

BRYMPTON PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF BRYMPTON PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON WEDNESDAY 16TH DECEMBER 2009 AT THE JUBILEE HALL, THORNE COFFIN (7.40 p.m. - 10 p.m.)

Present:

Mrs E Glaisher (Chairman)
Mr P Dutton
Mr C Legg
Mr P Seib

Mr R Meecham (Vice-Chairman)
Mrs D Jagger
Mr G Pritchard

157/09 CO-OPTION OF COUNCILLOR

It was agreed to defer this item to the next meeting.

158/09 TO RECEIVE ANY APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND TO CONSIDER ACCEPTANCE OF THE REASONS

An apology for absence, by reason of work commitments was received from Mr Amor. An apology for absence, by reason of another engagement, was received from Mr Graham. These apologies were accepted and approved. An apology for absence was received from Mr Shutler.

159/09 TO RECEIVE ANY DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PARISH COUNCILS (MODEL CODE OF CONDUCT) ORDER 2007

Mr Seib declared that, as a District Councillor, he may be asked to consider matters at the District tier, which have already been considered by Brympton Parish Council. When this happens he will have to reconsider the matter at the District Council level, taking into account all relevant evidence and representations made at that time. Similarly, as a District Councillor and Portfolio Holder for Economy, Planning and Transport he declared a Personal Interest in any agenda items affecting the relationship between Brympton Parish and South Somerset District Council. Mr Meecham declared a personal interest in items concerning the District Council, as an employee of South Somerset District Council.

160/09 TO CONFIRM THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 25TH NOVEMBER 2009

It was RESOLVED to approve the minutes of the meeting held on 25th November 2009

161/09 CRIME, DISORDER and COMMUNITY SAFETY

- (a) PC Poole had advised that there had not been two incidents of similar natures over the last month to show any patterns evolving.
- (b) Crime statistics for the Brympton beat for the last 12 months were reviewed.
- (c) Areas of concern within the parish - Mrs Glaisher advised of an attempted car theft in Athelney Way.

162/09 CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mrs Glaisher gave details of actions arising from a Cluster Workshop meeting.

163/09 REPORTS FROM:

- (a) Somerset County Councillor - None
- (b) District Councillors - Mr Seib gave an update on District Council activities
- (c) Parish representatives on outside bodies and meetings/workshops attended by Councillors
 - (i) Abbey Community Association - Mr Legg gave details of the recent meeting which had also been attended by Mrs Glaisher, Mr Dutton and Mr Graham. The Committee had discussed whether the Youth Club might be able to use the Centre on one night per week but that this was dependant on a commercial user moving one session. It was noted that the constitution states that priority should be given to community activities rather than commercial bookings. It was noted that the adult volunteers were not assisting with the bus at Oak Tree Park and concerns were raised regarding the viability of the youth club without adult help. Mr Legg was able to advise that hall bookings had increased.
 - (ii) South Somerset Community Forum - Mrs Glaisher and Mrs Jagger had attended the Forum and the final outcome was awaited.
 - (iii) Mrs Glaisher had attended the cluster workshops, one with Mr Dutton and the second with Mr Legg. Mrs Glaisher gave details of the workshops and advised that a further meeting would be held in February.

164/09 CLERK'S REPORT

- (a) SSDC Ethical Standards Self-Assessment Survey - NOTED
- (b) The Noise 2010 - It was noted that St James Church, Yeovil Community Church & the Urban Warriors of the Community Church would take part. A meeting would be arranged early in the New Year to discuss the organisation of the event.
- (c) It was NOTED that letters of thanks have been received from recipients of grants.
- (d) It was NOTED that the three bus shelters were cleaned on 27th November 2009.
- (e) It was NOTED that the Clerk will be on leave from 23rd December 2009, the office will re-open on 4th January 2010.
- (f) It was NOTED that the repair work to the multi-unit at Higher Ream cannot be done until there is a period of dry weather so that the works vehicle can enter the site.
- (g) It was NOTED that the planting work at Alvington will be carried out in the next two weeks
- (h) Clerk's Office - the Clerk advised that having inspected the office at the Community Centre with the Chairman of the ACA, it was considered suitable. The Chairman had been asked to investigate why the user groups would not let the main entrance and the toilets be used. Should it not be possible to use the main entrance it was NOTED that SSDC Planning will shortly give a ruling on whether an additional door would require permission. Building Control has advised that a new door would not need to be a fire door or suitable for disabled access as disabled access is available. The Association has been requested to supply the likely charge for using the office.
- (i) Following the meeting with Quality Councils & Market Towns and the Chief Executive of SSDC, the Chief Executive had taken away an action regarding helping with access to good training events at little or no cost to the Parish Council. It was noted that SSDC no longer produce an annual programme of events but provide the training as and when needs are identified. The training officer had advised that further sessions on the Code of Conduct will be arranged in the New Year. Discussion took place on what training would be useful and it was agreed to request that the Council be invited to attend the planning refresher courses for District Councillors, due to take place early in 2010.

165/09 CORRESPONDENCE

- (a) SALC - items of interest, circulated prior to the meeting - NOTED.
- (b) Information Commissioner's Office - renewal of the registry entry for the Parish Council - NOTED.
- (c) SCC - Letter from the Chairman regarding budget setting - NOTED.
- (d) Somerset Culture Online – the developing Somerset Cultural Strategy – NOTED.
- (e) SSDC - Rights of way maintenance delegated functions - NOTED.
- (f) SSDC - Parish Environmental Warden - NOTED.
- (g) SSDC - Flood Awareness on 20th January 2010 - NOTED.

166/09 PLANNING

(a) DECISIONS ON APPLICATIONS

Members noted the approval with conditions of application no. 09/04067/FUL.

(b) PLANNING APPLICATIONS FOR CONSIDERATION

09/04657/FUL - the siting of 4 no. storage containers for educational and horticultural equipment (renewal of 06/04185/FUL) (GR351946/117016)

Lufton Manor College, Lufton

RECOMMENDATION: Approval with a condition that it be temporary for two years only

09/04684/ADV - application to display 1 no. non-illuminated free standing advertisement sign (GR 352876/116059)

Land at the junction of Lupin Way and Alvington Lane

RECOMMENDATION: Approval with a condition that it be temporary for one year only

(c) PLANNING/DEVELOPMENT UPDATES

(i) Retaining wall at Alvington Lane (min. no. 139/09(c)(ii) - it was NOTED that Mr Noon, SSDC Planning Officer had advised that he had recently declined to accept the amended wall. He had also pointed out to the developer that the road side treatment of plot 1 should incorporate the retention to the hedge - this house was specifically rotated to enable the hedge to be retained. The hedge had been removed and there is now a 1.8m close boarded fence. This does not accord with either the landscaping or the boundary plan that have been agreed so Mr Noon has invited the developer to address all three breaches of condition. It was agreed that SSDC be asked to confirm that the colour of roof tiles and wall render complies with the planning conditions.

(ii) Local Development Framework - an e-mail from Mr Seib, as SSDC Portfolio Holder for Planning Economic Development and Transport, circulated prior to the meeting, was NOTED.

(iii) reduction in the threshold for affordable housing provision - it was NOTED that SSDC had advised that on 5 November 2009 District Executive Committee, having considered the responses to the consultation exercise, agreed that in the future they will be seeking affordable housing on all sites of 15 dwellings or more (or 0.5 ha irrespective of the number of dwellings). This change was effective from 5 November 2009 and will be a material consideration capable of being applied to planning applications still before the Council. As is currently the case each planning application will be considered on its own merits and the developer will continue to have the opportunity, through an 'open book' approach, to demonstrate whether or not the provision of affordable housing or indeed any other planning obligation would render the development unviable.

(iv) A spreadsheet with planning applications received during 2009, showing the decisions of both the Council and District Council, was circulated to all Councillors

(d) NOMINATIONS FOR PLANNING WORKING GROUP TO CONSIDER FORTHCOMING PLANNING APPLICATIONS

It was agreed that Mr Dutton and Mrs Jagger would be members of the planning working party for the following month.

167/09 QUANTUM THEATRE

It was NOTED that Judge Glossop and the Quantum Theatre had confirmed that a performance of "Great Expectations" will be given on Sunday, 11th July 2010. It was agreed that the performance would commence at 1500 hrs. Confirmation has been received that toilet facilities and car parking will be available at Brympton House. Although part of Brympton House gardens is licensed, depending on where the performance would be sited, a temporary events licence may be required. It was RESOLVED to approve expenditure of £21 for this licence should it be necessary. It was AGREED that the event would be managed solely by the Parish Council. It was AGREED that a working party would be held early in 2010 to discuss this further and report back to the Council.

168/09 REVIEW OF RISK ASSESSMENT AND FINANCIAL RISK ASSESSMENT

Copies of the current risk and financial risk assessments were reviewed and it was AGREED to remove the intellectual risk to the Council logo from the assessment. It was NOTED that the risk assessments for The Noise and Quantum Theatre were separate assessments and also that the risk assessment would be reviewed should the Clerk move office.

169/09 HIGHWAY MATTERS

(a) Members were reminded that faulty street lights may be reported direct on 08456010939 and highway defects on 08453459155, these faults may also be reported on-line on the County Council web site.

(b) It was NOTED that Abbey Manor Developments have placed an order for the white lining works required at The Forum.

(c) It was AGREED that the Clerk would ascertain why the lights on the spinal path were still not operating and raise this with Mr Crabb.

(d) It was agreed that the Clerk would urge County Highways to carry out remedial works to the zebra crossing on Stourton Way adjacent to The Forum.

(e) A response from an SCC LTP Implementation Officer regarding the lack of progress on the cycle/footpath between Western Avenue and Mead Avenue was NOTED.

170/09 RENEWAL OF SUBSCRIPTIONS

(a) It was RESOLVED to renew the maintenance contract for one year for the Alpha accounts software, at a cost of £79 + VAT. (LGA 1972, s. 111)

(b) It was RESOLVED to approve expenditure of two thirds of the cost of the Clerk's subscription to the Society of Local Council Clerks and the Institute of Local Council Management (ILCM), at a cost of £124 (total cost being £201).

171/09 YOUTH CLUB

Members NOTED that the cheque given to SRYP for £500 approved as a grant for the Abbey Manor Park Youth Club (min. no. 144/09 of on 25th November), has been cancelled. Following the last meeting the Youth Workers had requested that this cheque be made out to the Youth Club once the Youth Club bank account has been opened. Members RESOLVED that this cheque may be paid prior to the next meeting if requested by the Youth Club.

172/09 FINANCE

- (a) The bank reconciliation statement as at 30th November 2009 was NOTED and APPROVED.
 (b) The current budget was reviewed.
 (c) The receipt of £373.74 VAT from HMRC was NOTED.
 (d) It was NOTED that a payment of £56.84 will be made to BT by direct debit on or after 20th December 2009.
 (e) It was RESOLVED to approve the following schedule of payments:

| <u>Payee Name</u> | <u>Cheque</u> | <u>Total</u> | <u>Expenditure</u> |
|----------------------------|---------------|--------------|----------------------|
| G A Helliard & Son Ltd | 01431 | 103.50 | Bus shelter cleaning |
| Broxap Ltd | 014323 | 502.44 | Waste bins |
| RBS Software Solutions | 01433 | 90.85 | Accounts maintenance |
| Thorne Coffin Jubilee Hall | 01434 | 25.00 | Meeting expenses |
| SLCC | 01435 | 124.00 | Clerk's subscription |
| Mr Graham Pritchard | 01436 | 20.00 | Cllrs allowance |
| Mr P Seib | 01437 | 15.00 | Cllrs allowance |
| Mrs E M James | 01438 | 1,019.19 | Clerks' salary |
| HM Revenue & Customs | 01439 | 1,019.44 | NI & PAYE |
| Mrs E M James | 01441 | 12.97 | USB hub |
| Mrs E M James | 01441 | 54.92 | Office expenses |
| Mrs E M James | 01441 | 4.00 | Clerk's mileage |
| | | 2,991.31 | |

173/09 ITEMS TO BE DISTRIBUTED

CPRE Somerset - Somerset Matters - Autumn 2009
 SWRP Newsletter - Winter 2009
 Yeovil District Hospital - News from YDH - Winter 2009
 Somerset's Community Safety Newsletter - Autumn 2009
 Community Council for Somerset - Thatch, Autumn 2009

174/09 QUESTIONS AND ITEMS ARISING AFTER THE PREPARATION OF THIS AGENDA, WHICH THE CHAIRMAN AGREED TO TAKE AS URGENT, SUCH MATTERS BEING FOR NOTING OR DEFERRAL TO A FUTURE MEETING.

- (a) Concerns were raised regarding the announcement of the demise of cheque books, the Clerk to raise this with David Laws MP and report back to the next meeting.
 (b) Concerns were raised that a planning condition regarding a dwelling in Thorne Coffin had been ignored. It was agreed to raise this with the SSDC Planning Enforcement Officer and report back to the next meeting.
 (c) It was agreed to ask SSDC Streetscene when replacement planting on the spinal path would be carried out.

175/09 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held at 7.30 p.m. on 27th January at the Function Room, Airfield Tavern, Bluebell Road