

BLETCHINGDON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held in Bletchingdon Village Hallon Thursday 30th November, 2017 at 7:30pm

Present: Cllr A.K.Saunders (Chair), Cllr Mrs M.Knight, Cllr D.Ledger, Cllr Miss J.Benton, Cllr C.E.Lane, County Cllr Carmen Griffiths(part), District Cllr Tim Hallchurch(part)

189/17 **Apologies:** Cllr M.Kersh, Cllr M.E.Taylor

190/17 **Declarations of Interest:** None

191/17 **Public Participation:** No public present

192/17 **To approve the Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 26th October 2017:** The Minutes were approved by PC and signed by Cllr Saunders.

193/17 **Update on progress from the Minutes:**

- a) Sanctuary Housing – The Clerk has been told that a 2nd skip is now at No. 25 Valentia Close, but that the shed has still not been removed. Clerk to chase Sanctuary.
- b) Marlborough School bus – A letter was sent back to OCC in response to their response. It was copied to County & District Cllrs and to John Howell MP, to Yarnton & Begbroke Parish Councils and to Ian Hudspeth. There has been no response from anyone. However, the Chair of Governors at William Fletcher School, Yarnton has been passed copies of our letters and has arranged a meeting for 11th December for all interested parties to discuss a way forward. The Chair should be attending this meeting, along with representatives from Bletchingdon School Governors, Marlborough School and Yarnton Parish Council.
- c) Tree Survey – A ground survey has been carried out by Youngs. Report points out various minor works needed on most of the lime trees. The Clerk will get quotes for the work and report back to Cllrs before January meeting as needs to be done as soon as possible.
- d) Christmas Lights – These have been purchased by the clerk and put up by the Chair.
- e) Duchy Field – Sales Office is now open
- f) Village Name Signs – quote received from Skanska/OCC – To “supply and install 2 new posts each for 2 new signs £214.86”. Clerk has asked for clarification of this quote and it will be £429.72, all inclusive, for the 2 signs. Cllrs all agreed this was a good price and that the Clerk should get OCC to carry out works as soon as possible.
- g) Outdoor Gym Equipment – The Chair read a report from the Clerk explaining possible items of adult fitness equipment that could be purchased for the community, instead of purchasing more children’s play equipment. Cllr Benton will look at sources of funding from grants available for this type of project. Cllr Lane will approach the Sports & Social Club for involvement. The Clerk will research companies, equipment and talk to possible users. All to report back to next meeting.
- h) Teen Shelter – the clerk will make an insurance claim for the damaged roof of the teen shelter.

194/17 **Enforcement Update:** Cllr Saunders reported that the enforcement notices have not been appealed by the owner of the field south of Diamond Farm. He has until 19th January for Notices 2 – 5, and until 13th February for the others. Cllr Saunders reported that he has asked for details of the case officers dealing with the other outstanding issues. Cllr Saunders also sent a letter to DEFRA to report the hedge removal.

195/17 **County Cllr Griffiths Report:** Cllr Griffiths asked if the matter with the run-off water on Springwell Hill/Kirtlington Road had been resolved – Cllr Lane reported that clearance work along the ditch/verge had started, but it was not yet complete. Cllr Griffiths reported that CDC planning department would not be issuing planning amendments as most are minor and it is time consuming and costly. Cllr Griffiths also reported that there had been 1500

objections to the proposed 4400 homes in the Yarnton/Begbroke area. At the moment it is about 50/50 and decision could go either way.

196/17 District Cllr Hallchurch Report: Cllr Hallchurch reported that housing needs have been met by Bicester & Banbury, and that CDC has purchased Castle Quays shopping centre in Banbury and the self-build project at Graven Hill was progressing well.

197/17 **Finance:**

197a/17 **Payment Schedule:** Cllrs were asked to consider invoices for payments itemised on the payment schedule

Cheque No	Payee and Reason	Budget	Minute Ref	Total Amount	VAT
101505	SLCC - membership	General Admin	This minute	£100.00	N/A
101506	T. Saunders – expenses (laptop)	General Admin	This minute	£329.00	£65.80
101507	Navitas Design Ltd – annual website fee	General Admin	This minute	£59.99	£10.00
101508	Bletchington Village Hall (Oct – Dec hire)	General Admin	215/15	£450.00	N/A
101509	Green Scythe Ltd	Parks, Trees and Open Spaces	Ongoing agreement	£451.20	£75.20
101510	Jake Williams Cleaning play equipment	Parks, Trees and Open Spaces	167/17	£180.00	N/A
101511	Young's Tree Service Survey of trees on Green	Parks, Trees and Open Spaces	185/17	£366.00	£56.00
101512	Rebecca McNaught Expenses - lights	Parks, Trees and Open Spaces	186/17	£155.88	N/A

The Clerk also informed the PC that the Direct Debit to BT was taken on 23/11/17 for a sum of £28.91

198/17 **Planning Matters:**

198a/17 To note Notices of Decisions:

17/01906/F – Bagnalls – Provision of new offices etc – REFUSED

17/01988/F – Land south west of Underdowns – erection of agricultural worker dwelling to replace mobile home - REFUSED

198b/17 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;

17/02133/CLUE – The Dell, 4 Ingleby Paddocks, Enslow – Certificate of Lawfulness of Existing Use for change of use from B1 office to C3 dwelling. Cllrs made no comment on this application.

17/02245/F – Land at Long Cut Farm, Pinchgate Lane (Wilcox) – Erection of an agricultural workers dwelling. Cllrs discussed this application and objected on grounds that the poultry production unit was given planning permission without the need for any additional

agricultural workers dwelling, that the poultry unit is full automated and has an alarm system that could alert workers further away at the main farm, and that there are already 2 agricultural tie dwellings on the farm already.

17/02277/F – Keepers Cover, Church Lane, Weston-on-the-Green – Retrospective Change of use as amenity space – re-submission of 17/00458/F. Cllrs discussed this application and did not object but stated that controls need to be in place to ensure that if the property is sold the garden cannot be built on.

17/02046/F – The Digs and The Studio, Heathfield – Remodelling of ground floor and erection of first floor extensions to each property with new entrance porches (retrospective). Cllrs objected to this application, raising concerns about the quality of the building work which had been carried out without planning permission, and therefore building regs.

199/17 Parish Liaison Meeting – attended by the Clerk and Chair. Drop-in surgeries – elections – the Clerk will be invited to attend a training session early in new year to prepare for the forthcoming parish councillor elections, taking place in May. No enforcement officers available to talk to, but did find out that the enforcement officer who is currently working on the land south of Diamond Farm, is on a temporary contract and will be leaving.

200/17 Planning Policy Consultations - notification from Cherwell received.

201/17 Transport Survey 2017 – received from Community First Oxfordshire – the Clerk completed this with help from Elinor Webber.

202/17 **Dazzling Light at Duch Field Entrance:** Cllr Lane requested the light at the entrance to the Duchy Field Marketing Suite be altered so it doesn't dazzle drivers as they approach the village on Station Road.

203/17 **Layby/field entrance opposite Duchy Field, Station Road:** Cllr Lane had levelled and reseeded the area, but it had been damaged by SSE, but they are going to reinstate it. It was suggested that some sort of fencing was put up to protect the area to allow it to recover.

204/17 **CDC Car Park behind Old Village Hall Cottages:** Cllr Ledger reported that there was a caravan parked there, and the Clerk was asked to let CDC know.

205/17 **Borders around Village Hall Car Park:** Cllr Benton reported that the weeding needs doing weekly. Cllr Saunders had spoken to the people responsible for the planting and they had said that weed suppressant matting was not part of the plan. Cllr Benton suggested we find out if the same type of planting plan will be used around the rest of the site. And the lights need to be moved further away from the kerb as they are all being hit by cars parking.

206/17 **Date of Next Meeting:** Cllrs confirmed the date of the next meeting as 11th January 2018 at 7.30pm.