



Briercliffe with Extwistle Parish Council

Monday, 17th January 2011

Present: Councillor Kelly (in the Chair), Bailey, Frost, Kinnear, Lishman, Meeks, Prince, Royle and Thomas

Others: County Councillor Brindle, PCSO Dave Johnson, J. Greenwood (Lengsthman) and S. Watson (Clerk).

Public agenda

(a) Public questions

The Chair opened the meeting at 7:30, a resident entered the meeting after the start and asked the Parish Council to support a request to reinstate Buses from Briercliffe to Nelson that accept Burnley and Pendle (B&P) bus passes. B&P Buses 3, 4, and 5 have all stopped going to Nelson. The Tyrer Tours bus still goes to Nelson but will not accept B&P bus passes. There appeared to be no consultation on the changes, although the routes are not subsidised therefore the County wouldn't consult. It was noted that operators of buses for specific needs could be asked to drop at more schools.

RESOLVED – A letter of objection is to be sent to the bus company objecting to the cancellation of the service, the lack of consultation and the short notice of the cancellation. The letter to be copied to the County Councillor

RESOLVED - The County Councillor will challenge the decision, though the lack of subsidy will make this difficult.

(b) Police report

PCSO Johnson apologised for not attending previous meetings and presented a Police Report. The Police asked for help with regards to 4 cars being scratched on Finsley View for the second time.

The Police have been approached to set up Neighbourhood Watch schemes for Talbot Drive and Sutton Avenue, a meeting has been arranged for the 25th January. A request has also been received for Queen Street and a meeting is to be arranged. More Neighbourhood Watch schemes were encouraged and residents asked to contact the Police if they wanted more information.

Praise was given to all the residents that have provided information to the Police as this helps with the detection of Crime. It was suggested that this is included in future press coverage.

- RESOLVED:** **The Police and Community Together (PACT) priorities were set as follows:**
- 1. Dangerous Parking near the Lollypop Man at school times, specifically a new Silver Ford with a 60 reg, which has been seen several times.**
 - 2. A Calico Van causing dangerous visual problems when parked at the bottom of Duke Street.**
 - 3. Anti-Social Behavior by a youth on a motorbike around Morning Crescent and Sycamore Avenue.**
 - 4. Dangerous parking at school times on Kimberley Close turning circle.**

Parish Council Agenda

10/11/071 Apology for absence

All Councillors were present.

10/11/072 Declarations of Interest / Code of Conduct

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

10/11/073 Minutes of the last meeting

The minutes of the last meeting held on 20th December 2010 were submitted for approval as a correct record.

RESOLVED - That the minutes of Briercliffe Parish Council be approved as a correct record.

It was agreed that the Parish Council would go into Private Session at the end of the meeting to discuss allotment rents.

10/11/074 Administration

Correspondence

- Census 2011
- The Queen's 2012 diamond jubilee
- Lancashire Best Kept Village
- Burnley Borough Council Memorial Service
- Royal British Legion
- LCC Waste Framework
 - o Update
 - o Managing Waste Proposals
 - o Planning Note
- LALC Correspondence
- LALCS Workshops
- SELRAP Correspondence

A discussion took place on possible events for the Royal Wedding and the Queen's Diamond Jubilee. It was suggested that a Gala could be arranged for 2012 and a plaque could be provide on Duke Street. It was agreed that an article is placed in the next Newsletter asking for resident suggestions for celebration events.

RESOLVED: That the Parish Council note the Correspondence received and the next Newsletter ask for resident suggestions for Royal events.

Other administrative matters

- Freedom of Information Policy and Risk Assessment.

RESOLVED: That the Parish Council approve the Freedom of Information Policy and Risk Assessment with the amendment of the Clerk contact details.

10/11/075 Councillors' updates/reports

Borough Councillors

Councillor Frost reported that the Bowling Green has suffered considerable damage following burst pipes. The ladies toilets have had a lot of damage. It was agreed to check what responsibility the District Council had to provide repairs.

Councillor Frost gave the Clerk a resident's request to rent a plot of land that the Parish Council has not rented out before. The Parish Council will consider the request at the next meeting.

Parish Councillors

Councillor Meeks reported that the next Newsletter is being planned for distribution the second week of March, future editions will be in August and November. It was noted that the summer Newsletter needs to be out in July for entries in the 'Best Garden Competition' and the Flower Show. It was agreed that the Newsletter would have 4 adverts, including a free advert for the winner of the Best Dressed Window competition. It was also suggested that one page be in colour with the rest being black and white. A photo is available of the Lengsthman with the new gritter which can be included. A history article will be included if space allows.

RESOLVED - Articles for the March Newsletter to be provided as follows:

Councillor Lishman: Allotments

**Councillor Frost: Community Centre, Briercliffe Centre,
Census**

Councillors Frost and Meeks: Bowling Club

Councillor Thomas: Planning Issues

Councillor Prince: Website

Councillor Kelly: Lengsthman with Gritter

RESOLVED - A draft copy of the March Newsletter be available for the February meeting

Councillor Kelly reported that Hanging Baskets are available again this summer and an article is needed for the next Newsletter with all requests for baskets being sent to the Chair and that all baskets must be collected from the Community Centre on a specified date to be set. The baskets for lampposts have been ordered.

RESOLVED – The Parish Council will purchase 150 Hanging Baskets at £12 per basket and sell them for £13 per basket. Residents will also be asked to recycle last year’s baskets.

Councillor Prince asked for comments on the draft website. It was suggested that when the website goes live the Clerk will update the Agenda and Minutes sections. A request was made for Councillors to suggest polls and questions for the website.

RESOLVED - That the website be approved and is to now go live, the new website will be publicised in the Newsletter and will monitor the number of ‘hits’.

County Councillor

County Councillor Brindle reported that speeding on Halifax Road was still being reported by specific residents, who have written to the County. It has been suggested that residents meet with County Officers at the next Parish Council meeting regarding Halifax Road. The application from the Resident’s Association for a County Member’s Grant is still outstanding. A request was made for further suggestions for the Members Grants.

Briercliffe library is due a renovation and will be closed from 26th January and will reopen on the 4th May.

It was noted that Talbot Street has severe potholes and needs some urgent repairs.

A question was asked about the composition of the grit that was used this winter as it didn’t appear to be as effective as previous years and left a greasy sediment. It was reported that the grit was a 50/50 mix of grit and salt and contained a dye to prevent it being misused by residents.

It was noted that the Talbot Street Grit Bin still needs relocating to the top end.

RESOLVED: That the County Councillor will try and get repairs for Talbot Street onto the priority list.

RESOLVED: That the County Councillor will report back to the County the views of the Parish Council that the grit was not as effective this winter.

The Chair reported that sometimes a simple letter informing residents when their actions impact on others can resolve the problem. The Spar Car Park has suffered from flooding and it was suggested that a letter be sent to the residents responsible for its maintenance asking if they can sort the drainage problem and the pot holes. Residents are encouraged to park here to reduce on street parking problems.

10/11/076 Finance

Accounts

a)	Parish Clerk	Salary	£ 111.00
b)	Clerk/RFO	Salary	£ 238.60
c)	HMRC	Clerk's deductible tax	£ 87.40
d)	Maggie Lishman	Biscuits/Hamper	£ 17.97
e)	Community Centre	Hire of Premises	£ 67.50
f)	Greenwoods - 79	Pegging Douglas Rd	£ 88.00
g)	Greenwoods - 80	Allotment Maintenance	£ 277.00
h)	Greenwoods 81	Lengthman Duties	£ 138.00

RESOLVED- That the bills outlined above be paid.

Additional items of expenditure incurred after the publication of the Agenda were tabled as follows:

i)	RFO	Stationery	£ 4.49
j)	United Utilities	Allotment Water Bill	£ 184.08
k)	Clerk	Stationery/Hard Drive	£ 66.02
l)	Clerk	Petty Cash	£ 100.00

RESOLVED - That the additional expenditure outlined above be paid.

RESOLVED - That £1,600 be repaid to the District Council for the remedial work needed from the United Utilities compensation.

Bank balances

Current account – £12,918.49

Deposit account - £9,686.22

RESOLVED: That the Finance Committee agree a figure to transfer from the current account to the deposit account.

RESOLVED: That the Summary of spend to 10th January is noted

A quote has been received for £1,570 to provide the foundations for one block of four garages. It was suggested that the Parish Council should receive 3 quotes for the work, but there are time constraints of needing to complete the work before the Planning Permission runs out.

RESOLVED: That in this instance only, the quote is accepted due to the time constraint problems, subject to the condition that the remainder of the project must satisfy procurement rules of having 3 quotes. Councillor Bailey is to check if the existing quotes are still valid.

RESOLVED: That the work is to commence immediately. The remaining work is subject to the outcome of the loan applications and will be a future agenda item before further works are approved.

10/11/076 Committees and Working Groups

Allotments committee

Pathways have been inspected which has resulted in a number of actions being taken. The Allotments Society is due to meet next month and it was agreed that a letter will be sent to a tenant with a large muckheap. It was agreed that United Utilities be contacted about re-instating the middle of the pathway at the Royal Court turning circle.

Planning Committee

Councillor Thomas reported that an amended application for the MUGA is needed due to an updated report on the location of drains.

The Chair left the meeting before the next items due to a Personal Interest.

An application has been received for a large radio mast. Also an application for bungalows on Maytree Close from Pendle Council was received very late. Councillor Frost submitted objections on behalf of the Parish Council due to the time running out. Previous objections agreed by the Parish Council were submitted only.

RESOLVED: That the Parish Council note the objections for Maytree Close and object to the radio mast due to the visual amenities problems it will cause.

The Chair returned to the meeting.

Lengsthman Working Group

No report

Finance Meeting

It was suggested that the Ward Opportunity Fund should not be included in the Finance Minutes. It was agreed that another meeting of the Finance Committee is needed to look at next year's budgets. It was proposed that the Parish Council submit a precept next year at the same level as this year.

RESOLVED: That Minute 3.4 of the Finance meeting be removed and a meeting of the Finance Committee be held.

RESOLVED: That a Precept is approved at the same level as last year.

Recreation and Leisure

No report

Strategic Planning Group

It was agreed that a meeting of the Strategic Planning Committee should be held after the next finance meeting.

Membership of Meetings

A list of meeting membership was circulated, it was agreed that membership for all Committees would be reconsidered in the new financial year. The Newsletter working group would be added to the meetings list.

Matters identified for future consideration

No matters were identified

The meeting moved into Closed Session and the Public were excluded, the Allotments Co-ordinator was asked to stay in the meeting.

The Allotment Committee recommended that there is a flat increase of 15%, which means that standard garage rent will increase from £35 to £40, F1 garages will increase from £113 to £129.95, F3 garages will increase from £71 to £81.65, F4 garages will increase from £78 to £89.70, pens will increase from 0.45p per sq meter to 0.5p, grazing to go up 15% and gardens to increase from 0.125p per sq meter to 0.1437p.

RESOLVED: That rent increases are proposed as above but fixed amounts are rounded up to the nearest pound. Increases would be as follows:

Standard Garage	£ 40.00
F1 Garage	£130.00
F3 Garage	£ 82.00
F4 Garages	£ 90.00
Pens	0.5 p per sq mt
Gardens	0.1437p per sq mt
Grazing	flat 15% increase

The increases be formally brought to the next Parish Council meeting for ratification and then to be introduced as notice periods permit.

The Allotments Chair had been contacted by the District Council requesting the Parish Council buys land that 3 residents have indicated they don't want for £1. The RFO was requested to provide figures for the costs and lease lengths for Douglas Road to the Parish Council and Allotment Chairs in order that tenancies can commence as soon as possible.

RESOLVED: That the Parish Council will purchase the 3 areas of land from the District Council at the cost of £1.