



BRIERCLIFFE WITH EXTWISTLE PARISH COUNCIL
STRATEGIC PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETING

Monday, 3rd October 2011

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

Others: S. Watson (Clerk).

1. Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from Councillors Bailey, Prince and Royle.

2. Minutes of the meeting held on 1st August 2011

The minutes of the previous meeting held on the 1st August 2011 were approved as a correct record.

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

It was agreed that the Strategic Planning questionnaire devised at the last meeting needs to be circulated in the Newsletter and Website. The Newsletter could include 2 or 3 questions in each edition or be 2 sides of A4 with a back-up on the website.

The level of the Allotment rents was raised as it was noted they had not been increased for a while. Tenants need to be given 12 months notice, these were served last year and rents will increase from April, 2013 rent increases have also been agreed.

It was noted that the garage colony was an excellent source of income, however the Harrison Street garage colony was becoming dilapidated, with some garages obviously not being used for vehicles and some needing major repairs. It was also noted that some garages may have asbestos.

It was suggested that Council owned garages could be provided on vacant plots.

RECOMMENDED: The Clerk will circulate a copy of the garage tenancy agreement and if there are breaches to the tenancy the tenants will be given a notice to quit. The garage site will be inspected at the next Allotment Site inspection due to be held on Thursday 13th October.

The Duke Street gardens were commended as an excellent project and it was suggested that benches could be provided.

RECOMMENDED: A bench is provided behind the bus shelter at Duke Street and the Harrison Street benches are replaced.

It was noted that a Mr Robert Sutcliffe has volunteered to take on the Environmental Warden post. The Chair will circulate the relevant Job Description and the candidate will be asked to provide a note of suitability. The Clerk to check the insurance policy covers the post. The post will be able to get advice from the Borough Council.

It was noted that PC Liz Bedford has been transferred and the new PC is called Fran.

Cllr Thomas informed the meeting that he was receiving a notification of Planning Applications and the actual applications and made a request not to receive the Planning Notifications to save money and resources.

The discussion moved to the Wind Farm Application and Councillors Frost and Kelly declared a personal and prejudicial interest and took no further part in the discussion.

RECOMMENDED: That Councillors Dack and Lishman are the liaison Councillors for the Wind Farm application and the letter of objection prepared by the Clerk is sent.

There were no further actions arising from the minutes.

4. Road Traffic Orders Duke Street/Jubilee Street and surrounding area

It was noted that Queen Street and Townley Street already have double yellow lines.

RESOLVED: That double yellow lines are requested for all south side junctions off Burnley Road from and including the cross roads on Todmorden Road (down the side of the Hare & Hounds) then Jubilee Street to Talbot Street.

5. Christmas Decoration and budget

A tree is being provided on Duke Street by the Borough Council and a tree has been ordered for the school. It was agreed that a budget of £500 should be recommended and that decorations on lampposts were the preferred option. The Clerk will source a catalogue for lamppost decorations and it was suggested they are left up all year to save on costs.

RECOMMENDED: That Councillor Kelly lead on Christmas decorations and a budget of £500 is set. Lamppost decorations would be the priority.

6. Phase 2 Turning Circle Garage Colony

The Allotment Committee had looked into the provision of storage containers however the proposed site is not Parish Council land. It was agreed that the Parish Council would propose installing 2 garages on the Harrison Street garage site, there are currently 2 vacant plots that can be utilised. One of these garages could then be used to store the Parish Council equipment. It was also noted that the offer of the temporary classroom for storage was still available.

RECOMMENDED: The issue the Temporary Classroom is discussed in Private Session at the next Parish Council meeting.

7. Any Other Business

Quotes have been received for the Harrison Street pathway, the cheapest of which was over £6,000. The 3 quotes received asked for a resolution to the problem and all suggested tarmac. It was suggested that the problem is a water problem rather than a tarmac problem and a cheaper solution may be available.

It was suggested that with the correct drainage and a 'V' drainage ditch to the culvert would resolve the problem. Water would be drained into the Allotment Pen then transferred 100m to the drain. It was noted that the issue needs fixing before winter otherwise further frosts will increase the damage and increase the repair costs. In order to solve the problem within budget it was recommended that Councillor Dack would have to provide all the equipment at cost, volunteer his labour time and be assisted with 10 Lengthsman days.

RECOMMENDED: That the Allotment Committee discuss drains across allotments and potential compensation required.

RECOMMENDED: That the Parish Council agrees in Private Session to Councillor Dack's proposed solution.

The issue of Parish Council grit was raised and how bulk purchases could make considerable savings. It was suggested a storage area could be created next to the 'bin area' on the Allotments.

RECOMMENDED: That the Parish Council applies for a loan for Phase 2 of the turning circle garages and includes installation of a grit store at Harrison Street.

Councillor Dack expressed an interest in being on the Allotment Committee.

RECOMMENDED: That Councillor Dack replace Councillor Frost on the Allotment Committee.

The date of the next meeting will be agreed at the Parish Council meeting.