

## BLETCHINGDON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held in Bletchingdon Village Hallon Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> June at 7:30pm

**Present:** Cllr. A.K.Saunders (Chair), Cllr C. Lane (Vice Chair), Cllr A. Jordan, Cllr. Mrs. M. Knight, Cllr R. Pirie, Cllr M Taylor, Cllr D Ledger.

133/19 **Apologies:** None

134/19 **Declarations of Interest:** None

135/19 **Public Participation:** None

136/19 **To approve the Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 23<sup>rd</sup> May 2019:**

The Minutes were approved by PC and signed by Cllr Saunders.

137/19 **Progress with the stone path from Springwell to Station Road and Plastic Path:**

Cllr Saunders met with the new site manager and County Cllr C. Griffiths to discuss. The new site manager will find out if it is in their plans to do these paths. Cllr Saunders will chase him for this information.

138/19 **Weeds and Grounds Maintenance:** Cllr Jordan raised concerns over the new footpath along Station Road because weeds are already running along the length of the road. Cllr Saunders will send an email of complaint to the new site manager.

This lead on to a discussion about the general appearance of the village and the number of weeds in the area. All agreed that Cllr Saunders, The Clerk and Jake should arrange a time to meet and walk around the Village to discuss what work is needed and to request a quote from Jake.

139/19 **School Board of Governors:** Cllr Saunders received no reply from Wayne Dobbins so Cllr Saunders will send another email.

140/19 **Councillor Priority Funding:** No suggestions received from Cllrs. Clerk to follow up on this.

141/19 **Sewage Smell:** The Clerk reported that Thames Water have been in touch to explain that the results from their probe were not available in time for their most recent risk review. They need this evidence in order to request funding to have a Chemical Dosing Unit installed. They should have the information required in time for their next risk review. A further update from Thames Water will be received before the next meeting.

142/19 **Picnic Bench:** It was confirmed the new Picnic Bench is now in place.

143/19 **Enforcement Update:** Cllr Saunders confirmed he will get in touch with the relevant parties to progress this.

144/19 **Speed Limit Change:** Cllr Saunders read the email reply from James Wright. It was agreed that the Clerk should challenge him again with regards to the Parish Council having to fund the cost of moving the sign and to copy in the parishioners who raised the issue.

145/19 **New Notice Board:** Cllr Saunders to speak to Nick Mould from the Duchy with regards to requesting permission to erect the new notice board as soon as possible.

146/19 **Nettles:** Quote from Green Scythe has been received and all agreed that they would be hired to cut the nettles but not to clear the nettles. Cllr Saunders will also speak to The Duchy with regards to the broken wall and adjacent land.

- 147/19 **Traffic – Weston and Islip Road, Zebra Crossing and Lollipop Person:** Cllr Saunders contacted County Cllr C. Griffiths with regards to the missing platform on Station Road/near the Zebra Crossing. Cllr Saunders will chase for an update. Islip Road has two issues, HGV's and speeding. All agreed some research into what options the Village actually has to control these issues should be made by the Clerk to aid future discussions.  
Cllr Saunders is assisting the School in finding a replacement Lollipop person. In the meantime, the Clerk is to speak to the School about requesting somebody to turn on the crossing lights.
- 148/19 **Reports from District or County Councillors:** None
- 149/19 **Village Hall Committee representative:** Cllr Saunders confirmed that at present there is no Village Hall Committee.
- 150/19 **Fix My Street:** The street light on Church path is now fixed.
- 151/19 **Planning Applications:**
- 151a/19 **Applications Received:**
- 19/00954/OUT – New House, St Giles. Demolition of garage and part of existing house, erection of two 1-bedroom units. The application was passed to all on the planning committee with the following 'Objections'. i) Concerns over parking in a street where there is already very limited space for any additional vehicles. ii) The loss of a decent size family house in this village, in exchange for some very small units.
- 19/00203/DISC – Michaelmas Cottage, Islip Road. Discharge of conditions 3 (doors, windows and roof lights) and 4 (cedar shingles, rainwater goods, render colour) of 19/00355/F. The application was passed to all on the planning committee with all making 'No Objection'.
- 19/01029/F – 3 Valentia Close. Demolition of existing garage and erection of side extension for ground floor bedroom and en suite. The application was passed to all on the planning committee with all making 'No Objection'.
- 151b/19 **Applications Approved:** None
- 152/19 **The Slipe:** All agreed to continue with the remaining lease on The Slipe. The land is now owned by The Bletchingdon Community Fund and they will write to The Highways to request permission to make an entrance so that in the future, a picnic area can be created.
- 153/19 **Finance:**
- 153a/19 **Year End March 2019 – Audited Accounts Report & Annual Return**  
Cllr Saunders read out the report by the internal auditor, Claire Fraser. Cllr Saunders checked the year-end figures against section 2 of the Annual Return which had been completed by the Clerk. He then read aloud the accounting statements in Section 1 of the Annual Return and completed them accordingly. The Clerk will send the Annual Return to the external auditors.

153b/19 Cllrs were asked to consider invoices for payment itemised on the payment schedule.

Cheque No	Payee and Reason	Budget	Minute Ref	Total Amount	VAT
101584	St Giles Churchyards – towards mowing costs	Grants & Donations	125/19e	£600.00	£0.00
101585	Bletchington Village News – towards printing costs	Grants & Donations	125/19e	£150.00	£0.00
101586	C Fraser – Annual Audit	General Admin	This minute	£350.00	£0.00
101587	C Fraser – Payroll April – June 2019	General Admin	This minute	£40.00	£0.00
101588	Rebecca McNaught – Salary April, May, June 2019	Clerk's Salary	This minute	£958.10	£0.00
101589	Fiona Mason – Salary May, June 2019	Clerk's Salary	This minute	£677.42	£0.00
101590	Fiona Mason – Expenses. Reimburse for purchase of book of stamps	General Admin	This minute	£8.40	£0.00
101591	Bletchington Village Hall – Hire of Hall April, May, June 2019	Village Hall Hire	This minute	£450.00	£0.00
101592	Green Scythe Limited – Grass Cutting May 2019	Grounds Maintenance	023/17	£835.20	£139.20
101593	Fiona Mason – Expenses, mileage claim for attending course	General Admin	This minute	£20.70	£0.00

The Direct Debit to BT is due to go out on or just after 24<sup>th</sup> June 2019 for £30.72 including VAT.

All payments approved.

154/19 **Insurance:** The Clerk confirmed the Insurance is now in place.

155/19 **Recreation Ground Graffiti and Damage:** The damaged equipment has now been repaired but as Jake has not yet replied to the request to remove the graffiti it was agreed that the Clerk should now contact Dave Keane to see what he can do.

156/19 **Kick Wall:** The order has been placed and the company require a deposit of £1,000 before starting. It was agreed that upon receipt of the invoice, the Clerk can send the deposit money.

157/19 **Good Neighbour Scheme:** The Clerk reported that there had not been a huge response to the Questionnaire. It was agreed that a Summary of the results should go out in the next Village News in case there is anyone who missed it.

158/19 **Fair – Road Closure:** The Clerk advised that the Road Closure must be put through. Cllr Lane confirmed he will speak to Perry to make sure he does so.

159/19 **Correspondence Received:**

- a) Roger Neill from 30 Sand Furlong, has offered to donate a table and benches he no longer needs. Clerk to reply and accept his kind offer. All agreed they could be a great addition to The Slipe. Clerk to ask him if he can store them for the time being? If not, Cllr Lane said he can store them.
- b) Nadia Brown from the charity 'Clean Slate' is seeking a donation. All agreed a donation of £50.00 should be sent. All agreed this can be sent now, approved this meeting.
- c) Parish Survey – Cherwell Industrial Strategy. All agreed not to reply.
- d) Invitation to attend a day conference received from Honor Juniper from The Oxfordshire Historic Churches Trust.
- e) Children's Air Ambulance – requesting space for a textile bank. All agreed, the Clerk should advise them to contact Cherwell District Council to see if they would be willing to allow one on their land next to the bottle banks already there.
- f) Trailer Training UK – request asking Parish Councils to share information and advice on our website.

160/19 **Reports from meetings:** To receive and note reports from meetings; for information. None.

161/19 **Items for information or next Agenda only - all items for next agenda to be submitted to the Clerk by Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> June 2019**

- Contact Jake to request a quote for clearing the 30mph road sign on Kirtlington Road.

162/19 **Date of Next Meeting:** to confirm the date of the next meeting as 25<sup>th</sup> July 2019 at 7.30pm.

Meeting Ended : 9:45pm.