

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting
held on Wednesday, 26th November, 2008 at 7.30 pm
in the Village Hall, Abbots Bromley, pursuant to notice having been given

Present: Cllrs PJ Charles; R Bell; S Coxon; A Elkington; Mrs L Fox; RSV Jarman;
R Mills; Mrs C Veitch; B Waring

In attendance: Cnty Cllr P Atkins; Mrs S Buxton (Clerk);

Members of the public attending: 3

Apologies: Bor Cllr A Fox

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Minute 221: Public Session

Mr Wilkinson reported he had received no firm replies to his enquiries regarding alternative lighting options although he had had some feedback.

Meg Hewitt presented two photographs of Crown Bank before and after lights columns and showing the abundance of advertising boards. Discussion took place on signage in general throughout the village and the problems it causes.

Normal business was resumed at 7.48 pm

Minute 222: Minutes of the previous meeting

RESOLVED: that the minutes of the meeting held on 29th October, 2008 be signed as a true and correct record after the following amendments:-

- Beginning of minutes – deletion of paragraph beginning “The Chairman welcomed everyone...”
- Minute 214.3 Traffic, Parking and Highways – last resolution should read:- **RESOLVED:** that the Community Speed Watch members of the parish council will take responsibility for Community Speedwatch
- Minute 214.5 Newsletter – the first sentence to read:- A number of councillors commented on the excellence of the last Bulletin
- Minute 214.8 Village Hall – to add the following at the end “which Cllr Mrs Fox said would be refunded”

Minute 223: Declaration of Interests

None

Minute 224: Matters arising and matters of report

- 224.1 Quality Parish Re-accreditation and Electoral Mandate** - the clerk reported that the SPCA had informed her that re-accreditation required the completion of a new portfolio with two additional sections covering community involvement and a training plan for members and staff and that the electoral mandate is based on the position at the last election
- 224.2 Reprint of History and Horn Dance Books** – 250 copies of Horn Dance Book (R Shipman) will cost £226. The company who bound the original History Books no longer do binding and a reprint is unlikely to be possible
- 224.3 Junior Football Club** – Cllr Jarman reported on his discussion with Mr Bennet. He is asking if discussion can be initiated with the school not local landowners who have already been contacted. John Garlick who was looking into it has passed away and no one knows if he made any contact and if so what the response was. The football club would like know if there is any possibility of using the Lowers or the Anglesey.
RESOLVED: that Cllr Jarman on behalf of the parish council contact the school to see if they would be willing to meet with representatives of the parish council and the football club to discuss the matter
- 224.4 Clerk's Log** – nothing else to discuss other than items listed on the agenda.
- 224.5 Saturday Surgery** –
- concerns re: entrance/exit to Girls School – at the shop end it is very busy and now it is getting dark, it is potentially very dangerous. Could a crossing or a crossing warden be considered? This was discussed at some length.
RESOLVED: that the details be emailed to Cllr Atkins and he will look at the moving of the bus stop for the school bus as it is the only viable factor which can be altered. One suggestion was to move the bus stop adjacent to the zebra crossing
RESOLVED: Cllr Elkington to speak to the resident who raised this matter and inform them that the parish council is asking SCC to look at the situation via Cllr Atkins
 - **RESOLVED** – that the Saturdays surgeries for 2009 be manned as follows:-
17 January – Roger Mills; 21 March – Caroline Veitch; 23 May – Barrie Waring;
25 July – Linda Fox; 26 Sep – Ray Bell; 21 Nov – Philip Charles

Minute 225: Planning

225.1 Applications Received

582 - CO/01511/002/AG: Overhead line, Near Birchwood House, Hoar Cross, BURTON ON TRENT: Proposed overhead line

Received: 01/11/08 Due: 19/11/08 Response; the parish council has no objection to this application

583 - HO/01695/014/AG: York House, Radmore Wood, Abbots Bromley: Alteration of existing detached garage for use as additional living accommodation

Received: 01/11/08 Due: 18/11/08; Response: the parish council would like a condition attached to approval of this development, that as it is outside of the village envelope it cannot be converted into a separate dwelling

584 - LB/23886/002/CEH: Church View Farm, Goose Lane, Abbots Bromley: Re-pointing of the gable ends on the north and west elevation and chimney

Received: 08/11/08 Due: 27/11/08 Response: the parish council has no objection to this application as long as the work is in keeping with existing brickwork and pointing

RESOLVED: that the clerk notify the above responses to East Staffordshire Borough Council

225.2 Decisions

None

225.3 Other Planning Matters

Portfields – Cllr Mrs Fox reported that the house at Portfields has been demolished without permission. ESBC have ordered them to stop work, and instructed them that they need a new planning application to rebuild the house and which will need to be identical to the existing house

Licensing application at the Crown Inn

RESOLVED the clerk would obtain further information from ESBC and email to members

Minute 226: Financial Matters**226.1 Pay Award for Clerks**

The report prepared by the clerk was considered

RESOLVED: that the cost of living pay award be adopted by the council and backdated to 1st April, 2008

226.2 Finance Reports for the year to 31st October, 2008

The council had all received a full set of finance reports for the period April to October 2008 prepared on Quickbooks which is now up to date. There was a query on where the sales of Horn Dance Book monies had been put.

RESOLVED: the clerk to report on the Horn Dance sales to the next meeting

226.3 Payments made since the last meeting

None

226.4 Payments to be made

RESOLVED: that the following payments be made

| <i>Vch/Chq</i> | <i>Payee</i> | <i>Amount</i> | <i>Details</i> | <i>Powers</i> |
|----------------|------------------------------|----------------|--|-------------------|
| 45/947 | Mrs S Buxton | 493.24 | Salary and taxable expenses | LGA 1972 s.112(2) |
| 45/948 | Mrs S Buxton | 16.51 | Expenses | LG(FP)A 1963 s.5 |
| 45/949 | SCC | 104.62 | Pension contributions Nov 08 | LGA 1972 s.112(2) |
| 46/950 | G C McCulloch | 150.00 | Autumn clearance of MG shrubs | LGA 1972 s.101 |
| | | 30.00 | Graffiti removal at MG | PHA 1961 s.52 |
| | | 135.00 | Devolved maintenance | LGA 1972 s.101 |
| 47/951 | CPRE | 28.00 | Annual subscription | LGA 1972 s.143 |
| 48/952 | Kings Bromley Parish Council | 31.25 | Contribution to clerk's training | LGA 1972 s.112(2) |
| 00/953 | Spoilt | 0.00 | | |
| 49/954 | SLCC | 83.50 | 50% of clerk's membership of SLCC and ILCM | LGA 1972 s.143 |
| 50/955 | Abbots Bromley PCC | 37.50 | Hire of Church House for surgeries | LGA 1972 s.150 |
| | TOTAL payments made | 1109.62 | | |

Receipts

None

226.5 Independent Internal Auditor

RESOLVED: that Bryan Sullivan be re-appointed independent internal auditor for the 2008/09 year and that the clerk will arrange the first of his two visits

226.6 Budget for 2009/10

Two items to be considered in the budget were a laptop for the newsletter editor and churchyard maintenance

Minute 227: Group Reports

227.1 Recreation

- **Youth Shelter** – Cllr Waring reported on the Village Hall Management Committee meeting, where he was the only member of the committee who did not object to the siting of the Youth Shelter at the Village Hall. Cllr Mrs Fox spoke on behalf of the Village Hall Committee who referred to the problems with the young people and advice from PC Boulter that they should not be encouraged by the siting of a shelter at the Village Hall.

Cllr Mrs Veitch reported that additional funding of £1,300 has been received towards the Youth Shelter. She went on to say that she felt the council should continue to pursue the provision of a shelter and a number of possible sites were considered. The council discussed the concept of a youth shelter, the problems experienced by the village hall committee and the fact that the youth are part of the village. There is no provision for young people. It works elsewhere why can't it work in Abbots Bromley?

RESOLVED: *to look at all aspects of the MG including the allotment with a view to seeking a site for a shelter and to carry out preliminary enquiries. The design will be largely decided by the final situation – possible top end of MG close to cherry trees. Cllrs Elkington and Mrs Veitch will investigate these points and bring proposals to the January budget meeting*

RESOLVED: *Cllr Elkington will discuss the matter with Mithra Tonking to keep her informed on progress as a representative of the MG Trustees*

227.2 Village Property

- **Streetlighting** –

RESOLVED: *that the clerk submit Mr Clay and Mrs Mills as the two properties where shielding of lights can be experimented with and to ask SCC/Eon to supply details of when the work will be done, so that councillors can take note of its effect on the street scene*

RESOLVED: *the parish council should request advice from CPRE/English Heritage before the January meeting*

RESOLVED: *that a deadline of 28th January, 2008 be set for the resolution of lighting issues*

RESOLVED: *the clerk reply to Mr Macklin's letter querying who is meeting the cost of any changes to the lighting scheme and enclosing a copy of the notes of the lighting meeting held on 17th November, 2008*

- **Land Adjacent to Church View Farm** – the clerk reported that she had received a letter today from the solicitors advising the council that the application for possessory title had been unsuccessful, and she was waiting to speak to the solicitor to ascertain what other options are now available to the council
- **MG sign re: conditions of use**
RESOLVED: *that a temporary laminated sign be installed at the MG re; conditions of use to replace the present broken one, pending the transfer of the MG to the parish council*
- **Village Property Labels** – the clerk presented information on the various options available and undertook to arrange detailed written quotes for the next meeting.
- **Jubilee cup** – the chairman reported that the Jubilee cup will be returned to the parish council following the death of Mr Hareford and asked for the Jubilee Cup to be included on the next agenda
- **Bench in memory of Mr Hareford** – this is being dealt with by the school and they are looking at a site in front of the Crofts
RESOLVED: *that the parish council has no objection to this project, but Highways should be consulted in the first instance*

227.3 Traffic, Parking and Highways

- **Mileposts** – these do need to be repainted
RESOLVED: the clerk ask Mr McCulloch to paint the mileposts
 - **Community Gang**
RESOLVED: that Radmore Lane potholes and flooding problems at the bottom be referred to the Community Gangs
 - **Buttercross** – there is some damage from vehicle impact
RESOVLED: the clerk report the Buttercross as being in need of attention to SCC
 - **A Boards on Crown Bank** – complaints have been received regarding the obstruction and unpleasant view that these A boards provide on the Crown Bank
RESOLVED: the clerk to report this matter to Cllr Atkins who will arrange for it to be investigated
 - **G McCulloch's report** – he has completed the clearance of Narrow Lane arrange for various gulleys and roads to be swept, only to find that the ESBC road sweeper was there on the same day
- 227.4 Competitions** – nothing to report
- 227.5 Newsletter** - The next edition is due out at the end of January/early February.
Eric Roy has offered to review the specification for a laptop for the newsletter editor before a purchase is made
- 227.6 Richard Clarke First School** – the school won a competition to switch on the Burton Christmas lights
- 227.7 RISES** – it was noted that there was a lot of rubbish around the skips and the question was asked can the parish council get this tidied up?
The last cheque was given to the Scout Hut towards their new roof
The clerk reported that the cheque issued to the Junior Football Club earlier in the year and had never been presented
- 227.8 Village Hall** – A letter has been received from Mr King regarding the Youth Shelter (already discussed above) and the keys. Master keys are now held by Rose Maidstone (Caretaker); Mike King (Chairman) and Simon Wilson at the butchers
The deposit from the Hypnotism Evening was returned to the clerk
- 227.9 Millennium Green** – advice is still awaited from SPCA/NALC on the documents to be signed with regards of the transfer from the Trustees to the parish council

Minute 228: Correspondence, Bulletins and Reports

- 228.1 Annual Liaison Meeting with SCC** – the council had no items of business which they wished to see included on the agenda for this meeting on 23 February, 2009

Minute 229: Venue for Parish Council Meetings

A discussion took place on the problems which had been experienced access the room at the Village Hall and alternative options
RESOLVED: that the council continue to meet at the Village Hall and monitor the situation

Minute 230: Forthcoming vacancy on the parish council

The chairman reported Steve Coxon has resigned as a councillor due to work commitments
RESOLVED: to thank Steve Coxon for serving as a councillor and for his hard work and interest in all aspects of council business
RESOLVED: that the clerk arrange for the necessary notice to be displayed

Minutes 231: Fairtrade

The council consider the draft resolution prepared by the clerk
RESOLVED: that Abbots Bromley Parish Council's Fairtrade Policy will read as follows:-

Abbots Bromley Parish Council recognises the work of the Fairtrade Foundation in improving the conditions of farmers and communities in developing countries, supports the principles promoted by Fairtrade and will work to achieve Fairtrade status in Abbots Bromley. In doing so the council will work to raise awareness and encourage the promotion and procurement of Fairtrade goods. The council will, as its powers allow, endeavour to:-

- serve Fairtrade tea and coffee at council public meetings
- promote awareness of Fairtrade issues
- support initiatives, within its powers, which promote Fairtrade, such as Fairtrade Fortnight and World Fairtrade Day
- appoint a councillor to serve on the Fairtrade Committee in Abbots Bromley
- make its staff aware of its commitment to Fairtrade

This was proposed by Cllr Bell and seconded by Cllr Mills

RESOLVED: that Cllr Charles be appointed to serve on the Fairtrade Committee in AB

Minute 232: Christmas Tree, Christmas Lighting, Control Box and Unmetered Supply

The clerk has still to investigate the situation with the control box and the problems highlighted by the electrician when the Christmas Lights were put up last year

RESOLVED: that the clerk will attend to the control box issues as a matter of urgency

RESOLVED: that the parish council will provide a Christmas tree this year and the Chairman will contact the normal supplier

RESOLVED: that the council will use Bromley Electrical to install and check the lights

Minute 233: Quality Parish Council Scheme

The clerk had obtained a copy of the revised scheme for Quality Status. Re-accreditation must be done before June 2009. There are two new sections:- Promoting Local Democracy and Citizenship and Training – for both staff and members

Minute 234: Agenda Items for Next Meeting

- Jubilee Cup

Minute 235: Date, time and place of future meetings

RESOLVED: that the next parish council meeting will be held on Wednesday, 7th January, 2009 at 7.30 pm at the Village Hall when the budget for 2009/10 will be set

RESOLVED: that the next ordinary parish council meeting will be on Wednesday, 28th January, 2009, at 7.30 pm at the Village Hall

RESOLVED: that the Finance Group will meet on Wednesday, 3rd December, 2009 at the chairman's house for initial discussion of the budget

There being no other business, the chairman declared the meeting closed

Signed _____

Date 28th January, 2009