



# Brixham Town Council

## Minutes of the Meeting of Council

held at the Community College, Brixham on 17<sup>th</sup> July 2008 at 7.00 p.m.

**Present:** Cllrs C Bedford, G Boote, V Ellery, B Harland, N Henderson, M Hodge, P Killick, C Lomas & M Morey.

**Attending:** Ki Barnes, Town Clerk; & 38 members of the public.

**Grant Awards** were made to:

|                           |           |                           |           |
|---------------------------|-----------|---------------------------|-----------|
| Brixham Heritage Festival | £3,000.00 | Brixham Heritage Museum   | £250.00   |
| Soroptimist International | £403.00   | Brixham Tourism Part'ship | £2,000.00 |
| Turmoil Dance             | £200.00   | Torbay Lifeboat Week      | £1,000.00 |
| Brixham Hap'Nin'          | £2,500.00 | Brixham Youth Rugby       | £2,500.00 |
| Brixham Buccaneers        | £1,000.00 | FISH                      | £2,500.00 |

The prize (a bottle of whisky) for the best pot hole reported was presented to J Ridd.

**Presentations** were given by Ian Knee on the Boundary Commission recommendation and Patrick Carney on Highways issues including road maintenance and Briseham Rd.

**08/091. Apologies.** P Addison, S John & J Stockman.

**08/92. Declarations of Interest.**

The Declarations of interest register was available to sign.

Cllr C Lomas declared a prejudicial interest in item 14 on the agenda (ref Sound system).

Cllr M Hodge and M Morey declared prejudicial interest in item 7 on the agenda (possible Torbay Council planning issue).

**08/093. Minutes of the meeting held on 05.06.08.**

The Minutes of the Town Council meeting held on 05.06.08 were confirmed and signed as a true & correct record.

**08/094. The Structural review in Devon.**

Following the presentation prior to the meeting by Ian Knee on the Boundary Commission proposals for Devon it was proposed and **agreed** that Brixham Town Council makes a representation to the Boundary Commission in support of the Torbay Council's proposal for boundary changes.

**08/095. Highways issues.**

Cllr M Hodge commented on the road layout at Briseham stating that some points needed reviewing and that proposals are being worked on, including alterations to the road layout. Patrick Carney (Torbay Council Highways) stated that the road layout was thought to be generally satisfactory but that some changes were being proposed, the road is as safe as it can be made and that increased visibility leads to increases in vehicle speed.

Cllrs M Hodge and B Harland agreed to monitor the area.

St Mary's Hill and Castor Rd the passing places introduced were to remain.

Issues with the increase in the volume of traffic on the A3022 were also raised.

**08/096. Breakwater Beach and the cabins in that area.**

Discussion covered the possibility of the area of Breakwater Hard being developed and in that eventuality the preservation of the interest of the clubs tenanting the huts based there. It was proposed and **agreed** unanimously that the three clubs on Breakwater Hard should not be disadvantaged by any development on Breakwater Hard.

**08/097. Land around Sharkham village and Rights of Way.**

*Cllrs M Morey and M Hodge declared a prejudicial interest and left the chamber.*

Concerns were expressed about the maintenance of the conservation area and the non implementation of green measures. It was agreed that the Berry Head Forum members, Cllrs P Killick & G Boote, would ascertain the policy for clearing secondary footpaths and maintenance.

*Cllrs M Morey and M Hodge returned to the chamber.*

#### **08/098. The results of the Parish Poll held on 12.06.08.**

The results of the Parish Poll were noted and accepted by the Town Council. The questions and votes were:

1. Do you agree with the sale or lease of Council owned waterfront car parks at Oxen Cove, Freshwater Quarry and Breakwater Beach for private development?

**Yes** 1203      **No** 2525

2. Do you agree with a second marina on the waterfront at Oxen Cove and Freshwater Quarry?

**Yes** 1984      **No** 1746

3. Do you agree that the proposed five storey (28,000sq ft) supermarket development is too large for Brixham?

**Yes** 1790      **No** 1923

4. Do you agree that Brixham 21 (a private company) should take no further part in the regeneration of Brixham?

**Yes** 1602      **No** 2107

#### **08/099. Asset transfer report.**

All assets in Brixham held by Torbay Council have been identified. Torbay has been asked for information on the maintenance and other cost implications of those assets. Torbay Council is currently giving the Town Council access to its full asset database so that information can be obtained more readily. The assets include the land at 93 Penn Meadows. Investigation into suitable land for a cemetery is also ongoing but with no particular progress to report at this time.

#### **08/100. Usage of Blue Badge parking.**

This issue had been raised with P Carney during the public question time and the issue was one of enforcement and/or a change in legislation. No discussion was held.

#### **08/101. Representation on the Museum Committee.**

It was proposed and **agreed** that Cllr V Ellery and S John step down from the Museum Committee and that Cllr P Killick be nominated in their place.

*At this point it was raised that an issue in item 7 on the agenda had been omitted. Cllrs M Morey and M Hodge declared a prejudicial interest and left the chamber.*

Brixham Town Council had been contacted by members of the public requesting that the Town Council support the two Footpath Modification Orders, in the Sharkham village area, submitted by Mr R Lovell. Report 28 refers.

It was agreed that the Planning Committee should review the application and submit any response to the legal department at Torbay Council and that members of the Planning Committee attend the town council office to review the documentation prior to the next planning meeting on the 21<sup>st</sup> July.

*Cllrs M Morey and M Hodge returned to the chamber.*

#### **08/102. Funding the Parish plan questionnaire.**

In the initial BTC budget of 2007/8 £2000 was set aside for a Parish Plan. A steering group has met to commence the Parish plan and it was agreed at the meeting, also attended by Bernard Page of Torbay Council, that a questionnaire was the first step to take. This has been formulated (under layout design at this point in time) and as the Town Council newsletter was about to be delivered it was agreed that this was the ideal vehicle in which to insert the questionnaire.

Two quotes had been received for printing and Publication will cost £1,292. The Community Partnership has a sum of £500 to be put towards a Parish Plan and it is hereby formally requested that the Town Council agree to fund the publication of the questionnaire. Other funding sources are also being pursued.

It was proposed and **agreed** that the Town Council fund the questionnaire.

#### **08/103. Response received to the Town Council letter regarding fuel costs & fishing.**

The response received from J Shaw MP to the letter sent by the Town Council to the PM regarding fuel costs for the fishing industry was discussed (copy circulated to all Cllrs).

It was **agreed** that the reply was not deemed sufficient and that another, more hard hitting, letter be written to the PM requesting a personal response, copies to A Steen & N Clegg. This reply to be drafted in conjunction with R Smith and J Portus.

#### **08/104. Sound and amplification provision for Town Council Meetings.**

*Cllr C Lomas declared a prejudicial interest and left the chamber.*

The provision of the sound system for the last meeting and this meeting was deemed a vast improvement on previous meetings and at £150 per meeting, cost effective. The proposed recommendation put forward by the contractor – Ross Lomas of 'Sound & Light South West' for 14+ channel system with individual switched dais microphones for each councillor, clerk and invited speakers at a price of £150 per meeting was accepted. It was proposed and **agreed** that a contract to provide the system be awarded for a three year duration.

*Cllr C Lomas returned to the chamber*

#### **08/105. Chairman's Report.**

The Chairman reported that he had attended the Brixham Does Care awards, visited the Brixham ACF and met the chairman's cadet. He attended a Schools concert in the Riviera Centre and attended the Fishermens' memorial service, casting a wreath at sea on behalf of the Town. He had taken Cllr Lewis on a tour of Brixham, attended the Siroptomist's unveiling of the mosaic close to King's Quay and with the clerk had met the Judges of the Brixham in Bloom competition during their judging.

#### **08/106. Clerks' Report.**

Cunard response to a request that QEII come into Torbay on her final voyage to Dubai - regrettably we are unable to pursue this further.

Response from Anthony Steen regarding the Town Council letter to the PM on the fuel crisis. Thanking us for a copy of the letter and requesting a copy of the reply.

Newsletter has been printed and is ready for distribution- Leaflets for FishStock are to be inserted along with the Parish Plan questionnaire prior to delivery. A Correspondence list was circulated to all Cllrs. The Parish Plan questionnaire has been created and designed for automated collation of data.

The clerk attended a meeting in Restormel Council offices St Austell with Cllr V Ellery to advise on the working of new parish councils.

Negotiations regarding the hand over of allotments is progressing well, the mapping system is due to be installed on the 23<sup>rd</sup> and it is hoped that handover will be in August. If there are still Cllrs who have a problem with full mail boxes and need to advise the clerk of their personal email address to overcome the problem please could they do so, otherwise all Cllrs are now contactable via e mail.

A request has been made to Torbay Council regarding information Cllrs as directors and possible prejudicial interest. Written clarification of advice on this matter has been requested and reminders of that request have been sent. A request for dispensation for Cllrs who are representing the Town Council on outside bodies has also been made, with no response to date.

The council has been received a written copy of the inspectors decision regarding BX30, where the order was not upheld.

Christmas lights have been ordered and infrastructure issues are being resolved.

Lifeboat week begins on 20<sup>th</sup> July, Cllr Bedford has been invited to the vellum award ceremony on 24<sup>th</sup> August, which the Town Council has supported as a civic event.

Clerk on holiday – 28<sup>th</sup> July to 1<sup>st</sup> August and the date of next meeting August 28<sup>th</sup>

#### **08/107. Training Course applications to be considered by the F&GP Committee.**

It was reported that at the meeting held on the 19<sup>th</sup> June 2008 Concerns were raised over the number of courses the Town Council staff and Councillors were attending. It was agreed to recommend that a request form should be put forward to the F&GP Committee for agreement. A form has been designed. Cllr Lomas proposed that all future course attendance requests be put to the F&GP Committee, on a form, and that the F&GP committee is given the power to approve or decline the application.

Cllrs were advised that in order to meet quality Council status training had to be part of continual professional development.

Cllr M Morey proposed an amendment that courses attended are of a professional nature and are recommended by the Town Clerk. This amendment was **approved**.

The substantive motion was then put that 'all future course courses attended are of a professional nature and are recommended by the Town Clerk to the F&GP Committee, on a form, and that the F&GP committee is given the power to approve or decline the application.' This motion was then voted on and was **approved** by 5 votes to 4.

#### **08/108. Reports from Committee Chairmen.**

Cllr B Harland reported that the Planning Committee had met once since the last meeting and had considered twelve applications, seven were recommended for approval, three were with no objection and two were recommended for refusal and site visits to these were requested.

Cllr N Henderson reported that the Regeneration Committee had met once and had discussed the parish Poll, noting the results, the Sea Change Public Realm consultation, that had not met the guidelines, for which Torbay had submitted a bid including Berry Head to Kings Quay as an area where projects could be funded. Fuel costs for the fishing industry had been discussed with a representative of the fishing industry.

Cllr G Boote reported that the Community Services Committee had met once and had agreed the purchase of Christmas Lights. Palm FM has agreed to send two presenters to the switch on, on the 22.11.08, and promote the event on its shows. A potential lottery to raise funds for the town is to be discussed at the next meeting.

#### **08/109. Reports of meetings of outside bodies.**

Cllr B Harland reported that he had attended the Torbay Landscape character assessment meeting in Oldway Mansion and a Stakeholders meeting in the B21 office.

Cllr V Ellery reported that he had attended a meeting for set up teams for new Councils in the St Austell area at St Austell where the Brixham set up is being used as a model. Cll Ellery opened a new family centre at Furzeham, a Sure Start facility.

Cllr M Morey reported that he had attended a Boundary Commission meeting.

Cllr C Lomas reported that he had attended a Community Partnership meeting and a B21 emergency board meeting after the results of the poll had been announced.

Cllr C Bedford reported he had attended a meeting of the a stake holder meeting for tenants and Fish Quay users, a Harbour Authority meeting and a Brixham Tourism Partnership meeting. Cllr Bedford had also met with the TDA, Marine Services and the chair of B21.

Cllr M Hodge reported he had attended a Police Liaison Authority meeting.

Cllr G Boote reported that he had attended a Friends of St Mary's meeting and gave his congratulations to the group for a successful carnival.

Cllr P Killick reported he had attended the first annual meeting of the Friends of Brixham Theatre who had renamed themselves as Brixham Arts and Theatre Society – BAATS.

#### **08/110. Items for the next agenda.**

None.

The meeting closed at 9.35pm

Chairman..... Date.....

Brixham Town Council