

BRIMINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of Brimington Parish Council Monthly Meeting held at Brimington Community Centre, Heywood Street, Brimington on 11 December 2018 at 7:00pm

In Attendance: Councillors G Barnett, S Bean, A Bellamy (Chairman), P Cawthorne (Vice Chair), D Culley, J Haywood, G Simmons and S Yates

Also present:

Colin Hampton – Derbyshire Unemployed Workers Centre
E Boswell - Clerk to the Council

PART I – NON CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS

98/18-19 Apologies for Absence

Councillors I Callan and B Weston

99/18-19 Variation of Order of Business

None

100/18-19 Declaration of Members Interests

Councillors G Simmons Item 10 Planning

101/18-19 Public Speaking

(a) Public Speaking

None

(b) Police, County or Borough

The crime statistics for October 2018 include the following 46 reported crimes:

25 – Anti-Social Behaviour; 3 – Criminal Damage / Arson; 4 – Violence; 1 – Public Order; 1 – Theft of/from Vehicle, 4 – Other Theft; 4 – Burglary; 1 – Bicycle Theft, 2 – Drugs, 1 Possession of Weapons

The Burglaries occurred on Brimington Road North, Wayside Court, Devonshire Street and The Lanes. The Possession of weapons occurred on Wilden Croft. There were also 11 crimes reported on Peterdale and surrounding roads including 7 incidences of Anti-Social Behaviour on Damon Drive along with a Criminal Damage and an incident of Violence.

Resolved: To note

(c) Members Representations - None

(d) Colin Hampton – Derbyshire Unemployed Workers' Centre

Colin Hampton was welcomed to the meeting and asked to present the Annual Report for the Derbyshire Unemployed Workers' Centre.

The £93,000 cut of grant from Derbyshire County Council, meant that the Centre faced a loss of a third of its income from April 2018. A make-up of this deficit has been received from a range of funders including the Henry Smith Foundation, Trade Unions, Labour Branches and supporters and an anonymous donation of £10,000; this fantastic support has enabled the service to continue.

Help was given to a man from Dronfield whilst he was in a time of difficulty; once he was back on his feet he wanted to repay the DUWC and has donated his time in IT expertise which has improved communications and made the dissemination of information so much easier for the organisation.

18 Brimington residents have been assisted in court appeals; these appeals have resulted in back payments of £10,500 and additional payments of £481 per week coming into local households.

There are currently 30 local appeals waiting to be heard; and it is expected over the next year that these numbers will increase.

The vast amount of enquiries involve ESA and PIP, but since the initial roll out of Universal Credit in November 2017 there are an increasing number of enquiries. Currently Universal Credit has only been rolled out to new claimants and claimants with a change of circumstances, once this is rolled out to all; it is anticipated that this will greatly increase the number of calls for help.

There are already a number of horror stories emerging with regards to Universal credit, but a lack of acknowledgment from the Government that there is a widespread problem. Therefore it was decided to carry out a survey of 100 people outside the Job Centre. A third reported a problem with submitting a claim, all claims have to be made on-line and for those without access or computer skills have had to ask family members to help. A larger number have found difficulty in maintaining their claims, as a continuous journal has to be logged and submitted. A third have been put into debt or further into debt since being put on Universal Credit; this exacerbates housing cost problems including rent arrears and threats of eviction. It is understood that these are not just local issues but replicated right across the country.

Locally this is affecting people from all walks of life, an ex-police officer who was injured and pensioned off, had begun fostering work with the County Council, and was able to claim Child Tax Credit towards the keep of the children in his care. He had read an article on how fantastic Universal Credit was so made an application, through applying he lost the eligibility for Child Tax Credit and is not entitled to anything under the new system.

Cases that can't be dealt with by the DUWC are being sent to local MPs and it is feared that these referrals will increase. At the moment the uncertainty over Brexit is covering over much other news including the economic issues arising from Universal Credit, rent arrears and evictions which are now increasing number of people now living on the streets.

Colin Hampton was thanked for his report and thanked for the work that Tim Wilkinson and John XXX have done in the Monday morning surgeries in Brimington Community Centre.

102/18-19 To determine which items if any part of the Agenda should be taken with the public excluded

None

103/18-19 Chair's Announcements

Councillor Bellamy announced that he and Councillor Callan have been approached to do a reading at the Church Service on 16 December 2019.

The Kitchen at the Mill Pub have donated two turkey crowns for Christmas meal next week, they along with Julie Lowe from the Big Red Food Shed are to be invited to the meal to thank them for the generous donations.

104/18-19 Minutes

To confirm the previously circulated Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Tuesday 13 November 2018

Resolved: To sign the minutes as a true and accurate record

105/18-19 Finance

(a) To set date for Finance and General Purposes Committee Meeting to discuss 2019/20 Budget and Precept

Resolved: To hold the meeting 8 January 2019 at 5.45pm

(b) Current Account Bank Reconciliation for October 2018

Resolved: To note the reconciliation

(c) Business Reserve Bank Reconciliation for October 2018

Resolved: To note the reconciliation

(d) Expenditure and Income against Budget at 31 October 2018

Resolved: To note the document

106/18-19 Receipts and Payments

Income

Room Hire Banked in November 2018

£1,392.25

Community Action Grant

£484.00

Total Income

£1,876.25

Expenditure

005903	E Boswell – Interim Expenses 20/11/2018	£71.64
005904	E Boswell – Interim Expenses 27/11/2018	£46.28
005905	E Boswell – Interim Expenses 04/12 /2018	£73.42

Resolved: To approve the prior payments

005906	Bakewell Silver Band – Brass Band Concert	£250.00
005907	S Booth – Chair Exercise Demo – 5 Ways Grant	£25.00
005908	A Bellamy – Telephone Allowance 20/11 – 11/12	£8.00
005909-912 & DD	Wages	£2,806.77
005913	HMRC – PAYE and NIC	£380.38
005914	Cathedral Leasing Ltd – Hygiene Services	£210.60
DD	NEST – Pensions	£42.95
DD	Onecom – August 2018	£33.74
DD	Onecom – October 2018	£66.04
DD	Onecom – November 2018	£66.60
Total Payments		£4,081.42

Resolved: To approve and sign the cheques

107/18-19 Planning Applications

CHE/18/00764/FUL – Oldfield Farm, Wetlands Lane, Brimington – Redevelopment of a previously-developed site for 2no “self-build” dwellings and garages

Resolved: To raise concern that the development would increase traffic on an unsuitable narrow lane.

CHE/18/00780/FUL – 58A Coronation Road, Brimington – New semi detached dwelling.

Resolved: To raise no objection

108/18-19 Meeting Reports

(a) Community Centre

Councillor Barnett asked to agenda an item to simplify the hiring rates for family events and use of the bar. Currently interested parties are being quoted separately for the use of the bar, hall and kitchen. Since the introduction of a £40 for a three hour use of the hall and kitchen for children’s parties bookings have greatly increased.

Resolved: To set the rate for family events and celebrations to a flat rate of £20.00 per hour to include the hall, kitchen, bar room and manned bar.

(b) Grant for Mother and Toddler Group

The Clerk updated the meeting on the joint grant with Brimington Schools for providing services to children in the Parish. This includes £7,600 to provide holiday clubs for children in the village, thus helping families cope with the issues of support in school holidays as well as providing challenging activities for children and also £1,500 for resources for a Mother and Toddler Group in the community Centre, which would help tackle social isolation for young mother and again activities for young children.

Resolved: To thank the Clerk and for the grant application to be submitted to Awards for All.

(c) Community Infrastructure Levy

A letter has been received from Chesterfield Borough Council outlining that neighbourhood portion of CIL monies can be spent on anything that can be justified as concerned with addressing the demands that development places on the area.

Resolved: To note

(d) Fit for the Future

The Clerk gave a brief summary of the Fit for the Future conference attended by her and Councillor Bean. A lot of emphasis was put on cyber security and it is recommended that passwords are now chosen from 3 random words as these are much more difficult to access. This has been implemented.

There was also a talk on digital venues and digital inclusion; as a beginning to this Adult Education have been contacted as to how to get on their list of venues to provide classes in the community.

Insuring buildings and managing risk as well as emergency crisis planning were also topics on the day.

The Clerk will get quotes for a property valuation to ensure that the building is adequately insured and will start to collate an emergency file.

Resolved: To note

(e) Remembrance Parade

A letter of complaint has been received regarding the timing of the Remembrance Parade, It had been agreed that the parade would leave the Church at 2.50pm and arrive at the Gates at 3.00pm for the Last Post. This is what was agreed in the arrangement meeting in September, what was put in the newsletter and what was agreed with the bugler. Unfortunately when the bugler arrived just before 3.00pm the parade was already being disbanded.

Resolved: To disseminate the letter to all parties involved in the Parade.

(f) Events Update

Tuesday Lunch - A written report was sent to members prior to the meeting.

The re-launch has been reasonably successful with between 30 and 35 residents attending each of the three weeks, compared to the 15 to 20 per week for the last 6 months or so. There has been a mix of age ranges, predominantly older, but we have had family groups and mums with pushchairs as well. About a third were previous regular attendees, with two thirds being new. There has been a happy atmosphere with the attendees chatting during the lunch, and also with the volunteers eating with the attendees rather than in the Bar Room. The numbers are ok, but we could do with 35 to 40 each week to ensure that the service can continue to run in the long term.

There are 8 volunteers, 4 that used to volunteer, the rest newly recruited via the volunteer centre and other agencies. Jacqui has been doing a good job with the food and as far as I am aware there have been lots of compliments and no complaints on the food.

There has been some difference of opinion as to whether the lunch should be run along the exact lines as previously, or whether by updating this is now attracting a wider range of people. The tables have been set up for small groups, but a larger table has been provided for the previous attendees as this is what they were used to and requested again during the first week. The volunteers are quite happy to push more tables together if this is requested by larger groups. Most attendees queue up to choose their food, but table service is still provided for those that would be unable to queue and carry their plates. This helps people see the food and choose their portion size.

There is no dinner this week (the 11th), Christmas Dinner is planned for the 18th. Once we are back in January, I suggest that we carry out a simple written survey asking the attendees to rate the food 1 to 10, rate the menu 1 to 10, ask if they are happy with the current mix of large and small tables and ask whether they are happy to queue to choose their own food or whether they would prefer table service. The results would then show whether the attendees are happy with the current offering, or whether a re-think is required.

Resolved: To note

Live and Local – 17 November – The first Live and Local Event was attended by 45 adults and 10 under 16's; It is expected that a small profit of £33.00 will have been made by the event. The next event is scheduled for Saturday 26 January 2019, ticket sales have commenced.

Resolved: To note

Christmas Light Switch On – 2 December – The Christmas Light Switch On Event went to plan, the accordion accompaniment to the carols seems to have been well received. Prior to the event there were issues with the electrics as the timer was broken.

Resolved: To thank Councillor Bean for her work in getting the electrician to fix the lights in time for the event.

Brass Band Concert – 11 December – As ever the Brass Band Concert last night was well attended. 124 people attended, plus two free tickets for Peak FM; after costs of the band and refreshments the event yielded £153.00

Resolved: To note

Christmas Tree Festival – 15 December - The tree has been prepared, it includes mention of all the groups that meet in the Community Centre, along with many activities of the Parish Council. It will be taken up to the Church on Thursday or Friday this week. The Festival of trees will be open to the public on Saturday and at the same time a sponsored abseil down the Church Tower is taking place. The Tree will be taken back to the Community Centre on Sunday 16 December.

Resolved: To note

109/18-19 Literature / Correspondence received

Chesterfield Borough Council

- Coffee and Chat – Chesterfield and North Derbyshire Tinnitus Support Group – 27 November 2018
- 2019 Calendar of Dementia Friendly Films in Chesterfield and Derbyshire
- Volunteering at the Pomegranate

Chesterfield Canal Trust

- E-Newsletter 121

Derbyshire Association of Local Councils

- 15/2018 – DALC Spring Seminar 2019, Clerk Essential Training – 10 January 2019, General Power of Competence Update, Exemption of Public Toilets from Business Rates – support requested, Subscription fees 2019/20, Latest Guidance of Accessibility to Websites and Mobile Devices, NALC Digital Mapping Toolkit, Weather Ready

Links

- News and Events Bulletin 9, 10, 11,12
- Funding Bulletin 7, 8, 9
- Effective Governance Bulletin 1,

Open Space

- Newsletter

110/18-19 Items for next Agenda

Any items to be reported to the Clerk 7 days before next meeting

111/18-19 Date for the next meeting

Finance and General Purposes Meeting 8 January 2019 5.45pm

Full Council Meeting 8 January 2019 – 7.00pm

PART II – CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS

None

The Meeting closed at 7.35pm

Signed.....Chairman 8 January 2019