

BLETCHINGDON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held in Bletchingdon Village Hallon Thursday 1st November, 2018 at 7:30pm

Present: Cllr. A.K.Saunders (Chair), Cllr C Lane, Cllr. Mrs. M. Knight, Cllr. D. Ledger, Cllr M. Taylor, Cllr R. Pirie & County Cllr C. Griffiths

- 182/18 **Apologies:** Dist. Cllr Hughes, Dist. Cllr Hallchurch, Cllr A. Jordan
- 183/18 **To approve the Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 27th September 2018:** The Minutes were approved by PC and signed by Cllr Saunders.
- 184/18 **Declarations of Interest:** None
- 185/18 **Public participation:** None present
- 186/18 **Blacks Head:** Still no planning application submitted to CDC
- 187/18 **Grounds Maintenance Contract:** The Clerk has asked for a number of quotes for Grounds Maintenance works – see later agenda item
- 188/18 **Traffic Survey:** Cllr Ledger confirmed that he had met with Cllr Jordan to agree locations. PC agreed with the 3 locations on Islip Rd (box to record full survey), Weston Road (same location as before) and Kirtlington Road. The Clerk to instruct Cllr Jordan to get these surveys ordered asap.
- 189/18 **Stone path from Springwell Close:** Cllr Saunders has discussed with someone at the Duchy Fields site, but no action yet. Cllr Pirrie asked if this is our only solution? Even putting more temporary plastic path down will need the existing to be levelled, but it is an option. Cllr Saunders will chase Duchy Fields in first instance to either temporarily level or to actually put the proper path in now, its been dragging on now.
- 190/18 **Litter bin for footpath to school/village hall:** PC agreed to order the HGN 45 litter bin in green without pedal. Clerk to action, but also to add to Councillor Priority Funding form.
- 191/18 **School Board of Governors:** No suggestions for suitable person. Cllr Ledger said it's a difficult role to fill and that it should be a stakeholder from the community and not a parent (there are parent governor roles). PC agreed to put something in the next Village News – Cllr Ledger to help the Clerk write something to explain the role. Cllr Saunders suggested the school also put something in Village News for the roles they are looking to fill.
- 192/18 **Teen Shelter:** The old teen shelter has now been removed – thank you to Chris. [Also BT phone box has been removed from Station Road, finally.] Cllr Lane to submit any expenses to next meeting.
- 193/18 **Marlborough School Bus:** Parents continue to progress this but have asked Parish Council if they might be able to use the village hall (paid for by the PC) for a meeting in December. PC agreed they could, but Cllr Ledger said it would have to be a Thursday. Cllr Griffiths asked for confirmation of situation, as she is meeting with Philip Earnshaw. Cllr Saunders confirmed that OCC are not going to change their policy and the service provided by them is being withdrawn from the village from September 2019.
- 194/18 **Thames Travel 250 Service:** Cllr Saunders brought this item forward to inform Cllr Griffiths of this correspondence. Cllr Saunders summarised the letter of complaint about the service written by the PC Transport Rep and read the response received,

stating that OCC are concerned that it considers the number of unavoidable delays to be excessive, and the OCC are suggesting they would like to be told of every late bus or no-show that we hear of. Cllr Griffiths will get confirmation from Mr Earnshaw about what contract they have with Thames Travel and if what they are doing breaks any contractual agreement.

194/18 **Thriving Communities OCC Parish Liaison Event:** 2 places reserved for the OCC parish event Wednesday 28th November 6 – 9pm Kidlington Exeter Hall.

195/18 **Cllr Griffiths' Report:**

195a/18 **Oxford – Cambridge Expressway:** Cllr Griffiths summarised the Oxford – Cambridge Expressway concerns. She urged someone from Bletchingdon PC to attend the next meeting in Weston-on-the-Green just to get a feel for what is being discussed. Meeting is on Thursday 22nd November at 7:20pm in Weston Village Hall. Cllr Saunders said he would try to attend.

195b/18 **Decriminalisation of Parking:** Re-introduction of Traffic Wardens to tackle parking issues as a result of parking places being reduced and planning being given to properties with only one or no parking spaces. It becomes a Civil Offence, which you have to pay the fines. Traffic Wardens would then be employed by the Council. Cllr Griffiths added that there is also concern that the police are no longer as accessible and that Councillors are becoming the point of contact. The Clerk added that there are however a couple of 'Have Your Say' dates in local villages set up at the moment.

195b/18 **Line Painting:** Get a list of works needed around the village to pass to Carmen. Clerk to contact Highways (Christian Mauz) about progress with the zebra crossing (cc. Cllr Griffiths with photos).

196/18 **Enforcement:**

196a/18 **Land South of Diamond Farm:** Cllr Saunders explained that the landowner at the field south of Diamond Farm is resisting a site visit, however CDC have powers of entry. Cllr Saunders will continue to chase this, perhaps with a stronger response as this has been dragged out since February 2018, and for 10 years prior to that.

196b/18 **Planning Application 17/00949/F The Digs, Heathfield:** This was a retrospective application that was refused yet the property has not been reverted back to its original state and it is now lived in. Clerk to pass details to Cllr Saunders so it can be added to list of enforcement issues.

196c/18 **Removed hedgerows:** Cllr Saunders/Clerk to chase Sue Marchand, CDC, to see if this is being progressed.

197/18 **Fix My Street:** All issues have been cleared off system (presumably work carried out) except the lamppost in the middle of the pavement on Station Road, which is an incomplete part of the development really, rather than a Fix My Street issue. The Clerk urged Cllrs to report problems directly on Fix My Street website or to her.

198/18 **Planning Applications –**

a)To note Notices of Decisions

18/01499/LB – replacement of rear window with French windows at Michaelmas Cottage, Islip Rd – permitted 16/10/18

18/01248/F – Alteration and conversion of cattery building to form a single detached dwelling house at Heathfield Cattery – Refused 8/10/18

18/00244/TCA felling trees to allow for new planting scheme at Hill View, Church End – permitted

18/00408/DISC – Discharge of Condition 13 (Construction Management Plan) of

15/00822/F – Land adj to lince lane, access of station rd, enslow. – Permitted

18/01677/AGN – stockyard buildings, Station Rd, Enslow – agricultural building Refused.

b)To consider all recent Applications received from Cherwell District Council or on the District Council website up to the date of the meeting;

18/01203/F – Investfront Ltd – redevelopment of the site to provide 2 no. detached dwellings following removal of existing function hall – the Oxfordshire Inn, Heathfield – Cllr Saunders read comments made by the Planning Committee which were submitted to James Kirkham 19/10/18 – Awaiting decision.

18/00311/TCA – Manor House, Islip Rd – 62x Leylandii Fell – No objections

18/01801/F – Orchard House, Weston Road – Demolition of existing house, large green house and 2 outbuildings. Construction of replacement house and adaptation of existing outbuilding to raise eaves – re-submission of 17/02455/F (which was withdrawn) – No objections

18/01739/F – Wilcox, Grove Farm – Erection of 2 extensions to existing livestock units following removal of existing grain bins – No objections

199/18 Finance:

Cllrs were asked to consider invoices for payment itemised on the payment schedule.

Cheque No	Payee and Reason	Budget	Minute Ref	Total Amount	VAT
101553	Greenscythe Ltd – application of herbicide around village hall	Trees & Open Spaces	069/16	£132.00	£22.00
101554	Navitas Design Ltd – 1 yr web hosting & domain name	General Admin	This minute	£64.79	£10.80

The Clerk added that the Direct Debit to BT went out around about 24/10/18 for £33.62. and that there would be a claim next months for stationery items, inc.

McAfee renewal (£12.75), printer paper 5 reams (£19.97). Cllr Saunders suggested the paper may be cheaper at Tesco, the Clerk will check for better deal.

200/18 Grounds Maintenance quotes: Cllr Saunders reported that the Clerk had contacted more than 3 companies for quotes, but as yet had only received a quote from Green Scythe (the existing contractor). A decision will be postponed until next month to see if anyone else comes in with a quote.

201/18 Councillor Priority Funding: Cllr Saunders reminded the PC that Bletchingdon has been allocated £2500 to spend on items we otherwise may not be able to afford from the precept. It was previously agreed that a new Notice Board should be purchased and the Clerk had researched these and got a quote and other rough prices. A discussion was had resulting in Cllrs agreeing to look to purchase the more expensive, traditional style Notice Board, in a man-made timber (for increased longevity) The Clerk has costed 1 x Noticeboard at £1546.08 (inc VAT). It was also agreed that the litter bin could also be added to the list, and that funding could be used retrospectively for the 2 x village name signs £429.72 and the ‘Please do not park on the verges’ signs installed on Weston Road £183.62 (inc.VAT) The Clerk has a form to complete, which will be done by next meeting. If money left we could consider adding something else eg. 20’s plenty signage.

- 202/18 **Recreation Ground:** Cllr Saunders the Clerk contacted TSPlay for info/pricing of target wall like at Islip but hasn't received a reply. The Clerk has found 2 examples of steel picnic tables £599(ex.VAT) and £887(ex VAT). A discussion was had about the styles of picnic bench and Cllrs agreed to purchase the Cannock Chase with extension for wheelchair access at 699(ex VAT) from Broxap. Cllr Saunders showed Cllrs a photo of the wooden target wall in Islip (TSPlay). Cllr Lane also suggested putting the rubber matting in front of it to preserve the grass. Cllr Lane confirmed that the Sports & Social supported the idea. Clerk to get some costings for next meeting.
- 203/18 **The Slipe:** Cllr Saunders explained that the Clerk had written to Paul Rolfe, Frogs Nest Farm, confirming that the period of grazing did finish at the end of October. Paul Rolfe has responded stating that he thought it was agreed that it would be for 12 months, and it seems that any discussions about the agreement were outside of any public meeting. Mr Rolfe states in the letter that he will now not allow anyone access to this piece of land, because he believes that to do would be a trespass offence on his land. Cllr Lane will help the Clerk word a response to Mr Rolfe, and the Clerk will ensure any copies of correspondence are included in this response. Mr Rolfe has since emailed to say he has now vacated the land known as The Slipe. Cllr Ledger has been unable to ascertain the land ownership boundary from Land Registry. Cllr Saunders suggest the Clerk contact Highways to find out where the boundary of the Highway is. Cllr Saunders then went through the original Lease document between HRH The Prince of Wales and Bletchington Parish Council signed in 2001 for a 20 year lease of The Slipe. Importantly, the agreement stated that within 6 months the PC were to install a gated access to The Slipe from the adjoining highway, and this was done accordingly by Cllr Lane. On completion of this work to the satisfaction of Local Highways Authority HRH will contribute £300 to expenses of this. The Clerk will investigate if this payment was made. In addition, it does say it is for grazing and mowing and that the PC can sublet it. Cllr Saunders concluded that we need to clarify if the gate has been installed onto the Highway or not. Cllr Lane to ask the question of The Duchy as the Landowner. Cllr Knight asked if The Charity were still interested in buying The Slipe. Cllr Saunders explained that a further source of funding may have been found to assist The Charity to purchase The Slipe. [NB. The PC lease agreement ends in January 2021]
- 204/18 **20's Plenty:** Cllr Saunders reported that the Clerk has done some initial research and suggests someone leads on this with her support, to decide what type of signing could be used and look at changing the actual speed limit in the long-term. In his absence, and as it was of interest to him, Cllr Jordan was nominated to lead on this.
- 205/18 **CDC car park:** Cllr Saunders had been informed by a resident that there were an increased number of cars parked in this car park, and on investigation Cllr Saunders found that a number of them were SORN. The Clerk will report these to CDC in the first instance. Cllr Pirie added that residents in the Old Village Hall properties have had Environmental Health out about the bottle bank, and Environmental Health have said that they should be moved on grounds of unacceptable noise. A discussion was had about where they could be moved to, nowhere suitable was suggested.
- 206/18 **Correspondence:**
 206a/18 **30mph on Weston Road:** An email received from Hill View, Church End concerned about where it is National Speed Limit despite the location of properties

here. The Clerk is to raise this with Highways, challenging the location of the extent of the 30mph here.

206b/18 **Cherwell Parish Liaison Meeting:** 7th November, Bodicote. Cllr Jordan to attend plus one other.

207/18 Items for information or next Agenda only - all items for next agenda to be submitted to the Clerk by Thursday 22nd November:

207a/18 **School Banner/Sign:** Cllr Saunders reported that the school has requested an advertising board to be placed somewhere on Station Road at the front of the Village Hall. It is a PC matter as it is about the 'Street Scene'. To be researched further (eg. temporary/permanent nature/size/location) and added as item to be decided at next meeting.

207b/18 **Church Path:** Cllr Taylor reported light still out in Church Walk – Clerk to investigate, as OCC claim it isn't theirs.

207c/18 **Flytipping:** Cllr Knight reported white goods in ditch near Heathfield.

207d/18 **The Row:** Cllr Taylor asked if anyone knew who owned the wall at the rear of The Row as it was falling down. In addition there was an old mattress and other rubbish there. The Clerk was going to look at past minutes because this issue came up 18mths – 2 years ago, when the wall started falling down. Barriers were erected (not by PC) so it was thought matter was being dealt with. The Clerk will contact Green Square in first instance.

208/18 **Date of Next Meeting:** to confirm the date of the next meeting as 29th November 2018 at 7.30pm