

BLETCHINGDON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 27th April 2022 at 7:30pm

Present: Cllr C. Lane, Cllr M. Taylor, Cllr D. Robins, Cllr D Ledger, Cllr R. Pirie and Oxfordshire County Cllr (OCC) N. Simpson

049/22 **Apologies:** M. Whitehead.

050/22 **Declarations of Interest:** None.

051/22 **Public Participation:** None.

052/22 **To approve the Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 30th March 2022:**

The Minutes were approved by all and signed by Cllr C. Lane.

053/22 **Clerks update on action points (not covered in Parish matters):**

- The clerk has chased Dave Catling about both the road markings and belisha beacon on Station Road as well as a breakdown of costs for traffic calming in Bletchingdon.
- The Bletchingdon Community Foundation (BCF) have sent their reply to our question about electrical charging points in the Village Hall car park. The Trustees believe facilities like this should be on publicly owned land, rather than on privately owned land.
- The new parking signs are now up.
- Thank you letters to the Benefactor and Jamie McNaught have been sent.
- The clerk has chased Richard Slatter at CDC about the bottle banks being moved and he has not provided an update yet. Therefore the clerk is to write to the gas company and inform them of the situation, as agreed at the last meeting.
- The Spring Clean weekend went ahead and was another success.
- The year-end figures have been completed and sent to the internal auditors. The clerk will circulate their report as soon as it is received which was not in time for the meeting tonight as planned.

054/22 **Oxfordshire County Council (OCC) matters/reports:**

- County Cllr N. Simpson reported about the Ardleigh Rail Freight Interchange. He confirmed he will be attending one of the consultations coming up and will report back to the Parish Council.
- The Clerk asked about the 20mph scheme and what costs the Parish might have to pay. There are unlikely to be many costs to the Parish Council if the application is approved.

055/22 **OCC Correspondence:**

- a) An email from Joy White, Principle Transport Planner OCC, about the first stage public consultation about the Oxfordshire Strategic Rail Freight Interchange. No further action.

056/22 **Cherwell District Council (CDC) matters/reports:**

- None.

057/22 **CDC Correspondence:**

- a) The Cherwell Parish Bulletin update. No further action.

058/22 **Parish matters:**

- a) **Green Bletchingdon proposal** – Cllr C. Lane has been in touch with Nick Mould to ask about planting trees along the allotment boundary. He will consider this if

- b) more details can be provided. The clerk is to let the Green Bletchingdon group know and provide the necessary contact details.
- c) **Bletchingdon Bus Service** – No further information at this time.
- d) **Bletchingdon School Hedge replacement** – County Cllr N. Simpson reported with regards to the hedges at the School that unfortunately OCC cannot help and has no budget available to assist. Their advice for the School is to go to the Diocese for help. The other option is to put up an internal fence to protect the children from the thorns which should be a substantially cheaper approach. He is waiting to hear back from the School. County Cllr N. Simpson confirmed the Councillor Priority Fund could be used to support this option.
- e) **Neighbourhood Plan/Parish Plan** – Cllr D. Ledger reported that they are still waiting for a decision from Hampton Poyle. He will chase this and believes they should have made a decision in time for the next Parish Council meeting.
- f) **Benefactor** – Cllr C. Lane is to seek an update from Percy Lawson.
- g) **Communication** – Cllrs will consider items to be included in the next edition of the Village News for example, the results of the Election.
- h) **Traffic Calming** –
Full width speed humps – Cllr C Lane reported the figures provided by Dave Catling which was shared prior to the meeting. The approximate costs are as follows;
 Full width speed humps £25,760
 Extension to Co-op layby £21,942
 20mph speed limit £10,362 but this may become free of charge if the application by OCC is approved.
 The Cllrs would like to request a further breakdown of the costs to understand how many speed humps this figure includes. The clerk is to request this.
- i) **Plastic Footpath** – No further news at this time.
- j) **Enforcement Update** –
Ingleby Farm – Under investigation at CDC.
- k) **Replacement Dog Waste Bin on Weston Road** – Cllr C. Lane confirmed this job has been completed today. No further action.
- l) **New Storage Unit** – Cllr C. Lane confirmed the land where the new storage container is to go is still not ready.
- m) **Recreation Ground maintenance and installation of artificial lawn** – The clerk confirmed the date for the maintenance at the recreation ground is now the 5th May 2022. Cllr C. Lane agreed to meet them on site to allow entry. Cllr C. Lane reported that the Sports and Social Club are still in the process of obtaining quotes for the artificial lawn installation. Cllr C. Lane will chase this up. Cllr D, Ledger put forward a proposal to provide adult gym equipment in the village. All agreed this is something that should be raised at the Annual Meeting of the Parish to see how much interest there is.
- n) **Maintenance around Village Hall** – No further action at this time.
- o) **Election** – The Cllrs have all received their paperwork following the result of an uncontested election. The clerk reminded all Cllrs of the deadline to return this paperwork which is the 6th June 2022. There remains a Cllr vacancy. All agreed to

- p) think of some possible candidates for co-option to be discussed at the next Parish Council meeting.
- q) **Jubilee Plans** – A discussion was had about the plans going ahead in the village and what the Parish Council can do to support them. So far, no-one has approached the Parish Council seeking support for any events. It was agreed that the Parish Council should purchase some bunting to decorate The Green. All approved a payment of £70 to purchase Union Jack bunting for the clerk to order online.
- r) **Planning Meeting** – The planning meeting between CDC and Cllrs D. Robins and M.Whitehead is still to be arranged. The clerk is to provide Cllr D. Robins with the necessary contact details along with a copy of the planning applications concerned.
- s) **Clerks Annual Appraisal** – An appraisal of the clerk's performance was held. All agreed the Parish Council are very happy with her work and no concerns were raised. A pay review will be discussed at the next meeting.
- t) **The Slipe** – A discussion was had about The Slipe and the lack of maintenance of the land since the BCF took over. The clerk is to write to the BCF and express the concerns of the Parish Council.
- u) **Finance** – The following payments itemised on the payment schedule for April 2022 were all approved by the Parish Council.

Method	Payee and Reason	Budget	Minute Ref	Amount	VAT	Total
Bank TF	K J Cleaning Solutions Limited Invoice No. 1715	General Admin	This Minute	£60.00	£12.00	£72.00
Bank TF	Cherwell District Council – Emptying of dog waste bins	Dog Bin Purchase and Emptying	This Minute	£228.80	£45.76	£274.56

The Direct Debit to BT is due to go out on or just after 23rd April 2022 for £45.83 including VAT.

059/22 Planning Applications-

- a) Planning Applications Approved/Refused/Withdrawn:
 - 22/00406/F – The Oxfordshire Inn, Meadow Walk, Heathfield, Oxfordshire OX5 3DX – Conversion of existing roof void to form replacement ancillary staff accommodation. Approved.
 - 21/04169/CLUE – Greenhill Leisure Park, Greenhill Farm, Station Road, Bletchingdon OX5 3BQ – Approved.
- b) Planning Applications Received:
 - 22/01024/F – Mr S. Dunne – Manor House, Islip Road, Bletchingdon OX5 3DP – Erection of two storey front extension to dwelling. No objections.
 - 22/01117/LB – Mrs H. Parrott – Quincotts, Islip Road, Bletchingdon OX5 3DP - Reinstating the original timber stud wall in the living room. First floor floorboards to be lifted and re-laid, work to replace rotten boards and level off the rest to make safe and construct a proper floor surface, capable to taking the weight of a bath in bathroom 2. No objections.

22/01146/F – Mrs Catharine Murfitt – Frogsnest Farm, Islip Road, Bletchingdon OX5 3DS – Change of use of class 3 agricultural building to residential accommodation. No objections.

Anonymous reports have been received about the building work that is going on at the New House, St Giles. There are concerns that what is being done is not in keeping with the planning application (20/02474/OUT) that was approved. The clerk is to report these concerns to CDC for investigation.

060/22 Other Correspondence Received:

- a) John Howell Newsletter. Shared with all, no further action.
- b) An email from David Miles from First and Land Mile in reference to our 250 Bus service. All agreed, the clerk should forward this contact and information to our Public Transport Representative.
- c) An email from Victoria Moss with a question over land in Bletchingdon. All agreed, the clerk is to reply and confirm this is not something the Parish Council can advise on.

061/22 Report from meeting/Any Other Business:

- The lights on Station Road, opposite the Valencia junction have never worked. The clerk is to investigate and report this.
- Cllr C. Lane has made a report about the closed footpath through the Duchy site, to the footpath officer. They have confirmed that there is no closure notice so this needs to be opened. Crops are due to be planted soon so it is now important to ensure people know where they can and can't walk. All agreed that new signs will be put up and details will be included in the next Village News.
- For the record, Cllr M. Taylor reported that the cottages on The Row may have to be condemned if replacement roof tiles cannot be sourced.

9:10pm County Cllr N. Simpson arrived and gave his report.

062/22 Items for information or next Agenda only - all items for next agenda to be submitted to the Clerk by Wednesday 4th May 2022.

063/22 Date of Next Meeting: to confirm the date of the next meeting as 11th May 2022 at 7:30pm at the Village Hall.

Meeting Ended: 9:25pm.