

BRIZLINCOTE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Minutes of Brizlincote Parish Council meeting held at Violet Way Academy and Nursery on
Thursday 19th November 2015

Present

Vice Chairman Brian Judd (deputising as Chairman for this meeting), Councillors Ruth Goldstraw, Arthur Goldstraw, Robert Bidgood, Adrian Cowan, Vera John and Marie Andrews.

Public

Borough Councillor Bernard Peters.

Public

As Borough Councillor Bernard Peters had forewarned the Council he was going to be arriving approximately 15 minutes late for the meeting and we needed his update, permission was given by the Vice Chairman for his presentation to be made in the main meeting in this instance.

82/15 Apologies

Apologies were received from the Chairman Paul Presley-Brooks, Parish Councillor Robin Ludford-Brooks, Borough Councillor Colin Wileman and County Councillor Conor Wileman.

83/15 – Declarations of Interest

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

84/15 – Minutes of the previous Council Meeting (15th October 2015)

The Council approved as a correct record, the Minutes of the October Parish Council Meeting, held on 15th October 2015.

85/15 – Play Area at Ashbrook

Following a meeting with Andy Mason of East Staffordshire Borough Council at his offices in The Maltings, the Clerk produced the Application Form for Funding that had been completed with Mr Mason. This was approved by all. **Action: Clerk to forward the completed form to Mr Mason.**

86/15 – Councillor Peters - Signage for Redwood Woods and Towers Woods/Raised Bed/Ferry Bridge Work

Councillor Cowan stated that this was not a normal Agenda item and should be discussed under the Public Session, however, as Councillor Peters had already notified the meeting that he would be 15 minutes late and the item needed to be discussed, it was agreed by the deputising Chairman Brian Judd that this would be allowed to be included in the main meeting on this occasion.

Councillor Peters said he had received a favourable response from Andy Mason of East Staffordshire Borough Council who had said there would be no on-going costs just the cost of the signage and installation costs which would be approximately £2,000. The locations of the signs were still to be agreed but the suggestion was the three entry points into Tower Woods and Redwood Woods.

Councillor Cowan suggested that before any signs were erected there should be some work carried out to clean up the area, especially Redwood Woods. Councillor Peters said he would mention the need for this work to be carried out the next day. Councillor Cowan also asked if there was a need to carry out some coppicing of trees. Councillor Peters said that a risk assessment had been carried out on houses but not bungalows and he keeps coming up against the tree policy. Councillor Cowan also stated that the pathways had been cleared previously and contractors had carried out a path scrape but the steps that run down the side of Leander Rise are now slippery due to a mud slide following on from the recent wet weather and the wooden hand rail is broken. Councillor Peters asked if this matter could be left with him to sort.

Councillor Peters then went on to discuss a new project which was a Raised Flower Bed. This would be a joint project with Winshill Parish Council. Vice Chairman Judd asked why this was being discussed with Brizlincote when the land was in Winshill. Councillor Peters said there was a commitment from the Council to do this but he felt that Brizlincote residents would be happy to maintain it. Councillor Judd was concerned that volunteer maintenance would not continue and the bed would be left to deteriorate. Councillor Peters responded that he had spoken to a few people in Brizlincote and they had told him they thought it was a good idea. Councillor Peters said an alternative could be that the few boulders there at present could be turned into a rockery. He said the concern is the upkeep as the East Staffordshire Borough Council do not have the resources to do it. He said as this was not in Brizlincote he would take it to Winshill Parish Council.

It was suggested that a raised bed opposite would be acceptable as this would involve very little maintenance, just a cut by East Staffordshire Borough Council and it would grow back.

Councillor Andrews asked how long the timber on the raised bed would last but Councillor Peters told her it would be treated.

Councillor Cowan asked Councillor Peters how long the work on the Ferry Bridge would take, Councillor Peters said at present they did not know.

87/15 – Footpath at the top of Elms Road

The Clerk had investigated the Parish's insurance cover if we carried out the work on the piece of path that appeared not to be owned by anyone and it was confirmed that we are not covered. Councillor Goldstraw asked if we fund it do we own it? The suggestion was made that the Parish Council look into registering ownership of the land, the Clerk was asked to investigate if we did take on ownership would our third party liability insurance cover us. **Action – Clerk.**

88/15 – Debris and Branches from Laurel Hedge on Ashbrook and Accumulation of rubbish at the Dragon Inn Takeaway

The Clerk had received an update from Andy Mason of East Staffordshire Borough Council who had received a response from the County Council. They said they would wait until the Spring to see if Laurel Hedge is going to grow again. One of their inspectors had been out to the site and identified some tidying up is required – Andy is waiting for some clarification on that.

The owner of the Dragon Inn was in the States at present so could not be contacted with regard to the accumulation of rubbish within the premises.

89/15 – Neighbourhood Forum/Priorities

Councillor Cowan stated that due to insufficient time we would not put forward his suggestion of a corkscrew but to keep this running for the next Neighbourhood Forum to enable him to investigate more thoroughly.

90/15 Planning

Planning Reference No: P/2015/01390 – 10 Ashworth Avenue

Councillor Arthur Goldstraw had been to view the above property and as a result he had written to Declan Cleary. The Application stated that both existing and proposed materials under guttering and downpipes were listed as black but on the site visit he observed that the colour of the existing rainwater goods was brown.

Councillor Goldstraw asked why we were subcontracting out of East Staffs Borough Council. Councillor Peters said it was a sign of the times due to staff cutbacks. Councillor Goldstraw asked if it was more economical to employ a contractor than your own staff? Councillor Peters responded that not so many overheads were involved with a contractor and Planning Policy people diminishing.

91/15 – Finance

1. Accounts to be approved for payment

| Supplier | Goods or Services | Gross | VAT | Net |
|------------------------------------|--|----------------|----------|----------------|
| Barbara Roe | Salary and expenses | 632.39 | - | 632.39 |
| Reflex Print and Design | Printing of Newsletters | 415.00 | - | 415.00 |
| East Staffordshire Borough Council | Re-imbusement of Cost of Election Fees | 103.56 | - | 103.56 |
| | | | | |
| | TOTAL | 1150.95 | - | 1150.95 |

All were in agreement that these payments be approved and paid. **Action - Clerk**

94/15 – Clerk's and Members Report

Councillor Cowan noted that the traffic on Beaufort Road was horrendous and it looked like there had been another accident. Councillor Bidgood thought it might be due to 'job' action.

Councillors Arthur and Ruth Goldstraw gave their apologies for the next meeting.

Councillor John said she was still waiting to hear from Mr Peach at Paulet School.

Councillor Cowan mentioned that Trevor Hill's funeral had been held that day (husband of ex Mayoress Pat Hill),

Councillor Cowan also stated he was still waiting for the results of the Abbot Beyne Survey from Councillor Conor Wileman.

It was agreed that the next Newsletter would be put on the agenda asking for suggestions of items not more than 200 words

There being no other business the meeting was closed.

The next Parish Council meeting will take place on Thursday 17th December 2015. Please note the venue will be in the ITC room at Violet Way Academy and Nursery – this is the room we used at the last meeting which is separate to the main building at the back.

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 barbara.roe@virgin.net Correspondence should be sent to 47 Hall Road, Rolleston on Dove, Burton Upon Trent, Staffordshire, DE13 9BX.