

BLETCHINGDON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held in Bletchingdon Village Hallon Thursday 29th August at 7:30pm

Present: Cllr A.K.Saunders (Chair), Cllr C. Lane, Cllr A. Jordan, Cllr M. Knight, Cllr M. Taylor, District Cllr T. Hallchurch and Parishioner Mrs S. Morris

184/19 **Apologies:** Cllr R. Pirie, Cllr D. Ledger, County Cllr. C Griffiths.

185/19 **Declarations of Interest:** None

186/19 **Public Participation:** None

187/19 **To approve the Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 25th July 2019:**

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

188/19 **Traffic Calming:** Cllr Saunders reported that he met with the Clerk, Chris Grain and County Cllr C Griffiths to discuss all of the Village's traffic calming needs as well as repairs to the roads. During that meeting, Chris Grain said will ask his RAT team to look into why the speed calming on Station Road has not been done yet. He was also able to confirm that the areas of concern with regards to road repairs are due to be done very soon and in fact since that meeting, some of the repairs have already begun on The Causeway.

189/19 **Progress with the stone path from Springwell to Station Road and Plastic Path:**

Cllr Saunders reported that he sent copies of the plans which show that the footpaths are on the development plans to Nick Mould. Nick Mould has not yet replied.

190/19 **Sewage Smell:** The Clerk reported that Emily Dorcwra from Thames Water has been in touch with an update. She is waiting for three quotes from different contractors to compare for costs to install the odour unit. The estimate so far is £50,000 and although not confirmed, she thinks a large sum like that is unlikely to be approved. The reason for this large cost is because the unit has to be installed directly in the manhole and have a special compound built to surround it to make it safe. Clerk to get further update from Thames Water prior to the next meeting.

191/19 **Enforcement Update:** Cllr Saunders reported that the 'Hedge' case was approved last week and that the enforcement officer said the case will not be reopened. Cllr Saunders will contact the enforcement officer to ask them why they consider the case closed. With regards to the White House at Heathfield, there is a meeting due with the legal team next week

192/19 **Reports from District or County Councillors:**

Report from District Cllr T.Hallchurch

South Oxford District Council have scrapped their development plans and are starting again.

Oxfordshire County Council and Cherwell District Council now have the same Chief Executive Officer which is saving a lot of time and money.

Ernst & Young are doing the audit this year and what they have done so far is looking good.

It has been reported that members of the public have been putting dirty nappies in the recycling bins which has contaminated the real recyclables and meaning the whole lot has to be taken as general waste. It was agreed that a polite notice reminding people how to dispose of dirty nappies should be put in the next Village News.

The Bicester Festival weekend is running from Friday 20th September 2019 – Sunday 22nd September 2019 at Garth Park.

Everyone should receive a letter from the Electoral Register soon in anticipation of any future elections that may or may not take place.

The ‘divorce’ of South Northamptonshire Council is nearly finished.

193/19 District Cllr T.Hallchurch left the meeting after his report at 7:55pm.

194/19 **NHT Public Representative Survey:** All agreed they are happy for Cllr Jordan and the Clerk to complete the survey on behalf of all the Cllrs and the Village.

195/19 **Parking in and around the Village Hall:** Cllr Saunders welcomed Parishioner Mrs S. Morris to the meeting and the Village. He then read out Mrs. Morris’s email with regards to her concerns about parking. At present, her own designated parking space has not been finished by the developers nor can they tell her when it will be. She has 5 children and has concerns over their safety when she cannot park near to their home. All agreed that the Parish Council should write to ‘Places for People’ and copy Nick Mould on her behalf and of the other residents experiencing similar problems. Whilst writing, we will also report to the developers the problems with the weeds coming through on the new footpaths. Cllr Saunders to draft a letter for approval.

196a/19 **Applications Received:**

19/01287/F – Mr Geoff Robbins, Heathfield Park Golf Driving Range, Heathfield OX5 3DX – Change of use of Stud Farm, replace redundant buildings on site with stabling, all weather riding surface and sunken staff dwelling. The planning application was passed to all on the Planning Committee and the Parish Council. The following objections were raised; No design or access statement provided to justify why a new dwelling is needed. No roof plan provided. Poor design of house. Against planning policy to have a new dwelling in the open countryside. Presumably the reason stated will be to provide security for the horses. The house gets built and then the horses go. The building is not remotely distinctive to justify a new dwelling. There is already a Stud Farm in the area with these facilities. There is no indication that this is sustainable. Plans to renovate existing buildings for staff living on the existing Heathfield Stud Farm were refused so how can a newly created, competing site be justified. No detail of waste storage. No detailed business plan to show if the project will succeed or be sustainable. Shows no history of experience. Poor design of house and plan does not warrant on site accommodation and no plans for an entrance.

19/01414/F – The Bletchingdon Park Estate c/o Perdix Partnership – Park View Cottage, Church End OX5 3DL - Alterations and erection of a single storey extension to form double garage and a one to two storey side extension to provide additional living accommodation. Replace concrete tiles with thatched roof. – No objection by Parish Council or Planning Committee.

19/01412/LB – Mr Ian Jones – London House, Islip Road OX5 3DP – Replacement of some windows. No objection by Parish Council or Planning Committee.

19/01055/LB – Mr Ian Jones – London House, Islip Road OX5 3DP – Repairs to garage. No objection by Parish Council.

196b/19 **Applications Approved:** None.

196c/19 **Applications Declined/Withdrawn:** None.

197/19 **Finance:**

The paperwork to have the Clerk added to the mandate is now complete and will be sent to Barclays. Once in place, the next step will be to apply for Internet Banking.

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

Cheque No	Payee and Reason	Budget	Minute Ref	Total Amount	VAT
101597	Fiona Mason – Reimbursement for purchase of office supplies.	General Admin	This minute	£5.89	£0.98
101598	Fiona Mason – Reimbursement for purchase of office supplies	General Admin	This minute	£3.29	£0.55
101599	Playsafety Limited	Parks, Trees and Open spaces	This minute	£115.80	£19.30
101600	Green Scythe Limited	Contract Grounds Maintenance	023/17	£556.80	£92.80
101601	JB Corrie & Co Limited	Playground Equipment	This minute	£4,990.00	£831.67

The Direct Debit to BT is due to go out on or just after 23rd August 2019 for £32.18 including VAT.

All payments approved.

198/19 Recreation Ground Annual Inspection Report: Cllr Saunders went through the report and raised the following items to be checked on. The car, the handles on the seesaw and the chairs on the swings. Cllr Taylor volunteered to go to the recreation ground next week to see what's repairable or needs replacing.

199/19 Kick Wall: Cllr Jordan reported that the Kick Wall is now installed and he will paint the goals on as soon as possible. It was also agreed that some targets be painted on, as requested by children. There are some small scratches on the middle panel which we could claim on the Warranty or just monitor to see if they get any worse. All agreed to monitor for now. Cllr Jordan has asked for a quote for the cost of covering the top of the panels. He will bring this to the next meeting for discussion. Also as a matter of curtesy, the Parish Council should inform Robert of anything we might be doing at the Recreation Ground in the future.

200/19 Correspondence Received:

- a) Email from CPRE offering for our Parish Council to become a member. All agreed we should not.
- b) Email from Chesterton Parish Council with regards to Great Wolf Resorts and the merchandise they have. Do we wish to purchase any? All agreed we do not.
- c) Email from Oxfordshire County Council with regards to Salt Bin supplies. All agreed we do not need to order any more as Parishioner Mrs R.McNaught has plenty stored for the Village.
- d) Email from Cherwell District Council with regards to the Polling Places review they are undertaking. All agreed no action required.
- e) Email received from Oxfordshire County Council offering to upgrade our public buildings to full fibre broadband. All agreed this does not apply to Bletchington Parish Council.

- f) Letter from SLCC offering a course with regards to Website Accessibility Regulations. All agreed that the Clerk should not attend but to look into this and confirm we are eligible to declare ourselves exempt from these Regulations.
- g) John Howell newsletter.
- h) Jake Williams quote. All agreed that we should let him proceed with the quote he gave for the weeding and see how far he gets. With regards to the Bus shelter, again he should proceed but the clerk is to tell him to use 'anti-graffiti' paint instead of masonry paint.
- i) Email from Rebecca McNaught with regards to School Crossing flashing lights. Clerk to contact Sian Gibbons to start the process of getting these. Ideally with an image of children crossing a road.

201/19 Reports from meetings: To receive and note reports from meetings; for information.

Cllr Jordan was approached by Fiona Teddy with regards to the HGV's using Islip Road. She and her neighbours are contacting the Council to request a weight restriction on that road. They are looking for the support of the Parish Council and she said she would keep Cllr Jordan updated with developments.

202/19 Items for information or next Agenda only - all items for next agenda to be submitted to the Clerk by Thursday 19th September 2019.

- Cllr Ledger to create a draft booklet for all Parishioners, explaining what powers the Parish Council have. This draft will be circulated to all Cllrs to discuss at the next meeting.
- Cllr Taylor suggested that The Slipe we used for Bee keeping and growing wild flowers. He would be happy to sub lease the land from the Parish Council but it was discussed and agreed that this was a great idea and one that the Parish Council would be happy to support directly.
- Clerk to contact Green Scythe to tell them no further cutting required until we tell them to again, after the fair has been and gone.
- Clerk to see if the bottle banks have telephone numbers on to inform the Council when they are full. Then to put this information in the Village News.
- Cllrs to meet and discuss where on The Green to put the 'No Parking' sign, after the Fair.

203/19 Date of Next Meeting: to confirm the date of the next meeting as 26th September 2019 at 7.30pm.

Meeting Ended : 9:35pm