

BLETCHINGDON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held in Bletchingdon Village Hall

on Thursday 31st March, 2016.

Present: Cllr C.E. Lane(Chair), Cllr D.M.Ledger, Cllr Mrs M. Knight, Cllr Miss J. Benton, Cllr M.E.Taylor, Cllr M. Kersh

Apologies: Cllr A.K.Saunders

- 052/16 **Confirmation of Minutes:** The Minutes of the meeting held on 25th February 2016 were approved and signed.
- 053/16 **Declaration of Interest:** Cllr Miss Benton declared an interest in an item of correspondence relating to the forthcoming It's A Knockout Competition.
- 054/16 **ILCA(SLCC course) for the Clerk:** Cllr Lane stated that the Clerk has applied for a bursary to fund all or part of this from the Oxfordshire Branch of the SLCC, and will let Cllrs know the outcome before applying for the course.
- 055/16 **Elections 2016:** Cllr Lane pointed out that the elections would be taking place on Thursday 5th May, not the 4th as had been stated at last month's meeting.
- 056/16 **Dirty Road Signs:** Cllr Kersh will ask Alex Watkins again, if he is interested in helping with sign cleaning, as he didn't get a response. Cllr Taylor reported he had hi-viz jackets available to be used for this exercise.
- 057/16 **Village Signs:** Cllr Ledger has looked for signs similar to the ones at other entrances to the village and has a price of £300 for 2 signs. Cllr Lane asked if we should be getting them from Oxfordshire County Council. Cllr Kersh suggested it might be their responsibility. The Clerk was asked to contact O.C.C. to ask if they supply signs for where there isn't any currently, and if they can't do it can they advise where signs could be purchased from.
- 058/16 **Virridor Refund:** Cllr Lane asked for explanation of this. Cllr Ledger stated that when the BCF put in for the grant from Virridor 10% of it had to come from a third party contributor, which the Parish Council had agreed to pay – this was a refund of money not spent.
- 059/16 **Bus Service 25/25A:** Cllr Lane explained that the latest news on this is that the O.C.C. subsidies will cease on 20th July, to coincide with end of term and there have been 2 pieces of correspondence - one an email sent from Howard Cox, OCC, to Middleton Stoney and passed on to us, and the other to All Parish/Town Clerks, from Supported Transport/Cllr Nimmo Smith. The first suggests a draft timetable has been drawn up for a replacement 25A service and to contact supported transport for more details, the one from supported transport tells us to speak to bus companies direct. Cllr Kersh reported that Andrew Smith, at the Traffic Working Group Meeting, had stated that the general vibe, from the bus drivers, was that the service would continue. Rachel Pirrie(Traffic Working Group) was trying to get usage figures from the bus company.
- 060/16 **Bollards on Finger Piece:** Cllr Lane reported that he and Cllr Saunders met Katie Walther on 21st March, who marked where bollards are to be placed – she was unable to advise when these would be done, and the Clerk has not heard from her since.
- 061/16 **The Blacks Head:** Cllr Ledger re-submitted the application to place this on the list of Assets of Community Value, and a notice was displayed on the pub front door today by Cherwell DC.
- 062/16 **Queen's 90th Birthday:** Cllr Miss Benton reported that the date of Sunday 12th June from 3 – 6pm had been chosen for a village tea party. Cllr Miss Benton has applied for a grant of £400 from C.D.C to cover entertainment and hire costs (not food). Cllrs discussed options and agreed to fund the cost of savoury food & non-alcoholic beverages, with donations of cakes to be made by villagers. Cllr Taylor suggested asking Sue Davis to do the food. Cllr Miss Benton stated that from her costings there would be approx. £100 of the grant

available for children's entertainment – a punch & Judy show was suggested, and all agreed. All agreed to contacting an ice cream van, too.

063/16 **Community Project Update:** Cllr Ledger reported that for the last 9 months the BCF and the School have been trying to come up with an agreement for how shared areas are managed. BCF is the School's landlord, however the School's governing body have been unable to sign the agreement. The 4 joint areas are the car park, the Multi Use Games Area (MUGA), the medical room and the internal quadrangle(courtyard). The School will not agree to community usage of these areas. A discussion followed concluding that Cllr Ledger confirmed that the BCF will make the priority to work out a way of getting the MUGA for community use outside of school hours.

Cllr Ledger also reported that the 2nd Phase of building was underway. A meeting had been arranged for BCF to discuss the site traffic plan with the architect.

064/16 **Traffic Working Group Update:** Cllr Kersh reported that Rebecca Watkins has had some success with Shipton Quarry vehicles. He said that they have been putting vehicles through the village since 2009, against they're routing plan. Since Rebecca highlighted this to the management team there has definitely been a reduction in lorries according to Rebecca. Cllr Lane thanked Rebecca for her efforts here. Cllr Kersh asked the PC if they would be willing to fund a consultancy to look at the village traffic flows and suggest solutions at a cost of £1200. Cllrs discussed this matter with Cllr Ledger concluding that there was no charitable objective to this. Cllr Lane suggested asking the Duchy for a contribution to this as they are the ones building the houses, and potentially increasing traffic. The Clerk was asked to write to the Duchy. Cllr Kersh added that a traffic survey was being carried out in 2nd week of May. Cllr Lane asked Cllr Ledger to raise the following matters with the Duchy architect at the forthcoming meeting; the moving of the pinch point on Station Road and the type of pedestrian crossing being used.

065/16 **Planning Matters**

065a/16 **Withdrawal of Planning Application:** 16/00166/F – Permanent retention of modular classroom and relocation of access ramp (retrospectively)

065b/16 **Notices of Decision:** 16/00044/ADV 2 x internally illuminated fascia signs, 2 x internally illuminated sign 1 x non illuminated sign, at Starbucks on A34 by Weston on the Green. Permission granted.

16/00069/F Continued siting of storage container, land south Dairy Cottage, Ingleby Paddocks, Enslow. Permission refused.

065/c/16 **Application:** 16/00083/TCA – T1 x Prunus Mume – Fell, Monks Head, The Causeway, Weston Rd. Cllrs had no objections.

066/16 **Accounts for Payment**

R. McNaught(expenses) – paper & ink	(£31.96 + £3)(vat£5.32)	£34.96
Community First Oxfordshire (formerly Oxfordshire Rural Communities Council)		£55.00
C.D.C (dog bins)	(vat£40.04)	£240.24
Oxford Green Belt Network (annual subs)		£15.00
BT	(PAID BY DIRECT DEBIT)	£33.15

067/16 **Year End Accounts:** The Clerk informed the PC of the dates for submitting the annual return to the external auditors. All Cllrs agreed to ask Claire Fraser to carry out the internal audit.

068/16 **The Annual Parish Meeting:** Cllrs asked the Clerk to invite the Police and all the local groups as usual. The bus service will be on the agenda and allow time for questions from the floor. Cllr Ledger will bring the plans for Phase 2 of the development.

069/16 **Grass Cutting Contract:** Cllr Lane explained that the 3 year contract with Green Scythe Ltd is up for renewal. Cllrs discussed the new quote, which was an increase of £4 per cut, and agreed that they were very competitive 3 years ago and have done a great job. Cllr Lane proposed extending the Green Scythe contract for another 3 years and all agreed. Cllr Benton stated that Jake Williams would like to put in a quote for works should we need work carried out.

- 070/16 **It's A Knockout 2016:** The PC had received a letter from Cllr Miss Benton requesting funding from the PC for this year's It's A Knockout event that she is organising, following the success of the event last year. Cllr Miss Benton explained that funds raised would go towards the Community Garden in the area of wasteground between Sands Close and Springwell Close. Cllr Miss Benton asked for £400 to cover the cost of hiring the inflatables. Cllr Lane proposed that the PC could fund this event, and Cllrs unanimously agreed..
- 071/16 **Street Names for the New Housing Development:** Cllr Lane explained that Cllr Saunders had received correspondence from Cherwell DC requesting suggestions for street names on the area that will be marketed as 'Duchy Fields'. Cllrs suggested names and discussed their merits and came up with the following: Kirtland Way, Wren Crescent, Sands Furlong, Hodgeman's Close, Grimmets Corner, Farhill, Cowhouse Lane; the Clerk will email these to Tony to forward on to CDC.
- 072/16 **Vans Parked in Valentia:** It had been reported that residents were parking vans in Valentia Close that were causing an obstruction. Cllr Lane said he would take up this matter.
- 073/16 **Litter Pick Success:** Cllr Kersh wanted to express the PCs thanks to Alex Watkinson for organising this year's litter pick.
- 074/16 **Pot holes, Weston Road:** Cllr Kersh reported pot holes on the Weston Road. The Clerk will report them to Oxfordshire C.C. Highways.
- 075/16 **Land South of Diamond Farm:** The Clerk reported that Cllr Saunders had met with the new enforcement officer from CDC who had visited the site and given Mr Hedges 2 months to apply for planning permission for 1 mobile home only for agricultural reasons, and to remove all other mobile homes/caravans and unauthorised containers.

Date of Next Meeting: 7:30pm, Thursday 28th April, 2016 at Bletchingdon Village Hall.