

## BLETCHINGDON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of the Parish Council held in the Village Hall on Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> January, 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 Mrs G Bickley (advisor to the Council).

**Apologies:** Cllr M.Kersh.

001/15 **Declarations of Interest:** None

002/15 **Confirmation of Minutes:** The Minutes of the meeting held on 27<sup>th</sup> November, 2014, were approved and signed.

003/15 **OCC Maintenance of roundabouts and verges:** The Clerk is awaiting quote from Green Scythe.

004/15 **Coghil Tree Replacement:** Simon Horwood had sent a report detailing 7 trees which he had offered to get delivered to the village. All trees were discussed with advice from Cllr Benton, with Cllrs agreeing on the Bird Cherry (latin name). Cllr Benton agreed that a tree guard was also required. Cllrs instructed the Clerk to purchase the tree guard with advice from Jamie McNaught, and to get Simon Horwood to order and deliver the tree to the farm. Cllrs also agreed that Jamie McNaught should be paid to plant the tree as it was important that it was planted as soon as it is received.

005/15 **Community Project Update:** Cllr Ledger informed Cllrs that the old Village Hall had now been demolished. He also reported that a bid for a £12000 grant from Virridor had been successful. There was to be a meeting for heads of Working Groups on 5<sup>th</sup> February 2015. Cllr Ledger also reported that the Duchy was to give BCF the land for the shop, and that the Co-Op was to build the shop with a lease of at least 25 years.

006/15 **Bus Shelter Light:** Cllr Saunders reported that Jez Pewsey had been unable to repair it and was getting it tested by an electrician. In the meantime, Cllr Saunders considered the possibility of solar lighting. All Cllrs to investigate this and to discuss options at next meeting.

007/15 **Planning Matters**

007a/14 **Applications:-**

1. 14/02020/LB – 4-5 Church End – retrospective blocking up door openings at ground and first floor levels between 4 & 5 Church End. The Clerk had passed it to Mark Webber and he considered it to be ok as ‘fully reversible’.

007b/15 **Consents:-**

1. Details Pursuant to Condition 8 (aftercare scheme) of Planning Permission 02/01204/CM (MW.006/02) at Old Brickworks Farm, Bletchington – approved.

008/14 **Accounts for Payment**

Rebecca McNaught clerk’s salary Oct, Nov, Dec	£1000
C Fraser – payroll -	£26.25
The Society of Local Council Clerks – annual subscription fee	£88
Duchy of Cornwall rent for the Slipe	£30
Mrs G.Bickley consultancy expenses (Oct, Nov, Dec, Jan)	£40

009/14 **Budget 2014/15 & The Precept:** Cllr Ledger presented the amended budget after the discussions held at the meeting of 27<sup>th</sup> November 2014 (251/14). The estimated Statement of Income and Expenditure showed that funds available at 31<sup>st</sup> March 2015 would be approximately £20,896. There will also be approximately £1000 to reclaim on VAT. CDC had written to advise that the Tax Base for this year will be 328 and the PC will receive a grant of £1031.34.

On the other hand, the General Elections in May could cost the PC up to £900. Also, delays in the new build means that money put by last year for the new Office have only partially been spent on furniture (inc. storage) and a laptop. Funds are still required for a Fire Safe and a projector and other Office equipment, inc. a printer.

Cllr Lane proposed that the PC set the figure at £18,000, seconded by Cllr Mrs Benton and unanimously agreed. As the Tax Base is 338, this will equate to a rate of £53.25 Per Band D property.

- 010/15 **The Blacks Head:** Following a discussion about the current situation the Clerk was instructed to make a note to ensure we renew the Community Asset listing when it expires in approximately 4 years time. Cllr Ledger was in communication with Cherwell DC, who should be informed if it is sold.
- 011/15 **Newsletter from John Howell MP** – circulated to all [nothing of interest]
- 012/15 **Report from Co.Cllr. Gearing December & November:** Reports had been circulated to all.
- 013/15 **Request For Funfair to Village:** Perry Hatwell had emailed the Clerk, requesting that fair arrives on Sun 27th Sep & leaves on Sun 4th Oct. Same week as usual. Cllrs agreed.
- 014/15 **Electoral Review of Cherwell:** Cllrs discussed the proposals set out in the consultation document, but had no comments to make to CDC.
- 016/15 **OALC December Update:** Report had been forwarded to all.
- 017/15 **Bletchington Village News:** An invitation to the AGM at 8pm Mon 2nd Feb at the Sports & Social Club had been received. Cllr Lane will attend.
- 018/15 **Potholes:** Cllr Lane reported potholes on Station Road, opposite the Village Hall. The Clerk was asked to report to OCC Highways.
- 019/15 **Ice on Kirtlington Road:** Cllr Lane reported the problem of ice forming where run-off water collects on the road to Kirtlington near to the layby just after Springwell. The Clerk was asked to report this to OCC Highways as a matter of urgency.
- 020/15 **Blocked Drains:** Cllr Lane reported that drains are still blocked around the Green and other places in the village. The Clerk had been told these had been dealt with by OCC. The Clerk will report again to OCC Highways.
- 021/15 **Hedges at Tollbrook:** Cllr Mrs Benton reported that the hedges that had been grubbed out 2 – 3 years ago had not grown back, as they were told would happen. Cllrs asked the Clerk to report the matter to Sue Marchand & Jon Brewin for advice.
- 022/15 **Meeting Start Time:** Cllr Lane requested that the meeting start time was put back to 7:30m. Cllr Taylor agreed. Other Cllrs didn't mind either way, so it was agreed next meeting would be 7:30pm.
- 023/15 **Dry Stone Wall:** Cllr Taylor raised concern over leaning wall over pavement opposite the school. Cllr Lane agreed to discuss the matter with Paul Timms, as Bletchington Park employee, in the first instance.
- 024/15 **Tree obscuring street light:** Cllr Taylor reported that the light outside No.14 Oxford Road was still obscured by tree. The Clerk was asked to report it to SEB.
- 025/15 **Constuction vehicles parking in Springwell:** Cllr Mrs Benton reported that there were a number of construction related vehicles beinmg parked in Springwell. Cllr Ledger will ask site manager to put up 'No Construction Parking' signs.

**Date of Next Meeting: 7:30pm, Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> February, 2015 at Bletchington Primary School.**