

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday, 29 March 2006 at 7.30 pm

in the Village Hall, Abbots Bromley, pursuant to notice having been given

Present: Cllrs: PJ Charles (Chairman), DT Eatough, AE Elkington, RT Esling,
RSV Jarman, L Fox, KA McLoughlin, J Needham

Also present: EA Roy (Clerk)

Apologies: Cllrs C Cook and Borough Cllr A Fox.

Members of the public attending:

Mike King, Steve Coxon, Louise Haywood, Paula Stewart

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Minute 111: Public Session

The Chairman welcomed the members of the public present and invited them to address the meeting.

Mr Coxon gave an update on the Under 5s project and issues with the contract for ground works. This had resulted in a proposal to contract Lappset to also carry out the ground works, having the advantage of a single source and warranty. He presented revised project costs showing some potential savings that made the revised scheme possible. A number of issues were then discussed.

The Chairman thanked Mr Coxon for his contribution, and normal business was resumed at 20:02pm.

Minute 112: Minutes of previous meeting

RESOLVED that the minutes of the previous meeting on 22 February 2006 be accepted.

Minute 113: Declarations of interest

There were none.

Minute 114: Matters arising and matters of report

114.1 Circulated documents: No issues.

114.2 Tree on green: A thuja plicata (Western Red Cedar) has been planted on the village green using funding from the Best Kept Village prize. The size has been dictated by a combination of cost and what could be successfully planted without needing additional watering through the first summer.

114.3 Sustainable Staffordshire: The Chairman reported that he had attended the annual meeting and was pleased to report that Shirley Mann had been elected onto the committee.

Minute 115: Planning

115.1 Applications

452 - PA/20982/009: Land adjacent Goose Cottage, Goose Lane: Erection of a detached three storey dwelling, detached double garage and construction of vehicle access
Received: 06/03/06 Replied: 21/03/06 Response: The Parish Council notes the changes to the front elevation but still has objections to the way in which third storey windows overlook neighbouring properties. Conditions requiring the use of obscure glazing and restricted opening, could address these concerns.

453 - HO/00613/012: Norbury House, Bagot Street: Erection of a replacement front porch, two storey rear extension, rear conservatory and construction of a 2m high boundary wall

Received: 06/03/06 Replied: 15/03/06 Response: The Parish Council raises no objections to this application.

454 - LB/00613/013: Norbury House, Bagot Street: Demolition of front porch, store building, conservatory and boundary wall, erection of a replacement front porch, two storey rear extension, rear conservatory, 2m high boundary wall and internal alterations
Received: 06/03/06 Replied: 15/03/06 Response: The Parish Council raises no objections to this application.

455 - HO/16070/004: Miresbrook House, Mires Brook Lane: Erection of first floor extension, front porch and bay window and erection of fence on south west boundary
Received: 17/03/06 Replied: 30/03/06 Response: The Parish Council raises no objections to this application.

456 - CO/25934/004: Yenbrook Farm, Seedcroft Lane: Proposed erection of a low voltage overhead line on wooden poles
Received: 20/03/06 Replied: 30/03/06 Response: The Parish Council raises no objections to this application.

457 - CU/11168/004: Bagots Bromley Farm: Conversion of agricultural buildings to form six dwellings with associated garaging
Received: 21/03/06 Replied: 30/03/06
After discussion agreed that the Clerk should seek advice from CPRE (or other body) on how to reflect concerns about loss of employment, setting a precedent, non-sustainable use of cars, distance from village, increased inter-site farm traffic and lack of need for housing.

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

115.2 Decisions

The following applications have been **AGREED** subject to stated conditions - NONE

The following applications have been **REFUSED** for stated reasons

441 - CU/00937/032: Cottage Unit 1, Radmore Lane: Conversion of farm building to form a dwelling (revised scheme)

442 - HO/00613/008: Lancsuss House, Bagot Street: Erection of replacement front porch and roof alterations to existing single storey rear extension

443 - LB/00613/009: Lancsuss House, Bagot Street: Demolition and replacement of existing front porch and alterations to include the removal of asbestos roof and construction of replacement pitched roof on existing single storey extension

446 - LB/13574/027: The Goats Head, Market Place: Installation of one air extract fan on rear elevation and one input air fan on side elevation of existing kitchen block

449 - AD/13574/028: Goats Head, Market Place: Display of 1 externally illuminated hanging sign, 3 non illuminated amenity boards and 1 floodlit letter sign

450 - LB/13574/029: Goats Head, Market Place: Display of 1 externally illuminated hanging sign, 3 non illuminated amenity boards, 1 floodlit letter sign and the installation of 2 lanterns and floodlights

451 - HO/01890/014: Barkley House Farm, Pinfold Lane: Erection of a single storey rear extension

The following applications have been **REVISED** - NONE

The following applications have been **WITHDRAWN**

444 - HO/00613/010: Norbury House, Bagot Street: Erection of replacement front porch, single storey rear extension and construction of 2m high boundary wall

445 - LB/00613/011: Norbury House, Bagot Street: Demolition of front porch, store building, conservatory and boundary wall, erection of replacement front porch, single storey rear extension and 2m high boundary wall and internal alterations

115.3 Correspondence and other planning matters

The Redrow appeals for the Ivy House site were dismissed. A copy of the report by the Planning Inspector is being circulated to members.

The Clerk reported that ESBC had issued a document of proposed modifications to the Borough Wide Local Plan. This was a response to the 397 recommendations contained within the 485-page inspector's report and follows the inquiry conducted between January and November 2005. Among the proposed modifications are changes to the development boundary at two locations in the village. Responses to the proposed modifications must reach ESBC by 9 May 2006. Cllr Eatough offered to review the document.

Minute 116: Financial Matters

116.1 Financial report

The Clerk introduced the financial report for March 2006.

RESOLVED: That the statement 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 since the last meeting.

116.3 Bills to pay

The Clerk introduced the following for payment:

<i>Vch/Chq</i>	<i>Payee</i>	<i>Amount</i>	<i>Details</i>	<i>Powers</i>
74/741	SPCA	18.00	Finance training session	LGA 1972 s.111
75/742	Local Council Review	42.00	Annual subscription	LGA 1972 s.143
76/743	Lappset	14734.54	Under 5s play equipment	LGA(MP) 1976 s.19 PHAAA 1907 s.76
77/744	G McCulloch	147.72	New tree for village green	OSA 1906 S.10
78/745	AB Village Hall	60.00	Room hire	LGA 1972 s.150
79/746	E A Roy	366.37	Clerk's salary/expenses	LA(FP)A 1963 s5 LGA 1972 s.112(2)
TOTAL payments		<u>15368.63</u>		

RESOLVED: That these payments be made.

RESOLVED: £800 unspent funds from Traffic to be transferred into the recreation fund to further support the Under 5s Project – specifically to allow re-instatement of the litter bins and picnic tables.

116.4 Section 137 payments

The Clerk introduced requests received from Victim Support, CPRE and "vitalise". He reminded members that £2,600 of the funds set aside for Section 137 grants in the current financial year remained unspent, although £1,444 had been assigned for Vital Villages. There was a discussion of the value-for-money of the Village Agent scheme.

RESOLVED: £1,444 be transferred to the Vital Villages fund to meet the commitment to the fund as agreed at the January budget meeting.

It was proposed that the following grants be made:

£500 to Donna Louise Trust

£500 to St Giles Hospice

£200 to County Air Ambulance

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.

116.5 Other financial matters

116.5.1 Under 5s Project: Cllr Eatough was asked to repeat the encouragement given to the team earlier to ensure they get the best price under their single-supplier deal.

RESOLVED: That if the Clerk has taken advice from Cllr Jarman and is satisfied that the requirements have been adequately met, then an order may be placed.

116.5.2 Newton turn: The enclosed letter from Blithfield PC advises the Council of the current situation with regard to the proposed works. The Clerk was asked to write confirming that the Council will provide the £1,000 funding promised.

- 116.5.3 Village Agent: The enclosed letter from Blithfield PC concerns the ongoing costs and benefits of the Village Agent and seeks the view of the Council. The Clerk was asked to thank them for their advice and inform them that Abbots Bromley is also considering its own position. The Clerk was also asked to write to Lynne Smith advising her of Council reservations about the scheme.

Minute 117: Group Reports

In introducing the group reports, the Chairman provided a brief overview of the matters raised at the Parish Council surgery on the previous Saturday. These included dog fouling, traffic speed and other highways matters.

117.1 Recreation

Cllr McLoughlin reported that there were two volunteers who may be willing to assist with the multi-sports project.

117.2 Village Property

Cllr Eatough reported that the bus shelter at Hoar Cross junction has been demolished.

117.3 Traffic, Parking, Highways

The Clerk introduced an email from Andrew Oakley (SCC Highways) outlining the reasons for the current avoidance of 20mph limits. This was noted for discussion at the next meeting.

117.4 Competitions

Cllr Elkington proposed the use of some warning signs to highlight the potential penalties for dog fouling.

117.5 Newsletter

Cllr McLoughlin advised that the deadline for contributions was the coming Friday. Discussion of the format was deferred until the next meeting, and Cllr McLoughlin indicated that she would like to stand down from acting as editor.

117.6 School Governor's Report

Nothing to report.

117.7 Village Plan

The Clerk reported that the Village Design Statement had now been passed to ESBC for consideration by the Cabinet. Once accepted as a valid planning statement, then it was intended that printed copies would be produced. In the meantime the document itself and additional material was available on the village web pages. The Parish Assembly report and newsletters would be used to see if there was any enthusiasm for proceeding with the remaining actions in the plan.

117.8 RISES

Cllr Fox reported that after a contribution to the cost of the new tree, there was still £300 in the fund from the October payment. She would propose to the other committee members that this be given to the Under 5s project.

117.9 Village Hall

No report.

Minute 118: Correspondence, bulletins and reports

- 118.1 SPCA Chief Executive’s Circular no 29
- 118.2 CPRE invitation to a Saturday seminar on 17 June - “Understanding the Planning System”
- 118.3 Abbots Bromley Village Hall have invited the Council to attend their AGM at 7:30pm on Wednesday 12 April
- 118.4 East Staffordshire Borough Council have advised that the date of the next Parish Councils’ Forum is 7 June 2006 and the Council is invited to submit items for the agenda
- 118.5 Janet Dean MP has written reporting on her meeting with the Prime Minister and enclosing a copy of her response to the Ambulance Trust consultation and an extract from Hansard.
- 118.6 SPCA has written enclosing copies of their responses to the consultations

Minute 119: Annual Parish Assembly

- 119.1 The Clerk outlined a proposal for an alternate style of Parish Assembly with a guest speaker which would depend on written reports from village organisations. The meeting would still end with an open forum allowing questions on reports or any other matters to be raised. An outline agenda would comprise - Chairman’s welcome, Jubilee Cup presentation, Receiving the accounts of United Charities (legal requirement), Guest speaker (South Staffordshire Water), Open forum and Chairman’s closing remarks.
- 119.2 The Chairman confirmed that the Jubilee Cup nominee had indicated his willingness to receive the award.

Minute 120: Financial Regulations

- 120.1 The Clerk introduced a revised set of Financial Regulations implementing the changes agreed at the previous meeting.
RESOLVED: That the Financial Regulations be adopted as proposed.

Minute 121: Items for agenda of next meeting

- Arrangements for the Annual Assembly
- Review of options for the future newsletter format
- Review of asset inspection and insurance cover
- Discussion of County position on 20mph limits

Minute 122: Date, time and place of next meetings

It was agreed that the next meeting should be held at 7.30pm on Wednesday 26 April 2006 in the Memorial Room at the Village Hall.

The Meeting concluded at 22:27 pm.

Chairman

Date: