

BRIZLINCOTE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of Brizlincote Parish Council meeting held at Violet Lane Infant School on Thursday 5th March 2009

Present:

Councillors Geoffrey Willett, Bill Warrilow, Asimah Alam, Jim Muir, Arthur Goldstraw, Ruth Goldstraw, Ian Williams & Kay Sherratt

Apologies:

Mary Crowley, Cedric Insley

Public:

Graham Lomas, Clerk - Liz Court and a member of the Press

The Chair opened the meeting by welcoming all, especially Mr and Mrs Goldstraw. Councillor Ruth Goldstraw thanked the Council for their best wishes and flowers.

27/09 MEMBERS TO DECLARE ANY INTEREST IN MATTERS TO BE CONSIDERED -

None

28/09 APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 19th FEBRUARY 2009 -

Approved with the alteration of PC Whatley's rank and signed as a true record.

29/09 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES -

14/09 - Burton East Sports Trust update was given by Councillor Muir. An invoice for the registration fee had been received for £10 and this was passed for payment unanimously. The next meeting is to be held on March 12th at The Bridge Brewery. Minutes will be available. Councillor Muir explained that East Staffordshire draws down very low levels of funding in this area, and that BEST are looking for ideas for items that need funding. BEST members will meet three times a year, but trustees will meet on an adhoc basis as well.

14/09 - The cycle restriction poles are now in place.

14/09 - Work on the path down Woods Lane is now well advanced. Councillor Muir reported that he had been contacted by a resident of Woods Lane, but that she had left no name or number on the answer phone message so he had been unable to return the call.

14/09 - Blue bins have now arrived in the parish. Councillor Muir asked the meeting if anyone had received any feedback regarding the two weekly collections. The Chair replied that he was aware of comments about the amount of space needed to store the three bins. This led to a discussion on access to properties and issues regarding clinical waste and nappy disposal.

17/09 - PACT was discussed and clarification given over the discussion held at the previous Parish Council meeting. Feedback was given from the police liaison meeting held the previous evening. There was very little business at the meeting and few participants. It was felt that this reflected the level of problems in the area which was positive. The new PCSO is starting imminently with two months training. A temporary police officer will be allocated for three months before a new officer starts. A new

office will be used from 17th March at the Hill Street Medical Centre.
The Chair offered Fire Service check cards to the meeting and some were taken by Councillor Alam for the Post Office.

14/09 - Councillor Williams confirmed that there had been no further contact from the 'Tums to Tots' group.

30/09 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION -
None

31/09 RISK ASSESSMENT

Councillor Williams explained that he felt that the current document was centred around employee/office based risk assessment. He felt that a Risk Assessment should be wider than Health and Safety issues, but also look at risk to reputation and public liability. Councillor Sherratt felt that this was a good idea. Councillor Williams offered to look at the assessment in place and look to draft some ideas. He asked for an open discussion at the next meeting. Councillor Goldstraw also offered to look into this area. The Clerk reminded the Council that this needs to be in place and finalized by the May meeting to fulfill audit requirements.

32/09 PARISH MEETING 2009

Councillor Willett confirmed that he had booked The Glebe School's lower lounge for 23rd April and reiterated his reasons behind the separate meeting. He asked Councillors to invite people to attend. There was some discussion on previous annual meetings and attendance. The Clerk circulated some flyers and asked for comments on the draft wording. Councillor Goldstraw suggested providing refreshments either before the meeting or halfway through. The Council agreed that this was a good idea. It was agreed that specific invitations should be sent to Ian Campbell from the Stapenhill Allotments Association, the organizers of Brizfest and any organization who have received a grant from Brizlincote Parish Council. It was suggested that they should be asked to make a brief report on how the grant has been spent. The Clerk will send invitations and publicise the meeting at the beginning of April.

33/09 SUB-COMMITTEES AND COUNCILLORS' RESPONSIBILITIES

The Chair explained his idea and there were some additions to the key areas and some volunteers came forward. It was suggested that attendance at police liaison meetings could be rotated. Councillors Sherratt and Goldstraw offered to look at the standing orders and financial regulations. The Chair suggested that the Council look to this matter at the next meeting.

Areas suggested so far:	Finance and Governance	
	Website/Publicity	
	Planning	
	Highways, Footpaths and Planting	
	Responsibility for Contracts	AG/IW
	Complaints Committee	AG

34/09 COUNTY AND BOROUGH COUNCILLORS REPORT

Councillor Muir informed the meeting of the local Council Tax rise by 2.45% - one of the lowest rises across the country.

He discussed a survey of every Health Service provider showing Burton Hospital NHS Trust in the top 20 for employee support and working conditions.

Councillor Muir also gave an update of issues at the Mid Staffordshire Hospital.

The speed limit on Ashby Road is also being investigated. Councillor Muir has contacted residents to ask for their opinion. He is currently collating replies. He will bring the data to the next Parish Council meeting and ask for the Council's support. Once this has been done, engineers will assess the data and make a decision. Councillor Goldstraw queried whether there had been a lot of reported incidents in the area as this is usually what such decisions are based upon. Councillor Muir explained that this project was being used as a pilot for a new initiative 'Community Call for Action' to be introduced centrally. This project will assist in setting up a procedure.

This led to a discussion on arbitrary speed limits in the area. Councillor Muir explained that issues should be resolved by citing the problem, then looking for the solution and finally pricing the solution. He felt that often this is done out of sequence. Councillor Williams pointed out that canvassing opinion of the residents of the road in question produces a distorted response. Councillor Muir agreed, but the logistics of seeking opinion also need to be taken into account.

Councillor Willett informed the meeting that Councillor Peters had said that there may be some WASP funding available but he had received no further news as yet. As there was no Borough Councillor present, there was no other report from the Borough.

35/09 PLANNING

No applications or decisions had been received.

Councillor Warrilow informed the Council of a report in local press regarding a development at George Ryder. No planning application has been received by the Council. Councillor Goldstraw asked the Clerk to contact ESBC to query this matter.

Councillor Goldstraw queried work going on at No 2 Derwent Road. Councillor Sherratt said that she would look into this matter.

36/09 CORRESPONDENCE

Date	From	Regarding
2 nd March	Community Council of Staffordshire	Community Support Survey to be completed
4 th March	ESBC	Notice re Council Tax to be displayed on Parish notice boards
March	Community Council of Staffordshire	Membership Application/Renewal paperwork
18 th February	South Staffordshire NHS Primary Care Trust	World Class Commissioning for South Staffordshire

37/09 ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT AND OTHER FINANCE

Clerk's contract of service was discussed, agreed by the whole council and signed by

the Chair and the Clerk. Councillor Williams was thanked for his input on this matter.

Supplier	Goods or Services	Gross	VAT	Net
Liz Court	Fees for January and February 2009	680.38	0.00	680.38
Liz Court	Expenses for January and February 2009	67.77	0.00	67.77
BEST	Registration Fee	10.00	0.00	10.00

All were in favour of payment and the paperwork was signed and approved.

An invoice totaling £149.57 requested by ESBC for the previous Parish Clerk has been received. The Clerk was asked to clarify what this invoice was regarding before payment.

The mandate for change of address and signatories on bank accounts were signed by Councillors Warrilow, Councillor Arthur Goldstraw, Councillor Willett and Councillor Williams was added to the mandate. All other signatories are to be removed. The Clerk will complete the rest of the forms and pass them to Councillor Williams who will attend HSBC with the appropriate identification.

The Clerk reported that she had received a quotation from the previous internal auditor for £80. This is considerably lower than the charge for last year. Arthur Goldstraw proposed a change of auditor back to David Ingman. All were in favour.

38/09 CLERK & MEMBER'S REPORT -

Councillor Warrilow reported that the requested dog waste bin had not arrived. He queried whether WASP money could be sought for this. The Chair agreed that Councillor Insley may be able to help.

Councillor Williams showed an email forwarded to him from The Community Church regarding Burton in Bloom. He suggested that he would find out further details and invite the representative to the next Parish Council meeting if appropriate. Councillor Muir suggested that Brizlincote could have a sub-committee to look at this type of issue. He explained how Winhill had raised their profile through planting.

Councillor Willett reported an issue on the corner of Stanton Road and Woods Lane where the road is flooding outside the Co-operative car park. He pointed out that this provides a hazard to pedestrians crossing at that point. The Clerk was asked to report this matter through Clarence.

39/09 AOB

Councillor Williams asked for an update on the website. This led to a discussion regarding the website more generally.

There was some discussion with Mr Lomas who had attended the meeting as a member of the public interested in joining the Council. It was suggested that he be presented for co-option at the next meeting if he agreed. Mr Lomas gave his details to the Clerk.

40/09 DATE OF NEXT MEETING - Thursday 2nd April 2009