

A MEETING OF EAST BRENT PARISH COUNCIL WAS HELD ON MONDAY 5th DECEMBER 2011 AT 7.30PM IN THE EAST BRENT VILLAGE HALL

MEMBERS PRESENT: J. Bowden, E Champion (Chairperson), V. Clapp, A. Gilling, S. McGreavy, L Spokes, W. Walker, J. Webb, B. Woodward, together with the Clerk B Strachan were in attendance.

APOLOGIES: G. Willoughby, Y Roscorla, and B. Filmer

Mobile Phones: E Champion requested that everyone including Parishioners turn off their mobile phone.

Opportunity for members of the Parish Electorate to speak:

Mrs. June Briggs spoke with regard to the **proposed Broadview Energy planning application**. She advised that she is not a member of NoPilrow group. She expressed concern at the way the Parish Council is dealing with the application. She feels that the Parish Council does not have the expertise to deal with this application. She feels that in view of the weight of local public opinion against the application, the PC should fully reflect this.

She also expressed concern that **no elections have been held to fill PC vacancies**. She stated that she is **concerned that PC does not have a Web site** and therefore Agendas/Minutes/Notice of PC Vacancies not properly published.

Nick Woolmington advised that he would issue **statement on behalf of NoPilrow Group**.

A.Gilling declared a Personal and Prejudicial interest and left the room at 7.40 pm.

NW referred to the Localism Bill which he stated was passed on 15th November 2011. He stated that under the Bill as NoPilrow expressed the views of the vast majority of the Parish, then the PC should go along with this view. He also stated that under the Bill a Parish Councillor can speak on a Planning matter unless they have an interest in the application. He stated that the Broadview proposal is the biggest to come before the PC for 50 years. He advised that 90% of Parishioners are against the project from a survey carried out by a local political party.

In addition he advised that from a survey of parishioners, 561 out of 624 residents were against the project.

He requested that PC get full information on the project (as not everyone on internet and some of the information not on Web site anyway) before Broadview flood PC with mountains of information. He stated that it is time for NoPilrow group and PC to get together on this matter. He quoted from Broadview stating "This proposal will change the face of the local area".

Martin Keegan stated that **advertising on Notice Boards and Parish Magazine not good enough** - there should be a PC web site. He stated that SDC not offering a level playing field. He stated that there is a whole pile of material that is not published on their website.

A.Gilling returned to the meeting at 8.05 pm.

2116: MINUTES: The minutes of the meetings held on 7th and 21st November 2011 (except meeting on 21st November 2011, amended - finished at 7.42 pm) having been circulated were taken as an accurate record and were signed by E Champion.

MATTERS ARISING:

2117: NOPILOW GROUP: *A. Gilling declared a Personal and Prejudicial interest in this matter and left the room at 8.08 pm.*

Following presentation earlier in evening the matter was fully discussed. E. Champion advised that there were no reasons to turn the Met Mast application down. However, EC stated that the PC has not expressed an opinion regarding the proposed application for wind turbines. EC stated that he was unaware that Parish Councillors could express their views prior to planning application being presented. He stated that PC will reflect the views of Parishioners.

It was decided that Clerk contact Peter Lacey and establish if as a result of the Localism Bill that Parish Councillors can express their views (unless they have an interest) prior to a planning application being presented to the PC.

In view of the Localism Bill and the issue of receiving information from SDC, it was decided that Clerk write to Kerry Rickards, Chief Executive, Sedgemoor District Council to request that someone from SDC attend next PC meeting. Tessa Munt MP to be copied in.

A.Gilling returned to the meeting at 8.20 pm.

A.Gilling registered an objection that the NoPilrow item was moved to the beginning of the Agenda.

2118: MATTERS OF REPORT:

Election of Parish Councillors: Following comments by Mrs. Briggs it was decided to bring this matter forward. E. Champion advised he would be delighted if sufficient candidates came forward to require an election. However at the time of re-election only 10 candidates applied for 11 seats therefore the seats were uncontested. Clerk advised that procedures for re-election and filling of vacancies were carried out as instructed by SDC.

J. Bowden stated that he would be very happy if Parishioners attended the PC AGMs, however only 1 Parishioner attended 2011 AGM. JB stated that Parish Councillors volunteer their own time for PC duties

MATTERS ARISING (continued):

2119: EAST BRENT PARISH HISTORY: Nigel Lloyd-Jones has advised that a constitution is in course of completion and that the group is pursuing other funding.

2120: TIDY UP PROJECTS: E. Champion advised that he will progress meeting with Vic Phillips and Jason Mayo to determine area to be cleared and then accept the cheapest quote up to £600.

2121: WOODEN HOLDER FOR SALT: V. Clapp advised that at De-icing Material and Depot Open Evening it was stated that no more salt will be coming to PC. In addition, VC advised that wooden container not acceptable to Highways - however they will fill SCC approved bins. It was agreed that Clerk contact Highways to establish what bins are acceptable and their cost. Then it will be decided where they are located.

It was also agreed that for Magazine - "During icy conditions it would be appreciated if Parishioners look after the area outside their properties", and that limited supply of salt available from E. Champion.

2122: MAP OF PARISH: B. Walker exhibited map he received from SCC Footpaths. It was agreed that this will suit purpose and BW will get a copy for all Parish Councillors.

2123: QUEEN'S DIAMOND JUBILEE: B. Woodward advised that there had been a very good response for volunteers for the Sub-Committee and they will have a meeting on 5th January 2012 to progress.

2124:PARISH MAGAZINE: J. Webb advised that she had contacted Molly Richards and MR feels that the Magazine should be linked with Lympsham and Brent Knoll and run on a more commercial basis. MR produces Lympsham magazine and Bob Filmer produces Brent Knoll magazine. MR advised that if 3 publications amalgamated, advertising would probably cover costs and therefore no grant would be required from PC. JW will meet with MR again to progress.

2125:SPEED INDICATOR DEVICE RESULTS - EDINGWORTH ROAD: Clerk advised that this matter has been referred to Chris Betty, Area Traffic Engineer.

2126:ROOKSBRIDGE LIGHTS FOR LIFE - A38 LIGHTING: Letter received from Lights for Life enquiring if PC would support low-level lighting. After discussion it was agreed Clerk to refer the matter to SCC for their comments and an indication of cost.

2127:SLOW BROADBAND SPEED: Letter from Tessa Munt MP dated 16th November advising that government and a private company are investing substantial sums of money in order to bring connectivity up to a modern level. Clerk to pass on this information to Tom Daley. Clerk to obtain update from TM March 2012.

2128:CONSERVATION AREAS: Janette Burton of SDC has advised that there are no Conservation Areas in East Brent.

2129:OLD ROAD SIGNS AT THE BEND AT KNOLL INN: E mail from Liam Gill 16/11/11 advising the method previously used when removing road markings involved a hot flame/lance which was fairly successful. However due to health and safety this method can no longer be used. The options now are to scarify or paint over white markings with black paint. The black paint tends to fade fairly quickly and is never satisfactory. The scarifying removes about 80% but tends to leave some paint in the hollow areas, but this will fade with time. Due to the new markings being much more prominent it should avoid confusion. This added with the fact that the majority of users are 'locals' due to it no longer taking through traffic, he is not proposing to undertake any further work at this moment in time. He will inspect on his next visit and monitor the situation.

2130: BUS STOP AT BRENT ROAD: Clerk has been advised that John Perrett at SCC has been on jury duty. B. Woodward advised that an 82-year-old lady rang bell on bus to stop at the stop and the driver would not do so. The driver eventually stopped at Hill Lane and she had to walk back carrying 2 bags of shopping. Clerk to contact JP again to attempt to get progress in this matter.

2131: PLANNING:

Decisions from previous planning applications are given as follows:

Ref. No. 24/11/00026/SH

Proposal: Application for non-material amendment to Planning Permission 24/10/19 to add a new window and new patio door to gable elevation.

Location: Land (2) to the South of, Ashlawn Farm, Pill Road, Rooksbridge, Axbridge, BS26
Granted conditional planning permission

2132: FINANCIAL MATTERS: A copy of the receipts and payments until 30th November 2011 was issued to all Parish Councillors present.

As the Bank statements to 30th November 2011 for the Current and Reserve Accounts not received yet, the balances in the Bank Accounts will be reconciled at the next Parish Council Meeting. **The**

following payment was unanimously approved for payment from the Current Account :(Proposed by J. Webb and Seconded by J. Bowden)
The British Legion - Wreath: £15.00

PRECEPT for 2012/2013:

All Councillors present were given a copy of the projected figures for year ending 31st March 2012 (showing Surplus of £2,738), the projected figures for year ending 31st March 2013 (showing surplus of £1,574 if Precept remained at £17,000) and the actual figures for year ended 31st March 2011 (showing surplus of £1,789, excluding Cemetery Account). They were also given a summary of the current position and predicted balances should various amounts be chosen as the precept figure for 2012/2013.

The Clerk advised that the Cemetery Account should be running at a surplus for year ending 31st March 2012 of at least £1,500.

E-mail from Peter Lacey 8th November 2011 - advising to keep in mind possibility of taking on extra services.

The above correspondence was considered, although PC already aware that emptying of dog bins and probable clearing of highway verges will have to be budgeted for. After full discussion, where it was agreed that there will be extra expenditure on general maintenance, it was proposed by J. Bowden and seconded by B. Woodward that the Percept rise to £17,500 - this was a unanimous decision.

2133: CORRESPONDENCE:

SCC - Planned Works in Sedgemoor week commencing 14th 21st 28th November 2011: Circulated

RSN Online - 7th 14th 28th November 2011: Circulated

East Brent Parish History Group - 15/11/11 Meeting Report: Circulated

SDC - Local Development Framework News Update November 2011: Circulated

Somerset Age UK - Letter 8th November 2011: Circulated

SDC Planning - E mail 11th November 2011: Circulated

SCC - Consultation on Potential Increase in Charge for Blue Disabled Parking Badge: Circulated

East Brent Village Hall - Hire Charges wef 01/01/12: Circulated

East Brent Village Hall - Annual Report of the Trustees for the Year to 31st August 2011: Circulated

SDC - Hinkley Point C Joint Supplementary Planning Document - Adoption Statement: Circulated

SDC News Release - Final Phase Affordable Housing Development Gets Underway at Springfield Road, Highbridge: Circulated

SDC News Release - Cheddar Parish Council Review Construction Progress at Helliens Lane: Circulated

Notice of Public Local Inquiry Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 Section 53 - SCC (No. 13) Modification Order, 2010, Parishes of East Brent and Lympham: To Notice Boards

Groves Xtreme Clean: Circulated

SID Results A38 Rooksbridge: After discussion, it was agreed that Clerk contact Highways to enquire if it is possible to obtain large flashing road signs as vehicles enter the village.

PC Esther Robinson - E mail 27th November 2011 - Traffic Brent Road, East Brent:

B.Woodward reported that she has received 3 telephone calls from Parishioners advising that they had to wait 10 minutes at the lights before they changed to green. It was agreed that there appears to be a problem with sequencing. Clerk to write to Highways.

2134: MATTERS OF REPORT:

E. Champion reported that **John Smith, ex Chairman** had suffered a heart attack and was now recovering in hospital. It was agreed that Clerk send him a card.

A.Gilling reported that **John Denbee** had been successful in replacing the late Alan Ham as County Councillor for Brent. It was decided that Clerk write to Mr. Denbee to offer congratulations and advise that PC look forward to seeing him at a PC meeting

J. Bowden reported that he had obtained the **Christmas tree** from John White.

SDC - Hinkley Point C - E mail 30th November 2011: Circulated

SDC News Release 30th November 2011 - Recycling: Circulated

East Brent Village Hall Committee: Clerk reported that Mike Grant has advised that they have been successful in obtaining a £7,000 grant towards **Solar Panel project**.

There being no further business to discuss the meeting ended at 9.40 pm.

2135: DATE OF NEXT MEETING: The next meeting of East Brent Parish Council will be held on Monday 9th January 2012 at 7.30pm in East Brent Village Hall.