Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday, 25 October 2006 at 7.30 pm

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

Present: Cllrs: PJ Charles (Chairman), C Cook, DT Eatough, RT Esling, L Fox,

J Needham

Also present: EA Roy (Clerk)

Apologies: Apologies from Cllrs AE Elkington, RSV Jarman and KA McLoughlin were

received and accepted.

Members of the public attending:

Mithra Tonking, Borough Councillor A Fox.

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Minute 57: Public Session

The Chairman welcomed Mithra Tonking and invited her to address the Council.

Mrs Tonking explained the background to her visit was the proposed transfer of the Trusteeship of the Millennium Green to the Parish Council. She summarised the steps taken so far in establishing the viability of the transfer process. Based on advice from Natural England, it seemed that it would be possible for the transfer to proceed subject to some steps that she outlined. This could be initiated if the Parish Council would put into writing confirmation of it's willingness to take on Trusteeship.

Borough Councillor Fox confirmed the rationale for the transfer.

In the ensuing discussion it was noted that the additional liabilities on the Council would include insurance and continued maintenance in accordance with the terms and conditions of the original grant.

Cllr Esling gave a brief outline of the recent steps by the Ambulance Trust to reduce the range of drugs that CFR groups could use. This severely restricts the efficacy of the local teams, and a meeting with the Ambulance Trust to discuss the implications and reasons was due the next day.

Abbots	Bromi	ley	Parish	Council	
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Borough Councillor Fox reported on the South Staffordshire PCT understanding of the issue, and expressed the need for increased awareness of the clinical governance issues involved.

Borough Councillor Fox also reported that East Staffordshire has been chosen as a "growth point" which will allow 5,000 more homes. This may have implications for some villages that might benefit from additional development. An opportunity to contribute to the development strategy will be provided in due course. In conjunction with the Rural White Paper published today, this might have significant implications for programmes such as CFR and children's trusts, as LAAs are endorsed and strengthened.

Waste management would also be changing as the pressures against landfill increased. This will drive decisions by local authorities early next year to meet the long term objectives.

Borough Councillor Fox also pointed out that the Community Fund had again supported projects in the Ward and there was still funding for community (not Council) projects.

The Chairman thanked Mrs Tonking and Borough Councillor Fox for their contributions.

Minute 58: Minutes of previous meeting

RESOLVED that the minutes of the previous meeting on 27 September 2006 be accepted as an accurate record, subject to the following corrections: Removal of duplicate paragraph at the top of page 7 and spurious 'p' on page 5.

Minute 59: Declarations of interest

The Chairman declared an interest in the Ashbrook Farm planning application and the request for grant support from St Giles Hospice.

Minute 60: Matters arising and matters of report

- **60.1 Circulated documents:** There were no issues arising from circulated documents.
- **SPCA Advisory Notes issue 105:** The Clerk was asked to obtain a copy of NALC Legal Topic note 48 and circulate the new government guidance on speed limits.

Minute 61: Planning

61.1 Applications

482 - HO/06184/009: Woodlands Cottage, Bromley Wood: Erection of a single storey side extension

Received: 28/09/06 Replied: 05/10/06 Response: The Parish Council raises no objection to this application.

483 - PA/30424/002: Glenolden, Ashbrook Lane: Erection of detached two storey dwelling with associated parking and turning

Received: 13/10/06 Replied: 26/10/06 Response: The Parish Council raises no objection to this application.

The Vice Chairman took the chair

484 - PA/04446/007: Ashbrook Lane Farm , Ashbrook Lane: Erection of replacement agricultural building

Received: 16/10/06 Replied: 26/10/06 Response: The Parish Council raises no objection to this application.

The Vice Chairman relinquished the chair to the Chairman

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

61.2 Decisions

The following applications have been **AGREED** subject to stated conditions:

478 - PC/16942/010: 1 Market Place: Application under Section 73 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 to vary condition 13 of PA/16942/007 relating to hours of opening

479 - LB/17753/003: The Bakery, Bagot Street: Replacement of bay window to front elevation

The following applications have been **REFUSED** – None

The following applications have been **REVISED** – None

The following applications have been **WITHDRAWN** – None

61.3 Correspondence and other planning matters

There were no other matters to report.

In the light of the planning issues related to the Market Place site, there was a discussion about the importance of the Post Office and the long term significance of the service it provided to a large group of villagers.

Minute 62: Financial Matters

62.1 Budget report

The Clerk introduced the budget report for the end of guarter 2.

RESOLVED: That the report be approved and the proposed budget transfer made: £800 from '403 Traffic calming' to '701 S.137 Grants' for the Newton turn safety improvements.

62.2 Financial report

The Clerk introduced the financial statement for October and reported that the VAT reclaimed had now been received.

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

62.3 Report on payments made since the last meeting

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

62.4 Bills to pay

The Clerk introduced the following for payment:

Vch/Chq	Payee	Amount	Details	Powers
38/787	Public Works Loans A/C	1661.27	Village Hall loan repayment	LGA 1972 Sch13
39/788	Festive Lighting Company	203.64	Purchase of new lights	LGA 1972 s.144
40/789	Eric Roy	389.56	Clerk's salary/expenses	LG(FP)A 1963 s.5 &
	,		,	LGA 1972 s.112(2)

Vch/Chq	Payee	Amount	Details	Powers
41/790	Blithfield Parish Council	300.72	Improvements at Newton turn	[RISES]
	TOTAL payments	2555.19		

RESOLVED: That these payments be made.

62.5 Section 137 payments

The Clerk reported that payment for a Remembrance Day wreath was soon to be due and a request had been received from St Giles Hospice. It was agreed that a grant to St Giles be considered towards the end of the financial year but it was noted that no grant had been made in respect of the certificate prepared by K Cadman.

Vch/Chq	Payee	Amount	Details
42/791	AB Royal British Legion	30.00	Wreath for remembrance day
43/792	St Giles Hospice	20.00	In respect of work by K Cadman
	TOTAL payments	50.00	

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.

62.6 Other financial matters

- 62.6.1 **External audit:** The Clerk reported that he had received an enquiry from the external auditor seeking additional information on the Fidelity Guarantee. He had responded with the requested details.
- 62.6.2 **Grass cutting contract:** The Clerk reported that he had now advertised the intention to issue an Invitation-to-Tender on posters and the village web pages. He proposed to send out the ITT at the start of November.
- 62.6.3 **Christmas lights:** The Clerk will report on the delivery of the lights and outline the preparatory electrical work required for their use. The Clerk was asked to contact Woodwards and arrange the necessary investigation and work.
- 62.6.4 **Christmas tree:** In view of the demise/re-planting of the permanent tree on the green, the Council may wish to consider the purchase of a temporary tree for Christmas display. The Chairman offered to make some enquiries.
- 62.6.5 **2007 meeting dates and budget preparation:** The Clerk introduced proposed meeting dates for 2007 and a proposal for preparation of the 2007/2008 budget. The proposed date for the January meeting was changed to 31st January.
- 62.6.6 **1960s film of Horn Dance:** The Clerk reported that the Council has been given a spool of 8mm film containing images of the Horn Dance during the 1960s. He suggested that the Council might wish to consider having this transcribed to DVD for potential use on the web site and/or to create archive material at an estimated cost £25-35. The Clerk was asked to arrange for this to happen.

62.6.7 **Village Design Statement:** The Clerk gave an update on the original arrangements for funding printing and subsequent developments that had resulted in the reduction of one grant from £1000 to £250 and the availability of a new grant of up to £500.

RESOLVED: That the Council provide the balance of the cost (~ £1000).

Minute 63: Group Reports

63.1 Recreation

Based on the update from Mithra in the public session, there seemed to be no reason not to continue the process of taking on Trusteeship of the Millennium Green. The Clerk was asked to circulate the documents and obtain the NALC legal topic note on the subject. The question of the location of boundaries of the strip also needed to be clarified. The Clerk was asked to enquire about detailed plans.

The Nuttery was opened and has been in regular use with no damage reported so far.

There has been no further progress on the football area.

63.2 Village Property

The Chairman reported that some of the bulbs had now been planted.

63.3 Traffic, Parking, Highways

Cllr Fox reported that grass cutting down Back Lane had not been done. The Clerk was asked to inform Mr Rayson.

Cllr Fox asked if there was anything that could be done about cars advertised for sale on the side of the road. Agreed that there probably was not.

Cllr Cook reported that speed watch had been in operation again, starting with Lichfield Road.

A letter from Mr Stevenson outlining parking difficulties in the Uttoxeter Road was discussed. It was noted that the proposals outlined would improve matters in the area and the Clerk was asked to respond.

63.4 Competitions

Nothing to report.

63.5 Newsletter

A meeting to discuss plans is still to be held.

63.6 School Governor's Report

Cllr Eatough reported on the recent Governor's meeting, the change of two parent governors and that he was now Vice Chairman. Two replacement portable classrooms are to be provided by County.

63.7 Village Plan

The Clerk gave a brief update on the situation with the village agent and there was a short discussion of the value in moving in this forward.

63.8 RISES

Cllr Fox reported that the money from the last payment had now been distributed to Blithfield Parish Council for the improvements at the Newton turn and towards the cost of the replacement tree on the green.

63.9 Village Hall

Cllr Cook reported that there were plans for re-decoration of the hall.

Minute 64: Correspondence, bulletins and reports

- East Staffordshire Borough Council: The Waste Management Section is running a poster competition in Burton schools and will publish the winning entry. If the Parish Council wishes to make use of the poster, copies can be supplied. The Clerk was asked to request two copies.
- 64.2 E.ON Central Networks: Are offering a chance to win £2,500 for Christmas lights and decorations.
- Community Action and Support East Staffordshire (CASES): Is holding an open day on Tuesday 31st October from 10am until 2pm in the Voluntary Services Centre in Union Street. There is an open invitation to go along and see what the voluntary sector is doing in East Staffordshire.
- 64.4 Community Action and Support East Staffordshire (CASES): Is holding a "funding event" on 14th November to which voluntary groups are invited for help in accessing funding for their projects.
- Burton Mail: Has asked if we can identify anyone in the village who would be willing to provide them with news from village organisations.
- 64.6 Alan Felthouse has emailed to say that a presentation on Drug Awareness is to be included in the Uttoxeter Neighbourhood Watch and Crime Prevention Panel meeting on 1st November.
- Abbots Bromley Community First Responders: Colin Palmer has written asking for support from the Parish Council in fighting the withdrawal of seven key drugs from the armoury of the CFR thereby considerably reducing their effectiveness. (Emails on the same subject have been received from County Councillor Philip Atkins, Borough Councillor Alex Fox and Borough Councillor Charles Wimbush). Agreed to accept the offer from Cllr Esling, the Clerk and Chairman to write a letter on our behalf.

Minute 65: Items for agenda of next meeting

- Review of tenders submitted for grass cutting contract
- Initial discussion of budget
- Trusteeship of Millennium Green

Minute 66: Date, time and place of next meeting

It was agreed that the next meeting should be held at 7.30pm on Wednesday 29 November 2006 in the Memorial Room at the Village Hall.

The Meeting concluded at 22:11pm.