

BUGBROOKE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of the Full Council
held on Monday 14th February 2011 at 7.30 p.m. at the Community Centre, Bugbrooke.

PRESENT:

Chairman - Councillor Philip Bignell

Councillor John Bignell
Councillor Diana Cockrill
Councillor John Curtis
Councillor David Harries
Councillor Brenda Inch
Councillor David Jeffrey

Councillor Brian King
Councillor Paul Phillips
Councillor Cherry Pilcher
Councillor Dr Jonathan Shribman
Councillor Terry Ward

IN ATTENDANCE

Mrs Catherine Parry, clerk

5 Parishioners
County Councillor Joan Kirkbride

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were accepted from:

Councillor Neil Sturdy
Councillor Alan Kent

Reason:

Family commitment
Another voluntary commitment

ABSENT

Councillor Ken Gardner

PC11/2/027 TO RECEIVE AND ACCEPT APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were accepted from Councillors as recorded above.

PC11/2/028 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Ward declared a non-predjudicial interest in the planning application relating to Brooke Farm house on the grounds that he was a neighbour. He took no part in the discussion relating to this application.

PC11/2/029 REGISTER OF INTERESTS UPDATE

No member of the Council had acquired any new interests which were required to be recorded in the register of interests.

PC11/2/030 MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 10th January 2011 were approved as a correct record of that meeting and were duly signed by the Chairman.

PC11/2/031 POLICE MATTERS

A Various Community messages had been circulated.

B A letter had been received, explaining the transition from Community Panel meetings to street briefings. The meetings were to be discontinued, owing to generally poor attendance. They were to be replaced by street briefings. Prior notification would be given of the streets to be covered by the relevant briefing. Jen Harrison and Steve Horner would remain contacts for Bugbrooke, which would be in the Heyfords and Bugbrooke village cluster. Each cluster would have one priority from the surveys identified in the street briefings. Priorities would run for 6 months, from March 2011 until September 2011.

C The Police had reported an 11% fall in crime in the 12 months to September 2010.

D There had been a report of a bogus caller, claiming that the recipients of his call were due a council tax refund, and asking for personal details. South Northants Council confirmed that they did not contact people by phone offering refunds.

E Kidney Research UK charity collectors were to be operating in South Northants between 7th and 20th February.

F There had been an attempted breakin to commercial premises on the High Street.

PC11/2/032 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

The meeting was adjourned between 7.36pm and 7.53 pm to allow questions and comments from parishioners. The matters are reported in Appendix A annexed.

- PC11/2/033 **REPORT ON MATTERS PREVIOUSLY RAISED**
There was nothing to report under this heading.
- PC11/2/034 **YOUTH MATTERS**
A **Campion School:** There was nothing to report this month.
- PC11/2/035 **PLAYING FIELD**
Councillor Harries reported as follows:
 - That at the recent meeting of the Bugbrooke Sports and Community Association there was a discussion about how best to deal with the mud which is left on the car park following football matches, which makes a poor impression, especially if there are social functions later held in the community centre.
 - The June 2012 dates have been noted as possible dates when the playing field would be needed for the village celebrations.
 - There was to be a quiz on 4th March and the parish council was invited to send a team.
- PC11/2/036 **NEW CHURCHYARD EXTENSION**
A
The clerk reported that she had heard from the Fellowship's agent, who had invited the parish council to a meeting so that he could inform them of the Fellowship's proposals for incorporating a churchyard extension into a sheltered housing scheme.
RESOLVED That the clerk would put some dates forward so that a meeting could be arranged with the churchyard extension working party.
ACTION Clerk to liaise with the agent and report back to the churchyard extension working party.
- PC11/2/037 **PRIMARY SCHOOL**
A
The clerk reported that she had asked the fencing contractor to confirm that the quotation given was for fencing of the same height as the palisade fencing and without gates.
- PC11/2/038 **TWINNING**
Councillor Harries thought that, notwithstanding the uncertainty caused by the elections, it was important that the issue of who was to attend the ceremony was settled urgently. It was clear that Vöhl were regarding the twinning ceremony as extremely important, and it must be regarded as such by Bugbrooke also. It was also necessary to book tickets as soon as possible before the prices increased.
RESOLVED Councillor Harries would contact the chairman of the Football Club to discuss the best way to proceed.
ACTION Councillor Harries.
- PC11/2/039 **ALLOTMENTS**
A
The clerk reported that she had not yet received a reply from the Diocese's agent.
- PC11/2/040 **COMMUNITY SPEED WATCH AND 20MPH ZONE**
A
There was nothing to report under this heading, except that a motorist had crashed into one of the bollards at the bottom of Butts Hill, and this would have to be repaired.
- PC11/2/041 **MID NORTHANTS PARISHES REPORT**
A
Various emails.
B
The chairman reported on the meeting which had been held in Kislingbury on 20th January, at which a new chairman of Mid Northants Parishes was appointed. He thought that this person might keep the group more focused on the issues for which it had been set up.
C
The clerk reported that she had received an email inviting people to vote against the alternative voting referendum. The clerk had not circulated this in case it was political, but can forward it if required.
RESOLVED That emails of this type were not what Mid Northants Parishes had been created for and were inappropriate, since Bugbrooke parish council had always strived to be apolitical
ACTION Clerk to advise the sender accordingly.
- PC11/2/042 **PLANNING**
Planning correspondence:
A
Email from Andrea Leadsom MP informing councils that she had taken part in a debate to discuss

the government's plans for local planning. She supported transfer of planning power back to local councils.

B South Northants Council was changing the way in which it notified councils of planning decisions. Officers' and committee reports were now available on the SNC website. The weekly list would be supplied by email each week. This would supply details of planning decisions, so they would not now be sent to the parish council by hard copy. Consultation packages would continue to be supplied as before.

C Press release regarding the Localism Bill and the government's support for devolving planning powers to local councils.

D Email précis of the contents of the Localism Bill insofar as they related to parish councils. This was quite informative and the clerk could forward it on request.

E Land adjoining 5 High Street – the clerk had supported the previous owners' desire to call the new development Holt Gardens. The district council had responded by saying that a new street name would not be required, and the numbering would be 3A, 3B, 5A and 5B High Street.

RESOLVED The parish council deplored this attitude. It was important to record village families and occupations, where these could be linked to new developments on land to which they had been connected. Also, 5A and 5B High Street would be before 5 High Street, which was illogical. The district council should be urged to reconsider their decision.

ACTION Clerk to write to SNC.

F **FOR DIARISING** - CPRE would be holding its planning roadshow on Thursday April 14th at Great Houghton Village Hall, 6.30pm for 7.00pm. The cost was to be £29.00 per person. The clerk would like to attend. If this were agreed, she would present the cheque for payment at the March meeting.

G Johns Road development - the clerk had asked the planning officer whether a contribution could be made direct to the primary school, instead of play areas being provided within any new development. The clerk had been advised that the only way in which this could be considered was if the school applied for a contribution direct. The head teacher had been informed of this.

H SNC had advised that WNDC would transfer some of its planning powers to local authorities on 6th April 2011. It would retain planning powers in respect of applications for developments in excess of 200 homes.

I The Joint Planning Unit had sent a newsletter regarding the next phase of the Joint Core Strategy. Consultations were to start on 17th February and finish on 31st March. The pre-submission Strategy was available on the JPU website. It was likely that Bugbrooke would be seen as a Primary Service village and therefore at risk of development at the rate of 10%-12% of existing numbers. The clerk was intending to prepare a report for the March meeting so that considered responses could be given to the consultation.

J **Planning applications as follows:**

Status	App. No. & applicant	Location	Proposals	PC comments or SNC decision
Info	S/2010/1449/FUL Timpson	59 Georges Avenue	Demolition of existing garage/utility area & construction of side extension	Permission by SNC
Info	S/2010/1526/FUL Iqbal	28 Pilgrims Lane	Removal of existing rear family room and numerous other works	Application withdrawn
Info	S/2010/1424/FUL Rowan Hamilton	Bugbrooke Downes House	Single storey stable block	Permission by SNC
New	S/2011/0097/FUL Halford	Brooke Farm House 30 High Street	Extension to garage	<i>Object. Overdevelopment, no need for more parking.</i>

PC/11/1/043 **PARISH MATTERS**

A The clerk reported on the meeting which she had had with a representative of the Northants Library Service in respect of welcome packs, and circulated a copy of the West Haddon pack.

RESOLVED That this would be a useful tool to hand to new parishioners and that a working party should be put together in order to move it forward.

ACTION Clerk to initially draft a pack similar to West Haddon's so that this could then be refined.

B **Hedges:** The clerk has spoken to the householder in Badgers Close, who owns the overhanging bushes. He has confirmed that he intends to cut back the bushes but has been advised not to do so during the nesting season because they are home to several nesting birds.

C **Libraries:** The clerk reported that a parishioner had emailed with concerns about bus service cut-backs and the possible loss of mobile library services. County Councillor Kirkbride had covered these issues during public question time. See Annexe A for details.

D **Dog bins:** The clerk reported that the South Northants Homes housing officer for Bugbrooke had confirmed that they would permit the parish council to site another dog bin in the verge which fronted the crescent of old people's bungalows in Butts Hill, next to the back edge of the footpath. There was a general discussion about the dog mess in the village and the possible need for more bins.

RESOLVED That one bin in Butts Hill would be appropriate, but that other bins were sited in locations throughout the village and were readily accessible. Irresponsible dog owners would not use bins even if they were available.

ACTION Clerk to order a bin for Butts Hill.

PC11/2/044

ELECTIONS

A The agenda had contained a warning that the May meeting might have to be postponed until the first Monday in June if the parish council elections were to be held on 26th May. This would have been to enable the election of officers to take place after the election. The clerk reported that, following the issue of the agenda, she had been told by an election officer at South Northants Council that in any event, SNC intended to hold all elections on the same day.

B The clerk reported that the South Northants Council Electoral Services Officer had corrected the issued guidance notes to provide that current councillors would retire on 9th May (if there was not to be an election).

C If there is to be an election, candidacy statements would need to be displayed. The clerk asked for confirmation that the notice boards in the surgery and the post office could be used in addition to the village notice boards. Councillor Dr Shribman and Councillor Ward agreed to this.

D **FOR DIARISING** - there was to be an election seminar for people interested in standing for the district and parish elections. This is on **Thursday 17th February at the Council offices in Towcester from 6.00pm to 8.00pm.** The clerk reported that she had sent this information to the website.

E The district council had asked for details of the number of nomination packs required. The clerk reported that she had responded.

PC11/2/045

NORTHAMPTONSHIRE COUNTY ASSOCIATION OF LOCAL AUTHORITIES

The clerk reported that:

A The NCALC email update had been received, which had been circulated.

B The training guide for 2011 had been received.

PC11/2/046

CONSULTATIONS

A The Future of the Public Forest. This was to close on 21st April. Further details could be obtained from the clerk if any councillors wished to respond to this.

PC11/2/047

HIGHWAYS AND TRANSPORT

A Councillor Cockrill reported that dropped kerbs had now been installed at Maple Close and Butts Hill. It was considered that one was not necessary on the High Street near the Bakers Arms, because there was a lower kerb edge by the entrance to the Heygate land next to the pub. With regard to bus services, she had seen five different versions of what might be happening to the bus services, and the situation was very confused. As far as she could tell, the village bus service would be safe. Dial a ride services would probably not be suitable because pensioners would have to pay for them.

There was a discussion about the state of the emergency repairs to the potholes on the High Street, which were rapidly disintegrating and grit was being spread over the surrounding area as they did so.

RESOLVED That Street Doctor should be informed of the shoddy workmanship to the potholes.

ACTION Clerk.

B The clerk reported that she had received details of overnight closures on the A5. These been circulated and sent to the website.

C The clerk had been informed that Regional Growth Fund money had possibly been found to progress the Flore bypass. A map showing the proposed route had been sent to the clerk and was available for circulation.

D The Highways Agency had resolve that motorway lighting should be switched off between J16 and Watford Gap services, between midnight & 5am.

PC11/2/048 **NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH**
There was nothing to report this month.

PC11/2/049 **STREET LIGHTS**
There was nothing to report this month.

PC11/2/050 **SILVER JUBILEE/ROYAL WEDDING CORRESPONDENCE**
A The clerk reported that various letters had been received about the holding of street parties. Where relevant, these had been forwarded to Mr Gordon, in connection with the event on the playing field in 2012. The clerk could supply these, on request, to any parishioners who wished to hold street parties.
B There was a project to provide permanently protected outdoor recreational spaces to mark the Jubilee and the Olympics. Further details could be obtained at www.qe2fields.com.

PC11/2/051 **CORRESPONDENCE**
1. For Action

No. **Item**
A The Environment Agency had advised that it was running a national emergency response exercise for flooding, between 7th and 11th March 2011. The agency was encouraging communities in flood risk areas to register for further information to help them decide whether this could help them in managing a flood. The clerk had registered to receive an information pack and asked whether the parish council wished to take part in the exercise.
RESOLVED That Councillor Curtis, as flood warden, should be given further details of the project.
ACTION Clerk and Councillor Curtis.
B The Best Village Competition is to be held again this year. Does Bugbrooke wish to enter?
RESOLVED That Bugbrooke should not enter this year.
ACTION None.
C E.On has sent an example of an emergency pack which every household is advised to keep in the case of a power failure etc. The clerk has sent this to the website for information.
D The Trading Standards approved trader scheme appears to be subject to cancellation owing to the cuts in funding. There is a website available for comments on this if councillors wish to use it.
E Northants ACRE have asked users to complete an online survey.
RESOLVED That this should be completed.
ACTION Clerk.
F CPRE is running a Stop the Drop campaign from March 25th to 3rd April. Does the parish council wish to take part?
RESOLVED That this should be considered further in March.
ACTION All.

2. For Report -
Item

No. **Item**
A Various suppliers' brochures:
B South Northants homes briefing paper.
C SNVB email and hard copy newsletters.
D Nene Valley Community Action had emailed with details of their Needs and Aspirations project which was run for carers. The clerk had circulated this.
E An update had been received in respect of the progress of the Sustainable Communities Act.
F Parish councils had received a copy of a letter to the Regional Growth Fund from Northamptonshire Enterprise Limited (a joint venture partner with NCC formed to bring growth to the region) asking for funding for various projects aimed at providing business expansion for the region. Some of these might not find favour with the residents affected by them.
G Museum events brochure.
H Village Viewpoint magazine.
I Email from English Heritage praising the improvement of Bury Mount in Towcester
J "Heyford Moles" mole catcher had emailed his details. The clerk could forward these on request.
K British Legion had sent details of its Great Poppy Party weekend on 10th -12th June. If anyone was interested in organising a party, the clerk had details.

PC11/2/052 **REPORTS**
A Councillor Harries had reported on the meeting of BSACA previously in the meeting.

PC11/2/053 **FINANCIAL MATTERS**

A Details of account balances were circulated.

B Accounts for payment:

Moneys must be paid out in only in pursuance of statutory powers vested in the parish council.

The final column on the right details the powers which authorise the payments below:

Chq no	To whom	Service rendered	Amount £	Vat £	Power used for payment
1169	AH Contracts	Emptying of waste bins – to 31.1.11	309.89	51.65	Litter Act 1983 ss5, 6
1170	E.On	January unmetered supply costs	441.16	73.53	Parish Councils Act 1957 s3 Highways Act 1980 s301
1171	Mr P. Bignell	Reimbursement of paint for Millennium sign refurbishment	23.97		Local Gov't Act 1972, s143
11721	Mr A. Walton	Litter picking January - 5 weeks x 4 hours: 20 hours @£6.50 =£130.00 (less 20% tax)	104.00		Litter Act 1983 s5 Local Gov't Act 1972 s112
S/O	Mrs C.J. Parry	Clerk's salary– January 2011	364.47		Standing Orders
1173	HM Revenue & Customs	Tax -CP Tax - AW Total	£91.20 £26.00 £117.20	117.20	HM Revenue and Customs requirement
1174	Anglian Water	Allotment water invoice July 2010/January 2011	45.26		Local Gov't Act 1972 s111
1175	Kay Tarry	Bus shelter cleaning	30.00		Litter Act 1983 ss5, 6
1176	Falcon Copiers plc	Copying charges October 2010/January 2011	16.12	2.68	Local Gov't Act 1972 s144
1177	NCALC	Election workshop fee	29.00		Local Gov't Act 1972 s111

PC11/2/054

DATE OF NEXT ORDINARY MEETING-

Monday 14th March 2011

At 7.30pm

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 9.04pm

End of Minutes

CHAIRMAN:.....

DATE:.....

APPENDIX A – MATTERS RAISED DURING PUBLIC QUESTION TIME 14TH FEBRUARY 2011

1. A parishioner expressed concern that householders who were not connected to the internet might not know about the street briefings until too late, and that the police should be asked to ensure that hard copies of any flyers or lists of dates should be circulated around the village. Councillor Dr Shribman confirmed that the surgery notice board could be used, and Councillor Ward said that the post office notice board was also available. The clerk agreed that she would contact PCSO Jen Harrison re this. Councillor Kirkbride also promised to mention it when she next met the police.
2. A parishioner reported on the latest meeting of the West Northants Joint Planning Unit which he had attended as a member of the public. After two hours of discussion the pre-submission Joint Core Strategy had been approved. Councillor Curtis said that the overall number of new dwellings proposed for the area had been reduced by about 20%. It was possible that, if planning consent were granted for the expansions of Towcester and Brackley, the pressure for new development might be taken away from the villages. Councillor Dr Shribman asked whether this meant that the planning applications presently awaiting decisions might be refused. Councillor Curtis thought that this would be so, if the expansion plans for Towcester and Brackley went ahead, but agreed that there was always the possibility that any refusals would be challenged by the landowners.
3. County Councillor Kirkbride reported that the Northampton County Council budget was to be released on 15th February. She was not able to go into detail prior to the publication, but confirmed that there would be a reduction in subsidies to the bus services and libraries, in particular to mobile libraries. There would still be a home visit library service available. With regard to bus services, it was emphasised that not all parts of a route were necessarily subsidised – for instance, on the D3 service, the part of the route between Bugbrooke and Northampton was profitable, except for the spur into Harpole. It was also subsidised for the remainder of the route into Daventry, which was less well used. Subsidies on some routes in the county were £107 per person per service, which cannot be maintained. Councillor Kirkbride emphasised that the bus services would not be withdrawn at the start of the next financial year in April, and that there would be consultations with users, but the following were being considered:
 - 3.1 Community schemes, such as Dial a ride.
 - 3.2 Bus operators to review charges.
 - 3.3 Free bus travel will be cut to non peak periods
 - 3.4 Reduction of services
 - 3.5 Variation of routes.

Councillor Kirkbride said that the county council had to find £73million in savings. The government grant had been cut by £20million. £700,000 savings were required from the library service. The cuts here were being carefully looked at following a large response from the electorate to the news of the possible closures of 8 libraries.
4. Councillor Curtis suggested that the D3 bus route could be terminated in Nether Heyford, because the D1 service went from there to Daventry.