

BLETCHINGDON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held in Bletchingdon Village Hallon Thursday 26th October, 2017 at 7:30pm

Present: Cllr A.K.Saunders (Chair), Cllr Mrs M.Knight, Cllr D.Ledger & Cllr M.Kersh

177/17 **Apologies:** County Cllr Carmen Griffiths, Cllr M.E.Taylor, Cllr Miss J.Benton, Cllr C.E.Lane

178/17 **Declarations of Interest:** None

179/17 **Public Participation:** No public present

180/17 **To approve the Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 28th September 2017:**

The Minutes were approved by PC and signed by Cllr Saunders.

181/17 **Update on progress from the Minutes:**

- a) Sanctuary Housing – Sanctuary have informed the Clerk that it is the resident's responsibility to clear the shed and then Sanctuary are going to remove it. A skip is expected imminently, but no sign yet. The Clerk will continue to chase Sanctuary who remain in communication with both the Clerk and one of the neighbouring residents who brought this to the PC & Sanctuary's attention.
- b) Marlborough School bus – A response was finally received from OCC to letter sent in July, thanks to Cllr Griffiths for getting involved. Response was unsatisfactory and Cllr Saunders will draft a letter back to OCC. The Clerk will find out if Gosford Hill School can accommodate pupils from Bletchingdon and Yarnton. Cllr Kersh suggested there may be nothing further that PC can do and that a statement may be required to tell village we have done what we can.
- c) Road Sweeper Truck – this is no longer being parked in village and Cllr Lane has started work to reinstate the verge by the field entrance, opposite Duchy Fields sales office, to discourage its use as a parking area.
- d) Recreation Ground Entrance – Derek Bickley can replace the stone spheres on the pillars at the entrance to recreation ground in the New Year at a cost of £150 + vat. Cllrs agreed to accepting this quote.
- e) Protruding Hedge near Church road – this was raised as a 28 day defect on 13/10/17, some 10 days after the Clerk's 2nd report.
- f) Green Square – The Row – the residents are responsible for the weeds to the front of the properties and they will be reminded of this. The doors are on a painting schedule for this financial year.
- g) Youth Shelter – the Clerk is still thinking about a working group for the replacement item, having mentioned it to Rebecca Watkinson, who did not object to shelter being removed. The Clerk is in the process of making a claim. Cllrs asked the Clerk to come up with a list of ideas and costs.

182/17 **Enforcement Update:** Cllr Saunders reported that 5 enforcement notices have been served to the owner of the field south of Diamond Farm, but that it is understood that the landowner intends to appeal against them. Cllr Saunders also reported that the tree officer has left CDC so no further update on the hedge removal case.

183/17 Finance:

183a/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
101501	Green Scythe Ltd	Parks, Trees and Open Spaces	069/16	£516.00	£86.00
101502	BDO LLP External audit	General Admin	This minute	£156.00	N/A
101503	CDC Dog bin emptying	Parks, Trees and Open Spaces	This minute	£480.48	£80.08
101504	Bletchington Village News	Donations/grants	153/17	£450.00	N/A
			Total	£1602.08	£166.08

The Clerk also informed the PC that the Direct Debit to BT to be taken on 24/10/17 for a sum of £28.34.

183/b To receive Issues Arising Report from external auditors for y/e 31 March 2017 – the Clerk read the report received from the external auditors.

184/17 Planning Matters:

184a/17 To note Notices of Decisions: None

184b/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;

17/01988/F Land south west of Underdowns, Lince Lane – erection of an agricultural workers dwelling to replace mobile home – Cllrs discussed this application stating that nothing had changed since previous withdrawn application and that it was not in-keeping with a stock-keepers needs. To object.

185/17 **Tree Surveys:** The Clerk had obtained 4 quotes. Cllrs discussed quotes and agreed to go with Youngs who would carry out a ground survey of all the trees on the Village Green at a cost of £280 + vat.

186/17 **Christmas Lights:** Cllrs discussed possibility of purchasing solar lights to put in the trees outside the village hall. All agreed it was a good idea. Cllr Saunders had sourced sets of 100 solar lights at a cost of £10 each (or 200 lights at £15). It was agreed that the Clerk should purchase 1 set and see if they were suitable before purchasing enough for all the trees.

187/17 **Reports from meetings:** To receive and note reports from meetings; for information. Duchy Field Sales Office – Cllr Saunders had met with representatives from Duchy Field who reported that the manned office would be opening mid November Thursday – Monday. Apparently 5 properties have sold, with 3 due to be ready for moving in by Christmas. The show house will be ready in February. They also wanted details of organisations in village because they provide funding eg. Band uniforms or school books etc. Cllr Ledger confirmed that the legal side of the Co-Op was almost complete.

188/17 **Date of Next Meeting:** Cllrs confirmed the date of the next meeting as 30th November 2017 at 7.30pm.

Meeting ended 9:05pm