

BRIZLINCOTE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of Brizlincote Parish Council meeting held at Violet Way Academy and Nursery on Thursday 15th December 2011

Present:

Councillors Geoffrey Willett, Arthur Goldstraw, Ruth Goldstraw, Kay Sherratt, Jim Muir, Graham Lomas, Cedric Insley and Bill Warrilow

Apologies:

Councillors Ian Webster and Michael Ball

Public:

3 members of the public, Lawrence Oates of ESBC, Councillors Bernard Peters and Jake Fellows and Clerk - Liz Court

11/71 Lawrence Oates of ESBC – Transfer of allotments to the Parishes

Mr Oates gave an update of the current situation with regard to the proposed transfer of allotments from ESBC. There is a site which is currently part of the cemetery and therefore non statutory allotments known as Claverhouse Allotments which fall within the parish. After some discussion, it was agreed that Councillor Fellows would follow up this matter with the Legal Services department as this will be a unique situation and quite different from the majority of allotment sites which are currently owned by ESBC. The nature of the complex ownership and the fact that this land could be called back into use as cemetery at any point means that this will need further investigation to see if this falls under the same proposals. Mr Oates was thanked for his help and attendance.

11/72 Public Participation

No further matters were raised by the members of the public present

11/73 Declarations of Interest

Members did not declare any interests in any matter identified for discussion at the Meeting.

11/74 Minutes of the previous Council Meeting (17th November 2011)

The Council approved, as a correct record, the Minutes of the October Parish Council Meeting, held on 17th November 2011.

Matters arising:

11/58 – The land behind Derwent Road was discussed. Action has been taken on this matter by ESBC.

11/70 – Councillor Peters noted that he was to submit a report regarding speed limits outside Violet Way Academy later in the meeting.

11/75 Maintenance of Trees and Hedges

Councillor Lomas reported on the document handed out to all present highlighting the responsibilities of both the Borough and the contractor as regards the maintenance of the hedges. Councillor Fellows requested an electronic copy of the report which Councillor Lomas was to forward so that this can be looked into further.

11/76 Grit Bins

The meeting was given an update submitted by Councillor Webster showing that 13 new grit bins have already been sited in the parish this autumn. It appears that SCC's policy is now not to site further additional bins as it is felt that the spraying of brine solution is more effective in the case of footpaths. Councillor Lomas also reported on the Ice Busters scheme as

advertised by the County Council. It was agreed that the question of brine spraying should be looked into in conjunction with the lengthsman employed to cover the Winshill area.

11/77 Report on a meeting regarding additional parking enforcement provision around Violet Way Academy

This meeting had taken place, however, unfortunately, the Chair of Stapenhill Parish Council had not been present. An update is therefore awaited from Michael Hovers of ESBC. There is still a possibility of an enforcement officer funded jointly with Winshill and Stapenhill Parish Councils. There was also discussion regarding yellow lines in the roads around the school and this matter was discussed with Mrs Bridges of the school who was present at the meeting.

11/78 Parish Plan

Feedback from the first meeting of the Parish Plan Committee was discussed. The questionnaire draft was passed around to the Councillors who reviewed it. Several points were made regarding potentially grading or ranking issues or priorities and possibly pointing out the cost implications of any additional services. Another meeting of the parish Plan Steering Committee will take place in early January and this feedback will be given to the group. It was agreed that the timing of the printing and distribution would need to be discussed with the Newsletter committee.

11/79 County and Borough Councillors' reports

There was no report submitted from Councillor Lamb. The Clerk was asked to make sure that the Council's disappointment at the lack of contact and response from Councillor Lamb be communicated to her.

Councillor Fellows reported on the Audit Commission's comments on ESBC's financial systems and on the Toons sign as detailed at the previous meeting. Alternative siting for this sign can be looked into.

Councillor Peters reported on the parking issues outside the school – 'no parking' is to be embossed into the zigzag markings. Consultation regarding the yellow lines on Greenvale Close will end on 30th December. Representations from the residents who live adjacent to the Co-op at the junction of Stanton Road and Woods Lane had been received regarding parking issues in this area. Observations of this are ongoing.

SCC has confirmed that the mobile speed check cameras have been deployed in the parish as a result of the successful speedwatch campaign.

Councillor Muir commented on the funding of higher tier responsibilities by lower tier funding with reference to parking enforcement and asked for information regarding pest control services. The latter is still under review with no firm decision made at this time. Councillor Lomas asked whether there had been any response regarding the request for a permanent speed indicator sign – there has not.

11/80 Planning Applications and Decisions

Erection of a rear conservatory, 174 Woods Lane

Prior notification for the installation of one telecommunications equipment cabinet, Land opposite Rider House –**planning committee has reviewed both applications – no objections**

Consent given for crown raise to 3 m of one yew tree, 7 Stanton Road–**noted**

11/81 Correspondence

Date	From	Regarding	Action
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11/11	ESBC	Refuse collection over Christmas period	Noted
Nov 11	Communities and Local Government	Neighbourhood Planning	For consideration as part of the Parish Plan
17/11	NALC	Localism Bill briefing	Noted
Dec 11	ESBC	Exemplar Property	Invitation to visit noted

1/82 Finance

1. Precept to be agreed as set by Finance Committee

The Clerk distributed budget information and commented on the cost of the last election and the need to budget for this on a 4 yearly basis. The recommendations of the Finance Committee to raise the precept to £16,000 p.a. were proposed for acceptance by Councillor Muir with Councillor Goldstraw seconding this and all in agreement.

2. Accounts to be Approved for Payment

Supplier	Goods or Services	Gross	VAT	Net
Liz James	Wages for November (as contracted)	500.00	0.00	500.00
Liz James	Expenses (as detailed)	38.12	0.00	38.12
Zurich	Parish Insurance	308.61	0.00	308.61
ESBC	Cost of Election	4711.72	0.00	4711.72
The Glebe	Room Hire	20.00	0.00	20.00
Richard Newton	Internal Audit for 2011	85.00	0.00	85.00

All were in favour of these payments.

11/83 Clerk's and Members reports

The Clerk reported on the SPCA newsletter and distributed same.

Councillor Muir passed on a request for a joint meeting of the Finance and Governance Committee with Winshill Parish Council with regard to the County Councillor. This is to be convened.

The Chair reported on the fact that the Neighbourhood Forum have accepted the two priorities as put forward by the Parish Council for Brizlincote.

All were thanked for their attendance and wished a very Happy Christmas and New Year.

There being no other business, the meeting was closed.

The next meeting will take place on 19th January 2012.

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 Liz James, the Clerk of the Council. Telephone 01538 702077, or email barabarani@aol.com Correspondence should be sent to Fox House, Tythe Barn, Alton, Staffordshire, ST10 4AZ

Distribution: All Members of Brizlincote Parish Council, East Staffordshire Borough Councillors and Staffordshire County Councillor