

# Brixham Town Council

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## Minutes of the Meeting of the Community Services Committee held at Brixham Town Hall on 18<sup>th</sup> January 2016 at 7.00pm.

**Present:** Cllrs P Addison, V Campbell, S Clutterbuck, R Clarke, J Stockman & J Wilbraham.

**Also present:** L McGuirk, Assistant to the Town Clerk, Cllr J Regan and two Members of the public.

A member of the public spoke about the pedestrian crossing outside the Town Hall, the audible signal is now working but the volume is very low. The sensors on the lights are facing the wrong way and not giving people sufficient time to cross the road.

A representative from BATS spoke to members about the Christmas events for 2016. BATS suggested a change of format for the event and creating a weekend of entertainment. BATS hope to book a show for Friday 25<sup>th</sup> November to start the events and attract people for the weekend.

BATS requested the Council consider supporting the Theatre with the money from the collection buckets this year.

**16000. To accept apologies through the Clerk.**

Apologies were received from Cllr M Morey

**16001. Declarations of Interest.**

J Stockman declared a non pecuniary interest in agenda item 13.  
The declaration of interest register was available to sign.

**16002. To consider any requests for Dispensation on agenda items.**

Cllr Stockman requested dispensation for agenda item 13. It was **resolved** to accept the request.

**16003. Minutes of the last meeting.**

The minutes of the meeting held on the 16<sup>th</sup> November 2015 were **resolved** and signed by the Chairman.

**16004. To discuss and review the Christmas lights, Switch On and Lantern Parade.**  
Christmas Lights review

Members were updated on the problems initially encountered with the Christmas light displays. BTC received several complaints from members of the public during this time. Lamps & Tubes attended Brixham on two occasions to investigate the problem and the following repairs were made to the infrastructure:

King Street Wall- the RCBO was tested and replaced with a double pole breaker. Individual RCBOs at each decoration, it was noted that the sockets are very damp inside and this may be adding to the nuisance tripping

Fish Quay Railings- Breaker tested and replaced.

Pontoon- Tested and all joints checked the engineer has been on the pontoon and checked all the joints there, all appeared fine. Tested RCBO and replaced. It

was noted that the older boat decoration has signs of rust in the mini lights and this may be causing nuisance tripping.

Condition of the Pontoon needs investigating. Discussion took place on the possibility of BTC building a pontoon. Further information of the costs and Health & Safety involved should be investigated.

£1,972.20 received in donations from the Chamber and traders in 2015. It was **agreed** to approach the Chamber of Commerce and Traders/ Businesses earlier in the year and request donations or the opportunity to sponsorship.

£1,881.11 remaining in budget for 2015/2016, it was **agreed** to allocate the remaining money on repairs/ maintenance of the Christmas lights and Infrastructure.

Members were shown predicted expenditure information for 2016/17 based on a 'like for like' display but with a reduced budget of £27,000. This showed an over spend of £2,430.00. Information was also presented showing predicted expenditure 2016/17 which included areas where savings could potentially be made of £3,138.00 and showing £2,208.00 under budget.

The Clerk reported she will be meeting with Matt Taylor of Lamps & Tubes in February and will report back at the next Community Services Committee meeting.

#### Switch on event:

Approx 40 volunteers helped on the day despite the terrible weather conditions.

'With a difference' entertainments provided music and games during the event free of charge and has requested to do the same in 2016.

St Johns Ambulance provided medical cover and reported no incidents.

The inflatable slide did not attend due to the high winds but have booked to attend the event in 2016.

Members were made aware of a complaint received from a trader on Middle Street regarding the road closure.

Date for this year's event will be Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> November 2016.

#### Lantern Parade:

Parade was really well attended considering the torrential rain.

It was **agreed** to investigate provision of music to enhance the lantern parade.

Workshop not as well attended this year. Discussion took place about the possibility of running a competition for 'Best Lantern'. The Clerk will meet with Rachel Swain and report back at the next meeting.

#### Christmas 2016:

Discussion took place about plans for Christmas 2016. It was **agreed** the Clerk will investigate the possibility of a bigger refreshed event involving the Chamber of Commerce and report back at the next meeting.

### **16005. To discuss and review the Christmas Market.**

An update was given by the clerk on the Christmas Market and the difficulties faced in selling stalls even after a 50% reduction in price was instigated. A loss was made on the day. The Market clashed with Exeter WestPoint Christmas Market, Lupton House and Candlelit Dartmouth. Members were informed that the

above mentioned markets are all on the same date as Brixham this year. It was **agreed** not to run a Christmas Market in the Scala Hall in 2016.

**16006. To discuss the reintroduction of the Chairpersons Cadet.**

It was **agreed** to recommend to Full Council to re instate the chairperson's cadet. The Clerk to investigate whether or not there used to be a policy and report back to the next meeting.

**16007. To discuss and agree the changes to the Civic Awards**

A discussion took place regarding the timing of advertising the Civic Award, it was **agreed** in the future the article will be placed in the January Signal. Due to the timescale for this year it was **agreed** the decision for 2016 will be made in part 2 at the Full Council meeting on the 12<sup>th</sup> May 2016 with presentation at the Parish meeting 19<sup>th</sup> May 2016. It was **agreed** to recommend to Full Council to adopt the Civic Award Policy and the Outstanding Sports achievement Award.

**16008. To hear an update on Shoalstone Pool Charity Status**

Cllr Clarke informed members that Shoalstone Pool Ltd is applying for Foundation Charity Status which will enable them to apply for more funding/ grants. Brixham Town Council can nominate 3 charitable Trustees. It was requested the Town Clerk looks at the current lease to ascertain whether Torbay Council should be informed of this change. It was **agreed** to recommend to Full Council to support the change from Ltd Company to Foundation Charity.

**16009. To discuss the festoon lighting around the Town**

Members were informed that Torbay Council Highways will be replacing the 90m stretch of festoon lighting on the Quay between the Old Fish Market and the New Fish Market. Following a small consultation Torbay Council were informed the preferred colour was multi coloured lights. Discussion took place about the continuation of the lights around the Harbour. Standing orders were lifted to allow a member of the public to speak. It was **agreed** to make a FOI request to Torbay Council asking "What was the cost of replacing the festoon lights around Torquay and Paignton seafronts?" all **agreed**. Standing orders were re instated.

**16010. To discuss the provision of a Town Lengthsman**

Cllr Clutterbuck spoke to members regarding a pilot scheme to employ a part time person to spray weeds, clean graffiti, and grass cutting. Following the discussion it was **agreed** that a price comparison is made between the Community Payback scheme and the proposed Lengthsman and that further investigation into the costs should be investigated and reported at the next meeting.

**16011. To discuss Cemetery provision**

Cllr Stockman updated members on the history surrounding cemetery provision in Brixham. The Clerk was asked to find out the following and report back at the next meeting.

1. Why no progress was made on the sites identified?
2. Does the Local Plan show cemetery provision for Brixham? If so contact Torbay Council and ask have they done any land testing?

**16012. To discuss the asset transfer of Furzeham WC & review the asset list.**

Members were informed of the response to the expression of interest request for the asset transfer of the redundant Furzeham Toilet block. *The land is owned by the Trust for allotments, recreation and leisure; therefore Torbay Council as a*

*Trustee cannot sell the Toilet block, but can rent it out. Would the town Council consider a lease?*

It was **agreed** the clerk investigates;

1. Who the charitable Trust is?
2. Contact the Trust and ask if BTC can put forward a community project for the site?
3. What are the restrictions on the site?

It was **agreed** to recommend to Full Council to make an asset transfer request to Torbay Council for asset number B0327- North Boundary Road.

**16013. To discuss an artificial reef**

Deferred

**16014. To discuss issues relating to the seat on Berry Head Road.**

It was **agreed** to make no comment.

**16015. To discuss seagulls signage and the Seagull Summit**

It was **agreed** an article should be placed in the April Signal warning people about the dangers of feeding Seagulls. It was **resolved** to inform the Harbour Authority that the 'Do not feed the Seagulls' signage is inadequate and request the Harbour Authority consider better and clearer signage. Members **agreed** to respond to the RSPB questionnaire.

**16016. To hear an update for Flood risk Group**

Flood drop in event held in the Scala Hall on the 09.01.16 was well attended. The Emergency plan is now completed; the original copy will be held in the Town Council Office where it can be updated. A discussion was held regarding the insurance for volunteers, it was **agreed** to check the Town Council insurance to see if they are covered. It was **resolved** to recommend to Full Council that the Town Council include the cover of volunteers in the community flood plan within the insurance at its renewal.

**16017. To hear an update from the Fairtrade working Group**

Fairtrade status is due for renewal.

Fairtrade fortnight starts on 28<sup>th</sup> February 2016, events are being planned around the Town.

**16018. To put forward items for the next agenda**

- Nominations for the Queens garden party
- Queens 90<sup>th</sup> Birthday Celebrations
- Vintage Bike Velo
- Artificial Reef
- Christmas Lights
- Switch on event
- BATS request to be considered for the Collection bucket monies.
- Cemetery provision
- Community Orchards
- RNLI 150 Year Celebrations
- In Bloom 2016
- Seagulls
- Chairpersons Cadet

There being no further business the Chairperson closed the meeting at 9:25pm

Chairperson.....

Date.....

The next meeting will be Monday 29<sup>th</sup> February 2016