

BRYMPTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of BRYMPTON PARISH COUNCIL held on Wednesday, 25th July 2007 at the JUBILEE HALL, THORNE COFFIN
(7.30 p.m. – 9.20 p.m.)

PRESENT:

Mrs E Glaisher (Chairman)	Mr R Meecham (Vice-Chairman)
Mr P Dutton	Mrs D Jagger
Mr C Lawrence	Mr G Pritchard (8.00 p.m. – 9.20 p.m.)
Mr P Seib	Mrs M Thomas
Mrs E M James (Clerk)	

PCSO C Helyar

62/07 . APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND TO CONSIDER ACCEPTANCE OF THE REASONS

An apology for absence by reason of work commitments was received from Mr Legg. An apology for absence by reason of holiday was received from Mr Graham. An apology for absence by reason of family commitments was received from Mr Powell. These apologies were accepted & approved.

63/07 TO RECEIVE ANY DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Mr Meecham and Mrs Thomas declared a personal interest in items concerning the District Council, as employees 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 and Portfolio Holder, he declared a Personal Interest in any agenda items affecting the relationship between Brympton Parish and South Somerset District Council.

64/07. TO CONFIRM THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 27th June 2007

The minutes of the meeting held on 27th June 2007 were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

65/07. CRIME, DISORDER and COMMUNITY SAFETY

(a) Report from Crime & Disorder Representative – it was NOTED that PC Brett Gittsham is no longer the Sector Crime Reduction Officer and that there is now only a District Crime Reduction Officer. It was further NOTED that a Police Architectural Officer has been appointed.

(b) It was AGREED to report concerns over the reduced lighting of the footway/cycle path leading from Oak Tree Park to The Toose, caused by the overgrown hedge and tree branches. It was AGREED to report again concerns over the overhanging hedges along Thorne Lane. It was AGREED that the Clerk would report back to the next meeting on whether the Parish Council can take responsibility for writing directly to parishioners who have overgrown hedges/overhanging branches on the public highway. Concerns raised over the quality of the fencing at the “wiggly path” have been passed to SSDC.

66/07. CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

None

67/07. CLERK'S REPORT

(a) South Somerset Area Working Panel – it was NOTED that acknowledgement of the submission made has been received. Applications will be decided on 12th September.

(b) Proposed Alvington Youth Facilities – to note that a letter has been circulated to residents of Alvington & the police seeking comments on the proposed youth facilities. Responses have been requested by 10th August. It was AGREED that Mrs Glaisher, Mr Lawrence and the Clerk will visit the area to discuss the project with local youngsters.

(c) Oak Tree Park (min. no. 11/07)– it was NOTED that the Urban Warriors are closed for the summer. It was NOTED that the Urban Warriors would be prepared to organise an event, similar to The Noise, at Oak Tree Park next summer and it was AGREED to consider this at the next meeting.

(d) Parish Emergency Plan – at the meeting held in November it was agreed that Mrs Glaisher, Mr Powell, Mr Seib and the Clerk would meet to discuss the formation of such a plan. Further guidance has now been supplied by the County Council and it was AGREED that the first meeting of the Working Party would be held in September. It was AGREED that Mrs Jagger and Mrs Thomas would join the Working Party.

(e) Complaints received regarding ragwort have been passed on to SSDC.

(f) No Smoking signs in bus shelters – it was NOTED that the “no smoking” sign in The Forum bus shelter is now secure in the timetable box. The bus shelter at Forde Park is being regularly checked by Mr Lawrence and a record kept.

(g) Quality Status application – it was NOTED that the application should be ready for submission in October.

68/07. REPORTS FROM

(a) **SOMERSET COUNTY COUNCILLOR** - none

(b) **DISTRICT COUNCILLORS** - Mr Seib gave a report on District Council activities, including the proposed Yeovil Sports Zone and the Yeovil Innovation Centre. Mr Seib advised that the Somerset Unitary Bid had failed.

(c) **PARISH REPRESENTATIVES ON OUTSIDE BODIES**

Yeovil Crematorium & Cemetery Committee - Mrs Thomas reported on the latest meeting.

Abbey Community Association – Mr Pritchard advised that fund raising proposals were being discussed. It was agreed that it might be possible to raise funds for the project if an event is held at Oak Tree Park in 2008.

It was NOTED that Mr Lawrence attended the AGM of the Citizens Advice Bureau.

69/07. CORRESPONDENCE

(a) South Somerset Together – a consultation on South Somerset Sustainable Community Strategy. It was AGREED to delegate the Clerk, in conjunction with the Chairman & Vice-Chairman, to make comments.

(b) SSDC – Distribution of SSDC's Performance Plan 2007/8 - NOTED

(c) Somerset Road Safety Partnership – Working Together to Reduce Casualties - NOTED

(d) Handy Man Scheme – An e-mail from a parishioner regarding the availability of the Handy Man scheme has been forwarded to DC Mr Richardson, who has agreed to look into this request.

(e) Yeovil Town FC parking - A complaint regarding car parking & anti-social behaviour of some supporters had been forwarded to DC Mr Richardson and DC Mr Seib.

(f) A letter had been received from Mrs. Lewin, Young People's Officer for the district, giving details of her role and advising that small grants are available to promote projects within the community. It was NOTED that the Clerk had sent her details on past and possible future projects, together with details of the attempt to hold a Youth Council.

70/07. PLANNING

(a) APPLICATIONS CONSIDERED (UNDER STANDING ORDER NO. 79) BEFORE THIS MEETING

In accordance with Standing Order no. 79, members NOTED and APPROVED the recommendations made for the following applications

06/04559/OUT – approx. 4.98 Ha of land to be developed as an extension to a Use Class B1/B2/B8 business park, together with associated roads, landscaping and infrastructure.

Land OS 0025 0026 1927 0019 Oak Farm, Lufton – amended plans – (a) flood risk assessment & (b) ecology report

RECOMMENDATION: APPROVAL – subject to the following:

(a) flood risk assessment - the principles set out are sound but there is a lack of data to support them. The Parish Council would hope that the District Council and/or the Environmental Agency will seek further information.

(b) ecology report – that all these recommendations be carried, also that all heritage trees and hedgerows be protected to continue providing wildlife habitats.

07/02409/FUL – Alterations to form 2 new offices including the formation of 2 new windows (GR 352348/117156)

Unit 1, 7 Oak Way, Lufton 2000

RECOMMENDATION: APPROVAL

07/02503//FUL – installation of an air conditioning unit within a secure cage (GR 352954/116527)

Currys Superstore, Unit 6 Western Avenue

RECOMMENDATION: APPROVAL

07/02807/FUL – Reconfiguration and extension of mezzanine floor for retail and storage purposes (GR 352904/116435)

Unit 2 Mead Avenue

RECOMMENDATION: APPROVAL

07/03028/FUL – erection of conservatory (GR 352375/116113)

10 Celandine Road

RECOMMENDATION: REFUSE – overdevelopment of the site.

(b) DECISIONS ON PLANNING APPLICATIONS

Members were asked to NOTE the APPROVAL with conditions of the following applications - 07/01497/FUL, 07/02095/FUL, 07/02106/ADV and 07/02194/FUL. Members NOTED that application 07/01872/REM – for the erection of 24 no. residential dwellings with associated parking and garaging at Golden Acres Nursery, Alvington Lane had been REFUSED.

(c) PLANNING/DEVELOPMENT UPDATES

(i) In accordance with Min. 50/07(d)(i) a letter had been sent to Mr Timmis, Abbey Manor Group Ltd, detailing Parish Council concerns over the employment development land off Bunford Lane. Mr Timmis had asked for further information and was advised that the specific concerns were:

there should be no low grade employment use within the site – this is intended as a high-tech site; and the height of buildings must not breach canopies of the trees on the periphery and also within the site.

(ii) 07/02769/TPO – further details on this application had been received from Mr F Jones, Council Arborist, who advised that he now intended to approve the application. After consideration of his comments it was AGREED that Mr Jones be thanked for taking the Council's view into account and advised that the Council would now support the application.

(iii) Planning Enforcement had been advised of concerns over the continuing use of the temporary car park at Lufton, for which full planning permission had been refused.

(iv) It was AGREED to raise concerns with Planning Enforcement Officers over the removal of landscaping at Motivo House, Alvington.

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

It was AGREED that Mr Pritchard and Mrs Jagger would be members of the Working Party for the month.

71/07. ANNUAL AUDIT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2007

It was NOTED that the external auditor has certified the completion of the audit for year ended 31 March 2007. In his opinion the information contained in the annual return is in accordance with the Audit Commission's requirements and no matters have come to their attention giving cause for concern that relevant legislation and regulatory requirements have not been met. In accordance with legal requirements a notice advising the closure of the audit has been placed on parish noticeboards for 14 days.

Mr Seib declared a prejudicial interest in the Larkhill Open Space Project as Ward District Councillor and left the hall.

Mrs Thomas left the hall (8.50 p.m.)

72/07. LARKHILL OPEN SPACE PROJECT – JOINT PARTNERSHIP WITH SOUTH SOMERSET DISTRICT COUNCIL

Mr Meecham proposed and it was unanimously **RESOLVED** to adopt the Joint Partnership scheme with SSDC, as previously discussed and informally agreed at the Parish Council's meeting in November 2006, subject to

(a) a formal partnership agreement being signed; and

(b) to the understanding that the annual contribution from BPC will be in respect of 50% of the costs of employing two project-related officers. This contribution not to exceed £10,000 per annum.

73/07. HIGHER REAM PLAY AREA

Junior Swings –

(i) It was NOTED that further to min. no. 54/07 a quotation had been received from GB Sports & Leisure Ltd to replace the swing seats, supply and fit parts as necessary, at a cost of £161.20 + VAT. In accordance with min. no. 54/07 an order was placed and the work has now been carried out.

(ii) The contractor advised that the swing hangers should be monitored for future wear. It was NOTED that the cost of supplying and replacing four hangers with modern anti-tangle hangers would be £410 + VAT. Mr Meecham proposed and it was unanimously RESOLVED to approve replacement of the hangers.

(iii) It was NOTED that quotations are being sought for repainting of the swing. Mr Parr, SSDC, had recommended that the paint be sourced by the Parish Council direct from Brewers Ltd. The cost of primer, undercoat & one-colour top coat as recommended is £74.33 inclusive of VAT. It was NOTED that the cost would increase to include a second colour but that there would be sufficient to paint other items of equipment.

Multi-unit

(iv) Further to min. no. 54/07 (ii) Record Ltd advised that a panel made from HDPE would cost £50 + carriage @ 12.5% + VAT. Following consultation with the Chair & Vice-Chair and using the delegated power of Financial Regulation 3.4(ii), the panel has now been ordered.

(v) Members considered replacement of all the existing panels with HDPE panels. Following discussion it was AGREED to replace with HDPE panels only when necessary.

(vi) In January 2007 (min. no. 218) it was agreed to remove the roof of the multi-unit and review this decision after six months. Residents living close to the play area were visited by the Clerk and asked for their views on whether anti-social behaviour had been reduced as a result of removing the roof. It was NOTED that the majority view was that the roof should not be reinstalled

(d) Safety Surface

It was NOTED that quotations are being sought for the replacement of mastic in the safety surfaces.

Mr Seib & Mrs Thomas returned to the hall (8.55 p.m.)

74/07. SUBSCRIPTIONS

(a) Mr Meecham proposed and it was RESOLVED to subscribe to the Campaign To Protect Rural England Somerset at a cost of £30 p.a.

(b) It was RESOLVED to continue subscribing to the Local Council Review, at a cost of £13.50 p.a. and the Somerset Playing Field Association at a cost of £10 p.a.

75/07. ABBEY COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

(a) As requested minutes of the AGM were attached as at the last meeting (min. 48/07(c))

(b) It was NOTED that the Community Association had received an invoice from the Architect in the sum of £2820 and had requested that the Council consider paying 50%. Following discussion Mr Meecham proposed and it was RESOLVED to grant the Association £1410. It was AGREED to ask that the Association supply more detailed information when requesting any further grant.

76/07. HIGHWAY MATTERS

(a) Somerset County Council Highways had been asked to attend a meeting to give a briefing on the Western Corridor Strategy, highway changes and the likely delivery timing/sequence and the opportunity to discuss the elements which the Parish would like to see delivered early. Mr Phil Lowndes, Group Manager, SCC Transport Development, has agreed to attend the meeting on 22nd August 2007.

(b) It was NOTED that District Councillors Mr Seib & Mr Richardson had arranged a meeting with Mr Walford, Somerset County Council Transport Manager on the 24th August, to which the Clerk had been invited.

77/07. FINANCE

(a) The bank reconciliation statement was checked by Mr Lawrence and APPROVED by Council.

(b) Internal Audit – a letter from the Internal Auditor was circulated and NOTED.

(c) The Budget for 2007/2008, with corrected figures for 2006/07 for comparison purposes was circulated.

(d) It was confirmed that the precept requested of £39,900 had been received on 13th April 2007. It was further NOTED that the actual total was £43,581.00 as £3681 was included for the Joint Burial Committee.

(e) It was NOTED that quarterly Interest in the sum of £425.74 had been received from NatWest

(f) It was RESOLVED to approve the following payments:

Moore Stephens – Audit Fee	£334.88
G B Sport & Leisure (min. no. 54/07(i))	£189.41
SSDC – supply of paper & printing of Newslink	£532.62 + £3.21
Jubilee Hall Thorne Coffin – meeting expenses	£25.00
Somerset Playing Fields Association	£10.00
NALC (Local Council Review)	£13.50
Mrs E M James – Corporate Management & Democratic Core	£885.33 + £43.91

78/07. ITEMS TO BE DISTRIBUTED

Clerks & Councils Direct

79/07. QUESTIONS AND ITEMS ARISING AFTER THE PREPARATION OF THIS AGENDA, WHICH THE CHAIRMAN AGREES TO TAKE AS URGENT. SUCH MATTERS FOR NOTING OR DEFERRAL TO A FUTURE MEETING ONLY

None

80/07. ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING

Mr P Lowndes, Group Manager, SCC Transport Development

81/07. NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held on 22nd August 2007 at the Jubilee Hall, Thorne Coffin at 7.30 p.m.