

BRICKENDON LIBERTY PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES of the Brickendon Liberty Parish Council meeting held on Thursday, 31 January 2013, at 7.30 pm in the Fanshaws Room, Brickendon.

*Cllr Mrs L Ashley

*Cllr Mrs M Laybourn

*Cllr Mrs A Downes (Vice Chairman)

*Cllr J C Lambie

*Cllr L Kotting (Chairman)

* denotes present.

In attendance: 4 members of the public.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None.

3. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING HELD ON 22 NOVEMBER 2012

RESOLVED that the minutes of the last meeting held on 22 November 2012 be accepted as a correct record of the proceedings and be signed by the Chairman.

4. MATTERS ARISING

(i) Clements Farm

(a) Replanting Bunded Area

Cllr Mrs Downes informed members that she had received confirmation from Ms Jane Orsborne that the plants had been purchased and planting arrangements would now be put in hand.

(ii) Improvements to drainage opposite Brickendbury

It was reported that notification had been received from the Hertfordshire County Council that Brickendon Lane and Mangrove Lane were due to be closed during February 2013.

It was questioned if it could be established whether it was the intention to carry out drainage work at this location.

(iii) Use of green verges fronting Thrift Cottage as temporary car park

Cllr Lambie stated that he was seeking to establish proof of ownership and classification.

(iv) Paradise Wildlife Park

Cllr Mrs Downes informed members that she had received an e-mail from Peter Sampson to state that he was awaiting a response from Paul Dean, East Herts Council, to establish whether Mr Dean was happy with the new sign and car park.

(v) Bob's Logs

Cllr Mrs Downes informed members that, with regard to the erection of the sign, planning permission had been refused by Broxbourne Borough Council with a request that the sign be removed on or before the end of February 2013.

There was no up-date forthcoming from Paul Stevens, East Herts Council, with regard to the removal of the trees.

(vi) Purchase of projector screen

To note that Cllr Ms Laybourn had purchased on behalf of the Parish Council the projector screen for an inclusive sum of £94.34.

(vii) Children's Playground

Cllr Mrs Downes referred to the previous discussion which had taken place at the last meeting with regard to this matter and the desire of members to change the inspection contractor from Broadmead Leisure Ltd to Timberplay. In furtherance of this matter, she was happy to report that she had successfully negotiated a deal with Timberplay to carry out quarterly inspections of both the new and the existing play equipment for an annual fee of £590 to include a ROSPA inspection on the existing play equipment. The proposed contract would commence on 1 April 2013 and would be for an initial period of one year.

In addition, Timberplay had been requested to replace the matting under the swings which was worn and the firm had quoted a sum of £1,300 to carry out the work. Cllr Mrs Downes was also pleased to report that, as a gesture of goodwill, Timberplay had agreed to reduce this sum to £550.

RESOLVED that the actions as set out above be ratified and the current maintenance and inspection arrangements undertaken by Broadmead Leisure Ltd be terminated.

5. PARISHIONERS' COMMENTS

None.

6. PLANNING

RESOLVED that the contents of the attached document be noted. (See Appendix A)

7. FANSHAWS ROOM COMMITTEE

(i) Minutes of meeting held on 16 January 2013

RESOLVED that the contents of the attached minutes be noted. (See Appendix B)

(ii) Further matters

Mrs Lambie further informed members as follows:

- At the AGM to be held on 17 April 2013 a resolution would be sought to increase the hire fee for the hall to non-residents from £8 (present) to £10 per hour. Hire fees for parishioners to remain at £7 per hour.
- A car boot sale was now to be held on 19 May 2013.
- It was hoped to organise a celebration on 1 June 2013 on the 60th anniversary of the Coronation of Queen Elizabeth II – venue to be confirmed.

Cllr Mrs Downes informed members that she had ascertained from Cllr Mrs Rose Cheswright that monies were still available from her locality budget and Cllr Mrs Downes had requested a sum of £1,600 to fund the purchase of marquees.

8. NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

RESOLVED that the contents of the attached notes compiled by Mr Tony Roberts be received. (See Appendix C)

9. HIGHWAYS MATTERS

(i) New Highways Regime

Cllr Ms Laybourn informed members that both she and Cllr Mrs Ashley had attended a recent meeting with regard to the new Highways regime. She elaborated on the five categories of work defects and gave details of the type of issues being directly dealt with by the new contractors, Ringway. Cllr Ms Laybourn further stated that there had been an indication at the meeting that a representative of Ringway would contact Parish Clerks in the future with a view to discussing the various issues of concern. No reference would now be given to historic matters and Ringway would appear to be operating from a clean sheet. A new fault recording system was now in operation with a response time of ten days (not physical action time response).

Members agreed that this information should be included for information in the next issues of the newsletter.

(ii) Proposed Parking Restrictions – Bayford Railway Station

Reference was made to vehicle parking restrictions (No Waiting at Anytime) proposed in the vicinity of the entrance to Bayford Station and a request was made that it be established when the restriction would become operative.

Parking was occurring on the highway verge on both sides of the lane, which was extremely dangerous for pedestrians.

10. PARISH PATHS PARTNERSHIP

Cllr Lambie reported on the following matters:

(i) Path to Bayford Station

Groundwork Hertfordshire had advised that the Hertfordshire County Council's Highways safety audit had reported in draft and there were no unusual safety hazards that fell outside the already proposed construction plans for the path from Brickendon Green to a point opposite Bayford Station.

(ii) Path to Hertford

The off-road permissive soft path from Brickendon Green to Hertford was being surveyed from a point on Brickendon Lane north of Back Lane to the footbridge north of the Brickendonbury driveway. Land owners were being consulted where appropriate.

11. NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH/POLICE REPORT

In the absence of the Police, Mr Dennis Downes gave the following crime statistics covering the period 20 November 2012 to 29 January 2013 as supplied to him by PC Watson and PCSO Neil Major.

8 December 2012	Drink driver on Brickendon Lane.
10 December 2012	Possession of cannabis in Pembridge Lane.
13 December 2012	Burglary from out building in Broxbourne Woods.
18 December 2012	Theft from motor vehicle in Wormley West End.
28 December 2012	Possession of cannabis in Broxbourne Woods.
14 January 2013	Possession of cannabis in Pembridge Lane.
16 January 2013	Possession of cannabis in Broxbourne Woods.

12. GOVERNANCE REVIEW

Cllr Mrs Downes stated that she was not convinced that there was any need to increase the electoral arrangements of the Parish Council over and above the present five members. Whilst accepting that the Council was undertaking the preparation of a Neighbourhood Plan, nevertheless, the outcome and any obligations on the Council which might emanate were uncertain and to take any action at this stage would be premature.

Members concurred with the aforementioned sentiments. It was also generally felt that with the commencement of the consultation process on the District Plan having been put back until April 2014 and with the various stages which it would have to pass through before being adopted, it might well be over a year before any decisions could be evaluated from adoption by the District Council of the Neighbourhood Plan.

Members agreed that this matter be revisited in approximately 6 months (July meeting).

13. PUBLIC ACCESS DEFIBRILLATOR

The Clerk had established that, unfortunately, Hertfordshire Fire and Rescue did not operate a scheme of providing defibrillators as was the case with the Bedfordshire Fire and Rescue. The Parish Council would have to make its own arrangements and establish where a defibrillator could be installed, possible locations being the Village Hall or in an “adopted” telephone kiosk. Details of the type of defibrillators on offer had been obtained from St John’s Ambulance and Community Heartbeat and it was indicated that the basic cost of the equipment was approximately £1,700.

RESOLVED that the above be noted and no further action be taken.

14. LEASE – BRICKENDON GREEN

Members had been circulated with further correspondence from the Solicitor acting on behalf of the Parish Council addressing various issues on the draft lease. Members agreed with the approach taken by the Solicitor and the Clerk was instructed to respond accordingly.

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 D)

(ii) Financial Statement

RESOLVED that the format and contents of the attached document be received. (See Appendix E)

16. PRECEPT 2013/2014

RESOLVED that the precept for 2013/2014 be confirmed at £10,000. (See Appendix E)

17. ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDA

- Governance Review.

18. CONFIRMATION OF DATES OF MEETINGS FOR 2013

Thursday, 28 March 2013

Thursday, 23 May 2013

Thursday, 25 July 2013

Monday, 16 September 2013

Thursday, 28 November 2013

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