



BRIERCLIFFE WITH EXTWISTLE PARISH COUNCIL
STRATEGIC PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETING

Tuesday, 10th January 2012

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

Others: S. Watson (Clerk).

1. Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from Councillors Dack and Prince.

2. Minutes of the meeting held on 31st October 2011

The minutes of the previous meeting held on the 31st October 2011 were approved as a correct record.

3. Actions arising from the minutes not covered elsewhere on the agenda

The Clerk has now got full access to the website and is providing regular updates. There has been no snow, therefore gritting routes have not been needed. Springwood Nurseries have agreed to provide red, white and blue flowers for the Jubilee on Duke Street and it was suggested they could sponsor the flowers and a sign can be provided. It was agreed to provide a 'Welcome to Briercliffe' flag with the crest and website included for the Jubilee and a children's party will be further investigated and Jubilee cups could be provided.

RECOMMENDED: That the Parish Council meeting make a decision on the provisions for the Jubilee.

The Clerk will check on available storage at the Community Centre and storing information electronically and sort through the existing files.

There were no further actions arising from the minutes.

4. Parish Plan Website Feedback

There has been an average of 45 residents per month visiting the website and the newsletter increased visitors. It was agreed that a press release and noticeboard posters should advertise the website and the web address should be put on future correspondence. The website will be included where possible, including a poster at the Community Centre and website articles will be sent to the Clerk to publish.

The best 3 achievements in order were the Turning Circle Garages, Gritting provision and Duke Street Garden and the website as a joint third. The Allotments offer the best value for money and the garages the worse value for money. The Parish should continue to provide the Allotments, the newsletter and the Lengthsman. The Parish should seek more external funding opportunities and provide a multi use games area. Residents asked for additional flower planting and wanted to see a reduction in rented properties and the Parish to arrange a summer fete.

The Parish Plan was noted and the Clerk will contact the Briercliffe Society regarding their Parish Plan.

5. Precept Website Feedback

There were only 4 responses to the Precept Poll on the website, therefore it was difficult to determine a clear result. It was noted that the Parish grant from the Borough Council will remain the same next year.

RECOMMENDED: That the Parish Precept remain the same at £8,000.

6. Christmas 2012

It was noted the lights at the Bowling Club will be turned off as soon as access is available. It was agreed that the Best Dressed Window competition will be opened up to the whole Parish next year and residents will nominate. A newsletter article will explain and a copy of the newsletter is to be sent to the newspapers for additional publicity. The Community Centre has a tree that could accommodate lights if electricity can be sorted and the Bowling Green could have lights on the wall if they are high enough not to be tampered with.

The Commercial was suggested as a site for lights but electricity may be an issue. Solar lights were suggested for either lampposts or shop fronts and will be investigated further, although storage may be an issue. A garage may soon be available for sale and the Parish will consider this option further.

It was noted that Talbot Drive was decorated excellently this year and a best dressed Jubilee competition could be arranged.

7. Newsletter Article

It was agreed that the newsletter will remain at the same size for the March edition and will be double sized for the edition after. It was agreed that the Chair would provide an article on Queen Victoria's Jubilee, Councillor Thomas would provide a recipe article and Councillor Lishman would provide a 'down on the allotments' article. Additional adverts are still required.

8. Finger Post Repairs

An expert on finger posts has been contacted and will be asked to provide costs for repairs. The issue will be considered further when more details are available.

9. Lengthsman Tender

The Lengthsman Working Group has had a number of meetings and recommended that the tender is put on hold for 12 months. The members of the working group have set up a process that involves a meeting with the Lengthsman on the 2nd Monday of every month where the invoice for the previous month and the workplan for the upcoming month will be agreed, with each task being allocated a set number of hours and recorded on a timesheet. Grass cutting routes will be prioritised and set how often they get cut according to use. Separate bills will be provided for Lengthsman work and Allotment work.

Emergency jobs will only be carried out if agreed by the Working Group, Councillor Bailey is the first contact in case of emergency, if not available Councillor Lishman then Councillor Meeks must be contacted respectively.

Health and Safety courses are to be investigated for the Lengthsman.

It was suggested that Lengthsman time could be saved by not removing grass cutting. The working group will list the areas where cutting are to be removed or left.

It was agreed that the £100 Allotment Manager float for keys and locks will be retained.

A reply will be sent to Clive Wilson noting his points and explaining that all the items will be dealt with.

RECOMMENDED: That the Lengthsman's contract is extended by 12 months to March 2013 and the working group's proposals are accepted.

10. Any Other business

The Borough Council will provide two additional ditches to help alleviate the Landslip problem and an article will be put on the website that the work is to be carried out in the next couple of months.

The Football Club is to be contacted and invited to a meeting to discuss the future of the club and provide a copy of their accounts. The club will also be asked to open up the car park on Sundays.

The stone at the turning circle has been moved and it was agreed that the Lengthsman will reset the stone.

The Allotment Society request for parking was considered and it was agreed that the Society will be given permission subject to a 12 months notice period and notice that carboot sales and fetes cannot be held.

A stone for a sign for the allotments is to be provided near the Noticeboard and a bench will be installed.

Four garage tenants have been given notice to quit and reminder will be sent.

11. Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting date will be set following contact with the Bowling and Football clubs, who will be asked to attend.