

BRYMPTON PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF BRYMPTON PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON WEDNESDAY, 27TH FEBRUARY 2008 AT THE JUBILEE HALL, THORNE COFFIN (7.30 p.m. – 10.10 p.m.)

PRESENT:

Mrs E Glaisher (Chairman)	Mr R Meecham (Vice-Chairman)
Mr P Dutton	Mr A Graham
Mrs D Jagger	Mr C Legg
Mr A Powell	Mr G Pritchard
Mr P Seib (7.45 p.m. – 10.10 p.m.)	Mrs M Thomas

Mrs E M James (Clerk)	Mr S Fox (Landscape Officer, SSDC)
District Councillor J Richardson	
PC L Hall (Beat Manager)	PCSO T Over

208/07. COUNCILLOR CLIVE LAWRENCE

Mrs Glaisher informed the Parish Council of the death of Councillor Clive Lawrence. Tributes were paid to Mr Lawrence and his work as a Parish Councillor.

209/07. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND TO CONSIDER ACCEPTANCE OF THE REASONS

None

210/07. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST 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.

211/07. TO CONFIRM THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 23RD JANUARY 2008

The minutes of the meeting held on 23rd January 2008 were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

212/07. CRIME, DISORDER and COMMUNITY SAFETY

(a) PC Lee Hall was introduced as the new Beat Manager and he advised that PCSO Elaine Weeks had taken over from PCSO Cathy Helyar.

(b) Report from Crime & Disorder Representative - Reports of graffiti in the area had been passed to the District Council. A complaint regarding the damaged fencing at the badger sett at Acer Drive had also been forwarded to SSDC.

(c) Meeting of the Chairman & Clerk with Inspector Edwards, PC Hurst & Mr Hambidge (YTFC Police Liaison Officer) held on 25th January 2008 - Mrs Glaisher reported on the meeting at which discussion on car parking had taken place. It was noted that any obstructions would be dealt with. PCSO Over advised that he had visited roads surrounding the stadium during matches.

Mr Seib arrived at 7.45 p.m.

(d) Tesco Working For The Community Project

It was noted that the Manager of Tesco is keen to undertake a project to reduce the amount of litter. Mrs Jagger agreed to become the Parish Council representative for the project. A meeting will be arranged between Tesco, Mrs Jagger, PCSO and schools.

(e) Areas of concern within the parish – It was noted that works to the Abbey Community Centre will commence in July and scaffolding will be in place. It was agreed to advise the Police before work commenced.

213/07. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE LOCAL AUTHORITIES (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, he declared a Personal Interest in any agenda items affecting the relationship between Brympton Parish and South Somerset District Council.

It was RESOLVED to close the meeting at 7.50 p.m.

214/07. PLANNING APPLICATION 07/05341/OUT

(Formation of road access and the development of land for B1 office and industrial use buildings (GR353075/115103), Land South of the A3088 Western Relief Road)

A presentation was given by the Architect and Developer for the above site. It was noted that the development will remain as a private development with a management structure.

It was RESOLVED to re-open the meeting at 8.30 p.m.

215/07. LARKHILL OPEN SPACE PROJECT

(a) Mr S Fox, Landscape Officer, SSD, gave an update on this project and advised that:

(i) Ms L Jelleyman, SSDC Yeovil In Bloom promotions & marketing officer, will take a principle role in producing the management plan (using the community feedback priority items initially). She will also take on the responsibility for community engagement, organisation of the Friends group, community activities and will also assist the Parish Council in producing any promotional material required.

(ii) Mr Fox will be available for any technical needs and will assist Mrs Jelleyman in preparing the management plan. Mr Fox will also be available as the lead officer to report to committee and oversee the project as necessary.

(iii) Other Technical needs - SSDC will be using a variety of teams specialist skills to forward this project – Conservation Officer, Countryside / English Nature etc

(iv) Site ranger – Mr Cooper has agreed that SSDC will aggressively pursue the appointment of an external part time candidate (2 days per week) through normal procedures.

(v) Normal maintenance for this area will continue and when "one off" or large tasks are highlighted these will be programmed in with the relevant skilled staff.

(b) A request had been made to SSDC to consider re-surfacing the path between King Arthur Drive and the bridge. It was NOTED that Mrs Moseley, Open Spaces Officer, had advised that there is no money left within the SSDC budget to cover any work to the path and she had asked whether the work could form part of the Open Space Project. Following discussion it was agreed to write to Mrs Moseley to advise that this is an existing SSDC path and should be reviewed under a regular programme. It was agreed to request that SSDC clarify the position as the surface is not fit for use.

(c) It was NOTED that the planning application for the footpath & bridge on the open space had been validated. Barrett Homes had been asked to consider granting a licence for the building works but had written to request that the Parish Council assist with the adoption process so that a licence would not be necessary. A further request had been sent to Barrett Homes, advising that the adoption process was the responsibility of SSDC, not the Parish Council.

216/07. SPRING BULB PLANTING

It was noted that SSDC is offering all parishes the opportunity over the next two years to participate in a joint working initiative to plant spring flowering bulbs. Mr Fox gave further details of the project and it was noted that bulbs will be supplied, sites suitable for planting should be identified and a community group could hold a community planting day. It was agreed to join the scheme. It was also agreed to advertise the project in the next Newslink and to write to Lufton College to ask if students would like to become involved..

217/07. CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

None

218/07. REPORTS FROM

(a) SOMERSET COUNTY COUNCILLOR,

None

(b) DISTRICT COUNCILLORS

Mr Seib advised that the first resolution for the Proposed Installation of Wind Turbine at Yeovil Innovation Centre had been approved. Mr Richardson advised that through his discretionary fund a grant would be given to the Council to assist with the replacement of the roundabout at Higher Ream.

(c) PARISH REPRESENTATIVES ON OUTSIDE BODIES

(i) Abbey Community Association - Mr Pritchard advised that building work would commence in July for 6 weeks. The footpath between the Arrow and the Centre would be closed during the building works.

(ii) Strategic Housing Market Assessment – attended by Mrs Glaisher & Mr Meecham.

(iii) Parish Flood Fair – attended by Mrs Glaisher and Mr Graham.

219/07. CLERK'S REPORT

(a) Councillors were reminded that planning training will take place on Tuesday 11th March from 7.30pm, in the Main Committee Room, Brympton Way.

(b) Higher Ream – The rocking horse has been inspected by Mr Morgan who was unable to carry out any repair work. Paul Hart Welding will be contacted to inspect the work required. A maintenance schedule for the junior swings has been received and will be added to the maintenance schedule. It was NOTED that a grant of £1,000 towards the cost of the new roundabout has been agreed by Mr Crabb. Quotations for the new roundabout will be presented at the next meeting.

(c) Somerset County Youth Service – it was NOTED that the proposed training session has been cancelled.

(d) The Noise 2008 – It was noted that the Clerk will meet with the Urban Warriors on 18th March. The budget was almost complete and grants would be applied for.

(e) Quality Status – It was NOTED that the application for Quality Status would be submitted after the meeting.

(f) Additional lighting at Guinevere Close - following a site visit, a request was made Sovereign Housing Association consider the provision of an additional street light. The request has been forwarded to the Knightstone Housing Association who are responsible for this area.

(g) Post Office Closures – the Clerk advised that the consultation for Somerset started on 26th February 2008.

220/07. CORRESPONDENCE

(a) **SALC** – it was NOTED that the meeting arranged for 10th March had been cancelled. Items of Interest to Councillors & Clerks was available from the Clerk.

(b) **SSDC** - Validation of Planning Applications. The SSDC Planning Department had produced a Draft Validation Document which can be viewed online. A hard copy of the protocol was being circulated to all Councillors and the closing date for comment is 1st April 2008.

(c) **SCC** – Validation of Planning applications – The County Council had produced a draft document available online, the closing date for comments being 4th April.

(d) **SCC** – It was NOTED that the South Somerset Area Working Panel had advised that the grant applications for the Western Avenue link, Stourton Way footpath link & the Community Centre projects had been unsuccessful.

(e) **SCC** – Community Engagement Workshop – to be attended by Mrs Glaisher on 4th March.

(f) **SCC** - Database of Climate Change organisations in the South Somerset Area. – it was AGREED that the Parish Council did not wish to take part.

(g) **Ukraine Charity Fund "Leleka"**. It was AGREED that an article would be placed in the next Newslink regarding the charity.

221/07. PLANNING

(a) DECISIONS ON PLANNING APPLICATIONS

Members were asked to note the approval with conditions of the following applications: 07/04524/FUL, 07/04696/REM, 07/05231/FUL, 07/05329/FUL, 07/05513/FUL, 7/05655/ADV, 08/00061/FUL and 08/00121/FUL

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

In accordance with Standing Order no. 79, members noted & approved the recommendation made for the following application:

08/00434/FUL – the erection of a conservatory (GR 352704/116480)

36 Hawks Rise

RECOMMENDATION: Approval

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

08/00242/FUL – the construction of a cycleway/footpath and a footbridge for community use (GR 353644/117050)

Open space adjacent to Abbots Way

RECOMMENDATION: Approval

08/00388/FUL – demolition of existing buildings and the erection of 46 no. B1 Offices, B1/B2/B8 Light Industrial and B8 Trade Counter Units (GR 352861/117249)

Former Yoplait Dairy Crest Site, Copse Road

Recommendation: Approval in principal but the design of the roundabout falls short in a number of key regards, specifically:

Northbound – off-set is too extreme and requires further land; and

Southbound – concerns over traffic interacting with traffic trying to leave Stourton Way

08/00372/ADV – display of 1 no. internally illuminated fascia sign and replacement of 6 no. non-illuminated totem sign panels (GR 352875/116410)

Homebase Unit 1, Western Avenue

Recommendation: Application withdrawn 15th February 2008

08/00737/FUL – demolition of existing conservatory and the erection of a single storey extension and alterations to convert garage to living accommodation (GR 353039/116984)

10 Westminster

RECOMMENDATION: Approval

(d) PLANNING/DEVELOPMENT UPDATES

(i) It was agreed to investigate why lights are left on after closing hours at the Houndstone retail car park

(ii) Members were given details of a complaint regarding trees made by a resident of Tristram Close to the developer.

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

It was **AGREED** that Mr Dutton & Mr Legg would be members of the Working Party for the month.

222/07. STREET LIGHTS – SPINAL PATH

It was agreed to request that the County Council consider the provision of an additional street light on the spinal path.

223/07. PARISH CLERK

(a) TRAINING

Members approved attendance by the Clerk at a SALC training event on “audit and accounting update for Parish Council” to be held on Thursday 10th April 2008 at a cost of £15.00.

(b) SALARY

In accordance with the Clerk’s Contract, it was agreed that a working party comprising Mr Meecham, Mr Legg and Mr Seib would review the salary of the Clerk and report any recommendations to the next meeting.

224/07. OAK TREE PARK - THE NOISE 2008

It was NOTED that a license application will be submitted on 3rd March to take effect from 1st May 2008. Councillors RESOLVED to approve expenditure of £100 for the license application; it was NOTED and APPROVED that thereafter an annual payment of £70 will be required.

225/07. HIGHWAY MATTERS

(a) Mead Avenue – It was NOTED that Mr Fletcher, SCC Highways, had advised that it is intended to seek a Traffic Regulation Order for Mead Avenue, the Council to be consulted.

(b) Complaints regarding coning on Thorne Lane on match days had been received and it was agreed to raise this with YTFC.

226/07. FINANCE

(a) The bank reconciliation statement circulated at the meeting was NOTED and APPROVED.

(b) It was NOTED that the annual cash limit under S137, LGA 1972, for 2008-2009 has been increased to £5.86 per elector.

(c) A report from the internal auditor was NOTED.

(d) It was NOTED that Moore Stephens have been appointed as the External Auditor to the Council for a five year period commencing with the 2007/2008 accounts.

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

SSDC – routine playground inspections 2/10/07 – 23/12/07	£207.28
Royal Mail – Freepost service	£73.37
SALC – training event of 10 th April 2008	£15.00
SSDC – application for Oak Tree Park licence	£100.00
Western Gazette – cost of advertising licence application £172.90 + VAT	£203.16
Mr D C Allen – work carried out to play area (min. no. 93/07(a) and erection of noticeboard at Oak Tree Park (min. 152 (e)	£564.00
Mrs E M James – Corporate Management & Democratic Core	£921.00 + £258.41

(f) It was NOTED that:

(i) SALC had advised that the Clerk check on the terms of the Fidelity Guarantee Insurance to ensure that the Council has complied with all the requirements. The Clerk had spoken with the Insurers who advise that BPC is acting in accordance with its requirements but that should a new Clerk be appointed references from the last 3 employers of the Clerk would need to be deposited with the insurers. This information will be kept on file.

(b) SALC also advised that some Parish Council cheques have been fraudulently converted but that regular bank reconciliations will assist in drawing attention to the amount. The Clerk advised that cheques are photocopied prior to posting so the Council would be able to demonstrate that the fraud is not within the Council. Members considered that the risk was being managed and that it was not necessary to ask the bank for the feasibility and costs of restoring the return of the paid cheques.

227/07. ITEMS TO BE DISTRIBUTED

Somerset PFA – The Playing Field Winter 2007-08

Somerset Local Access Forum Annual Newsletter 2007

SSDC – Rights of Way Volunteer Newsletter

228/07. QUESTIONS AND ITEMS ARISING WHICH THE CHAIRMAN AGREED TO TAKE AS URGENT. SUCH MATTERS FOR NOTING OR DEFERRAL TO A FUTURE MEETING ONLY

None

229/07. TO BRING FORWARD ANY MATTERS FOR CONSIDERATION AT THE NEXT MEETING

Remainder of grant expenditure
Review of budget
Review of crime statistics
Memorial for Mr C Lawrence
Roundabout at Higher Ream
Local Development Framework – to set up a working party

230/07. NEXT MEETING

It was NOTED that the next meeting will be held on 26th March 2008 at 8.00 p.m. at the Community Centre, Abbey Manor Park