



## **Briercliffe with Extwistle Parish Council**

**Monday, 15<sup>th</sup> August 2011**

**Present:** Councillor Frost (in the Chair), Bailey, Kelly, Lishman, Meeks, and Royle.

**Others:** J Greenwood (Allotments Manager), M Greenwood (Lengthsman), S. Watson (Clerk), PCSO Rachel Lonsdale plus 3 residents.

### **Public agenda**

#### **(a) Public questions**

A member of the Briercliffe Residents Association asked if the Noticeboard on Queen Street could be used for a 'No Dog Fouling' poster as it currently was empty. It was noted that the noticeboard had been empty for 3 months, however these boards are the property of the Tourist Authority and not the Parish Council. It was agreed that the County Councillor would be asked to provide information on the usage of the boards and a request made to the effect that the Parish and other local groups are given access to the boards to publish local information. It was also suggested that the Parish could provide additional noticeboards in the Parish and the Duke Street garden area was suggested as a possible location. A price for an additional noticeboard would be sought.

The Residents Association offered to provide volunteers to bulb plant on Parish land, in the autumn, if bulbs and suitable locations could be sourced. Suggested locations included:

- Around the new bench on Robin House Lane, Hydrangeas have already been planted but the banking area would be ideal for bulb planting;
- Any of the grass verges could have bulbs planted;
- The Woodland Walk onto the Recreation Ground;
- The Commercial raised beds were suggested but these are not within the Parish boundaries;
- Delamere Road near the new school;
- The grass verge at Lane Bottom;
- The far side of the Church next to the Mill on Harrison Street;
- The Triangle on Harrison Street near the new noticeboard;
- Continuation of Halifax Road on the wide green areas;

The Turning Circle area could be considered after the completion of the garage installations. The Association was advised that a grant may be available from the Parish Council to buy bulbs and that a grant application form would need to be completed which was available on the Parish Website. Councillor Kelly would also investigate if bulbs could be made available from the Borough Council.

A local resident informed the meeting that 10 large boundary stones could be made available for the Parish Signs project at a cost of £1,000, this would include delivering each stone to its place of installation. Councillors Royle and Kelly confirmed that 10 stones could be used with the current list of sites. The Finance Committee minutes later in the agenda will recommend a Parish Signs budget is set of £1,000.

**RESOLVED: That the £1,000 budget is allocated to be used for the purchase of 10 large stones including delivery, subject to the approval of the budget under the Finance Minutes.**

A resident asked the Police representative if any action could be taken against people removing items from the waste disposal unit, usually scrap metal, when it is closed. The noise is causing a disturbance to local residents. It was noted that a recent meeting of the Three-Tier Forum had quickly resolved the issue of the unit's lights staying on when closed. The Police notified the meeting that a recent visit had been made to the unit and that a follow up visit will be arranged. If considered necessary the unit will be subject to a night operation to catch the culprits. It was agreed that this issue would be included in the PACT priorities for this month.

A resident had also complained about noise from the waste disposal site however the noise was actually from Metro Metals. Their license only permits operations after 7:30am, however residents had noted work commencing before this time.

There were no further public questions.

## **(b) Police report**

The Police representative circulated a report on proposed Police Office front desk closures due to funding cuts for consultation and requested responses.

A written report was provided that outlined that there had been 103 incidents and 16 crimes this month compared with 87 incidents and 8 crimes last month and 73 incidents and 12 crimes for the same period last year. Crimes included the theft of a solar light, parts stolen from a car, the theft of metal girders, 3 motorbikes stolen, however 2 had already been recovered, a stolen wheelie bin, an assault outside the Spar, a car window smashed to steal a CD player, an insecure car stolen from and a further car window smashed causing the alarm to sound. It is possible that these last three crimes are connected and may be the responsibility of the same people. The Police requested that unusual behavior is reported immediately as this will help in identifying and catching the perpetrators.

Further crimes included rings stolen from an insecure vehicle, tools stolen from a van, a shed being broken into, a metal cage, a bike and a number plate stolen and 2 bikes stolen but quickly recovered.

Feedback on last months PACT priorities included that spot checks had been carried out regarding the Lane Bottom anti-social behavior resulting in a warning letter being issued and a home visit carried out.

Parking on side roads had resulted in several people being spoken too and asked to move. The juvenile nuisance on the Recreation Ground increased during the periods of good weather and problems arose with youths camping and setting fires and burning the litter bin. This has resulted in one youth receiving a Fire Service referral. A group of youths have been causing problems outside Eastern Delight, those involved have been identified and an apology given. It was also noted that the Halifax Road Speed Indicator needed to be checked as it didn't appear to be working.

A new Neighbourhood Watch scheme has now been set up on Duke Street along with those already on Harrison Street and Tennyson Avenue.

A resident asked if it was possible to install 'dummy' speed cameras and the Police agreed to investigate this further. Residents were also asked to report cars parking on double yellow lines to the County Council.

- RESOLVED: That the PACT Priorities for this month will be:**
- 1. Thefts from the Waste Disposal Unit during the night.**
  - 2. Youth nuisance on Recreation Ground and in the woods.**
  - 3. Parking on double yellow lines.**

### **(c) County Council Report**

Councillor Kelly provided a report from County Councillor Brindle. The positioning of the Speed Indicator sign on Halifax Road has now been resolved. There was a report back on the junction of Sutton Avenue and Croasdale Avenue and a report back on litter, fly-tipping problems and inaccessible paths due to overgrowing hedges on Walshaw Lane however these areas are not within the Parish.

A resident had complained of damaged to his daughter's wall due to HGVs turning into Queen Street, the resident herself has not complained in person. The damage is a personal issue and the problems of HGVs on Queen Street have been investigated previously and there is no easy solution.

A proposal for yellow lines on Netherton Street was reported, the request came from residents in the interest of safety. It was agreed that a notice would be put on the website informing residents of the proposals.

### **Parish Council Agenda**

#### **11/12/028 Apology for absence**

Apologies were submitted on behalf of Councillor Prince, Councillor Thomas and County Councillor Brindle.

## 11/12/029 Declarations of Interest / Code of Conduct

Members were reminded about the Councillors Code of Conduct. Councillors Kelly and Frost declared a Prejudicial interest in relation to planning matters and Councillor Kelly declared a Personal and Prejudicial interest in licensing matters.

Code of Conduct forms were submitted by Councillor Lishman and Councillor Bailey, Councillors were reminded of the importance of returning the forms.

## 11/12/030 Minutes of the last meeting

The minutes of the last meeting held on 18<sup>th</sup> July 2011 were submitted for approval as a correct record.

**RESOLVED: That the minutes of the Briercliffe Parish Council meeting on the 18<sup>th</sup> July are approved as a correct record.**

Councillor Kelly had previously agreed to mediate in a personal capacity between neighbours, however the situation had progressed resulting in this offer being withdrawn.

The Allotments have now been judged and the information has been passed to the Clerk.

## 11/12/031 Administration

- 1a. *Correspondence received*
  - Stephen Wells – Parish Sign Sponsorship*
  - Roscky Shorrocks – QEII Playing Fields Challenge*
  - Calico – Allotment Path response*
  - ENV EPP – Environment Bulletin Issue 1*
  - DCK Beaver Ltd – Payroll Services*
  - Fields in Trust – 1 year to go*
  - LALC – meeting dates*
  - SHQ Chris Haworth – Lancs Fire and Rescue*
  - Nicky Hulme – Parish & Town Council Conference*
  - Lee Collins – Land Slip reply*
  - Nigel Hopwood – Burnley Way Maintenance*
  - Nigel Hopwood – Parish Pathways*
  - Lyndsay Watson – Parish Compost Heap*
  - Alan Lawson – LALC meeting dates*
  - Roland Clews – Highway Issues*
  - T Wright – Allotment Society*
  - Code of Conduct and Interest Forms*
  - Playgrounds – magazine*
  - LALC – conference, Com Engagement, Chairmanship*
- 1b. *Correspondence received after the publication of the agenda*
  - Briercliffe Football Club – response*
  - Royal Horticultural Society*

*Paula Taylor – Parish Signs response*  
*Mayor & Mayoress – At Home*  
*Chromex – Christmas Catalogue*  
*P Goddard*  
*Winston Robinson*  
*Julian Smith*

It was noted that the request from Mr Clews was outside the Parish boundary, however the County Council response will be forwarded to Mr Clews. The Land Slip response was noted and it was agreed a meeting of the group was urgent.

*2. Correspondence sent*

Flower Show letters – 8 letters sent  
Business Sponsorship of Parish Signs – 25 letters sent  
Alison Morville – Parish Vacancy  
Alan Lawson – LALC Meeting Dates  
Al Turner – No Cold Calling Zone Stickers  
Walne Engravers – plaque quote  
UK Grid – Duke Street  
Kelvin Harris – Allotment Society information  
Burnley Borough Council – Compost Heap  
N Hopwood – Burnley Way and Allotment Paths  
Stephen Wells – Parish Signs

An additional number of businesses for contact had been identified by the Chair and would be forwarded to the Clerk.

*3. Other administrative matters*

Garages tenancy agreement

The draft garage tenancy would be sent to David Wilcock at the Borough Council for comment and the position of the garages bank account would be clarified.

Request to use the Recreation ground for a re-enactment group

The request for possible use of the Recreation Ground for a Civil War re-enactment event in 2012 was discussed and it was agreed that the event would only be considered if the group reached an agreed position with Simon Goff of the Borough Council, County highway approvals are given, the football season is not disrupted and a financial fee for use and a recompense for reparations is agreed. It was suggested that the Mill Car Park could be considered for a camping area if needed.

**RESOLVED: that the Parish Council note the Correspondence received and sent and the Chair to respond to the Re-enactment Group outlining the Parish Council's position on the request.**

**11/12/032 Updates and Reports**

Councillor Bailey reported that phase one of the Turning Circle Garage Colony was nearing completion and consideration is needed for phase 2 of the project which will install a further 8 garages. Garages are increasing in price but the supplier has offered

to provide the next 8 garages at the same price as the first if they are ordered imminently. It was noted that the waiting list contains 22 names.

**RESOLVED: That the first 8 names on the waiting list would be contacted personally to ascertain if they still had an interest and tenancy agreements would then be sent out. The number agreeing would be reported back for a phase 2 consideration to be made at a later date.**

There were no further Parish Councillor or Borough Councillor reports.

It was noted that the website now contained 2 polls of juvenile nuisance and the need for additional youth facilities. The Briercliffe Residents Association agreed to send some web articles for inclusion on the website.

### 11/12/033 Finance

1. *Accounts to be approved for payment*

a)	Parish Clerk	Salary	£ 153.00
b)	RFO	Salary	£ 47.72
c)	HMRC	Clerk's deductible tax	£ 37.00
d)	HMRC	RFO's deductible tax	£ 11.93
f)	Greenwoods	Allotments maintenance Inv 31	£ 998.52

**RESOLVED: That the bills outlined above be paid.**

2. *Bank Balances*

▪	Current a/c –	£ 22,002.48
▪	Deposit a/c –	£ 9,688.14
▪	Petty Cash -	£ 14.71
	Total	£ 31,705.33

The Bank Balances were noted.

3. The Petty Cash Report was noted.

4. Parish Signs Cost Centre

It was agreed that a separate cost code is set up for the Parish Council Signs Project.

### 11/12/034 Committees and Working Groups

*Allotments committee*

Councillor Lishman reported that the Allotment Committee had received a quote from Groundwork, via the Chair, for the Harrison Street pathway, a third quote is still outstanding, a resident offered to provide an additional quote for the work and this was welcomed. The Allotment Manager would provide the specification given to the other 3 companies, this would include a tarmac surface. The Allotment Society raised concerns

over the Site Inspection letters recently sent out and it had been agreed that a member of the Society would attend future Site Inspections and the Society would receive advance notice of the inspections. The Allotment Society has not notified the Parish Representatives of the meeting dates and a request for dates will be sent. It was also agreed that Allotment Tenants would be asked if their details can be shared with the Society the next time rents are due.

### *Planning Committee*

Due to Councillor Thomas being ill a formal meeting has not been held, however Councillor Royle reported that only one planning application had been received for the building of a front porch and that the Parish Council had no comment to make on the application.

### *Finance Meeting*

The recommendations from both the Finance Committee of the 19th July and the Finance Working Group of the 27<sup>th</sup> July were approved. It was noted that both the Halifax Road and Nelson Road Parish Sign locations would be suitable for a large, free standing stone. Also the West side of Holt Hill, on the Lane Bottom side, is to be a wall mounted sign rather than on the lamppost. It was agreed that the Parish Signs was an excellent project and that Aircelle should be sent a letter of thanks and a framed copy of the Cockden sign opening event photograph. Councillor Royle agreed to send the letter of thanks.

A letter had been received from the Royal Horticultural Society that needs to be considered at the next Finance Committee Meeting.

### *Recreation and Leisure*

The Committee did not meet this month, however it was agreed that both a Bowling Club report and Football Club report should be presented to each Recreation and Leisure meeting and that 2 Parish representatives should attend the Bowling Club meetings. A request for meeting dates of the Bowling Club will be made. It was agreed that a meeting of the Recreation and Leisure Committee should be held soon to discuss the issue of the Lane Bottom Play area, Bowling Club and Football Club events will also be included on the agenda.

### *Strategic Planning Group*

It was noted that the Strategic Planning meeting had proved very useful, the information gathered would be worked into a questionnaire for residents and promoted in the newsletter and website. The newsletter will also include a request for local volunteers to deliver the newsletter and a resident in attendance offered to deliver from Jubilee Street down to the Parish boundary. The resident was thanked for the very kind offer.

### *Land Slip Working Group*

It was agreed that a meeting was needed urgently as cows have been accessing the land. It was suggested that the Parish liabilities are checked in case any harm befalls animals trespassing on the land. A quote for fencing is to be sought and a local resident

very kindly offered to donate 4 rolls of barbed-wire. Councillor Meeks agreed to speak to the local farmer about the cows accessing the land.

**RESOLVED: Due to the urgent matter of the Land Slip, the Parish Council delegates authority to the Land Slip Working Group to agree reparations necessary and approve expenditure required to rectify the immediate problems.**

A Land Slip Working Group meeting is to be held on Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> August at 10:00am.

**Matters identified for future consideration**

The Newsletter will include an advert for the Parish Council Website.

**The meeting moved into Private Session.**