

BLETCHINGDON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held in Bletchington Primary Schoolon Thursday 2nd June, 2015.

Present: Cllr A.K.Saunders (Chair), Cllr C.E.Lane, Cllr D.M.Ledger, Cllr Miss J. Benton & Cllr Mrs M. Knight.

Apologies: Cllr M Kersh & Cllr M.E. Taylor

- 139/15 **Confirmation of Minutes:** The Minutes of the meeting held on 28th May, 2015, were approved and signed.
- 140/15 **Declaration of Interest:** None
- 141/15 **Dog Waste Bins:** The Clerk reported that she had had no reply from an email requesting information on the number of bins and the frequency of bin emptying. Cllr Miss Benton suggested a further bin was required on the public footpath leading from Springwell Close. The Clerk was asked to action this.
- 142/15 **Sale of the School:** Cllr Saunders confirmed that CDC Planning Officers would not be requesting the nursery undertake any impact assessments, or making any recommendations, as 'change of use' was not required. Cllr Mrs Knight asked if there had been application to improve the road across Mr Kilkenny's land in the past. Cllr Lane stated that there had, for the landowners own benefit, and added this would be a good option to persue, to alleviate traffic problems on Weston Road.
- 143/15 **Smartwheelie:** Cllrs looked at the order forms for wheelie bin speed stickers and instructed the Clerk to order 10 packs of 6, and to put in the Village News that they were available to householders fronting the main through roads who wished to put them on their bins.
- 144/15 **Bus Shelter Light/Springclean:** The Clerk has now given the solar powered light to Mr Jez Pewsey to install. Cllrs asked if the Clerk could obtain a quote for repainting the inside of the shelter, using anti-graffiti paint, from Mr Pewsey.
- 145/15 **Fingerpiece:** The damaged kerbstones have been reset by O.C.C. Highways, however the Clerk did not get a response to her questions about them installing new bollards on the Fingerpiece and the Green. The Clerk will speak to O.C.C. Highways again. Cllr Saunders had not yet written again to the owners of the van parked alongside the Village Green, which has caused larger vehicles to mount the Fingerpiece and damage the kerbstones. He would write stating that the kerbstones were put there to preserve the Fingerpiece, as were the bollards, and they need to be there to ensure the Fingerpiece does not become encroached upon and eventually lost. With the bollards there, larger vehicles, such as recycling lorries, emergency vehicles and delivery drivers, will not get through.
- 146/15 **Drain outside Village Farmhouse:** The Clerk has been told these will be cleared by 2nd July. They had not been done today. The Clerk will chase this with O.C.C. Highways.
- 147/15 **Street Light at No.14 Oxford Road:** The Clerk has established that the tree was nominally pruned in January, but now needs to be done again. It was raised as a new job on 25th June by O.C.C. Street Lighting team.
- 148/15 **Damaged Bench in St Giles:** Cllr Saunders reported that the Thursday Club had asked The Charity for money to replace this and another bench in the village, which had been granted.
- 149/15 **Damaged Wall in St Giles:** Mr Mark England of C.D.C. Regeneration & Estates Team reported that C.D.C. did not own the wall. The Clerk was instructed to speak to him again.
- 150/15 **Trees on St Giles:** Mr Jon Brewin of C.D.C. reported that all trees had been inspected in September 2014, all were reportedly safe, but works were recommended – crown raising & removal of basal growth. An order has now been raised for this work to be done, but no timescale given.

- 151/15 **2 Oxford Road:** The Clerk reported that workmen have been in a lot in recent weeks and that it was to be put on the open market for part ownership imminently. There is a clause stating that the buyer has to live or work within the Cherwell district, but not a local connection to Bletchington.
- 152/15 **Gigaclear:** The Clerk was asked to contact Gigaclear to find out when they are coming to Bletchington and how we will be informed of their movements around the village.
- 153/15 **Community Project Update:** Cllr Saunders reported that the shared meeting room was to be available on a Monday & Wednesday morning for the Clerk to work from. It would also be accessible out of school hours. The public will be able to visit the Clerk, when working, through the main reception entrance of the school. Cllrs Lane & Mrs Knight raised concerns on behalf of residents about the school and village hall divide, in particular the school taking over the village hall. Cllr Saunders reiterated that the PC office could not be left vacant everyday, except two mornings, as this would be a waste of resources. Cllr Saunders concluded that it is important that we get the best deal for the community. Cllr Ledger reported that there are concerns relating to how children get into the school. The school are speaking to The Duchy(as landowner) to improve the footpath from Springwell Close as this will temporarily be the main pedestrian entrance. The car park is for staff and not for dropping off children, so some vehicles (approx.15) will be dropping children off on Station Road, which may be problematic.
- 154/15 **Planning Matters**
- 154a/15 **Applications:-**
14/01861/F & 14/01862/LB – Mr A Jordan & Ms N Roberts, The Malt House, Weston Road. An appeal has been made, following the refusal of planning permission, for the erection of two storey extension and first floor side extension including works to adapt dwelling. Raising roof of outbuilding to rear garden. Widening of existing entrance in frontage wall and provision of off-street car parking area. Cllrs had no more comments to make as the previous comments would be taken into consideration.
- 154b/15 **Approvals:-**
15/00743/F – 1 Heathfield Cottages, Heathfield – Single storey rear extension.
- 155/15 **Annual Return 2014/15:** The Audit had been completed by the Clerk and it was read and agreed by Cllrs. Cllr Saunders also read out the report from the internal audit, which included recommendations.
- 156/15 **VAT Return:** The Clerk had filed a claim for £943.06 on 15/06/15.
- 157/15 **Quarterly Internal Audit:** The Clerk presented figures for the period April – June 2015. As at 30th June the balance in hand was £27880.07, with £863.01 of this being Parish Conservation Fund money, and £460.28 being Play Equipment money.
- 158/15 **Accounts for Payment**
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| C.Fraser (payroll & training) | £70 |
| C.Fraser (internal audit) | £320 |
| Getting to Grips with Local Council Finance course (x2delegates) – the previous cheque raised in May had been the incorrect amount and had been returned to the Clerk | £156 |
| R.McNaught(expenses – McAfee LiveSafe £38.28, yellow paper for APM flyers £4.99, stamps £7.56, APM flyer delivery £20) | £70.83 |
| R.McNaught (salary) | £1000 |
| Green Scythe Ltd (mowing) | £446.98 |
| Jake Williams (clearing path at Springwell Cl) | £36 |
- 159/15 **Report from John Howell MP:** Reports had been circulated to all. There will be a village tour in September.
- 160/15 **Report from Co. Cllr. Gearing:** Reports had been circulated to all.
- 161/15 **Heather Smith, The Bletchington Charity:** The PC was informed that Mr Julian Howe had resigned from his position as PC representative on the Bletchington Charity Committee. Cllr Lane asked that a request for a replacement be put in the Village News.
- 162/15 **Monika Franke:** Monika had asked Cllrs permission to install two spotlights outside the Clinic on the Green, to improve lighting of the entrance, for customers and staff using the

clinic after dark. Cllrs were concerned that spotlights were too bright, may cause a road hazard, and are not in keeping with the building. The Clerk was to report back to Monika.

163/15 **Rebecca Watkinson:** An email had been received from Ms Watkinson relating to traffic through the village. A discussion followed. Cllrs asked the Clerk to speak to Highways about getting a weight restriction through the village, but with additional concerns for width at the tight corner on Islip Road. Cllr Lane would speak to Andrew Smith regarding the 'established' right to bring Smiths lorries through the village.

Date of Next Meeting: 7:30pm, Thursday 30th July, 2015 at location to be confirmed.