

BRIZLINCOTE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of Brizlincote Parish Council meeting held at Violet Way Academy and Nursery on Thursday 16th October 2014

Present:

Councillors Geoffrey Willett, Michael Ball, Bill Warrilow, Ruth Goldstraw, Arthur Goldstraw, Cedric Insley, Graham Lomas, Peter Lyne & Jim Muir

Apologies:

Borough Councillors Bernard Peters & Jake Fellows, County Councillor Conor Wileman & Parish Councillor Adrian Cowan

Public:

22 members of the public and Clerk - Liz James

54/14 Public Participation

The Chair welcomed all to the meeting.

The 2014 Brizlincote in Bloom awards were given out by the judges to those who participated and all were congratulate on all the hard work which had gone into the event. Feedback from Councillors, Judges and participants included ideas such as a category for young peoples' gardens (as part of a garden if appropriate), changing the time of year of the judging to allow for gardens which are at their best in spring or autumn and the introduction of classes such as allotment and/or vegetable gardens. Another suggestion was to differentiate between small and larger gardens within the classes. Other comments were also made around the advertising of the event and it was noted that the competition is advertised in the newsletter, on the website and in the Burton Mail. A suggestion was made regarding the potential to nominate gardens which will be considered and entrants requested feedback on all gardens to see where it was felt that the gardens could be improved. This led to an idea of a comment slip given to each garden by the judges.

The Chair thanked all those who had been part of this year's event.

A member of the public raised an issue with speeding – identified in particular as taxis racing up the hill on Violet Way. It was advised that number plates should be recorded and reported to the police via 101. The Police do action such reports and it was suggested that this be included in the next newsletter. This initiated a discussion regarding speeding issues in the borough and the use of Speedwatch.

Other concerns raised under the public forum included regarding blocked grids and barking dogs – both of which should be referred to the correct borough and county authority officers.

55/14– Declarations of Interest

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

56/14 Minutes of the previous Council Meeting (18th September 2014)

The Council approved as a correct record the Minutes of the September Parish Council Meeting, held on 18th September 2014 with one correction to 41/14 where the Clerk had noted an incorrect road name.

Clerk to action

57/14 – Stapenhill Hollows Cricket Surface

Mr Harold Mansfield as Chair of a local cricket club gave advice regarding surfaces and the appropriate maintenance required. The Chair of Stapenhill Parish Council was also present and it was agreed that that Parish Council would be willing to potentially match fund 50% of a cost of up to £3000.00. The Clerk was asked to follow up the matter with ESBC and to take advice regarding companies from the ECB website and to gain additional quotations following a full inspection of the site.

Clerk to action

58/14 – Youth Services funding

Di Needham spoke to the meeting regarding the current situation and changes to the provision. This led to a discussion regarding the closure of open access Youth Groups. It was suggested that a representative from BPC should attend the next Winshill Parish Council meeting and Cllr Muir offered to co-ordinate this.

59/14 – Neighbourhood Priorities for November 2014

The meeting discussed the upcoming meeting on 25th November of the Neighbourhood Forum and the projects to be put forward by the Parish Council. These were agreed as:

- Improvements to the path between Derwent Road steps and the path from Tower Woods
- The planting up of the area of the bank by 2 Derwent Road owned by ESBC
- Enhancing play area equipment

The Clerk was asked to put these forward to the correct officers at ESBC.

Clerk to action

60/14 – Towers Woods footpath work

Feedback from the site meeting held with Andy Mason at the beginning of October was discussed and the new quotation discussed. Cllr Insley moved that a 50% contribution be made by the Parish Council towards the work and all were in favour. The Clerk was asked to complete the relevant forms and to submit these to Andy Mason at ESBC.

Clerk to action

61/14 – Amey Infrastructure Meeting

Feedback was given from the meeting attended by Councillors Lomas and Warrilow on 25th September 2014 . Most of the event had been regarding changes to the A50 at Uttoxeter.

62/14 – Co- ordinators for Emergency Planning

It was suggested that this should be advertised in the Burton Mail and perhaps Brizlincote WI could be approached regarding this.

63/14 – Maintenance of woodland areas

The Clerk gave details regarding concerns from a resident regarding the maintenance of woodland areas in the Parish. Photographs were circulated and the Chair gave details of a site meeting that he

had attended. Information from Cllr Cowan which had been passed to the Clerk was also noted. It was realised that view was not a right but also that this is indicative of a wider issue across the borough. The Clerk was asked to raise this with the Borough. **Clerk to action**

64/14 - Correspondence

Date	From	Regarding	Action
19 th September	Kay Sherratt	Resignation	The Clerk was asked to clarify with ESBC correct procedure with regard to upcoming elections.
6 th October	Stapenhill Parish Office	Remembrance Sunday	Cllr Ball to attend. The Clerk was asked to supply him with the wreath on its arrival.

65/14- Finance - Accounts to be Approved for Payment

Supplier	Goods or Services	Gross	VAT	Net
Liz James	Wages	555.80	0.00	555.80
Liz James	Expenses for October	59.00	0.00	59.00
Bill Warrilow	Travel expenses (mileage)	20.25	0.00	20.25
Trent Trophies	Shields and engraving	104.00	0.00	104.00
Various	Winners cheques for Briz in Bloom	150.00	0.00	150.00
Grant Thornton	2014 Annual Return fee	100.00	20.00	120.00

66/14– Clerk’s and Members reports

The Clerk read reports from the Borough and County Councillors.

The Clerk reported on an update regarding Icebusters and the receipt of the insurance quotation for discussion at the November meeting. The Icebusters item triggered a query from a member of the public regarding a grit bin at Cottesmore Close which was discussed with reference to the work done in recent years by the Parish Council about grit bins in the area.

The documentation regarding capital and revenue expenditure with reference to comments made by the external auditors was reviewed with all Councillors in receipt of various items. Following a conversation with the external auditors and other advice, the Clerk explained that an element of the Council’s holdings was capital rather than revenue as it had been passed to the Parish upon formation some years ago from a previous authority. As such, the remainder of this original sum of capital (some £45,000.00) can be allocated for capital expenditure and ring fenced for such. The powers of the Parish Council with regard to the areas allowable for capital expenditure were also circulated and it was proposed by Cllr Lyne and seconded by Cllr Arthur Goldstraw that this sum be kept separate on paper for capital expenditure such as improving play equipment and other facilities

in the area thus meeting the statutory guidelines. All were in favour of this.

Clerk to action

Cllr Muir discussed the quotation for the ID badges as requested from Reflex and the Chair moved that these be purchased. This was seconded and all were in favour. Cllr Lomas agreed to put together the photographs that he currently holds of Councillors for the badges.

The Chair reported on the removal of the cycle barrier and the erection of a large wall adjacent to the Tower Road to Tesco Express footpath behind a property on Doveridge Road. It appears that this wall has been erected on land which has previously been maintained by ESBC. Surprise was expressed that planning permission or change of use had not been required and that ESBC had not informed the Parish Council that this was going to take place. The Clerk was asked to write to ESBC querying this and requesting information regarding the ownership of the land as well as expressing the disappointment of the Council that the barrier had been removed without any notification. The cost of the removal of this barrier was also noted and it was asked whether the owner of the property had paid for this work or whether this had been at the Borough Council's expense. As the land has now been enclosed, it was pointed out that planning permission should have been sought. The Clerk was asked to write to ESBC to express these concerns and to request a response.

Clerk to action

Councillor Warrilow noted that some waste bins in the Parish have been removed and the Dog Waste Bin by Jasmine Close is hanging off its post. The waste bins at Redhill Woods require emptying and the Dogs on Lead signs chased some months ago have still not been put back. It was agreed that this should go onto the Agenda for November when Borough Councillors may be present. Cllr Ruth Goldstraw also commented on dog fouling in the Parish and there was also a discussion on dogs on leads.

Clerk to action

There being no other business, the meeting was closed.

The next Parish Council meeting will take place on 20th November 2014.

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 BPC, East Staffs Borough Councillors, Staffs County Councillor







