

BRYMPTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of BRYMPTON PARISH COUNCIL held on Wednesday, 26th March 2008 at the Community Centre, Abbey Manor Park (8.00 p.m. – 10.55 p.m.)

PRESENT:

Mrs E Glaisher (Chairman)
Mr P Dutton
Mrs D Jagger
Mr A Powell
Mr P Seib

Mr R Meecham (Vice-Chairman)
Mr A Graham
Mr C Legg
Mr G Pritchard

231/07. TO RECEIVE ANY APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND TO CONSIDER ACCEPTANCE OF THE REASONS

An apology for absence, by reason of sickness, was received from Mrs Thomas. The apology was accepted and approved.

232/07. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST MADE IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE LOCAL AUTHORITIES (MODEL CODE OF CONDUCT) ORDER 2007

Mr Meecham declared a personal interest in items concerning the District Council, as an employee of South Somerset District Council. Mr Powell declared a personal & prejudicial interest in agenda item 17 by reason of payment of Carer's Allowance. 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.

233/07. TO CONFIRM THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 27th February 2008

The minutes of the meeting held on 27th February 2008 were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

234/07. CRIME, DISORDER and COMMUNITY SAFETY

(a) Report from Crime & Disorder Representative

PCSO Elaine Weeks was welcomed as the new Brympton PCSO.

(b) Review of crime statistics

Crime statistics for the local area were reviewed.

(c) Areas of concern within the parish

Concerns were raised over the zebra crossing adjacent to Preston School which is often ignored by drivers. PCSO Weeks advised that she was taking action on this. It was agreed to write to County Highways regarding the lack of warning signs adjacent to Preston Primary School. It was considered that warning notices, such as "twenty is plenty" would assist and it was agreed to investigate this further. It was agreed to write again to RugRatz to ask them to ensure that visitors to their facility do not park on Stourton Way opposite to the entrance of Athelney Way. Mr Seib advised that the light adjacent to the skate park in Oak Tree Park is to be repaired. He also advised that he would be meeting four young people regarding provision of seating in Oak Tree Park. Concerns were raised regarding the football match between Leeds United & Yeovil Town on 25th April 2008. It was agreed to write to Mr Ian Hambidge to ascertain what proposals are in place for this match. It was NOTED that two further complaints regarding car parking at Alvington had been received. PCSO Over had advised that he had been checking the area almost daily and at no time had noticed restricted access. PCSO Weeks agreed to advise PCSO Over that the problem had been noted at Alvington Lane.

235/07. CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chairman read a letter of thanks received from Mrs L Lawrence.

236/07. REPORTS FROM:

(a) SOMERSET COUNTY COUNCILLOR - None

(b) DISTRICT COUNCILLORS

Mr Seib provided an update on District Council activities and advised that an application for Conservation Area status for Alvington has been made. Mr Seib advised that the SSDC had achieved the planning delivery grant and planning applications were now meeting government targets. Mr Seib also advised that the Abbey Community Association had received an additional £35,000 in grant funding.

(c) PARISH REPRESENTATIVES ON OUTSIDE BODIES - None

237/07. CLERK'S REPORT

(a) It was NOTED that the Quality Status application was submitted on 12th March 2008.

(b) It was NOTED that the Clerk attended the SLCC Practitioners conference on 29 February-1st March and a verbal report was given.

(c) Written Risk Assessments - Further to min. no. 197/07 the Clerk gave details of advice received regarding written risk assessments from the Conference and also from SALC. It was AGREED to seek further advice from the District Council. It was NOTED that Standing Orders state that "A decision (whether affirmative or negative) of the Council shall not be reversed within six months except either by a special resolution, the written notice whereof bears the names of at least a quorum of the Council, or by a resolution moved in pursuance of the report or recommendation of a committee."

(d) YTFC cones on match days (min. no. 225/07(b)) - Mr Hillier, Stadium Manager YTFC, had advised that the reduction in number of cones supplied on football match days is due to loss, damage and wear & tear. YTFC has advised Mr Hambidge (Football Liaison Officer) that supporters are moving cones as this is an enforcement issue. It was agreed to ask whether the Police were able to assist YTFC until such time as the Traffic Regulation Order is made for Thorne Lane.

(e) The Noise 2008 (min. no. 219/07(d)) - it was NOTED that a meeting was held on 18th March 2008 between the Clerk & Urban Warriors. Grant applications have been made to the Avon & Somerset Police and a grant of £350 has been approved by the Community Chest. A meeting of all parties involved in the project is to be held on Tuesday, 20th May.

(f) Footpath/bridge application (min. no. 215/07(c)) - it was NOTED that planning permission has been granted but permission is still being sought for a building licence from Barratt Homes Ltd, this is being actively pursued.

(g) Jasmine Close - it was NOTED that a complaint regarding parking of vehicles had been forwarded to SCC.

(h) It was NOTED that should no election be called, co-option notices will be circulated and interested persons invited to the next meeting.

(i) Spring bulb planting scheme (min. no. 216/07) – it was NOTED that Lufton College wished to be involved in the project and would send a group of Horticultural students and staff to join the working party.

(j) Larkhill Open Space Project (min. no. 215/07) – it was NOTED that the management plan is currently being worked on and that there are no plans to call a “Friends of LOSP meeting” until the entire site is adopted. It was further NOTED that details for the ranger post are being updated ready for advertising.

238/07. CORRESPONDENCE

(a) **SSDC** – Notice of confirmation (subject to modifications of Tree Preservation Order – The South Somerset (Brympton No. 1) Tree Preservation Order 2007 (T1 - Apple tree to the rear of 14 Alvington Lane, 9 metres from the rear boundary, T2 - Western Red Cedar tree to the south east of T1, 1 metre from the boundary with 12 Alvington Lane) - NOTED

(b) **SSDC** – Local Development Framework – Mr Meecham & Mr Dutton agreed to attend a workshop to be held on 8th April 2008

(c) **Somerset Waste Partnership** – briefing on waste collection round optimisation and day changes from 31 March 2008 – NOTED.

(d) **SSDC** – guide to advertising events - NOTED.

(e) **The Standards Board** – Town & Parish Standard March 2008 –NOTED.

(f) **Postwatch** – notification of post office closure programme –NOTED.

(g) **Coffin path at Alvington** – Mr F Burroughes had written regarding a “coffin path” at Alvington. The Clerk advised that Mr Burroughes he would continue to investigate the matter before writing to the Council further.

(h) **Strategic Housing Market Assessment & Consultation** – newsletter & survey details – NOTED.

239/07. PLANNING

(a) DECISIONS ON PLANNING APPLICATIONS

Members were asked to note that application **05/00929/OUT** had been withdrawn. Members were asked to note the approval with conditions of the following applications: **07/03610/FUL**, **08/00114/FUL** and **08/00242/FUL**.

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

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

08/00776/R3D - alterations to divide existing unit into 2 lettable units (GR 352762/116860)

Unit 18 Yeovil Small Business Centre, Memorial Road

RECOMMENDATION: APPROVAL

08/00765/FUL – the installation of new automatic entrance doors and glazing, two fire exits, a ‘goods in’ door and condenser compound with 2.4 m high palisade fencing (GR 352904/116435)

Comet Unit 2, Houndstone Retail Park, Western Avenue

RECOMMENDATION: APPROVAL

08/00768/FUL – the erection of a conservatory to rear of dwelling (GR 353332/117447)

2 Stoneleigh Mews

RECOMMENDATION: APPROVAL

08/00765/FUL – the erection of a replacement conservatory (GR 353652/117542)

237 Larkhill Road

RECOMMENDATION: APPROVAL

(c) CONSIDERATION OF NEW OR AMENDED PLANNING APPLICATIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Mr Seib declared a personal and prejudicial interest in the following planning application as Planning Portfolio Holder for SSDC and left the hall.

08/00967/R3D – the installation of a new 15 metre high wind turbine to serve existing building (GR 352755/117307)

Bonsoir of London Ltd, Copse Road

It was resolved to close the meeting at 9.20 p.m. to allow public participation.

It was resolved to re-open the meeting at 9.30 p.m.

RECOMMENDATION: APPROVAL of a temporary permission for three years in order that noise levels may be monitored.

Mr Seib returned to the hall.

08/01008/ADV – the display of various internally and externally illuminated signs (GR 352965/116040)

The Airfield Tavern, Alvington Lane

RECOMMENDATION: Refusal for the following reasons:

Proliferation of signs on Bluebell Way

Signs are too large for size of building

Traffic needs more legible directions

08/01073/FUL – the erection of 4 no. terraced dwellinghouses and the formation of a new lay-by to accommodate parking (re-submission) (GR353868/117192)

Land adjoining 154 Larkhill Road (adjacent to parish)

RECOMMENDATION: Refusal, for the following reasons:

• Over-development of site

• Loss of informal open space

• The properties will overlook existing properties

• Insufficient parking – there are concerns that residents would park on the side of the road, as well as in the parking spaces proposed. As this site is on the brow of a hill there are serious safety issues.

08/01165/FUL – the erection of a conservatory to rear of dwellinghouse (GR 353413/116568)

7 Broadleaze

RECOMMENDATION: Approval

(d) PLANNING/DEVELOPMENT UPDATES

- (i) Validation of planning applications – it was AGREED to delegate the Clerk, in conjunction with the Chairman & Vice-Chairman, to make comments, where necessary, on the consultation being carried out by both SCC and SSDC.
- (ii) Local Development Framework – it was AGREED that a working party comprising Mrs Glaisher, Mr Meecham, Mr Dutton and the Clerk meet on 21st April to consider the Local Development Framework, to report back at the next meeting.
- (iii) Concerns have been raised by local residents regarding a new sign at the Houndstone Retail Park – it was NOTED that SSDC has been informed.

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

It was **AGREED** that Mr Meecham & Mrs Thomas would be members of the Working Party for the month.

240/07. MEMORIAL TO MR CLIVE LAWRENCE

At the last meeting it had been agreed to that a memorial for Mr Clive Lawrence should be considered. It was agreed that a request should be made to SSDC to name the stream path from Thorne Lane to Preston School as "Lawrence Way".

241/07. APPOINTMENT OF TREE WARDEN

It was NOTED that Mr D Park of Shrewsbury Close had applied for the position of a Parish Tree Warden. It was AGREED to approve this appointment and advise SSDC accordingly.

242/07. ABBEY COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

As part of the refurbishment project, the Abbey Community Association had accepted a quotation of £21,689.00 (inclusive of VAT) from Sinclair Systems Ltd for air conditioning units to be fitted throughout the hall. Sinclair Ltd had asked for a deposit of £4347.00 to secure the order and the Association had asked whether the Council would pay the deposit from the funds it holds in reserve towards the project. It was NOTED that currently the Council holds a reserve of £18590 for the project and from 1st April 2008 an additional £5,000 will be added to this sum. Mr Seib proposed and it was unanimously RESOLVED to approve expenditure of £4347 to the Community Association, resulting in a reserve fund of £19,243 as from 1st April 2008.

243/07. HIGHER REAM PLAY AREA

(a) Replacement roundabout

Minute no.160/07 of 28th November 2008 approved the replacement of the roundabout at Higher Ream within six months. Quotations had been received from Wicksteed Leisure Ltd, Record RSS Ltd and GL Evans for this project, all companies complying with all necessary legislation, provision of security fencing, secure storage as necessary, etc. Grants of £3,000 in total had been obtained for this project, being £1,000 from County Councillor Crabb and £2,000 from District Councillor Richardson. Mr Graham proposed and it was unanimously RESOLVED to accept the quotation from Wicksteed Leisure Ltd for a "Spiro Whirl" roundabout in the sum of £6925.00 + VAT.

(b) Rocking horse – Further to minute no. 219/07(b) Paul Hart Welding Ltd had been requested to supply a quotation for the work required to remove corrosion from both ends of the rocking horse. A quotation in the sum of £85 + VAT to carry out the following work has been received: plate both ends of horse to cover corrosion after cutting out rust, weld 6mm thick plate and bolt into position, sand to remove any sharp edges and paint with red oxide primer paint. Mr Meecham proposed and it was unanimously RESOLVED to accept the quotation in the sum of £85.

244/07. CONSIDERATION OF GRANTS UNDER SECTION 137 OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972

It was NOTED that in accordance with its powers under sections 137 and 139 of the Local Government Act 1972, expenditure, which, in the opinion of the Council, is in the interests of the area or its inhabitants and will benefit them in a manner commensurate with the expenditure, can be made. It was RESOLVED to approve the following grants:

Yeovil Heartbeat Trust	£250.00
St Margaret's Hospice	£250.00
1 st Preston Guides	£100.00
St James Scout Group	£100.00

245/07. HIGHWAY LIGHTING

In accordance with Minute no. 222/07 a request was made to the County Council to consider an additional street light on the spinal path, north of Stourton Way. It was NOTED that Mr Gutteridge, Highway Lighting Manager, had advised that the County Council is unable to assist in the funding of additional lighting schemes but that it is possible for a new scheme to be provided should the Parish Council fund the scheme, either directly or indirectly. It was further NOTED that the County Council will provide a free design and management service and provide quotations for the work to be carried out and, upon satisfactory completion, will pay all maintenance and operating costs of the approved installation. Members were reminded that the budget 2007-2008 included £500 to be spent on public safety and a similar amount has been placed into the budget for 2008-2009. It was AGREED that a public consultation should be carried out with local residents who might be affected by the proposal. Discussion took place on whether an additional light should be considered for the footpath adjacent to the electric sub-station off Athelney Way. It was AGREED that Southern Electricity should be asked to supply a bracket light on the corner of the sub-station.

246/07. SALC

Mr Meecham proposed and it was RESOLVED to approve membership of SALC for the year 2008-2009 at a fee of £875.27.

Mr Powell left the hall

247/07. CARER'S ALLOWANCE

It was NOTED that a carer's allowance for dependant children is not listed within the Allowance Scheme but that the Council is able to contract direct with a Carer so that Councillors may attend an approved duty. Mr Seib proposed and it was RESOLVED to approve payment of a carer's allowance to enable Mr Powell to attend Council meetings, training events and meetings which he had been requested to attend by the Parish Council, the allowance to be back-dated to the meeting held on 27th February 2008. It was AGREED that the Clerk should be delegated to deal with the payments direct to the Carer.

Mr Powell returned to the hall

248/07. FINANCE

- (a) The bank reconciliation statement, circulated at the meeting, was NOTED and APPROVED.
(b) It was NOTED and APPROVED that a direct debit was taken by BT on 19th March 2008 in the sum of £62.87
(c) A review of the budget was made. The Clerk advised that the training budget & Clerk's mileage budget had been exceeded, due to attendance at the SLCC Practitioners Conference at Stoke. The office budget had been exceeded due to purchase of an external hard drive. The budget for Thorne Coffin Jubilee Hall had also been exceeded, due to the purchase of heating for the hall.
(d) It was RESOLVED to approve the following payments:

SSDC – Supply of paper and printing of Newslink	£154.58 + £215.95	£370.53
SSDC – Cemetery deficit		£1840.34
Mrs E Glaisher		£14.40
Mr C Lawrence		£16.67
Mr A Powell		£19.50
Mr G Pritchard		£19.50
Mr P Seib		£15.00
SALC (cheque to be dated 1 st April 2008)		£875.27
Abbey Community Association		£4347.00
St Margaret's Hospice		£250.00
Yeovil Heartbeat Trust		£250.00
St James Scout Group		£100.00
1 st Preston Guides		£100.00
HM Revenue & Customs		£908.47

It was NOTED that at the last meeting the Clerk had claimed the sum of £33.76, payable to NALC, for the Quality Status application, being the amount verbally advised by SALC. However, an error had been made and the actual fee payable had been £29.38 (£25 + VAT). It was NOTED that the sum of £4.38 had , therefore, been deducted from the Clerk's expenses claimed this month

Mrs E M James – Corporate Management & Democratic Core £920.99 + £187.42

249/07. HIGHWAY MATTERS

- (a) HGV pinch point consultation – NOTED.
(b) Temporary Road Closure notification – details were given of temporary road closures in the area.
(c) It was NOTED that SCC Highways had advised that a company claiming to be from the "Highways" have recently badly surfaced some drives in Chard, Taunton and Wellington. The company has no association with SCC Highways and the Parish Council was asked to raise awareness of this.
(d) Mr Walford, SCC Transport Policy Manager, had advised that he was awaiting clarification on whether a copy of the Western Corridor Study could be made available to the Parish Council.
(e) It was NOTED that Silverline Tools lorries are using Thorne Lane and it was agreed to write to the Managing Director advising him of the weight limit. It was REPORTED that there was a pothole 25 yds to the east of Western Avenue junction with Thorne Lane and that the road surface is wearing away on Stourton Way between Athelney Way and The Toose.

250/07. ITEMS DISTRIBUTED

Clerks & Councils Direct, Local Council Review, South Somerset Countryside Events 2008 and CPRE – Fieldwork

251/07. 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

It was AGREED that action was required regarding the "Land of Leather" illuminated sign at the Houndstone Retail Park.

252/07. MATTERS FOR CONSIDERATION AT THE NEXT MEETING

Annual review of internal audit
Annual report from Internal Auditor
Review of insurance

253/07. NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held on 23rd April 2008 following the Annual Parish Assembly to be held at 8.00 p.m. at the Community Centre, Abbey Manor Park.

EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

The Council RESOLVED to exclude the press and public from the meeting in accordance with Section 1(2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 by reason of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted.

254/07. REVIEW OF CLERK'S CONTRACT

It was RESOLVED that as from 1st April 2007 the Clerk's annual salary would be increased to SCP 24 and the number of hours worked per week to be increased to 26.5.