

BRUNSWICK PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON WEDNESDAY, 10th SEPTEMBER 2008

Present: Councillor Ramsey (in the Chair).
Councillors Chambers, Laverick and Smith

In attendance: R.J. Gray – Clerk
PC Foster – Northumbria Police
I. Ford - Newcastle International FC

30. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Councillors E.Mackinlay and J.MacKinlay, City Councillors Lower and Graham, Steve Dargon and Sue Wannop - Newcastle City Council.

31. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

RESOLVED - That the minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held on 16th July 2008 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

32. PAVILION AND WELFARE GROUND

The Chairman welcomed Irene Ford to the meeting. The Clerk explained that the Parish Council thought it would be useful in the light of incidents during the last football season that a representative from each of the football teams came along to a meeting of the Parish Council. This was to enable the members to highlight their concerns and explain the terms and conditions of hire of the facilities and allow the football teams to raise any issues they had.

Irene Ford then spoke to the members regarding actions she had taken following the incidents last season and her proposals for the current season that were an attempt to avoid any recurrence of them in the current season.

Members asked a number of questions and were satisfied with the responses, reported that the police had made arrests in connection with the on going damage and vandalism on the Pavilion and in the Welfare Ground. The youths who had been arrested had confessed to a number of incidents including the damage to the flues and the recent spate of fires in the Welfare ground.

Payments had been received from all football teams using the facilities in the 2008-09 football season.

(at this point Irene Ford left the meeting)

There was a general discussion regarding the lack of summer play provision in the villages this summer.

The Clerk confirmed that the Parish Council had now received the grant from the Ward Committee that covered the full cost of the cleaning equipment for the Pavilion.

The swing in the play area had still not been repaired following it being set on fire

RESOLVED – That

- i. Councillor Laverick thank the members of the Ward Committee for the grant for the cleaning equipment at the next meeting;
- ii. The City Council be requested to provide a further set of keys for the Pavilion;
- iii. The City Council be requested to provide a further trestle picnic table in the play area to replace the one that had been subject to an arson attack and to repair the swing;
- iv. City Councillors be requested to continue discussions with the Play and Youth Service regarding future summer play provision in the villages, ensuring that whatever is agreed it is publicised effectively.

33. COMMUNITY SURVEY – UPDATE/GENERAL

Councillor Laverick referred to recent discussions and pending decisions that were going to be made in the near future in relation to the future provision of facilities in the Village. Information would be shared with the Parish Council as soon as outcome of the discussions was known.

RESOLVED – That the information be noted and the outcome of the discussions awaited.

34. ENVIRONMENT AND HIGHWAYS

(a) Parish Notice Board

RESOLVED – That discussions be held as soon as possible to confirm the location of the Noticeboard.

(b) Local Transport Forum

RESOLVED – That the report from Councillor Ramsey on the discussions at the last meeting of the Forum making reference to the increasing problems and complaints regarding the dropping off/picking up of passengers, police action that was being taken on motorists parking in lay bys and options for improving road links to the airport be noted.

(c) Grass Cutting – Area to the Rear of Cottages Greenside Avenue

The most recent grass cutting had been of a poor standard. The grass had been chewed up. The Parish Council were aware of the problems caused

by such a wet summer however the standard was still not acceptable. The grass to the rear of the Aged Miners Cottages had been missed and needed cutting. The flowerbeds in the Village had not been weeded and this detracted from the good work that had been carried out to improve the displays this year.

Parts of Edwin Street had also been missed during the last cut.

RESOLVED – That the City Council (Alan Hawthorn) be advised of the concerns about the consistently poor standard of grass cutting in the Village and the need to weed the flowerbeds on a regular basis.

(d) Dog Waste Bin – Path to the rear of Aged Miners Cottages to Sub Way

RESOLVED – That the City Council be requested to tidy up the area and see if a waste bin can be provided (there were numerous bags of dog waste in the bushes next to the path).

(e) Overhanging Trees/Bushes

RESOLVED – That the City Council be requested to prune the trees/bushes in the following locations – Grassed Area Top Drysdale Crescent/Dene Avenue and overhanging conifer Dene Avenue No 4. investigate the pavement in this area and carry out any necessary repairs (cf from last meeting)

(f) Cherry Tree – Hawthorn Avenue

This tree was near to the entrance of the industrial estate and the low hanging branches were causing a hazard to pedestrians (cf from last meeting).

RESOLVED – That the City Council be requested to prune the tree..

(g) Food Van Entrance to Industrial Estate

It was reported that no offence was being committed as there were no road markings in the area to prevent the van from being there. As far as members were aware the van operator had a licence etc to operate the facility

RESOLVED – That the City Council be requested to investigate the possibility of asking the owners of the van to move it to a safer location.

(h) Vehicles Parking Outside Mills Grey Street

Councillor Laverick reported that he had spoken to the Manager at Mills regarding the on going problems. He stated that Mills were submitting an application for planning consent to install a lockable plastic cabinet on the

front of the shop so that the news delivery vans could drop off and pick up papers in fewer visits. One of the main safety concerns at present was that they often mounted the pavement in front of the shop when doing a U Turn.

RESOLVED – That the information be noted.

35. PLANNING MATTER

(a) Proposed Development at corner of Darrell Street and Brookside Avenue

Councillor Laverick confirmed that there had been no further developments in relation to the consideration of the planning application for this development. The application had not been determined.

RESOLVED – That the information be noted.

36. LIGHTING/GATES TO THE GRASSED AREA TO THE REAR OF COTTAGES – GREENSIDE AVENUE AND BRUNSWICK GROVE

There had been no action in relation to the broken lights in this area. Councillor Laverick reported on a planned meeting with the residents of the cottages in relation to the locking of the gates. The meeting had not resolved the issue and had been heated at times.

RESOLVED – That YHN be advised of the problems in relation to the lights and the Parish Council place on record its thanks for the work carried out by Councillor Laverick in trying to resolve the problems associated with the locking of the gates.

37. PROPOSED CLOSURE OF POST OFFICES

Despite efforts to prevent closure of the post office in Brunswick, including a petition signed by @1000 people the Post Office had confirmed as expected the closure of the Post Office in Brunswick on 14th October 2008. It had always been understood that if the Brunswick Post Office had been saved another post office in the area would have to close.

RESOLVED – That Councillor Lower be thanked for the update and the efforts being made to campaign against the closures.

38. POLICE MATTERS

Crime Statistics

PC Foster submitted the crime statistics for the Village for the period since the meeting held on 9th July 2008 which were as follow: -

Damage to Motor Vehicle	3
TWOC	1

He stated that the number of alcohol related incidents had decreased and that there had been few incidents of disorder over the summer. He suggested that if it was possible to raise the awareness of people in the village to the increasing numbers of incidents associated with thieves trying to steal satellite navigation equipment from cars, Councillor Laverick agreed to ensure that reference would be made to this warning in the next issue of the "Focus".

Members referred to some fly tipping at Big Waters.

RESOLVED – That the information be noted and the City Council be advised of the fly tipping at Big Waters..

39. FINANCIAL MATTERS

Cheques for Signature

Cheque No.	Amount £
000989	191.40
000990	25.00
000991	105.00
000992	394.66
000993	331.34
000994	25.00
000995	84.00
000996	14.50
000997	140.00
Receipts	2,780.84
MONTH END BALANCE	5,698.79

The Clerk confirmed that he had received a VAT refund of £701.27; the grant for cleaning equipment, income from the 3 football teams and a NEDL Way Leave this month.

RESOLVED –That the information be noted.

40. PARISH COUNCIL CLERKS GROUP / PARISH COUNCIL CHARTER

The Clerk reported on the first meeting of the Clerks Group held on 1st September 2008. He confirmed that following discussions with Dinnington Parish Council regarding the content of the Charter the one member who had opposed some of the provisions had now agreed to them and all Parishes had signed up to the Charter.

He confirmed that the next meetings of the Standards (Parish Councils) Sub Committee would be held at 3.00pm on 17th October 2008 and 17th April 2009.

RESOLVED – That information be noted.

41. DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

RESOLVED – That the next meeting of the Parish Council be held on 8th October 2008

There being no further business the Chair closed the meeting at 8.10 p.m.

Signed:
Chairman

Date:

Items Circulated at Meeting

Publication of the North East of England Plan – Government Office North East – Letter & CD July 2008

NHS North of Tyne Move to new HQ Bevan House Newcastle Great Park

Community Action Northumberland News – Vol 28 No 4 Mid August to Mid October

Helping You Plan Road Journeys for NE of England Sept to Nov 2008 Highways Agency

Local Council Review Vol 60 No 3 September 2008

Clerks and Councils Direct Issue 59 September 2008