**

The following application has been **WITHDRAWN**

**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

## 5.3 Correspondence and other planning matters

- 5.3.1 It was noted that the application for the wind farm had been withdrawn. A press release from ESBC explained that clarification of the Environmental Impact Statement is required. A resubmission within two months is expected.

## Minute 6: Financial Matters

### 6.1 Financial report

The Clerk introduced the end of year financial report to 31 March 2005.

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

### 6.2 Report on payments made since the last meeting

The Clerk reported that no payments had been made since the last meeting.

### 6.3 Bills to pay

The Clerk introduced the following for payment:

Vch/Chq	Payee	Amount	Details	Powers
1/667	Central Networks	191.02	Floodlight maintenance	PCA 1957 s.3
2/668	SPCA	338.00	Annual subscription	LGA 1972 s.143
3/669	Public Works Loan Board	1661.27	Village Hall loan repayment	LGA 1972 Sch 13
4/670	Penny Ward	175.48	Village Agent salary/expenses	[Vital Villages]
5/671	Allianz Cornhill	1104.79	Insurance premium	LGA 1972 s.111
6/672	Malcolm Barnes	840.00	Map amendment/printing	LGA 1972 s.144
7/673	Graham McCulloch	240.00	Grass cutting	OSA 1906 s.10
8/674	E A Roy	879.14	Clerk salary/expenses	LG(FP)A 1963 s.5 & LGA 1972 s.112(2)
9/675	NALC	29.38	Quality Council application	LGA 1972 s.111
	<b>TOTAL payments</b>	<b>5459.08</b>		

**RESOLVED: That these payments be made.**

### 6.4 Section 137 payments

The Clerk introduced the following two proposed payments under section 137.

Vch/Chq	Payee	Amount	Details
10/676	St Giles (K Cadman)	20.00	Grant in respect of K Cadman work on certificate
11/677	AB Village Hall	29.50	Village Action groups/Village Design Statement
	<b>TOTAL payments made</b>	<b>49.50</b>	

**RESOLVED: That the Council, in accordance with its powers under sections 137 and 139 of the Local Government Act 1972, should make the above payments which are, 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.**

### 6.5 Other financial matters

- 6.5.1 The Clerk introduced an updated inventory list.

**RESOLVED: That the revised valuations be accepted and the Chairman sign the schedule to confirm approval.**

- 6.5.2 The Clerk reported that Mr McCulloch had offered to cut the grass behind the bus shelter at an additional cost of £5 per visit.  
**RESOLVED: That we ask Mr McCulloch to do this and reclaim the cost under devolved maintenance.**
- 6.5.3 The Clerk reported that he had received a letter from Mr Scalpello indicating that he was unwilling to continue servicing the toilets for public use but was willing for the Council to make its own arrangements. Agreed that we should find a way to service these at the Council expense, but in the intervening period they should be shut and notices posted to this effect. It was noted that we would need some form of agreement with the pub chain before proceeding.
- 6.5.4 The Clerk reported that there was an SPCA Health and Safety workshop taking place on Friday 20 May. It was agreed that if someone from Project Playground was available, we should fund them to attend.

## Minute 7: Group Reports

### 7.1 Recreation

The Clerk reported that the "finger trap" referred to in the Annual Inspection was on the multi-play side where unused holes in some of the standard pattern pieces were open and needed to be plugged. The Clerk was asked to arrange for these to be blocked off and to order a single lorry load of bark to increase the depth of fill.

The Clerk also reported that a new endorsement on the insurance policy required any remedial work to be completed within 60 days of an annual inspection. He noted that the current inspection regime seemed to result in a delay of more than this before we received the report, and this delay was further compounded by the need to clarify details by an indirect and time consuming route. He had made enquiries of another clerk and it seemed that contracting Wicksteed Leisure would provide an alternative at similar cost that would avoid these delays.

**RESOLVED: That we commission Wicksteed for the next annual inspection.**

Project Playground has reached 50% of their target fund but there are also issues to do with the direct exit onto a road which need to be addressed and may require changes to the gate layout.

### 7.2 Village Property

The appointment of contractors to work on the Butter Cross appears to be in progress.

### 7.3 Traffic, Parking, Highways

The speed gun is not expected back until mid May at the earliest. Agreed that we should identify any opportunities to acquire our own or duplicate equipment to improve overall serviceability. Cllr Cook offered to make enquiries.

Cllr Cook reported that he had attended a meeting of the Rural Transport Partnership. They were seeking backing for new projects and appeared to be biased towards larger schemes.

Cllr Fox raised the issue of parking on pavements. Agreed to take this up with Inspector Mason at the Parish Assembly. This is seriously affecting users of wheelchairs and pushchairs.

Cllr Elkington reported that he had been advised that the number of A-boards outside pubs seemed to be increasing. Agreed that no action was required since these were being kept tight into the walls.

**7.4 Competitions**

Cllr Elkington reported that posters had been received from Brownies and RCFS and he was seeking locations to display them. Competition signs are going up around the village and help from the Staffordshire Wildlife Trust should be available to help with the conservation area near the Millennium Green.

**7.5 Newsletter**

Cllr McLoughlin indicated that items for the next newsletter would be needed so that it could go out after the Parish Assembly.

**7.6 School Governor's Report**

Cllr Eatough reported that a budget was now in place for the current financial year but would be very challenging. Higher intake in the future may help. Fundraising options including sponsorship for support staff are being considered.

**7.7 Village Action Plan**

The Clerk gave a brief report on the meeting of the Action Group and advised that a newsletter would be available to go out with the next bulletin.

**7.8 RISES**

Nothing to report.

**7.9 Community First Responders**

Nothing to report.

**7.10 Village Hall**

Cllr Cook reported that the AGM had received a good report on finances due to higher levels of casual bookings in the last year. An application was being made to ESBC for a grant to improve the drive and, following the AGM, there were changes in the management committee. He also reported on other matters discussed at the AGM.

**Minute 8: Correspondence, bulletins and reports**

8.1 ESBC has written inviting items for the agenda of the next Parish Councils' Forum (taking place on Wednesday 8th June). Feedback is requested by 13 May. No items were suggested.

8.2 Uttoxeter Plus invites the Council to attend the annual forum in Uttoxeter Town Hall on Tuesday 24 May at 7pm. Cllrs Esling and Fox indicated their willingness to attend.

8.3 We are invited to participate in "Trafalgar Weekend" – see enclosed letter. (A 24-page full colour booklet accompanies the letter outlining more about the proposed celebrations). It was not thought appropriate for the Council to get involved, but it

could be passed on to others in the village who might be interested. The Clerk would insert a piece in the Parish News.

- 8.4 We are asked to consider funding hire of a skate park. After a discussion it was agreed that this was not a cost-effective offer due to the small number of skaters who could make use of it. Clerk to respond accordingly.
- 8.5 A new Home Office booklet outlines changes proposals about policing. Noted.
- 8.6 We have been asked to identify a consultation project that could be assisted by an arts project seeking to develop a means for engaging excluded groups through the use of art amongst either vulnerable adults or young people. Cllr Eatough agreed to investigate the details and the Clerk would provide feedback to the enquirer.
- 8.7 We are invited by the Donna Louise Trust to attend an open day at Treetops on Saturday 7 May. Cllr Cook wished to attend.

**Minute 9: Parish Assembly**

- 9.1 Arrangements for the refreshments were agreed.

**Minute 10: Items for agenda of next meeting**

Issues arising from Parish Assembly  
Opportunity to enter Village of the Year competition  
Feedback on Arts project  
Matters arising from recent surgeries

**Minute 11: Date, time and place of next Meeting**

It was agreed that the next meeting should be held at 7.30pm on Wednesday 25 May 2005 in the Memorial Room at the Village Hall.

The Meeting concluded at 22:11 pm.

Chairman .....

Date: .....