

BLISWORTH PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES

of the

PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

held in the

VILLAGE HALL

at 7.30 p.m. on

MONDAY 8th. FEBRUARY 2010

Those Present:

Chairman: Mr. C. Gardner
Vice Chairman:
Councillors: Mrs. M. Field; Mr. A. Hargreaves;
Mr. D. Dalton; Mrs. P. Masterman.
Mr. H. Wilkins; Mr. M. Hawkins;
By invitation: Mr. S. Clarke (SNC).
Members of the Public: 3
In attendance: Mrs. N. Hall (minute taker)

Apologies:

Mrs. J. Andrews; Mrs. J. Hawkins; Mr. S. Dunk;
Mr. A. Andrews; Mrs. Sally Townsend (SNC);
Mr. B. Ingram (NCC); Tony Lack, Parish Clerk

The Chairman opened the meeting by introducing Mrs. Nicky Hall who would be taking the Minutes for this evening's meeting in the absence due to ill health of the Clerk, Mr. Lack, who was still in hospital. He regretted that paperwork, which would normally have been circulated prior to the meeting, had not been shared with Councillors; again this was due to the absence of the Clerk.

Minutes of the Previous Meeting:

The Minutes of the previous meeting had not been circulated due to the ill-health of the Clerk. These Minutes will therefore be carried forward to the March meeting for approval.

Cllr Masterman requested that in future Minutes be circulated earlier than had previously been the case.

The Chairman agreed to raise this with the Clerk.

Matters Arising and Carry Forward Items

These were not available due to unforeseen circumstances.

Chairman's Items:

None.

Correspondence:

Alzheimer's Society.
50+ Forum.

WNDC – Invitation to Regional Launch of West Midlands Manual for Design Code 24.
Blisworth Heritage Association: A Letter had been received from the Blisworth Historic Buildings Trust, and a copy of a letter sent to the SNC Cabinet members from the Blisworth Heritage Society, regarding the serious concerns over delays in a decision on the old Sun, Moon and Stars project. Cllr Hawkins confirmed that he had been in touch with Calvin Bell, the Director of Policy at SNC, who hoped it would be put before Cabinet on 8th. March for a final decision. It is regrettable that this will not be a public meeting since there may be other matters of commercial sensitivity being discussed which will preclude the meeting from being open. Cllr Field suggested that the Clerk requests other Organisations in the village to write to SNC Cabinet to try and accelerate a decision. Dis. Cllr. Clarke was unaware of any details of options currently under consideration by Cabinet.

Planning:

Applications:

S2010/0100FUL – 36 High Street – Single Storey extensions to rear at 1st. Floor.

Observations: there is a discrepancy between plans and the plan detail over the use of timber or UPVC windows when all other windows are timber.

S2010/0090LBC – 2 Tunnel Hill Mews – Listed Building – Loft conversion with only minor external changes.

Observation: use should be made of conservation style roof lights.

S2010/0051 – 6 High Street – fell conifer.

No observations.

S2010/0002/LBC – 11 Courteenhall Road – replacement windows.

No observations.

S2010/007 – Replacement Community Hall at Playing Fields.

Full support and therefore no observations.

S2010/0008FUL – Canal Cottage – Detached Dwelling.

The site meeting scheduled for 9th. February has been cancelled, allowing no time for a further site meeting before the next Committee Meeting due on 18th. February. It was understood that the Clerk had already prepared a letter to SNC highlighting points raised during the previous discussions. The Chairman would follow this up with the Clerk.

Amended Plans:

None.

Appeals:

None

Opportunity to attend Planning/Development Control Committee:

None

Tree Preservation Orders:

None

Enforcement Notices:

None

Finance:

No paperwork was available for discussion. Bills received:

	<u>Details</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>VAT</u>	<u>Total</u>
<u>Payments</u>				
Sam Linnell	Bench and Picnic Table Fitting	90.00		90.00
St. John's Ambulance	Printing R&A	56.00	8.40	64.40
EON	Street Lighting	632.02	95.65	727.67
A H Contracts	Dog Bin Servicing	79.40	13.90	93.30
Total		857.42	117.95	975.37

That the above accounts be accepted and approved for payment:

Proposed: Cllr. Dalton
Seconded: Cllr. Hargreaves
Agreed. Signed by the Chairman & Countersigned by Cllr Dalton.

Committee Reports

none

Any Other Business:

Cllr Masterman: With the Chairman's prior approval, Cllr Masterman read out a letter which she had written to him after the last Parish Council Meeting. Cllr Masterman was extremely concerned at the apparent lack of support from other Councillors with regard to the completion of the Community Plan and felt that her efforts were being ignored – such Council support is vital when preparing important documents concerning the Village. Cllr Hargreaves was very sorry that she felt this way and was certain that other Councillors felt that she had put in a very good effort. Cllr Wilkins confirmed that he had managed to deliver 47 out of 50 surveys, of which 32 had been returned – this was deemed to be a good response rate. Cllr Field noted the lack of volunteers for delivery and collection of surveys.

Despite her concerns, Cllr Masterman was pleased to report that the plan was going well with just over half the surveys so far returned. Data entry was progressing with approximately 25% so far entered onto the database. She hoped that by next month some meaningful feedback and information would be available for Councillors. Cllr Masterman stressed that the Council must ensure that they produce a viable plan from the information received in the surveys. She confirmed that the plan was on track for completion by the middle of the year.

Cllr Wilkins: The telephone box (outside the Hotel) had been vandalised some days ago and it was not known whether or not this has been reported. The Chairman would raise this with the Clerk.

Cllr Hargreaves: Re: Coulton's Farm – a large number of skips on the site seemed to indicate that some kind of works were due to be carried out and Cllr Hargreaves was concerned at the number of vehicle movements that this might entail. He noted also that racking (possibly to hold scaffolding) had been erected. If any development is to take place, Cllr Hargreaves wished to ensure that a temporary road is used. Dis. Cllr. Clarke agreed to investigate with the Planning Department. Dis. Cllr. Clarke also agreed to inform the Environment Agency that rats were becoming prevalent in villagers' gardens.

Cllr Hargreaves requested Dis. Cllr. Clarke to follow up with the Planning Department the requirement for a revised entrance at the St. Michael's development on Courteenhall Road where the dropped curb needs to be re-sited.

Cllr Gardener: Raised the need for putting a dog bin on path RD2. Unfortunately dog owners did not always use the bins provided. Cllr Masterman suggested that by informing villages of the cost of such amenities provided for them (and their dogs) it may make them more realistic in their expectations.

Cllr Field: the footpath on Towcester Hill has suffered again from flood damage and where previous patching has been carried out by the Council, this has again lifted and is dangerous. This is for the County Council to rectify. Clerk to be asked to raise the matter.

Date of Next Meeting: MONDAY 1st. MARCH 2010 at 7.30 p.m.

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 8.16p.m.

Open Forum:

Mr. Marsh asked whether Towcester Housing had decided where they are going to put the other proposed affordable housing. Cllr Hargreaves confirmed that the PC is awaiting a response and once this has been received it will be reported at the following PC Meeting. Cllr Gardner noted that 10 sites had been identified by WNDC as possible sites for development over the next few years in Blisworth, as well as all the other villages in West Northants.

Mrs. McKenzie reported that there were 30 vacancies in the 250 Club. She also noted that a house was being advertised for sale in Ladyfield using an Estate Agent. Cllr Masterman confirmed that any sales would still have to go through the usual procedures for changes of ownership in Housing Association homes, even if an Estate Agent was also involved.

Dis. Cllr. Clarke: The S106 has not yet been signed in relation to the approved Chapel Lane application. Regarding one of the additional restrictions on the site i.e. the timing of deliveries and removals from site during school term times, he had received a number of enquiries about the mis-information previously circulated on this subject.

Cllr Clarke also noted that the Highways Agency is planning to resurface the gyratory system at Junction 15 over the weekends 19-22 February and 26 Feb-1 March, details of which he passed to Cllr Field.

Cllr Hargreaves: Returning to the S106 on the already approved development, he requested Dis. Cllr Clarke to find out what the mix of affordable and rented homes will be, as discussed and agreed by the Planning Department.

Cllr Hawkins: asked whether any opportunity existed to press landowners of development sites to provide additional facilities for the village, be they for the school, footpaths, lighting, the provision of a road crossing, health care facilities etc. Mr. Marsh was concerned to ensure the provision of a properly sited pavement from the development site. Whilst it was understood that a Community Plan could and should contain all such facility requirements, the plan would not be available until after work on the approved development had already begun. It was agreed that this item should be carried forward to the next meeting at which time thoughts on required facilities should be collated and sent to SNC.

Signed: Chairman:

Responsible Officer:

Date: