

## **BRIZLINCOTE PARISH COUNCIL**

Minutes of Brizlincote Parish Council meeting held at Violet Lane Infant School on Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> April 2011

### **Present:**

Councillors Geoffrey Willett, Graham Lomas, Arthur Goldstraw, Ruth Goldstraw, Jim Muir (left early as noted), Kay Sherratt, Bill Warrilow, Ian Webster, Bernard Peters and John Bidder

### **Apologies:**

Councillors Michael Ball, Ian Williams and Cedric Insley

### **Public:**

9 members of the public, 1 member of the press and Clerk - Liz Court

## **PUBLIC SESSION**

The meeting was opened to the public to raise any issues for the Council to consider:

A member of the public asked whether there had been any news on the Model Farm development plans. The Chair confirmed that information would be available and presented by Peter Diffey on 12<sup>th</sup> May at the Annual Parish Meeting.

A member of the public commented on the appeal against the refusal of planning permission for 18a St Peter's Street. This led to clarification from Councillor Muir regarding the procedure for appeal by written representation.

A member of the public queried a comment made about the potential re-opening of Woods Lane. The comment made by Councillor Lamb at the March meeting of the Parish Council was discussed.

### **10/136 Declarations of Interest**

Members did not declare any interests in any matter identified for discussion at the Meeting. Councillor Lomas noted that whilst he is a distant relative of the current owner of The Model Dairy Farm, he wished it to be clear that he has no personal nor pecuniary interest in the site.

### **10/137 Minutes of the previous Council Meeting (17<sup>th</sup> March 2011)**

The Council approved as a correct record the Minutes of the March Parish Council Meeting, held on 17<sup>th</sup> March 2011.

Matters arising: Sale of the Crematorium – the Chair commented on this matter and queried whether the access for pedestrians may be improved as a result of the £250,000 investment to be made by the new owners.

### **10/138 Model Dairy Farm development**

The Council discussed current information available. Councillor Arthur Goldstraw passed on concerns regarding a flyer that had been sent to local residents. The facts on the flyer were disputed and it was felt that much of the content was rumour and could amount to electioneering. The Clerk was asked to write to all those who left their contact details after

the previous public meeting on this matter to inform them that the development plans would be discussed on 12<sup>th</sup> May 2011.

### **10/139 County and Borough Councillors' reports**

The Clerk gave a brief report from Councillor Insley expressing his thanks to the Council for their support over his time as a Borough Councillor.

Councillor Peters asked for feedback on the response to the letter to the CEO of the Borough Council regarding hedge cutting. Councillor Lomas gave a list of the outstanding matters and those dealt with. Councillor Peters asked to be copied in on any correspondence on the matter and asked to be part of an email to Michael Hovers of ESBC requesting another site meeting as he would like to attend if possible. He also reported that the trees overhanging on the Tower Hill path would be cut back and that resurfacing work has been committed to here during the next financial year. This led to a discussion of a leaflet that used to be available entitled 'Woodlands and Washlands Footpaths' and the request for this to be reprinted.

Councillor Peters also noted that the Clifton Way play area would be refurbished in the near future. The mirror on Stapenhill Road is now a top priority as this is a Health and Safety issue. A mirror will not be permanently installed but options for the junction are being looked at to make it safer. An update on Burton in Bloom was also given.

Councillor Muir left the meeting at this point due to another engagement.

Speedwatch was also discussed and the Chair thanked all those involved as it has identified the areas of real concern in the parish.

### **10/140 Planning Applications and Decisions**

#### **1. Planning Applications received for observations**

**Erection of a first floor side extension, 21 Orchid Close**

**Erection of a first floor side extension, 30 Grasmere Close**

**Erection of a two storey rear extension and single storey front extension, 2 Honeysuckle View**

**Erection of a two storey rear extension and single storey front extension, 3 Longford Close**— all applications have been reviewed by the planning committee who have no objections.

#### **2. Planning Decisions received**

**Increase eaves height and construction of pitched roof over existing garage to form first floor storage together with new external steps and formation of new vehicular access, 19 Clay Street - refused**

3. Appeal documentation for 18a St Peters Street has been discussed earlier in the meeting. The objections expressed originally by the Parish Council were felt to still stand and no further representation will be sent.
4. Appeal documentation for 32 Sandringham Avenue's refusal for permission to erect a first floor side extension was noted. This will be determined by written representation.

### **10/141 Correspondence**

Date	From	Regarding	Action
28 <sup>th</sup> March 2011	Corrine O'Hare	Clifton Way Play area	Noted
6 <sup>th</sup> April 2011	Zoe Belcher	ESBC Neighbourhood Warden	BPC will invite her to attend a specific meeting (agreed to deal with this after the elections)
14 <sup>th</sup> April 2011	Mike Maryon	Highways and Transport update	Noted
21 <sup>st</sup> April 2011	Sam Griffiths	NHT possible work requested	To be put onto agenda for 19/5

### **10/142 Finance**

1. Information on Audit Commission arrangements for this year given.
2. Accounts approved for Payment

Supplier	Goods or Services	Gross	VAT	Net
Liz James	Fees for March	363.62	72.72	436.34
Blooming Gardens	New Shrub Beds in the Parish	365.00	73.00	438.00
SPCA	Annual subscriptions and area committee subs	607.00		607.00

### **10/143 Clerk's and Members reports**

Councillor Warrilow reported on the recent PACT and Residents' meetings. Local burglaries had been discussed. Speedwatch was also reported upon with figures given for the 26 vehicles noted to be exceeding the speed limit on a recent session.

Councillor Lomas reported on the planting scheme. Volunteers from Violet Lane have been in touch but unfortunately it was felt after advice from Paul Steed that the health and safety implications would prevent the children being involved currently. A planting area outside the school could be established for the pupils to tend. A local chemist has been in touch to ask if they can donate towards planting schemes. Councillor Peters added that this company had been in discussion with the Borough Council regarding potentially sponsoring a roundabout or similar area. A member of the parish has also been in touch offering to tend one of the planting areas. Councillor Lomas is in conversation with Paul Steed regarding this.

Councillor Webster asked for articles for the next Newsletter noting that Speed watch may provide some interesting information.

Councillor Goldstraw made comment about the potential plan to close the Hargate Road play area and gave apologies for both Councillor Ruth Goldstraw and himself for 12<sup>th</sup> May.

Councillor Willett commented on the changes in local bus services and the unsatisfactory service especially regarding new timetable availability.

### **10/144 Clerk's employment status**

The Clerk gave some brief details regarding the change of her employment status and detail the decisions which the Council need to make in order to prepare an appropriate contract for use from April onwards as per HMRC rulings.

### **The Clerk and the public were then asked to leave the meeting to allow for full and frank discussion.**

This had already been considered by the Finance Committee in advance. Decisions were made by the Council regarding a contract, salary, hours, employment benefits and expenses as well as any implications regarding home-working – guidance on all aspects having been researched. Most recommendations made by the Committee were accepted although the risk assessment clause was retained. The council were unanimous in accepting this version of the moedla contract. Going forward, consideration will be given by a committee formed to deal with the employment of the clerk with regard to staff development and appraisal. The Clerk was informed of the results of this item and will prepare a contract accordingly.

There being no other business, the meeting was closed.

The next meeting will be the Annual Parish Meeting taking place on May 12<sup>th</sup>. This will be followed by the monthly meeting on 19<sup>th</sup> May.