

BLETCHINGDON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held in Bletchingdon Village Hallon Thursday 24th November, 2016 at 7:30pm**Present:** Cllr A.K.Saunders (Chair), Cllr C.E. Lane, Cllr M.E.Taylor & Cllr D Ledger241/16 **Apologies:** Cllr M. Kersh, Cllr Mrs M. Knight, Cllr Miss J Benton (Cllr Lane arrived at 8pm)242/16 **Declarations of Interest:** None243/16 **Public Participation:** No members of public present.244/16 **To approve the Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 27th October 2016:** The Minutes were approved by PC and signed by Cllr Saunders.245/16 **Update on progress from the Minutes:**

- a) Cllr Saunders explained that the 30mph speed limit sign on Springwell Hill that was knocked down has been put back up, but as suspected the paperwork was not sorted out before hand and it was not re-located at the same time. In addition, the Clerk received an email from Anthony Kirkwood, Traffic and Road Safety Team at OCC stating that he didn't know anything about an application to move the signs. Mr Kirkwood said there was no OCC budget to pay for such a change, which would cost about £3000. This contradicts with what David Tole had said at the Traffic Meeting in October 2015 and in email correspondence since then with Cllr Saunders.
- b) Cllr Saunders reported that Cllr Lane had got a quote for the works needed to repair the dry stone wall on the corner of Springwell Hill and would send it to Nick Mould of The Duchy as they would be carrying out the work.
- c) Cllr Ledger confirmed that the new website was now up and running. The Clerk was asked to promote it in the Village News.
- d) Cllr Saunders reported that Nick Mould of The Duchy had responded about the piece of land that was hoped would be a community garden, stating that it wasn't part of Zero C project and that actually was potentially space for additional housing. The possibility of a smaller community garden remains but this will have to wait until The Duchy have made decisions about what to do on this piece of land.
- e) Cllr Ledger informed the PC that a working party has been formed between the BCF and the School to initiate work in the quad so that it will be a suitable area for both the children and Village Hall users. The PTA has fundraised for this and the BCF will also contribute.
- f) Parking problems in Valentia Close - Cllr Saunders explained that Cllr Lane had spoken to the police who have said they will monitor the situation. The Clerk has informed Claire Fraser, and we are holding off on writing to residents for a while.

246/16 **Reports from District and County Councillors:** All reports had been circulated – nothing to note.

247/16 **Finance****a) To consider invoices for payment itemised on the payment schedule**

Cheque No	Payee and Reason	Budget	Minute Ref	Total Amount	VAT
101446	Cherwell DC – emptying dog bins	Trees & Open Spaces	On-going	£480.48	£80.08
101449	Cherwell DC – highway closure (funfair)	General Admin	228/16	£105.00	£17.50
101450	Paul Clark	Conservation Plan		£87.00	£10.00
101451	Bletchington Village Hall – hire oct, nov, dec	General Admin	215/15	£450.00	N/A
			Total	£1122.48	

The Clerk reported that The Direct Debit to BT was taken on 24/10/16 for a sum of £44.83. This was considerably higher than usual and was being investigated. The Clerk also reported that the bill for the road closure for the funfair next year will go up to £175 (+vat) as this event, although annual and has limited impact, is considered to be commercial, which therefore attracts a higher cost. The Clerk will inform Mr Hatwell of the new cost in January when he contacts the PC with dates for next year's fair.

248/16 **Grounds Maintenance Contract:** The Clerk confirmed that Greenscythe still have 2 years left on contract. Cllr Saunders suggested they be asked to quote for additional works, and possibly add mowing to their existing contract for 2017 & 2018 seasons. Cllr Saunders asked the Clerk to arrange a meeting to discuss what work is required.

249/16 **Mural on hoarding:** Cllr Saunders explained that the idea of having children's paintings on the hoarding around the building site had been discussed by the school and Allendbuild. Cllr Saunders had been asked by a Parishioner about this and had suggested that it might be a matter for the PC to discuss as it affects the street scene within the village. [Cllr Lane arrived at this point] Cllr Lane thinks the school should manage it if it goes ahead. Cllr Saunders concluded by saying the PC has not been officially asked but he will be meeting the new site manager next week and it may be raised then.

250/16 **Clarification of how Bletchington PC should work:** Cllr Lane wanted to make constructive observations on the way the PC is run in order to be open and transparent. This arose after Cllr Lane discovered that Cllr Saunders had been in correspondence with Allendbuild suggesting that any decision about painting the hoarding with murals should involve the PC. Cllr Lane suggested that if an email is about an item that has not already been discussed or agreed it should go to all Cllrs. If a discussion is had by email all Cllrs should be copied in. Cllr Ledger said that there should be an obligation on Cllrs to read emails and to respond to them if required. Cllr Saunders said that since he had been a member of the PC, councillors had always taken their responsibility to the community seriously, and had reported any action they had taken (not decisions made) to the next meeting. This was clearly done in this case. Cllr Saunders agreed to send an email to all Cllrs explaining this decision. The Clerk will prepare hard copies of the 'Standing Orders' and 'Code of Conduct' for Cllrs ahead of next meeting.

251/16 **Enforcement:** Cllr Saunders reported that the Enforcement Officer, Abigail Chapman, who was dealing with all the enforcement matters within the parish, including the land south of Diamond Farm and the hedge removal, had left and all the cases had been divided up amongst the enforcement team. Cllr Saunders will copy all emails concerning this to councillors

252/16 **Planning Matters:**

252a/16 To consider all recent Applications received from Cherwell District Council detailed below or on the District Council website up to the date of the meeting;

16/02190/F - Raw Biomass, Heathfield House Nursing Home - Change of Use of the land to site 2 No containerised biomass boilers with fuel stores, ancillary equipment and pipe for connection to the property. Cllrs had no objections.

252b/16 To note Notices of Decisions;

16/00291/TCA - Dr A Stern - Bletchingdon Park, Church End, Bletchingdon - Notice of Intent to undertake works to trees in a conservation area – PERMITTED

15/00822/F – Land at Lince Lane with access off Station Road, Enslow – Erection of office building and 14 no. dwellings together with associated car parking, cycl parking, garages, public amenity spaces and new footway link – PERMITTED

The Clerk was asked to find out where the s.106 monies from this development will go to and to ask why 30mph limit is not part of the conditions of this residential development.

252c/16 **Additional information: 16/01706/F** - JE & AJ Wilcox - Land North Of OS 0006 And South East Of **College Farm** Pinchgate Lane Bletchingdon - Erection of 6 No. agricultural **buildings for poultry production**, together with associated infrastructure of broiler building, ancillary buildings, feed bins, hardstandings, access and drainage attenuation pond. This application is expected to go to the Planning Committee for decision on 15th December.

253/16 **Vegetation Clearance at Bletchingdon Park:** Cllr Benton had asked the Clerk to investigate reports of works taking place within Bletchingdon Park - the Clerk spoke to Paul Timms who has explained that no boundaries are being removed, but overgrown vegetation is being cleared (up to the hedges).

254/16 **Request for a mirror on Village Green:** Cllr Saunders had received a second letter from Mrs P Hedges asking for permission to affix a mirror to a tree on the Village Green to assist when pulling out onto main road from her property. All Cllrs agreed that permission could not be given for anything to be placed on the Village Green, on a tree or otherwise. Cllr Saunders will respond.

255/16 **A-frame board on Finger Piece:** Following on from previous piece of correspondence it was agreed that the A-frame advertising board for the Clinic on the Green had only been permitted on a temporary basis and now that the business was established it should not be placed on the Village Green anymore. Cllr Lane will speak to owner of the Clinic, and will report the outcome to councillors.

256/16 **BT phone box:** Cllr Saunders explained that BT proposes to remove the phone box located outside Daubney Cottage on Station Road and that there is an option to adopt the kiosk (without telephone equipment) for £1. All Cllrs agreed that it could be removed.

257/16 **Dog Mess:** The Clerk reported that there had been an increase in dog mess recently and it had been reported to her by a concerned parishioner at the café. Cllrs agreed to monitor situation and asked the Clerk to put something in Village News about it and to put a link to the CDC reporting page on our website. Cllr Taylor also asked if a dog bin can be purchased for Enslow. Cllrs discussed the request and asked the Clerk to purchase a bin.

258/16 **Oxford Aviation Services Consultative Committee:** The Agenda had been received for next meeting on 18/1/17 – Cllr Benton confirmed before the meeting that she would be able to attend.

259/16 **Parish Transport Representatives Meeting:** Minutes of September meeting received and the Clerk had sent copy to Elinor Webber.

260/16 **Cherwell Local Plan Partial Review** – Cllr Ledger confirmed that none of the changes affected Bletchingdon.

261/16 **Reports from meetings:** To receive and note reports from meetings; for information The Clerk had attended the Parish Liaison Meeting and the Place Making Conference and read her report to Cllrs. In particular she informed Cllrs of a scheme called CDC Activators to encourage good use of the MUGA. Cllr Saunders asked for more information and to add it to agenda.

- 262/16 **Village Green Trees:** Cllr Lane reported that the shoots at the base of the trees on the Village Green need cutting again. Cllrs agreed to ask Jake Williams to do this.
- 263/16 **Kerbs on Finger Piece:** Cllr Lane reported that some kerbstones have been knocked out again. The Clerk will report to Fix My Street. Cllr Lane added that 2 posts have also been knocked over. They are not the new ones that were installed earlier in year by OCC. Cllrs agreed to Cllr Lane organising the repair.
- 264/16 **Water on Kirtlington Road:** Cllr Lane asked the Clerk to report the problem of the spring overflowing onto road, which then freezes in winter, causing a hazard, to OCC. The Clerk will action.
- 265/16 **Traffic Survey:** Cllr Lane asked if Cllr Kersh could do a presentation of the data from the traffic survey, which was carried out in May, at the January meeting. The Clerk will contact Cllr Kersh.
- 266/16 **Village Defibrillators:** As previously discussed the Sports & Social Club and the Village Hall have 2 defibrillators funded by the Charity. Cllr Taylor will ask William Taylor to source someone to install both and to ask him to let Angela Lambert (Charity) know what is happening.
- 267/16 **Enslow:** Cllr Taylor asked why something can't be done to protect the wall/bridge at the bottom of Bunkers Hill from vehicles crashing into it. He also suggested the 30mph speed limit needs to include the Rock of Gibraltar and the access road for the houses/Smiths yard, as well as the Lince Lane new development. To be investigated by Clerk and added to next agenda.

Date of next meeting: 7:30pm, Thursday 12^h January, 2016 at Bletchington Village Hall.