

BLETCHINGDON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held in Bletchingdon Village Hall

on Thursday 22nd October, 2015.

Present: Cllr A.K.Saunders(Chair), Cllr C.E.Lane (Chair), Cllr M. Kersh, Cllr D.M.Ledger & Cllr M.E. Taylor.

- 227/15 **Confirmation of Minutes:** The Minutes of the meeting held on 24th September 2015 were approved and signed. Cllr Lane stated that application 15/01580/Q56 was ‘permitted development’ not a planning application, and this was altered in the minutes. He went on to explain that ‘permitted development’ is a national planning policy which allows agricultural barns built before 2003 to be converted into dwellinghouses.
- 228/15 **Declaration of Interest:** Cllr Ledger declared an interest in planning application 15/00344/TCA as landowner.
- 229/15 **Village Traffic Meeting:** Cllr Kersh summarised the meeting concluding that two main areas: speed of traffic and weight of vehicles. Both areas require planning and will take time, and there is no funding from Highways Authority. It was recommended by OCC Highways that the village carries out a traffic count and OCC can provide equipment and training. Cllr Kersh had 5 volunteers to form the working group and he will contact them to arrange first meeting.
Cllr Taylor suggested the PC writes to OCC Highways to prompt them to move the 30mph limit on the Kirtlington Road to beyond the new school/hall/housing entrance. Cllr Saunders will do this and also establish what the OCC plan is for the crossing and footway to the front of the hall on Station Road.Cllr Saunders added that the BCF have been discussing options to get crossing done as priority once the 2nd phase (the housing) commences – Cllr Ledger and Cllr Saunders will bring it up at next BCF meeting.
- 230/15 **Christmas Tree:** Cllr Taylor has made enquiries and Paul Timms can purchase a tree from Beckley for £50. Cllr Miss Benton has been approached by a Christmas tree seller wanting to sell trees in the village, and in return she will give the village a tree. Cllrs Miss Benton is to contact the Duchy for permission to use the gateway in front of the Red Barn to do this, 2nd choice could be the layby.
- 231/15 **Community Project Update:** Cllr Ledger reported that the mobile signal was so poor he had looked into getting a BT phone line installed for PC use. It will cost £115 for a line into the PC Office room, and the handset could be unplugged when not in office. Cllrs unanimously agreed to get a BT line installed for PC use.
- 232/15 **Dog Bins:** Cllr Lane has the new dog bin which is to be installed on the path to the school/village hall at Springwell Close. It will be installed as soon as possible. Cllr Saunders also reported that the reason the invoice for emptying the bins from CDC doesn’t add up is because they include a 10% service charge which isn’t mentioned in the invoice. The Clerk will let CDC know when new bin is installed.
- 233/15 **Damaged Wall, St Giles:** The Clerk reported that John Slack of CDC had informed her that the wall is on Sanctuary Housing land. The Clerk will contact them to repair it.
- 234/15 **Coghill Tree:** The Clerk had been contacted by Simon Horwood, who is able to supply the bird cherry at the quoted price of £75 without a delivery charge, as he will get it delivered to work and then bring it back to Bletchingdon himself. Cllrs agreed this was the best solution, as Mr Horwood was volunteering to help plant the tree. The Clerk will arrange this.

235/15 **Planning Matters**235a/15 **Applications:-**

15/01689/F – **Underdowns**, off B4027, Bletchingdon – For the retention of mobile home approved 21/12/12 for use as agricultural workers dwelling. Comments were made based on planning committee comments. No objection made.

15/00345/TCA – **2 Islip Road** – T1 x Arbutus Tree to fell – Cllrs raised no objection.

15/00343/TCA – **7-8 Bletchingdon Park Stables** – T1 x Field Maple reduce by up to 4m, T2,3,4 Italian Cypress to fell – Cllrs raised no objection.

15/00344/TCA – **3 Islip Road** – T1 x Conifer (Cypress) to fell – Cllrs raised no objection.

15/01774/F – NURSERY??

235b/15 **Notice of Determination:-**

15/01580/Q56 – **Sand Farm House, Station Road** – Refused.

235c/15 **Notice of Decision:-**

15/00285/TCA – Hill View, Church End – T1 Willow to fell – Approved.

15/00284/TCA – Wood Cottage, Weston Road – T1 Eucalyptus to fell – Approved.

236/15 **Accounts for Payment**

OCC (Bletchingdon School) photocopying flyers £10

R.McNaught – expenses(stamps) £6.48

Bletchingdon Village Hall – filing cabinet £120

237/15 **Finance Course Update:** Cllr Ledger and the Clerk attended a finance course for Parish Councils on 30th September. Cllr Ledger concluded that the PC should be moving towards online banking and spreadsheets instead of the manual ledger system. Cllr Ledger also stated that a note should be put in accounts to say what reserves are earmarked for, to make them clearly different from the contingency. The Clerk will also provide a bank reconciliation and financial report at every PC meeting.

238/15 **Vans parked alongside Village Green:** Cllr Lane raised the need to write to the van owners again, to ask them not to park alongside the Green, near to the Fingerpiece. Cllr Saunders expressed his concerns over the wording of such a letter, as the vans are parked legally, they are not over the centre line. Cllr Lane and Cllr Miss Benton think the letter needs to be done. Cllr Kersh agreed to bring matter up with David To;e, OCC Highways.

239/15 **Fire on land adjacent to Village Hall:** Cllr Lane wished to clarify the situation. He feels hurt by the backlash when all he was trying to do was to help out and do the right thing. Cllr Lane explained that the 5-year agreement over use of the field was released early, but that he still has an agreement with the Duchy to use the field. He stressed that it is not a building site, but a field. Cllr Lane also feels he was not acting irresponsibly, and the fire fighters that attended would agree with that.

240/15 **Footpath Sign at Church:** Cllr Taylor reported that this sign has still not been replaced. The Clerk will contact OCC Rights of Way again.

241/15 **Ardley Energy Recovery Facility:** Cllr Kersh had recently been on a visit to the education centre here and highly recommended it. He would arrange a PC tour if people were interested and asked the Clerk to mention it to the school.

242/15 **Dying Tree on footpath to school:** Cllr Miss Benton reported a dying beech tree, opposite the shed in the rear garden of No.1 Springwell Close, over the footpath, liable to shed branches onto path/children. Cllr Saunders asked the Clerk to get Jamie McNaught to have a look at it. Cllr Miss Benton will mention it to the Duchy when speaking about Christmas tree sales.

243/15 **BMW parked outside the Blacks Head:** Cllr Mrs Knight has investigated this vehicle which is causing an obstruction and discovered it is un-taxed. Cllr Mrs Knight asked Cllr Lane if Sue Lane could report it through her Neighbourhood Watch position.

Date of Next Meeting: 7:30pm, Thursday 26th November, 2015 at Bletchingdon Village Hall.