

BRYMPTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of BRYMPTON PARISH COUNCIL held on Wednesday, 23rd March 2011 at the Parish Room, Abbey Community Centre (7.30 p.m. – 10.30 p.m.)

PRESENT:

Mrs E Glaisher (Chairman)
Mr E Appleby
Mr P Sealey
Mr D Shutler

Mr R Meecham (Vice-Chairman)
Mr A Graham
Mr P Seib
Mr J Strong

County Councillor Sam Crabb
Mrs E M James (Clerk)

District Councillor John Richardson

Public Open Session

During the public open session concerns were raised regarding the duration of and noise from the fun fair recently held at the Football Club. It was agreed to raise these concerns with SSDC.

167/10 TO RECEIVE ANY APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence, by reason of sickness, were received from Mr Dutton and Mr Hanson. An apology for absence, by reason of another reason, was received from Mr Prichard.

168/10 TO RECEIVE ANY DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Mr Meecham declared a personal interest in items concerning the District Council, as an employee of South Somerset District Council. 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, he declared a Personal Interest in any agenda items affecting the relationship between Brympton Parish and South Somerset District Council. Mr Seib further advised that he had been involved in application no. 11/00361/REM when he had previously been the SSDC Portfolio Holder but considered that there was no interest to declare.

169/10 MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 16th March 2011

The minutes of the meeting held on 16th March 2011 were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

170/10 CRIME, DISORDER and COMMUNITY SAFETY

The crime statistics from 01.12.2010 – 01.03.2011 were noted.

171/10 CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chairman advised that she would be attending a Garden Party at Buckingham Palace on the 19th July 2011.

172/10 REPORTS FROM

(a) SOMERSET COUNTY COUNCILLOR – deferred.

(b) DISTRICT COUNCILLORS – Mr Seib advised that SSDC had adopted an Open Space Strategy for 2011-2015. He also advised that discussion was taking place on the possible closure of the Crewkerne Household Waste Recycling Centre.

(c) PARISH REPRESENTATIVES ON OUTSIDE BODIES and MEETINGS/WORKSHOPS ATTENDED BY COUNCILLORS

(i) SALC – An update on the SALC meeting was given by Mrs Glaisher, including details of the Localism Bill, Power of Competence, Code of Conduct, abolishment of the Audit Commission and cheque payments.

(ii) ACA – Mr Seib advised that the problem of returning of keys had been sorted by the purchase of a secure storage box. Solar power is still being investigated. The air conditioning and heating required some sorting out. It was also noted that as from 2nd April 2011 the hall will be free on a Saturday morning. The death of Mr Geoff Schooling was announced.

(iii) Youth facilities – Mr Graham advised that he had visited Dana King of Time Out Together. The new canopy is operational. 10 – 12 young people are attending the youth club. Mr Graham has asked Mrs King to attend a Parish Council meeting.

173/10 CLERK'S REPORT

(a) It was NOTED that a letter of thanks had been received from the Operations Manager of the Lord's Larder for the grant of £100.

(b) It was NOTED that Somerset Heritage & Libraries Service have acknowledged receipt of minutes dated 1998 – 1999.

(c) Newslink – It was NOTED that in view of the short notice the Scouts declined the offer of additional deliveries. The situation will be reviewed prior to the next delivery.

(d) Election 2011 – It was NOTED that nomination forms are available from the Clerk.

(e) Signing of cheques at meetings – NOTED, no action to be taken.

(f) Joint project with SSDC – It was NOTED that Mr Fox, SSDC, had offered to attend the Annual Parish Assembly to give an update on the project and the offer had been accepted.

(g) Post Office – A response from the Post Office, received through David Laws MP, was NOTED.

(h) It was NOTED that the Clerk will be attending an SLCC meeting on 25th March.

(i) It was NOTED that the asset register had been amended to show new computer.

174/10 CORRESPONDENCE

(a) Devon & Somerset Fire & Rescue Service's draft Corporate Plan for 2011/12 – 2013/14 – NOTED.

(b) Devon & Somerset Fire & Rescue Service – invitation for two Councillors to visit Yeovil Fire Station. It was AGREED that Mr Appleby and Mr Sealey would attend.

(c) Alvington Fields Neighbourhood Plan 7th April 2011 – it was NOTED that Mr Seib will be attending this meeting.

(d) Yeovil Without Parish Group – invitation for two Councillors and the Clerk to attend a meeting on 20th April with other Parish Councils to discuss "clustering" of parishes around Yeovil. It was AGREED that Mrs Glaisher, Mr Shutler and the Clerk would attend.

(e) Somerset Playing Fields Association – Queen Elizabeth II Fields Challenge – NOTED, agreed to forward to Mr Fox, SSDC.

(f) SCC – Chief Executive Sheila Wheeler – update on County Council activities – NOTED.

- (g) House of Commons Transport Committee – It was considered too soon for consultation to take place. There were concerns regarding the loss of Sunday and evening services. It was considered there may be an increase in drink-driving offences.
- (h) Campaign for the Preservation of Rural England – Somerset Branch AGM, Thursday 7th April at Long Sutton Village Hall - NOTED.
- (i) YTFC – proposals for a new stand and retail park at Huish Park – it was AGREED to request a meeting with YTFC on 6th April to discuss the proposals.
- (j) SSDC – to note that the Doctor's surgery, adjacent to the Abbey Community Centre, will be vacant from 1st April 2011.
- (k) South Somerset Together – meeting of 25th March 2011 – NOTED.

175/10 PLANNING

(a) PLANNING APPLICATIONS FOR CONSIDERATION

11/00970/FUL – the erection of 8 no. employment units (Use Class B1)(GR 352614/117215)

Cavity Trays Ltd, Boundary Avenue

RECOMMENDATION: Approval, subject to the following:

- No additional access, either pedestrian or vehicular, will be permitted off Thorne Lane.
- An existing oak tree at Thorne Lane is in close proximity to the end of the proposed building. The roots/branches of this tree need to be protected from damage, particularly during building works.
- Existing roadside hedge is very scrubby, consisting mainly of brambles. There is an opportunity here to carry out planting to provide screening.

(b) PLANNING/DEVELOPMENT UPDATES

(i) 11/00361/REM – RESERVED MATTERS APPLICATION: The erection of 298 dwellings, access to new primary school, link road between Western Avenue and Brimsmore House, Improvement works to the Local Highway Network public open space, structural landscaping and alterations to rebuild Brimsmore Tree Cottage (GR 353498/117877)

Land to the North of Thorne Lane, Yeovil

ADJACENT TO PARISH

It was AGREED to submit the following interim comments, a proper recommendation will be made after further consideration of the application:

This Council is sanguine about the overall design of the estate and the civic provision envisaged, and hope that the promised quality will actually be built and not “watered down” in subsequent applications.

However,

Points that remain of concern to both the Parish Council and local residents are as follows:

1. Proposed substitution of a link road running through the first phase of the key site development instead of the original periphery road is a major change and there is concern that this proposed link “boulevard”, although possibly an attractive proposal, will be unable to cope with the current traffic load and certainly not the extra from the other Key Sites that will use this east-west link.
2. Concern about the lack of attention to the traffic leaving the north arm of Stourton Way turning north onto Western Ave. There are currently problems here and the increased traffic is likely to exacerbate these.
3. Concern about the lack of attention given to the traffic leaving Thorne Coffin, especially if turning south onto Western Ave
4. Weight limit - as access along Thorne Lane is currently being abused by hgv's, what measures are envisaged regarding the control of this activity?
5. Concern about with the number of “T” junctions (11), roundabouts (3) and a gyratory system planned along the proposed link road. Present experiences relating to the Tintagel Road/Thorne Lane junction would suggest that the amount of traffic using the link road will cause problems with access/egress to/from the internal access roads.
6. Concern about the convoluted route for traffic travelling north/west from the Tintagel/Larkhill area and vice versa having to weave through the gyratory system, all this mixed in with cyclists and pedestrians and buses and lorries.
7. The subject of density for the future parts of this key site has not been coherently answered, leaving speculation that higher densities will be “slipped in” in with later applications.
8. Parking provision – we are pleased to note that parking spaces for the current application are approximately 2 per dwelling but the submitted planning statement states that the overall target for the key site is 1.5 spaces per dwelling and this would suggest that other parts of the key site will have less than 1.5. We would suggest that, since this policy is no longer determined by national guidance, a minimum of 1.5 parking spaces per dwelling should be applied throughout.
9. Pedestrian/cyclist crossings – In the interim period before the community facilities are provided on this site there will be a requirement for public to cross the new link road and Thorne Lane in order to access existing facilities at Abbey Manor Park. Will provision be made for this?
10. Building heights – we would like to see building heights restricted as much as possible on an edge of town site such as this.
11. The storage of the “Sort It” boxes and bins is now becoming an issue and people are forced to leave at the front of their properties. Have due considerations been given to providing sufficient storage capacity to remove the unsightly street scene caused by these bins. There is no point building an attractive estate if it is to be marred by an unsightly street scene. Terraces of dwellings can cause problems with no external rear access.

(ii) South Somerset District Council Consultations - Draft Core Strategy - Yeovil Traffic Modelling Report February 2011 - Members AGREED to delegate the Clerk, in conjunction with the Chairman and Vice-Chairman, to prepare a response to the consultation.

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

It was AGREED that Mrs Glaisher and Mr Strong would be members of the Planning Working Group for the following month.

176/10 ALLOTMENTS

It was NOTED that the solicitor acting for Mr Baker had been absent from work due to sickness but as he had now returned to work it

was hoped that the legal work could progress quickly. Brympton Allotments Association had advised that they had agreed to define a garden shed as no larger than that permissible without planning permission and will not permit more than one shed (up to the maximum size detailed), one green house and a poly tunnel. Following discussion with Mrs Baker the planning application will be submitted only for the creation of vehicular & pedestrian access. It was agreed to seek quotations for the works required to progress the project although no quotation could be accepted until planning permission had been received.

177/10. HIGHER REAM

At the last meeting it had been agreed to seek quotations for the painting of the play equipment at Higher Ream. Following an inspection it had been noted that the two remaining wooden panels of the multiplay unit would need some additional work as the wood was rotting. As all other panels on this unit are made from HDPE and do not require painting a quotation was requested from G B Sport & Leisure, suppliers of the replacement panel last year, as an alternative to repair and painting work. A quotation for two HDPE Panel 585mm wide x 775mm high x 18mm had been received in the sum of £155 + VAT, an increase of £3 per panel. Mr Seib proposed and it was RESOLVED to replace the panels at a cost of £155 + VAT. The Clerk advised that only two quotations had been received for the painting works required. It was AGREED that no additional quotation should be requested. Mrs Glaisher proposed and it was RESOLVED to accept a quotation from Building Craftsmen (Yeovil) Ltd in the sum of £1266.

178/10. NOTICEBOARDS

Mrs Glaisher proposed and it was RESOLVED to accept a quotation from Building Craftsmen (Yeovil) Ltd in the sum of £270 for painting of header boards as agreed at the previous meeting.

179/10. DOG BIN

Councillors were advised that the lid of the dog bin on the new path leading from King Arthur Drive to the bridge had been removed. As a result there have been at least three incidents of anti-social behaviour where bags of excrement have been thrown on trees and on the path. The dog bin had been examined and was in poor condition. It was proposed by Mr Meecham & RESOLVED that to reduce the anti-social behaviour a replacement bin be purchased from JRB Enterprises, to enable the post to be reused. It was AGREED that a 60 litre capacity bin be purchased at a cost of £237 plus carriage & VAT.

180/10. PARISH ROOM

At the last meeting discussion had taken place on whether an additional table should be purchased for the Parish Room, to enable a "U" formation for meetings. The existing tables had been purchased from Viking Ltd, who no longer supplied this range. It was NOTED that a similar table is available from Office Furniture Ltd at a cost of £133, net of VAT, with no delivery charge. The Community Association has no objections for a further table to be provided. Mr Strong proposed and it was RESOLVED to purchase an additional table for the Parish Room at a cost of £133 plus VAT.

181/10. ROMAN VILLA THORNE

It was NOTED that the Roman villa at Thorne is a scheduled monument and that the Chairman requested that Council give consideration to promoting its presence. Following further discussion it was NOTED that although currently underground there is a marker on site. Yeovil Archaeological Society had carried out a dig in the past. It was AGREED that further information should be sought on the villa and following receipt of the information a talk may be requested from Mr Bob Croft, County Archaeologist.

It was AGREED that Mr Sam Crabb, County Councillor should give his report:

182/10. REPORT FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR

Mr Crabb advised that consultation was taking place on Somerset Skills & Learning. The potential closure of the recycling centre at Crewkerne had been discussed and charges may now be made to use the centre. The Audit Committee was due to discuss South West One as the savings envisaged had not been realised, a saving of only £5 million being made in the first four years. Mr Crabb is looking at improving the signage for the Abbey Community Centre. Mr Crabb advised that the recent highway problem at Alvington, where a refuse lorry had blocked the road, had now been resolved.

183/10. SPEED INDICATOR DEVICE (SID)

At the last meeting it had been agreed that further information would be obtained from the County Council on Speed Indicator Devices (SID). Following discussion it was AGREED that no further action would be taken.

184/10. HIGHWAYS

Alvington – a complaint had been received regarding the new kerb arrangement at Highmere (Alvington). It was NOTED that there had been an error in construction which has now been remedied.

185/10. STANDING ORDER FOR CLERK'S SALARY

Mr Strong proposed and it was RESOLVED to approve the setting up of a standing order, on a six-month trial basis, from April 2011 for payment of the Clerk's salary.

186/10. COMMUNITY COUNCIL FOR SOMERSET

Mr Shutler proposed and it was RESOLVED not to continue subscribing to the Community Council for Somerset.

Mr Seib declared a personal interest in the following agenda item as Chairman of the Area South Committee of the Association.

187/10. SOMERSET ASSOCIATION OF LOCAL COUNCILS

Mr Meecham proposed and it was RESOLVED to continue subscribing to the Somerset Association of Local Councils for the period 1st April 2011 – 31st March 2012 at a cost of £960.40

188/10. CLERK'S OFFICE

(a) At the last meeting it had been resolved that the Clerk would purchase new computer equipment and Microsoft Office at a cost not to exceed £600 (net of VAT). It was NOTED that Mr Meecham & the Clerk inspected various items and purchased the two items at a cost of £592.49. However, a delivery charge of £9.99 was made, exceeding the approved budget by £2.48. Mr Seib proposed and it was RESOLVED to approve the overspend of £2.48.

(b) Office data back up – members agreed that the current data back-up arrangements were satisfactory.

189/10.FINANCE

(a) The bank reconciliation statement as 28th February 2011 was NOTED and APPROVED.

(b) It was NOTED that the Chairman & Vice-Chairman had confirmed that the Clerk could defer the VAT reclaim from February 2011 until 31st March 2011 due to the large amount of VAT to be reclaimed following this meeting.

(c) It was RESOLVED to approve a schedule of payments to be circulated at the meeting. In view of the lack of cheque signatories Mr Seib was instructed to sign cheque no. 1566.

	Cheque No.	£	
Vision ICT Ltd	1558	265.86	Vision ICT
SouthSomerset District Council	1559	9,360.00	New Path
SouthSomerset District Council	1560	4,176.15	Open Space Ranger
SouthSomerset District Council	1561	1,931.29	Cemetery deficit
SouthSomerset District Council	1562	327.96	Newslink printing
SLCC	1563	15.20	Book
Democratic core		2961.23	Democratic core
ACA	Standing Order	25	Office rent

It was NOTED that cheques nos. 1569 and 1571 had been spoiled.

Cheque number 1572, payable to the Somerset Association of Local Councils in the sum of £960.40 for 2011-2012, was also signed.

(d) Accounts and Audit (England) Regulations 2011. SI No: 2011 / 817 – members were advised that the new Regulations were effective from 31st March 2011 and that all changes are effective for the financial year ending 31st March 2011.

Highlights are:

- i. The definition of smaller body is changed to include all parish & town councils with a “turnover” up to £6.5 million. The use of FRSE (Practitioner’s Guide Part 4) is now optional – the primary requirement is the Annual Return with a negative assurance audit. The Councils currently recorded by the Commission as being over the £1 million threshold will be contacted by the Commission shortly to make arrangements for year to 31st March 2011.
- ii. The specific requirement to review the effectiveness of internal audit is repealed for smaller bodies (i.e. all parish councils). [Internal Audit requirements as such continue. Some elements of the review work may continue within the review of internal controls.]
- iii. The requirement for a person, wishing to inspect the records during the 20 working day opportunity, to give reasonable notice is extended from only the smaller parishes (under £200,000) to all parishes.
- iv. The proposal to use the phrase “use best endeavours” in the approval and publication timetable did not find much support in the consultation and, despite repeal of the offences regulation, the word “must ” has been reinstated.
- v. To reinforce the corporate responsibility of the whole council for financial matters, the reviews and approvals within the Regulations are now matters for the whole council and the use of committees for these purposes is no longer permitted.

190/10.ITEMS TO BE DISTRIBUTED

Clerks & Councils Direct – March 2011
 Came & Co (parish council insurance) – Parish Matters Spring 2011
 Avon & Somerset Police – Newsletter Feb 2011

191/10.QUESTIONS AND ITEMS ARISING AFTER THE PREPARATION OF THIS AGENDA, WHICH THE CHAIRMAN AGREED TO TAKE AS URGENT. SUCH MATTERS ARE FOR NOTING OR DEFERRAL TO A FUTURE MEETING.

Mr Seib agreed to raise the problem of trees by the stream path at Monks Dale with SSDC.

192/10 ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING

Adoption of accounts for 2010-2011.

193/10.DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held on 27th April 2010, following the Annual Parish Assembly which will be held at 7.30 p.m. at the Parish Room, Abbey Community Centre