

## BLETCHINGDON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held in Bletchington Primary Schoolon Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> July, 2015.

**Present:** Cllr C.E.Lane (Chair), Cllr Miss J. Benton, Cllr M. Kersh, Cllr Mrs M. Knight, Cllr D.M.Ledger & Cllr M.E. Taylor.

**Apologies:** Cllr A.K.Saunders

- 164/15 **Confirmation of Minutes:** The Minutes of the meeting held on 2<sup>nd</sup> July, 2015, were approved and signed.
- 165/15 **Declaration of Interest:** None
- 166/15 **Dog Waste Bins:** The Clerk reported that the PC was responsible for funding and sourcing a bin (the DC empty it, with the PC paying for this service). The Clerk was asked to order a free-standing dog waste bin, so that it would be ready to install when the temporary surfacing was completed on the 'route to school' along the footpath off Springwell Close.
- 167/15 **Smartwheelie:** The speed awareness stickers have arrived and a note will be put in Village News to let people know about them. The Clerk will put one on her bin/s.
- 168/15 **Fingerpiece:** The Clerk had received a response from OCC Highways & Transport stating that the PC would have to fund any new or replacement bollards on the Green and Fingerpiece, but that they must come from their approved list. Cllrs raised questions and the Clerk was asked to email OCC back asking if the quoted price includes installation or if PC has to find and pay a contractor, and what wood are the wooden posts made from. Cllr Lane reported that there are already more loose kerb stones – Clerk was asked to report this.
- 169/15 **Drain outside Village Farmhouse:** Despite being told they would be cleared by 2<sup>nd</sup> July, they still have not been done. The Clerk will chase this with O.C.C. Highways.
- 170/15 **Street Light at No.14 Oxford Road:** The new owner of the property has completely felled the tree which obscured the street light. Therefore, this is no longer a problem.
- 171/15 **2 Oxford Road:** The Clerk reported that the property is due to be put on the market with Thomas Merrifield this week, for part ownership with Sanctuary Housing.
- 172/15 **Community Project Update:** Cllr Ledger reported that the school has moved to new building, and the Hall is due for completion on 14<sup>th</sup> August. An Open Day has been organised for 16<sup>th</sup> August for whole village to see both buildings. Next PC meeting is booked for 27<sup>th</sup> August, and the Silver Band have their first practice there on 1<sup>st</sup> September. Cllr Ledger clarified the arrangements for the school use of the Village Hall – The hall has a partition which will be in use during the school day, giving the school approx. 35% of the hall only, with the exception of 2hrs on Monday and 2 hrs on Friday, when the school will have sole use of the entire hall for P.E. The school will be charged rent for the use of the hall (be it 35% or 100% of it). The remaining 65% of the hall will be available for local groups, classes, etc during the school day, with 100% of the hall available outside school hours. Cllr Ledger has drawn up a set of rules. Cllr Lane sought confirmation that arrangements could be altered if things did not work out – Cllr Ledger agreed that nothing was set in stone. Cllr Kersh asked for a 'hire rate' card to be made available. Cllr Ledger also confirmed date for visit by Bishop of Oxford – 22<sup>nd</sup> November – for blessing of the new Nursery in Weston Road, and of the school.
- 172b/15 **Parish Office Arrangements:** It had already been agreed that the Clerk would have access to an office on Monday & Wednesday mornings. Cllrs discussed issues surrounding phone lines and other equipment needed. It was decided that the PC should research a Pay As You Go mobile phone and an all-in-one printer/photocopy machine, and bring prices etc to next meeting.

173/15 **Planning Matters**173a/15 **Applications:-**

15/00233/TCA – Barley Cottage, Weston Road – To fell 1 x Prunus Cerasifera

174/15 **Accounts for Payment**

Bletchingdon PCC (grant for mtce of churchyard)	<b>£600</b>
Green Scythe Ltd (mowing)     vat:£37.25	<b>£223.49</b>
Paul Clark Creative (Conservation Plan website)	<b>£77</b>

175/15 **Report from John Howell MP:** Reports had been circulated to all. Cllrs decided to invite MP to visit Hall/School development immediately before the PC meeting on 24<sup>th</sup> September – Clerk to email.

176/15 **Report from Co. Cllr. Gearing:** Reports had been circulated to all.

177/15 **Monika Franke:** Following a request to install spotlights at the front of the Clinic on the Green was turned down by PC last month, Ms Franke asked for the matter to be reconsidered. Cllrs agreed that what was said at last meeting stands – PC does not want building illuminated, it was inappropriate.

178/15 **OCC:** A letter had been received inviting PC to a ‘discussion’ about increased partnership working to take place on 21<sup>st</sup> September at County Hall. Cllrs agreed to wait and see what comes out of this discussion as it was not clear what services within Bletchingdon Parish could be given to PC to deliver, except grass cutting. No further action required.

179/15 **Hedge on Church Path:** Cllr Taylor reported that the height of the hedge on the field side of Church Path, which had recently been cut, seemed higher than it used to. Can this be looked into and landowner contacted? This will be the new owner of Bletchingdon Park after September. Clerk to monitor.

180/15 **Easter Cottage:** Cllr Taylor reported street light obscured by hedge. The Clerk will monitor this and contact new owners when they have moved in.

181/15 **Wall at Allotments:** Cllr Taylor requested the Clerk contact the Charity about what is being done to repair wall. The Clerk will write to Mr Dellar.

182/15 **Bletchingdon Park Wall:** Cllr Kersh stated that it was great to see the damaged wall had been repaired.

183/15 **The Blacks Head:** Cllr Ledger reported that he understood that the property had been sold to a buyer who intends to re-open as a pub.

184/15 **Springwell Close Footpath/Scrubland:** Cllr Miss Benton requested that the PC considers clearing vegetation from this area, as it is very overgrown and unsightly. Cllr Ledger suggested that PC waits to see what temporary measures are going to be taken with regard the surfacing of this footpath for use as the main pedestrian access into the school. Monitor and discuss again at future meeting.

185/15 **Access Road into School/Housing Development:** Cllr Mrs Knight asked what was to be done about this as it is so narrow vehicles turning into it have damaged the verge on the opposite side of the road. Cllr Ledger confirmed that eventually the splay would be made bigger on the access road, and that the damaged verge would be repaired. Cllr Ledger would confirm this and also ensure builders mess will be cleared before they leave the site.

**Date of Next Meeting:** 7:30pm, Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> August, 2015 at New Village Hall.