

BRIGG TOWN COUNCIL
POLICY COMMITTEE
Meeting – Wednesday 12th October 2005
Chaired by – Councillor Mrs J.A. Bell

Present: Councillors; Mrs. J.A. Bell, Mrs. J. Brock, C.J. Cook, Mrs. P.J. Smith and J. Truepenny

P 047 NOTICE CONVENING THE MEETING

Taken as read and approved.

P048 APOLOGIES AND REASONS FOR ABSENCE

Councillor M.N. Birkitt is attending the Prize Giving Evening, as a Governor of the Vale of Ancholme Technology College
Councillor M.S. Champion is attending a school meeting.
Councillor Mrs M. Glossop is attending the Prize Giving Evening, as the wife of the Chair of Governors of the Vale of Ancholme Technology College
Councillor J.E.G. Kidd is attending to family matters
Councillor J. Kitwood is working
Councillor T. Morris is working.

P 049 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None.

P 050 RECEIVE ANY GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE

a) Notice of the Voluntary Car Service – A.G.M. – Wednesday 19th October 2005 at the Kingsway Centre, Scunthorpe. **No- one available.**

Also received –

two leaflets - one advertising for more volunteer drivers.
- the other advertising the link bus service to Hull Hospitals.

b) Lincolnshire Ambulance Service

Invitation received (in response to the Town Council enquiry regarding the future of the Ambulance Service in Brigg), for members to attend a presentation outlining the modernisation of the response to 999 calls, followed by a tour of the Emergency Medical Control Centre.

Councillor Mrs. P.J. Smith proposed that the invitation should be declined and, instead, representatives of the Lincolnshire Ambulance Trust should be asked to come to Brigg, and explain their plans to Full Council.

Seconded: Councillor Mrs. J. Brock. All agreed.

c) Local Government Chronicle

Offer to subscribe for the receipt of regular copies of the Councillors Briefing, which provides details of new legislation for Town and Parish Councillors.
Cost £295.00 + V.A.T

It was noted that, as members of E.R.N.L.C.A., the Town Council will receive notification of any important changes to legislation that will affect Town and Parish Councils.

Received without action.

d) E.R.N.L.L.C.A – A.G.M.

Early notification received that the A.G.M. was inquorate. Town and Parish Councils are to be canvassed for their opinion on when the meeting should be held in future years. This year's meeting has been re-convened for Thursday 10th November at Hessle Town Hall

P 051 ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

None.

P 052 UPDATE ON OUTSTANDING ISSUES FROM THE CLERK

None.

P 053 MONTHLY REVIEW OF THE WEB SITE

www.briggmarkettown.co.uk

The clerk has reviewed the web site and sent all the amendments through for action.

P 054 LOCAL POLICING / ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR

To Receive and Consider replies received to the issues raised at the previous meeting; and whether any further action or initiatives can be developed in response to the same.

In attendance: Councillor Mike Doherty
P.C. Steve Wash – Neighbourhood Beat Officer.

Replies received from: North Lincolnshire Council
Hornsby's Bus Company
Inspector Rutty

Copies on file for future reference.

Replies awaited from Neighbourhood Services
Estates

Continued/...

Councillor Mrs. P.J. Smith proposed that standing orders should be suspended, to enable P.C. Wash to participate in the discussion.
Seconded: Councillor. Truepenny. All agreed.

The Clerk advised that she had spoken to Sergeant Walsh at great length about anti-social behaviour in Brigg, and he has advised that, although there are one or two young people who behave in a less than desirable manner, Brigg is definitely not a haven for trouble makers and yobs. Sergeant Walsh agrees with the evaluation of the Town's position of 9th on the Hot Spot Scale but accepts that it would be even better if the issues affecting young people in Brigg could be addressed in order to ensure that this position does not deteriorate further.

However, regrettably, there has been a repetition of incidents at the Davy Memorial Field in recent weeks, with conkers and eggs being thrown at the windows of adjacent houses. The police are working with the families concerned, in an effort to resolve the problem, and to defray the animosity developing against teenagers that use the park.

The clerk has E.Mailed the Neighbourhood Services Manager again, to ask for the fence and the gate to be repaired and for the gate to be locked in the evening (in fact, one of the affected residents has offered to lock and un-lock the gate for the Council).

P.C. Wash advised that, if the gate is locked, it would be useful for the Police to have a key, as this would still enable them to gain easy access to the park when there is a problem, without having to scramble over fencing in the dark!

The Clerk has also spoken to the Clerk to Winterton Town Council, who has advised that a voluntary group set up to combat anti-social behaviour in Winterton has had encouraging results. Winterton Town Council has been instrumental in aiding its success, by using its resources through the provision of a peppercorn lease of one of its buildings for use by the group as a meeting place/ café, and through the pledge of funding to cover wages for outreach workers.

P.C. Wash advised members that young people 'hanging out' with their friends is not a problem in itself, but their choice of location can cause an issue for some residents and, if they choose to participate in activities which cause a nuisance, this adds to the problem.

He agreed with Sergeant Walsh that the majority of young people in Brigg do not cause problems, but they get "tarred with the same brush" if they happen to be in the same vicinity as those who do.

Councillor Mrs. J.A. Bell commented that the main problem faced by young people, particularly those between the ages of 14-18 years old is that, unless they enjoy being part of an organised activity, there is nowhere for them to just meet and chat, without being labelled trouble makers.

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P.C. Wash advised that Youth shelters are one possible solution, but the choice of location is crucial for them to be successful.

Councillor M. Doherty advised members that, prior to his recent illness, he had been working with a small group of people who were pursuing possible solutions to the issues now being discussed. This group is hoping to re-commence its work in the next few weeks, but it has already established that there is funding available to assist with projects which tackle this type of issue.

Members agreed that a solution would not be found by imposing ideas upon the teenagers concerned, and it is therefore essential that their ideas and opinions are canvassed, sooner rather than later. Various methods were considered, including; calling a meeting aimed at the 14 – 17 year age group, undertaking a survey both on the street and through the schools, holding a social evening at The Angel aimed at the same age group.

Councillor Doherty advised that some survey work has already been undertaken by his working party.

Councillor Mrs. P.J. Smith proposed that Standing Orders should be re-instated; and that the Chairman, Councillor Truepenny and the clerk should be delegated to meet with P.C. Wash, during the following week, with the aim of canvassing the opinion of young people on the streets of Brigg. The result to be brought back to the next Policy Committee Meeting.

Seconded: Councillor J. Truepenny. All agreed.

The Chairman thanked P.C. Wash and Councillor Doherty for their attendance, and for their valuable contribution to this discussion and they left the meeting.

P 055 TO CONSIDER REQUESTS FOR A GRANTS AND DONATIONS:

a) Carers Support Centre

Details and accounts provided to members in advance of the meeting.

It was noted that the Brigg Carers Support Centre provides support for the whole of North Lincolnshire.

Councillor Mrs. J.A. Bell expressed concern at the very high administration costs.

Councillor P.J. Smith advised that the Support Centre provides an invaluable service to the community, and proposed that the sum of £50.00 should be donated toward the cost of purchasing a mobile display unit, as requested.

Seconded: Councillor Mrs. J. Brock. All agreed.

b) St. John Ambulance – new Brigg Division (letter enclosed)

Copy of the application provided to members but accounts are not available as this new branch is starting again from scratch.

Members agreed that the St. John Ambulance provides an invaluable service within the community, but the group must fundraise to expand its stock of equipment.

Councillor Mrs. J.A. Bell proposed that a grant of £250.00 should be awarded toward the cost of purchasing some of the equipment needed.

Seconded: Councillor Mrs. P.J. Smith

All agreed.

P 056 TO CONFIRM THE CONTENT OF THE QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

Members agreed upon the following plus any other information which becomes relevant, and is notified to the clerk, prior to the deadline.

- Christmas Lights Switch On / Christmas Market
- Other Diary Dates
- Civic Award Winners
- New Social / Art / Leisure Rate - Angel Suite.
- A Plug for the Policing Public Meetings – use it or lose it.
- Town Mayor’s Christmas and New Year Message.

P 057 TO FINALISE THE FORMAT OF THE 2005 CHRISTMAS LIGHTS SWITCH ON.

Members were advised that a young trainee reporter from Brigg has suggested that that the general public are ‘tired’ of the annual visit by the cast of the pantomime. However, a survey via the September newsletter asking for public comment and alternative suggestions, has netted a nil response.

The clerk also advised that the Lions, who are now in charge of the Christmas Fair, are more than happy for the usual format to go ahead.

Councillor Mrs. J.A. Bell proposed that the Town Council should stay with the same format of providing traditional family entertainment, by the Pantomime Stars, before the lights are switched on, and that the clerk should go ahead and obtain prices for a P.A. System and Staging.

Seconded: Councillor J. Truepenny. All agreed.

The Town Mayor will host the usual pre-switch on reception in the lounge. Usual guests to be invited.

P 058 LOCAL WORK – SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES BILL

Letter and Publicity Leaflet received requesting support for this bill.

Awaiting advice from Ian Cawsey MP. Deferred until the next meeting

The meeting closed at 9.30pm

.....signed
Chairman, Policy Committee Meeting
Wednesday 12th October 2005

.....signed
Chairman, Full Council
Monday 24th October 2005