

BLETCHINGDON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the virtual Parish Council Meeting held by Zoom (due to Coronavirus)

on Thursday 24th September 2020 at 7:30pm

Present: Cllr A.K. Saunders (Chair), Cllr D. Ledger, Cllr C. Lane, Cllr M. Taylor, Cllr R. Pirie, Cllr M. Whitehead & Cllr A. Jordan.

196/20 **Apologies:** County Cllr C. Griffiths & Cllr A. Jordan who will be slightly late.

197/20 **Declarations of Interest:** With regards to minute number 212/b and planning application number 20/02372/OUT, Cllr Lane, Cllr Saunders, Cllr Ledger and Cllr Taylor declared an interest and will not comment.

198/20 **Public Participation:** None

199/20 **To approve the Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 27th August 2020:**

The Minutes were approved by all with the exception of a small amendment to minute number 185/20, following which they will be signed by Cllr Saunders when received in hard copy form from the Clerk.

200/20 **Reports from District or County Councillors:** None.

201/20 **Traffic Calming:** With regards to the field entrance on Station Road, Cllr Saunders reported that he checked the original plans and no field entrance is shown. The landowner has spoken to Nick Mould who has apologised for the problems raised with the location of the new chicane and confirmed he will support the plans for a new field entrance.

Cllr A. Jordan joined the meeting at 7:41pm.

It has been noted that parishioners are finding it increasingly dangerous to use the Zebra Crossing on Station Road and incidents of speeding through the Village have increased. The Clerk is to contact Dave Catling to request that he visit the Village, ideally from 8:15am-8:45am when the Zebra Crossing is mostly in use and traffic flow is high. Cllr Whitehead confirmed he would be happy to meet with him on site to discuss the problems and seek possible solutions sooner rather than later. Cllr Jordan also suggested that we obtain some video footage as evidence of our claims but added that due a recent incident at the School, we should explain our actions to them first and ask that they notify the parents of our actions before proceeding. The Clerk will arrange this.

202/20 **Pot Holes:** Cllr Jordan confirmed he has received his 'Fix My Street - Super User' training and he was advised to do checks of our roads every 3 weeks. As a result, we should see repairs being made more quickly to eligible road damage. He also asked that if we see anything, we should let him know.

203/20 **Enforcement Update:** Cllr Saunders reported that there is still no update from the Enforcement officer.

204/20 **Bottle Banks:** Cllr Saunders reported that the Clerk has had no response from Cherwell District Council (CDC) but that it does appear that the weekly collection is happening. Cllr Jordan added that he spent quite some time tidying up the area where there was broken glass debris and rubbish left on the ground. Until an alternative location has been found, it was agreed we will have to keep an eye on it.

205/20 **Blocked Footpath behind The Row:** Cllr Saunders reported that there is still no news from the Land Registry as the offices are still not taking calls or replying to emails.

206/20 **Additional Dog Poo Bin:** Cllr Taylor advised that he has not yet met with Jake Williams to install the new post but he will do so shortly. Cllr Jordan added that the bin lid on Weston Road's dog waste bin is not fully closing and requested that a replacement bin be purchased.

207/20 **Spring Clean/ Litter Pick:** The Clerk reported that she has put plans in place to coordinate the Litter Pick and that she has the equipment ready for the coming weekend.

208/20 **Andre Stern's Proposal:** Cllr Saunders reported that Mr. M Webber has provided the notice to go in the Village News and this was shared with all of the Cllrs. A discussion was had about the content of the notice and it was agreed that more background information should be included with regards to all of his projects such as the Blacks Head. It is a good opportunity to let the whole Village know what all of his plans are and when they are likely to proceed, before asking them to offer any comment on these new proposals. Cllr Jordan said he will speak to Mr. M Webber to explain and request an amended notice.

209/20 **White Paper:** Thanks was given to Cllr Ledger for all of his hard work in completing the first of two questionnaires. Cllr Ledger added that they are looking to improve the current planning application system, amongst other changes, which he will summarise to all once he's finished.

210/20 **Tree Survey:** The Clerk reported that she had had no response from the first Tree Survey Company she approached. Cllr Lane provided contact details for an alternative who did both the survey and the work last time. The Clerk will contact them.

211/20 **Snow Warden Scheme:** Oxfordshire County Council (OCC) have approached the Clerk with regards to preparing for the Winter and all agreed she should proceed with the Snow Warden Scheme as with last year.

212/20 **Planning Applications.**

212a/20 **Applications Approved:**

20/01930/TCA – Mr James Rutt, 1 Blenheim Terrace, Bletchingdon OX5 3DQ – TG1 x 2 Cypress and x3 Holly stems – Fell trees to near ground level. The trees are the remnant of an over grown scrub filled garden that has recently been cleared. The Cypress have been historically topped and are of poor form and the over grown stems of Holly are now leggy and in need of replacement. The garden is being renovated and the trees will be replaced with more appropriate species for the location.

20/00804/F - Half Acre Cottage, Street Through Heathfield Village, Heathfield OX5 3DU – Removal of Condition 1 (6 months demolition) of 19/02254/F.

212b/20 **Applications Received:**

20/02344/F – ZeroC Holding Limited – Land at Station Road, Bletchingdon, Kidlington, OX5 3FA – Change of Use of amenity land to private curtilage and Change of Use of vacant land to amenity land. No objection in principle but the Clerk is to contact CDC planning officer and ask who will be responsible for maintaining this area of land once complete.

20/02342/F – ZeroC Holdings Limited – Land North of Station Road, Bletchingdon – Variation of Conditions 1 (supporting documents), 5 (boundary enclosures), 6 (means of access), 13 (surface water drainage scheme) and 14 (landscaping scheme) of 16/00362/F. No objection.

20/02372/OUT – Mr Roy Dale, Station House, Station Road, Enslow, Kidlington, OX5 3AX – Removal of existing mobile home and conservatory; erection of replacement detached dwelling. No objection but a request will be made asking that a condition be included which ties the replacement house to the main house, Station House so that it is never sold off as a separate unit.

213/20 Finance:

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

Invoices for payment 30th September 2020

Method	Payee and Reason	Budget	Minute Ref	Amount	VAT	Total
Debit card purchase	1 month Zoom Pro subscription	General Admin	095a/20	£11.99	£2.40	£14.39
Debit card purchase	Printer Ink	General Admin	213/20	£91.04	£18.21	£109.25
Bank TF	Fiona Mason – Salary for July, August & September 2020	Clerks Salary	213/20	£1,320.00	£0.00	£1,320.00
Bank TF	C. Fraser Accountant – Payroll	General Admin	213/20	£35.00	£0.00	£35.00
Bank TF	KJ Cleaning Solutions – Zoono Spray to protect Bletchingdon Playground	Parks, Trees and open spaces	213/20	£60.00	£0.00	£60.00
Bank TF	Kompan Limited	Parks, Trees and open spaces	213/20	£132.00	£26.40	£158.40
Bank TF	Tony Saunders – Reimbursement for the purchase of a laptop cable to repair the Clerks laptop.	General Admin	213/20	£19.99	£0.00	£19.99
Bank TF	Green Scythe Limited - May 2020 grass cutting	Grounds Maintenance	213/20	£239.50	£47.90	£287.40
Debit card purchase	McAfee protection subscription	General Admin	213/20	£99.00	£20.00	£119.00

The Direct Debit to BT is due to go out on or just after 23rd September 2020 for £38.04 including VAT.

All payments approved.

214/20 Correspondence Received:

- a) John Howell Newsletter – Shared via email, no further action.
- b) An email from Claire Hicks asking for us to contact the grounds maintenance team who look after The Green on her behalf. – Shared via email. The Clerk is to reply to Claire Hicks and apologise on their behalf as well as feeding back her comments to Green Scythe.
- c) An from Cherwell Larder asking if we have grants available for Community Groups supporting our residents and if so, how do they apply? – Shared via email. The Clerk will respond and explain how parishioners can contact the Bletchingdon Charity directly.
- d) An email of the Cherwell Parish Bulletin – Shared via email. The Covid-19 Priority Fund was discussed which led to how we can improve our communication with the Village so that those in need know who they can approach. It was agreed that the new noticeboard would be useful and that this should be placed inside the courtyard area in front of the Village Hall. Cllr Saunders will put this to the Village Hall Committee and report back to the Parish Council.
- e) An email from CDC sharing that the Cherwell Local Plan 2011-2031 (Part 1) Partial Review – Oxford’s Unmet Housing Need (‘the Plan’) was formally adopted by CDC on the 7th September 2020. Shared via email. No further action.
- f) An email from Kathryn Blofield (OCC) advising of road closures at the A34/M40 junction. Shared via email. No further action.
- g) An email from Natasha Pitts with regards to application number 20/02344/F. Shared via email. The Clerk is to reply, letting her know the Parish Council have noted her points and advise her that the new plans do in fact show trees within.

215/20 Any Other Business:

- It was discussed that the overhead airplanes have been reported and that we should continue to record these incidents as often as possible.
- Anne Maclachlan has been very responsive with regards to the recent issues with the Bus Service through the Village. Her work has resulted in the bus company providing additional buses at peak times so that no passengers are turned away.
- Cllr Whitehead reported that works vehicles are being parked in the area behind the houses on Station Road. This land is owned by CDC so Cllr Whitehead will email them and ask permission to put up a ‘Private Parking’ sign in the area.
- Cllr Lane raised the question, is it appropriate for the Fair to come to Bletchingdon this year due to stricter pandemic guidelines? All agreed it would be best if he didn’t come but that we should thank him for his consideration and look forward to seeing him next year. The Clerk will contact Mr Hatwell.
- Cllr Lane asked if the Bletchingdon Community Foundation (BCF) would still like the Slipe to be cut back. Cllr Saunders responded that they would and that the work should be invoiced to them.
- Cllr Lane asked if the Playground is still being cleaned regularly and the Clerk replied yes and the next clean is due on the 28th September 2020.

- Cllr Jordan reported that the Bletchingdon sign as you enter the Village from Enslow has not been reinstated since the chicane was moved. The Clerk is to chase this up.
- It was reported that a parishioner suffered a small ankle injury from the signs left on the footpath by Highways. The Clerk is to let Chris Grain know that these will be removed to a safe location until Highways can collect them.
- The footpath along the Causeway needs to be cleared of all encroachment and debris so the Clerk will report this to CDC.
- The 40mph sign in Enslow is still facing the wrong way round so the Clerk will report this again.
- Cllr Taylor reported broken tiles on the roofs of the houses on The Row and that he can see holes in the roofs. The Clerk is to report this to Greensquare and Mr P. Lawson.
- There was a report made by the School that it appeared as though somebody was taking photographs of the children from inside one of the empty houses, during their PE lesson. This is still under investigation but it is a good reminder for us all to remain vigilant.
- Cllr Saunders reported that the light in Coghill appears not to be on the right timing schedule. The Clerk will report this.

216/20 Items for information or next Agenda only - all items for next agenda to be submitted to the Clerk by Thursday 22nd October 2020.

217/20 Date of Next Meeting: to confirm the date of the next meeting as 29th October 2020 at 7:30pm.

Meeting Ended : 9:40pm