

BROCKWORTH PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON WEDNESDAY 1 DECEMBER 2010 AT THE COMMUNITY CENTRE AT 6.30 P.M.

PRESENT J Hunt (Chairman), Mrs C Neal, J Clarke, Mrs I German, J Shellswell, Mrs S Lefevre-Wellard, Mrs J Perez, M Collins, R Furolo, Mrs J Flounders, F Green, Mrs C Green, M Tester, Ms F Miles, Mrs J Shirley (Clerk), Borough Councillor M Rowcliffe-Quarry

Members of Public Present: 7 members present plus Lesley Smith & James Dumpleton from GCC Highways plus two candidates for the councillor vacancy

Members of Press Present: One member of press present

Lesley Smith from GCC Highways gave a presentation on part-night street lighting and brought a plan of Brockworth street lights showing 191 lights that could potentially be converted to part-night lighting. The parish council will review the plan and make amendments and then hold a public drop-in event in February so that residents can add their comments. Any lights that are converted to part-night lighting can be returned to all-night lighting very easily.

Members of the public were invited to address the parish council. Mr Flounders asked if the parish council would support the continuation of the tree preservation order for the 2 trees at St George's Church Hall. Borough Councillor Rowcliffe-Quarry asked if the parish council would consider supporting a community group that wished to take on services that could be lost in Brockworth due to the County Council budget cuts. Cllr Hunt replied that the parish council have yet to consider the budget cuts and will take into account the Borough Councillor's comments.

The two councillor candidates, Mrs C Brasington and Ms F Miles, addressed the meeting and outlined why they each would like to become a parish councillor.

The meeting opened at 7.20pm

All members of public and press were asked to leave the room so the council could discuss the councillor vacancy.

The meeting discussed both candidates and it was noted that both would be excellent on the parish council. However, there was only one vacancy and a secret ballot was taken. Cllr Tester abstained as he missed both presentations. The majority vote was in favour of Ms Fiona Miles to be co-opted onto the parish council.

Members of public and press were invited to come back into the room.

115/FC TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Cllrs Gair, Gardiner and Barnes. The meeting accepted the apologies and the reasons given for their absence.

116/FC CO-OPTION OF COUNCILLOR

The Chairman thanked both candidates for giving excellent presentations, and announced that the vote was in favour of Ms F Miles to join the parish council. Ms Miles signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office and joined the meeting.

117FC CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chairman announced that Mrs Luscombe had resigned from the assistant clerk position and would not be returning to the job at the end of her maternity leave. The matter will be further discussed under confidential business at the end of the meeting.

118FC DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None.

119/FC POLICE REPORT

The crime figures for November were noted.

120/FC MINUTES

The minutes from the Full Council Meeting held on 3rd November 2010 were accepted as a true record of the meeting and were approved with one amendment to item 111/FC. Replace the second sentence in the item with "Cllr Perez noted that the Green Belt will soon be reviewed under the Joint Core Strategy for Cheltenham, Gloucester and Tewkesbury."

121/FC

COUNTY AND BOROUGH COUNCILLORS' REPORTS

Cllr Perez advised that the Tewkesbury Borough Advice Centre in the Community Centre would be visited by the working group that are reviewing the advice service. The tree planting was postponed until Saturday 11th December due to frozen ground. Cllr Collins proposed that the parish council make late representation to TBC to support the tree preservation order for St George's Church Hall. All in favour. **Action: Clerk.**

Cllr Collins spoke at length about the County Council budget cuts and read out the questions that he had put to the County Council and the answers received. Cllr Collins described the campaign that Churchdown Parish Council had started with regard to their library and youth service cuts, and suggested that Brockworth mount a similar campaign. Cllr Furolo agreed with Cllr Collins in that we must fight for the library and youth centre. The budget cuts are to be discussed in full under agenda item 123/FC.

122/FC

PARKS, OPEN SPACES AND BURIAL GROUND

1. To receive Play Park and Burial Ground updates

The council received a written report that was circulated prior to the meeting. The meeting discussed the strip of land between 107 and 109 Ermin Park and agreed that the Clerk should complete the necessary Land Registry forms and submit the registration change for £50 ourselves. **Action: Clerk.**

123/FC

CONSIDER THE CUTS TO BE MADE BY GLOUCESTERSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

1. To consider the effect the County Council budget cuts will have on Brockworth and discuss how the parish council can reduce the impact.

Cllr Collins proposed that the parish council contact every household in the parish asking for residents' views on funding up to £15,000 each service for the library, youth centre, and community bus and give the option for residents to suggest other areas that need funding within the parish. The consultation should include a paragraph on why we are doing the consultation and outline the increase to council tax if the parish council funds the services. There was a discussion about how quickly the responses were needed from residents in order for the precept to be correctly calculated by 31st January.

It was agreed to have two campaign banner boards fitted to the outside of the community centre and also organise petitions against the closure of the Brockworth Library and Brockworth Youth Centre. **Action: Clerk.**

There was further discussion about the deadline for the reply cards and agreed that responses were needed by 15th January latest, and the council considered the possibility of holding an extraordinary parish council meeting to discuss the results.

The Clerk noted that the precept could be kept at the same amount as 2010/11 which would allow a contingency of £15,000 to take on one service; there was £21,000 set aside to continue the community bus which could be diverted if necessary and there were also parish reserves which could be used during 2011/12.

Cllr Furolo agreed with the Clerk and suggested keeping the precept at £153,000 for 2011/12 which would allow the parish council more time to consult with the residents fully.

The style of the consultation was discussed and it was agreed to use a Christmas card style with Kelly Noble's artwork of the library as the picture, and use Royal Mail Freepost for the return of the reply cards. **Action: Clerk.**

Cllr Collins proposed that the choice of printer and distributor of the Christmas card be delegated to the Chairman and Vice-Chair after the Clerk has researched. Cllr Flounders seconded. All in favour.

2. To discuss the consultations relating to the proposed budget cuts.

All councillors were requested to complete the copies of the consultations and return to the Clerk before Christmas so that a parish council response could be sent to GCC. **Action: All.**

124/FC

FINANCE

1. The Management Accounts for the financial year to date

The Council received and accepted the management accounts.

2. Invoices due for payment

The meeting approved the schedule of invoices totalling £10797.24+VAT.

3. To consider the draft budget for 2011/12.

The parish council considered the draft budget and a number of questions were answered. Cllr Furolo requested that restriction of admission to the pension be looked into and brought back to full council for a policy decision.

Action: Clerk.

Cllr Furolo proposed requesting precept of £153,000 which allowed a services contingency of £15,000 in addition to the draft budget of £138,000. Cllr Collins seconded the proposal and noted that if the parish council continue to provide additional services then the precept would need to increase in subsequent years. All in favour.

125/FC STANDING ORDERS
The parish council noted the proposed amended standing orders for adoption at the January full council meeting.

126/FC SECTION 106 UPDATE
The Chairman explained that TBC had contacted him regarding potential section 106 obligations with Invista and that an offer had been made to install floodlights for Mill Lane playing field and rugby club. The parish council discussed the proposal and Cllr Collins proposed that the parish council agrees in principle but have not had the opportunity to consult with residents. Cllr Lefeuvre-Wellard seconded, vote was 12 in favour, 1 abstention.
Action: Clerk to advise TBC.

127/FC PARISH PLAN
Cllr Perez gave an update on the parish plan process. The next steering group meeting is planned for 8th December.

128/FC 2011 MEETING DATES
The meeting approved the meeting dates for 2011 and noted that the May meeting dates could change depending on the date of the local elections.

129/FC PLANNING MATTERS
The following planning decisions were noted:

10/00991/FUL HORSBERE	11 Meteor Way Brockworth	Erection of a single storey rear conservatory	BPC HAS NO OBJECTION 20.10.10	TBC PERMIT 12.11.10
10/01098/FUL HORSBERE	17 Chandos Drive Brockworth	Proposed white UPVC conservatory to the rear of the property	BPC HAS NO OBJECTION 25.10.10	TBC PERMIT 22.11.10
10/01061/FUL WESTFIELD	26 Boverton Avenue Brockworth	Two-storey extension to existing residential property	BPC HAS NO OBJECTION 4.11.10	TBC PERMIT 16.11.10
10/01115/FUL GLEBE	34 Ansdell Drive Brockworth	Single storey front extension to provide porch & WC	BPC HAS NO OBJECTION 02.11.10	TBC PERMIT 22.11.10

130/FC TO CONSIDER IMPORTANT CORRESPONDENCE
The following items of correspondence were considered:

Received Date	From	Details	BPC Comments
08/11/2010	TBC	Public Art Whittle Square	Cllr Perez gave an update on the progress of the Public Art project.
08/11/2010	Glos Highways	Ermin Street bus shelter response from John Kay	Noted.
10/11/2010	BBC West	Tesco expansion research for BBC1 programme	Noted.
11/11/2010	GCC	MEETING THE CHALLENGE	Noted.
11/11/2010	GAPTC	Recruitment campaign launched for 29,000 Census Collector roles	Noted.
17/11/2010	Graham Burrow, GCC	Ill Health Insurance - Town & Parish Councils	The council decided to remain with the ill-health allowance cover already included with the Local Government Pension Scheme.
19/11/2010	GCC	The "Big Community" Invitation to Meeting Thurs 9th Dec 7-9pm	Cllr Hunt, Cllr Neal, Cllr Miles and the Clerk volunteered to attend the meeting.
22/11/2010	Chase Hotel	Chase Hotel proposed plans for additional bedrooms	It was agreed to invite to the January meeting. Action: Clerk
23/11/2010	GCC	Press Release - Be prepared in case bad weather hits	Noted
26/11/2010	TBC	Town & Parish Council Seminar information from 28th October	Noted.
28/11/2010	Mrs M Wade	Question for Parish Council Meeting - library cuts	Cllr Collins agreed with Mrs Wade's email but noted that using the footfall figures would not help the campaign to keep the

			library open as they were not high enough and that we needed to focus on the value-added benefits of keeping the library. It was agreed to respond to Mrs Wade's email outlining the parish council's plans for the public consultation. Action: Clerk
29/11/2010	Baileys	Underlease of Premises to GCC - Youth Centre	Meeting to be arranged with the Youth Service to discuss the lease. Cllr Collins requested to be kept informed of the meeting outcomes. Action: Clerk
30/11/2010	TBC	Big Lottery Fund	Noted.

131/FC WARD REPORTS

None.

132/FC SEPARATE BUSINESS

***The Chairman will move the adoption of the following resolution;
That under Section 100(A)(4) Local Government Act 1972, the public be excluded for the following items on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Act.***

The remaining members of public left the meeting and the parish council discussed the assistant clerk position. It was noted that the person covering the maternity leave was doing an excellent job and the Chairman proposed that the permanent assistant clerk position be offered to Mrs Bennett. Cllr Perez seconded, and all present were in favour. **Action: Clerk.**

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 10.20pm.