

# **BRICKENDON LIBERTY PARISH COUNCIL**

MINUTES of the Brickendon Liberty Parish Council meeting held on Thursday, 24 July 2008.

\*Cllr T J Barnard  
\*Cllr Mrs A N Downes  
\*Cllr G R Irwin (Chairman)

\*Cllr L J Kotting  
\*Cllr J C Lambie

\* denotes present.

In attendance: 4 members of the public  
PC Neal Dyton  
Cllr M Tucker (HCC)  
Cllr W Ashley (EHC)

## 1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

None.

## 2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None.

## 3. PARISHIONERS' COMMENTS

### (i) Traffic – Brickendon Lane

Concern was expressed regarding the number of HGVs using Brickendon Lane particularly those lorries accessing the site opposite the entrance to Clementsbury. Of particular concern was that these vehicles were travelling through the village. A recording procedure was now in place by a number of local residents.

### (ii) Kindersfield

Concern was expressed that a lot of activity was evident with large lorries accessing the site and a number of residents had complained.

### (iii) Police Reports

PC Dyton reported on the following:

- (a) Aggravated burglaries took place recently at Wormley West End with an elderly resident the victim. Positive enquires had been made and it was hoped that the outcome would be positive.
- (b) Village Fete – PC Dyton would be in attendance at this year's fete and he was hoping to bring along a mobile Police Unit, police vans, etc.

- (c) Vehicles (HGVs) accessing the village – Request for Company name to be obtained as part of the village monitoring process and for such information to be relayed to the Police.
- (d) PC Dyton thanked Cllr W Ashley for the personal and positive comments made by him to the Chief Inspector.
- (iv) Land - Wormley West End

Concerns were expressed regarding the work being carried out on the land owned by Mr Smith with the laying down of an enormous amount of hardcore. The Chairman confirmed that photographic evidence had been forwarded to the Hertfordshire County Council and East Herts Council as the activities totally destroyed the ambience of the footpaths.

Cllr Mrs Downes was concerned about the information in the newsletter which gave the impression that nothing had been done which was incorrect as lot of people were working very hard to achieve a satisfactory outcome.

Cllr Mrs Downes was appalled at the devastation which had been perpetrated to a lovely field.

Cllr Ashley stated that Mr Paul Dean, Enforcement Officer, East Herts Council, had been alerted to the activities and he had expressed his concern and investigations were now underway.

A question was raised as to whether the site was a SSSI. A number of members were of the opinion that it was such a site. The Clerk would investigate.

- (v) Speed Limit – Fanshaws Lane

A request was made for a 10 mph speed limit to be considered. The Chairman stated that it would be more appropriate and more likely to receive favourable consideration if a 20 mph speed limit was to be requested.

#### 4. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING HELD ON 22 MAY 2008

RESOLVED that the Minutes of the last meeting held on 22 May 2008 be accepted as a correct record of the proceedings and be signed by the Chairman.

#### 5. MATTERS ARISING

- (i) Village of the Year

The Chairman informed members that the Parish Council had won the Communication Category in the Competition and had received a £100 prize. A brass plaque had been presented in recognition which it had been agreed to display in the Farmer's Boy Public House as the establishment had been specifically mentioned.

(ii) Terminal Control North – Proposed Changes to Airspace

The Clerk stated that no response had been made to the consultation as of the 17 proposed changes all bar one would reduce over-flying of Brickendon Parish.

(iii) Banking Arrangements

The Clerk confirmed that he had obtained details from the Co-op Bank and he would consider the contents in due course.

6. PLANNING

To note the contents of the attached document. (See Appendix A)

7. CLEMENTS FARM UPDATE

Members had been circulated with copies of the relevant correspondence.

Cllr Lambie read out the contents of the attached statement. (See Appendix B)

A full discussion took place on whether the Parish Council should take the matter to the next stage and lodge a formal complaint to the Hertfordshire County Council and the Ombudsman.

Whilst there was total displeasure that permission had been granted for the development, it was reluctantly agreed that the Parish Council statement should be the end of the matter. However, Cllr Tucker agreed to pursue the matter with the County Council, although he was not optimistic of the outcome.

8. HIGHWAYS MATTERS

Cllr Kotting tabled the attached report of the highways issues. (See Appendix C)

Cllr Mrs Downes confirmed that missing signs at Wormley West End would be replaced with plastic signs, new reflector plates would be installed at the approaches to the village and the frequency of grasscutting would be extended. Cllr Mrs Downes also stated that no action had been taken to effect remedial work to the large potholes situated at the corner of Pembridge Lane and White Stubbs Lane.

Cllr Tucker informed members of the temporary closing of Mangrove Lane, Brickendon, for one week during the period 26 August 2008 to 30 September 2008 to enable drainage work to take place.

9. MINUTES OF THE FANSHAWS ROOM COMMITTEE

To note the attached Minutes. (See Appendix D)

10. PARISH PLAN UPDATE

Cllr Lambie tabled for members information the attached Parish Plan update. (See Appendix E)

Cllr Mrs Downes was concerned that members appeared to be working in isolation and that they did not come together as a group to discuss their areas of activity. The Chairman stated that it was never the intention to work in isolation and that meetings could be arranged for the future to discuss the overall actions.

Cllr Lambie agreed to action this matter.

11. 5 NOVEMBER CELEBRATION

The Chairman informed members that Mr Garry Estherby, publican of the Farmer's Boy, had requested permission to arrange a celebration on the Village Green and he confirmed that all necessary insurance would be in place prior to the event. The celebration would include a fireworks display and a hog roast with no bonfire and would be for ticket holders only. The Police and Ambulance Authorities had been consulted and had raised no objections.

Members fully supported the initiative.

12. BALLS WOOD APPEAL

Members had been circulated with information received from the Wildlife Trust with regard to the Trust's desire to secure by purchase the whole of Balls Wood from the Forestry Commission to release the Wood as a nature reserve. The Trust was seeking financial support to enable the purchase.

RESOLVED that no grant be made by the Council.

13. STANSTED AIRPORT – STANSTED GENERATION 2

The Chairman stated that this matter had been included on the Agenda as a reminder to members that the closing date for the receipt of comments on the consultation document was 26 September 2008.

The Chairman further stated that he had been in contact with a representative of SSE with regard to receiving a template letter to assist members and parishioners in formulating comments. Arrangements would be made to display the document when received on the website.

14. BUDGET/ACTUAL STATEMENT

The Clerk tabled for members' information the attached statement which would be updated for every meeting. (See Appendix F)

15. PAYMENT OF ACCOUNTS AND FINANCIAL STATEMENT

(i) Payment of Accounts

RESOLVED that the accounts as set out in the attached statement be duly authorised for payment. (See Appendix G)

(ii) Financial Statement

RESOLVED that the contents of the attached statement be received. (See Appendix H)

16. FINANCIAL ACCOUNTS 2007/2008

Members had been circulated with copies of the following documents:

- (i) Financial Accounts as at the year ended 31 March 2008.
- (ii) Internal Auditor's Report as at the year ended 31 March 2008.
- (iii) Audit Commission Annual Return for the year ended 31 March 2008 for submission to the External Auditor.

RESOLVED: (i) that the financial accounts for the year ended 31 March 2008 be approved;

(ii) that the Internal Auditor's Report be reviewed by the Clerk and referred to the next meeting of the Parish Council for further consideration and update;

(iii) that the Annual Return be approved and that the Chairman be authorised to sign the document.

17. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

(i) Notice Board for Clementsbury

Cllr Barnard requested that consideration be given to providing a notice board at the above location. Cllr Barnard had a meeting with the Resident's Association and he would ascertain whether any funding would be forthcoming as a contribution.

(ii) Planning

Cllr Mrs Downes requested that copies of the letters of objection forwarded to East Herts Council on planning applications be forwarded to all members for their information.

The Chairman also requested that official recommendations on planning applications be likewise forwarded to members.

(iii) Parish Plan

Cllr Lambie informed members that a meeting had been convened for 30 July 2008 to learn how the Watt Watchers Club grant of £5,800 had been secured.

18. ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDAS

None.

19. CONFIRMATION OF DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

It was confirmed that the next meeting would be held on Thursday, 25 September 2008, at 7.30 pm.

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There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.35 pm.