

BRIZLINCOTE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Minutes of Brizlincote Parish Council Meeting held at Violet Way Academy and Nursery on
Thursday 21st July 2016

Present

Vice Chairman Brian Judd (Acting Chairman), Councillors Robin Ludford-Brooks, Ruth Goldstraw,
Arthur Goldstraw, John Hoddy, Vera John, Marie Andrews, Robert Bidgood, Adrian Cowan

Public

Clerk Barbara Roe

Public Session

There were no members of the public present.

28/16 – Apologies

Apologies were received from Chairman Paul Presley-Brooks, Borough Councillors Colin Wileman
and Bernard Peters and County Councillor Conor Wileman.

29/16 – Declarations of Interest

There were no interests declared by any member in any matter identified for discussion at the
Meeting.

30/16 – Minutes of the previous Meeting (16th June 2016)

The Council approved as a correct record, the Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held 16th
June 2016 – Proposed by Councillor Adrian Cowan and seconded by Councillor Robin Ludford-
Brooks.

Councillor Goldstraw asked if there was any update on the Japanese knotweed and was told it was
an ongoing situation and could take years to resolve.

31/16 – Report by Borough Councillor/s

There was nothing to report from either Borough Councillors in their absence.

32/16 – Report by County Councillor

The Clerk read a report she had received from County Councillor Conor Wileman which he had
asked her to read out in his absence.

Councillor Wileman had written to Richard Rayson at Staffordshire County Council asking for the
status of the plan regarding road safety on Hargate Road/Beaufort Road. Mr Rayson had
responded on 21st July stating that his team and others were still looking into the matter and was
awaiting a report back from his Casualty Investigation team. He also stated the Speed Indication
device signs were due for their routine changeover the following week. Beaufort Road is next on
their list for visits and the signs would hopefully be in place the following week.

Action: Councillor Conor Wileman to update.

33/16 – Planning

Councillor Arthur Goldstraw had received three permissions for development –

1. Alterations to roof to form gable end and erection of a rear dormer extension at 50 Clay Street, DE15 9BG dated 8 June 2016.
2. Erection of first floor and single storey front extensions at 3 Longford Close, DE15 9FZ dated 15 June 2016.
3. Erection of a single storey rear extension, raising of roof height of existing two storey side extension, loft conversion and front canopy porch at 88 Clay Street, DE15 9BD dated 15 June 2016.

He had also received a planning application for the erection of a single storey rear extension at 27 Best Avenue DE15 9GU dated 15 June 2016 – P/2016/00726. Councillor Goldstraw had written to Christina Farrer at East Staffordshire Borough Council stating that there appeared to be no provision for ventilation to the proposed extension, therefore the existing kitchen/dining room will not have any.

Councillor Goldstraw reported that from September planning applications would be sent by email.

34/16 – Financial Standing Orders

Councillor Arthur Goldstraw noted that our existing copy mentions the VAT Act 1994. It was agreed the Clerk would contact Stafford and ask if this has been updated. **Action: Clerk**

35/16 - Heart of England in Bloom

In the absence of Borough Councillor Colin Wileman, Councillor Ludford Brooks updated the meeting on his behalf.

He reported that an extra session working on the beds was carried out prior to the judging. The tour with the judges was an 'advice' session and found to be really useful. They advised that, as the wildflower bed behind Hargate Road was already a wildlife meadow, it was best not to carry out any further work on it but suggested that some wildflowers could be set under the hedgerow opposite. The judges also gave advice on work to be carried out going forward on the Grafton Road wildlife area. The results of the judging would be revealed in September at a presentation evening – date to be confirmed.

The Brizlincote Volunteers will hold a meeting in August to discuss the way forward including approaching residents and local businesses for their support and making a decision on where to open up new beds.

Councillor Ludford-Brooks also noted that the Co-op bed, which had been suggested for inclusion, had been partially demolished. Councillor Cowan suggested that as the bed was partially demolished it could be a good time to approach the Co-op and see about it being lowered and replanted, Councillor Ludford-Brooks thought this was a good idea.

The Clerk reported that an email had been received from a Parishioner to Councillor Wileman complimenting the work that had been carried out so far and said it made Brizlincote Valley a 'pleasant rural spot'.

Action: Update at next meeting from Councillor Colin Wileman

36/16 - Speedwatch

Councillor Cowan reported that Winshill Parish Council wanted to start carrying out a Speedwatch and he had suggested that Margaret Fletcher of Winshill Parish Council, write to us regarding joining forces and suggest it is given the name of 'Tower Speedwatch' as we are a county division of Tower. Councillor Cowan asked if anyone objected to the name. Councillor Arthur Goldstraw said it was a good idea, Acting Chairman Judd said he had no objections and this was supported by all.

Acting Chairman Judd enquired what kit we have. Councillor Cowan said we have three hi-vis vests, a clipboard, a camera and tuning fork to calibrate it so that it is accurate to within three mph. They only do speeds above 36 mph. The watch can be carried out between 8am and 8pm, not during the hours of darkness or in inclement weather. The information goes to the Safer Partnership Group who write to the driver and warn them to respect speed. If they are caught again they receive another warning letter and after a third time may be visited by an officer who will give them a warning. The speed gun records the speed of a vehicle but the operating team have to manually record time, date, registration, make/model and colour of vehicles.

The Speed watches have to be carried out in specific places due to safety. There are four sites in Brizlincote – the bottom of Grafton road (as you turn left to go up the hill), Leander Rise (between the two schools) and on Stapenhill Road (near the Hollows close to the junction of Spring Terrace Road). The fourth place is Hargate Road which is no longer being included as it is not considered safe.

Graham Lomas has spoken to Speedwatch and says it is operated independently of ourselves. It is not known who purchased Brizlincote Speedwatch equipment but he believes it may have been gifted independently with the influence of Borough Councillor Peters.

Councillor Cowan had also asked Graham Lomas when the next training sessions were expected to be held as it may be fruitful to include a 'volunteers wanted' in our respective Newsletters. He noted that both he and Louise Wright were trained.

Councillor Cowan said he would keep the Parish Council updated.

Action: Councillor Cowan

37/16 Newsletter

The items for inclusion were – Chairman's piece, Christmas drawing completion – Councillor Andrews – to encourage young ones. Prize would be a £32.50 cinema ticket for a family of four – entry forms sent to Councillor Andrews (this may appear in the next Newsletter). Good Neighbour Award – Councillor Andrews. Gardening section – Councillor Cowan. Winners of Brizlincote in Bloom with photos (if there was ample space, if not photos would be included in the next issue). Section on Heart of England in Bloom judging by Councillor Cowan/Val Burton of WI.

It was agreed by all that a one-sided flier could be included in the Newsletter for the Brizlincote Volunteers.

Action: Clerk and Councillor Cowan to work on the editorial and Clerk to forward content to Mr John to provide a proof. Clerk would then forward to all for approval prior to sending to print.

38/16 - Brizlincote in Bloom

The winners of the competition were:

Best Rear Garden – Mr Firman

Best Floral Display (baskets and tubs) – Mr Malcolm Boston

Best Sloping Garden – Mrs Gillan

The Clerk has written to the winners and invited them to attend the next Parish Council Meeting on 15th September 2016 where a presentation will be made.

Action: Clerk to purchase gift vouchers for winners and to arrange for the engraving of the plaques and production of replica plaques for the winners to retain.

39/16 - Correspondence

No correspondence had been received.

40/16 – Finance

It was reported by Acting Chairman Judd that a discussion had taken place after the previous meeting on 16th June 2016 and after the Clerk had left. During this discussion it was agreed by all that should the Clerk's printer stop working, it would be replaced by the Parish Council.

It was suggested that the Clerk's utility allowance should be increased from £5 per month to £20 per month and a one off

payment of £150 should be made to her – this was proposed by Councillor Cowan and seconded by Councillor Bidgood and agreed by all.

The Clerk wished to thank all Councillors for this decision.

The Clerk reported that she had not been able to enter her salary and expenses on the agenda as she had been waiting for confirmation of her salary amount from the accountant. She now confirmed the total amount she was claiming was £1110.06 – this figure was made up of £598.51 salary and £511.55 expenses. The reason for the high expense payment was due to the purchase of three signs for Heart of England in Bloom and the new external hard drive. A one of payment to the Clerk of £120 was also made. As this should have been £150, the balance of £30 will be paid in September.

Action: Clerk

41/16 – Clerk and Members Reports

Councillor Bidgood reported that a member of the allotments had complained that the person on the allotment next to him had taken up the fence and moved it taking up some of his allocation. He had raised it with the allotment committee but felt they were not interested. Councillor Bidgood was trying to call an extraordinary meeting. He had also spoken to the lady concerned and she informed him she had measured the size of the allotment and made hers the same. Councillor Cowan advise Councillor Bidgood refer the matter to the Derby Diocese.

Action: Councillor Bidgood

There being no other business the meeting was closed.

The next Parish Council Meeting will be held on Thursday 15th September 2016.

Note:

If any Member has any general questions about the Meeting or the associated agenda papers, or is unable to attend, he/she is asked to contact Barbara Roe, the Clerk of the Council. Telephone 01283 814648 or email clerk@brizlinote-pc.org.uk. Correspondence should be sent to 47 Hall Road, Rolleston on Dove, Burton Upon Trent, Staffordshire, DE13 9BX.

