

BRIZLINCOTE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of Brizlincote Parish Council meeting held at Violet Lane Infant School on Thursday 17th December 2009

Present: Councillors Geoffrey Willett, Graham Lomas, Michael Ball, Ian Williams, Kay Sherratt, Arthur Goldstraw, Ruth Goldstraw, Jim Muir, Bernard Peters and Cedric Insley

Apologies: Bill Warrilow

Public: 1 member of the public, 1 representative from the press and Clerk - Liz Court

The Chair opened the meeting by welcoming all.

147/09 MEMBERS TO DECLARE ANY INTEREST IN MATTERS TO BE CONSIDERED

Councillor Graham Lomas declared an interest regarding a planning application to be considered. This was not a pecuniary interest.

148/09 APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 17th November 2009

The minutes were approved and signed as a true record.

149/09 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

139/09 – There was no update on Malvern Street or Ashby Road.

136/09 - Councillor Ball gave an update regarding quotations for the printing of the newsletter. A second quotation has been obtained which is £30 lower than the first. Councillor Goldstraw proposed that the lowest quotation be accepted. This motion was seconded by Councillor Muir and a vote taken. Six were in favour and one against, therefore the motion was carried.

150/09 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

None.

151/09 PRECEPT SETTING FOR 2010/11

There was discussion of budgets including footpaths especially from Tower Road to Elms Road. The history of the 'special expense' charges levied through the Council Tax by ESBC was given. It was agreed that once the new officers start in February/March 2010, the Parish Council should look to clarify exactly what the Borough Council's responsibilities are in this area.

Planting was also discussed. SCC have given encouragement for bulb and tubs but will need to approve precise sitings. A parishioner's idea regarding sculpture was also discussed with concerns raised about graffiti and vandalism. A potential contribution towards Brizfest was also discussed. Councillor Willett agreed to speak to the organizers regarding this matter.

The current surplus was suggested for use for grants. Councillor Williams queried whether the Council should be lowering the precept this year or even considering not requesting a precept. This was discussed in depth.

It was agreed that the Parish Council should look to sponsor prizes for the Burton in Bloom event this year with categories suggested of the most improved garden, hanging basket and best use of a steep slope.

Councillor Arthur Goldstraw proposed that the precept be kept at the same level of £15,000 as has been raised over the last two years. Councillor Willett seconded this proposal and a vote was taken. Six were in favour of this and one abstained. The motion was therefore carried.

152/09 NEWSLETTER

Contents suggested were:

- Burton in Bloom
- Advertising the website
- Annual Parish Meeting

It was agreed that this is a one off project at the moment. Methods of distribution were also discussed with suggestions made of the Scouts delivering the newsletter, Abbot Beyne organizing distribution or contacting the distributors for the Advertiser and Trader type newspapers. It was suggested that Councillors Ball and Lomas would look into this matter.

All were happy with the idea of a £25.00 national Gardening Voucher to be offered as the prize for the Burton in Bloom categories. It was asked that ideas be brought back to the January meeting with a view to the newsletter being out in February or March.

153/09 PRESENTATION ON TRUST STATUS FOR VIOLET LANE SCHOOL

Councillor Arthur Goldstraw gave a presentation on the school and trust status. Questions were taken on nutrition and green issues and on the implication of the trust status and being a trust member. The request from the school is for a nominated trust member to represent the Parish Council on the board. All were in favour of this. Councillor Arthur Goldstraw nominated Councillor Graham Lomas and this was seconded by Councillor Kay Sherratt. All were in favour and Councillor Graham Lomas accepted.

154/09 COUNTY AND BOROUGH COUNCILLORS REPORT

Councillor Insley left the meeting at 8.20pm.

Councillor Peters gave updates on Borough matters including Speedwatch which is due to start in January. The decision on the proposed play area on Beaufort Road has been delayed until January. The two new directors of ESBC are due to start in February or March of 2010. There was also a discussion regarding the undergrowth from Redwood drive to Violet Way. This has now been made much safer. ESBC are now launching on Facebook, Utube and Twitter. The possibility of webcasting meetings was also discussed. Councillor Peters also drew the Council's attention to the fact that there is £3000 WASP money remaining and asked anyone with a project in mind to contact him by email as soon as possible.

155/09 PLANNING APPLICATIONS AND DECISIONS

Details regarding the presentation given at the previous meeting regarding the Model dairy farm were given by Councillor Willett. It was explained that Peter Diffey was looking for a pre-application comment. Councillor Williams declared an interest in the matter and withdrew from discussions. After much discussion regarding social and affordable housing, community facilities and s.106 agreements, it was agreed that no comment would be given by the Council until there was a firm planning application on which to comment. All were in favour of this decision.

HO/32529/001/SM, Conversion of part of garage to form additional living accommodation and erection of new attached garage, 9 Foxglove Avenue –
No comment

H/32534/001/JM, Erection of a detached garage, 88 Marlborough Crescent-
No comment

156/09 CORRESPONDENCE

1/12	SPCA	Training and Newsletters noted by the Council
17/12	ESBC	Green Community Course noted by the Council

157/09 ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

Supplier	Goods or Services	Gross	VAT	Net
Audit Commission	Audit fee for 2009	178.25	23.25	155.00
Liz James	Expenses November 2009	23.40	0.00	23.40
Liz James	Clerks fees November 2009	340.22	0.00	340.22

Councillor Arthur Goldstraw proposed payment, all were in favour and the paperwork was signed and approved.

158/09 CLERKS AND MEMBERS REPORTS

Councillor Lomas gave a brief report on the Website noting that both the residents meeting and the PACT were set for the same date in January. He also wanted to seek approval to publicise the meeting dates for 2010 – including the Annual Parish Meeting. This was given and the date for the Annual Parish Meeting decided upon as 29th April 2010. He also suggested that the Council set up a test page on Facebook to see if there is any interest. There was general agreement with this idea, with Councillor Peters suggesting that if this went ahead, it should be publicized.

159/09 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Next Monthly Parish Meetings: Thursday 21st January and Thursday 18th February 2010