

**BLETCHINGDON PARISH COUNCIL**

Minutes of a meeting of the Parish Council held in Bletchingdon Primary School

on Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> March, 2015.

**Present:** Cllr A.K.Saunders (Chair), Cllr C.E.Lane, Cllr D.M.Ledger, Cllr M.E.Taylor, Cllr Miss J Benton, Cllr Mrs M.M.Knight and Cllr M Kersh and 1 member of the public.

**Apologies:** Dist.Cllr. Simon Holland

- 057/15 **Declarations of Interest:** None
- 058/15 **Confirmation of Minutes:** The Minutes of the meeting held on 26<sup>th</sup> February, 2015, were approved and signed.
- 059/15 **Heathfield – Mr Graham Watkins:** The Chair permitted the member of public to address Councillors about a matter of concern to residents of Heathfield. Cllrs instructed the Clerk to circulate the planning application for a 150 caravan site (approved about 2 years ago) to all Cllrs so it could be discussed at next meeting, following which a letter could be drafted to the Planning Dept/Bob Duxbury outlining concerns and asking to be kept informed of all planning matters at Heathfield.
- 060/15 **Blacks Head Pub:** Cllr Ledger reported that the Notice of End of Interim Moratorium for an Asset of Community Value had been received. No sale had yet been confirmed but there had been interest.
- 061/15 **Flytipping on Kirtlington Road:** The Clerk had contacted Kirtlington PC. Both CC & DC have officers dealing with the matter. Cllr Taylor asked if it would be possible to get a number of Parish Councils to write collectively on the large enforcement matters that affect the area. Cllr Saunders asked the Clerk to write to Dist Cllr Holland to persuade him to push other PCs to get together on enforcement matters.
- 062/15 **OCC maintenance of roundabouts & verges:** Cllr Saunders read emails from OCC explaining the current situation. After a brief discussion Cllrs unanimously agreed to let OCC maintain the roadside verges. Clerk to contact OCC and also Greenscythe, to let them know they would not be required for additional work.
- 063/15 **Bletchingdon Park Wall:** Cllr Lane reported quotes were being obtained for repair works.
- 064/15 **Risk Assessments:** Cllr Saunders had completed the risk assessment review and he reported that there were no changes.
- 065/15 **Fingerpiece Kerbstones:** Cllr Saunders had contacted both companies with vans parking alongside the Village Green, with no response. Cllr Ledger reported that Colin Travi of TVPolice was looking into bylaws re: parking next to village greens. Also yellow lines were too expensive. Other possibilities were discussed including: raised kerb and enlarging the fingerpiece to narrow the road and therefore make parking impossible. Nothing more to be done at this stage.
- 066/15 **Drain outside Village Farmhouse:** The Clerk had reported this to OCC Highways a number of times this month.
- 067/15 **Spring Clean 2015:** Cllr Kersh had not contacted Cherwell DC regarding this. To be done next month.
- 068/15 **Parish Remuneration Report:** Parish Councillors are entitled to claim a basic allowance. Councillors agreed to not take this allowance. Councillors agreed to pay the Chairman an allowance of £150 for the year 2015/16.

**069/15 Planning Matters****069a/15 Applications:-**

15/00269/LB The Malt House – raising roof of outbuilding to rear garden and alterations to it. Widening of existing entrance in front wall and provision of parking. PC fully support this application.

15/00337/F Barley Cottage, Weston Road – replace timber conservatory with stone built single story rear extension. PC fully supports this application.

**069b/15 Amendment:-**

15/00008/TCA – Box Elder crown reduction, but silver birch to fell was removed from the notice (therefore it will not be felled)

**069c/15 Refusal:-**

15/00017/F – Lodge Farm, 7 heathfield Cottages – 2-storey detached building for garages and home offices (resubmission)

**070/15 End of Financial Year Accounts:** The Accounts were not completed and Cllrs asked that they be ready for the April Meeting.

**071/15 Accounts for Payment**

OALC Subscription	(£142.03 vat£28.41)	£170.44
Cherwell District Council – emptying dog bins	(£145.29 vat£29.06)	£174.35
ORCC Subscription		£50
C.Fraser – payroll administration		£20
R.McNaught – salary		£1000

**072/15 Village News Donation:** Cllrs agreed to make a donation of £120 to the Village News.

**073/15 Internal Audit:** Cllrs agreed to appoint Mrs C. Fraser to carry out an Internal Audit of the Accounts. The Clerk will provide her with the books during April, for the audit to be carried out in May.

**074/15 Sports & Social Club:** Cllr Taylor paid £1 on behalf of the Sports & Social Club for the annual rent.

**075/15 Dog Mess in Valentia Close:** Cllr Mrs Knight reported an increase in dog mess on the pavements in Valentia.

**076/15 Newsletter from John Howell MP:** circulated to all.

**077/15 Report from Co.Cllr. Gearing:** Reports had been circulated to all.

**078/15 Annual Parish Meeting:** Cllr Taylor confirmed that he had arranged the Sports & Social Club to be available to use on 13<sup>th</sup> May. Cllrs asked the Clerk to invite the police to attend. Cllrs also discussed distribution of a flyer to households within the parish. Cllrs agreed that the Clerk should approach a parishioner to deliver the flyer for £20. Cllr Taylor agreed to deliver flyers to Enslow. The Clerk agreed to deliver flyers to Heathfield. Cllrs agreed the flyer should include the wording, “This is your village. This is your opportunity to have your say.”

**079/15 Community Project Update:** Cllr Ledger informed Cllrs that he is arranging a site visit for the PC. The old school is for sale, with a recommendation that it is sold for residential use. Cllr Miss Benton reported that a Roadshow was to be held on 26<sup>th</sup> April for the different groups to present what they are doing in relation to the Community Project. Cllr Ledger added that the damaged verges at Springwell would be put right by the contractor.

**080/15 No. 31 Valentia Close:** Cllr Mrs Knight explained that this property has been improved by Sanctuary since the last tenants left, and work still seems ongoing, and no sign of new tenants. The Clerk was asked to contact Sanctuary to find out what is going on.

**081/15 Locality Fund:** Cllr Ledger had attended a NAG meeting, which was not well attended, however he learnt about the County Councillor’s Locality Fund. After a brief discussion, Cllrs requested a letter be drafted to Cty Cllr Gearing asking what the Locality Fund is, what it can be spent on and how we apply for it.

**082/15 Allotment Wall:** The Charity are seeking quotes for the wall to be repaired.

**083/15 Street Light at No.14 Oxford Road:** It was suggested the tree had not been cut back by SSEB as the Clerk had thought. The Clerk was asked to contact SSEB again.

**Date of Next Meeting:** 7:30pm, Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> April, 2015 at Bletchingdon Primary School.