

# BLISWORTH PARISH COUNCIL

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## Minutes of the Meeting 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2012

Held in the upstairs room of Blisworth Village Hall at 7.30pm

<b>Present:</b>	Cllr Mrs P Masterman	Chairman
	Cllr Mr C Jeffery	Vice Chairman
	Cllr Mrs J Hawkins	
	Cllr Mrs D Burgoyne	
	Cllr Mrs M Field	
	Cllr Mr D Dalton	
	Cllr Mr S Billing	
	Cllr Mrs K Gray	
	Cllr C Gardner	
	Cllr Mr S Clarke	SNC Cllr

9 members of the public

**120. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE** – THE FOLLOWING APOLOGIES WERE RECEIVED AND APPROVED :  
Cllr Mr T Bartlett  
Cllr McKeown

**121. DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS** – members were asked to declare any interest and the nature of that interest which they may have had in any items under consideration at this meeting. Two declared:

- Cllr Jeffery – re planning application S/2012/1290/FUL - Oakwood Farm, Blisworth
- Cllr Masterman – re item on maintenance of website

## **122. RESOLUTION TO SIGN & APPROVE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING DATED 5<sup>th</sup> November 2012**

- that the minutes were approved was proposed by Cllr Jeffery and seconded by Cllr Billing.

## **123. MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES**

### I. Old Cemetery trees

The agreed work on the trees had been carried out by Local Treeworks at a cost of £650 and it agreed that the job had been well done, The chippings had been used to enhance the footpath.

Signed -----

Date-----

- II. Best Village cup Insurance – the Clerk reported that she had written confirmation from ACRE that the cups are insured by ACRE
- III. Bollards at junction of Eastfield and Buttmead – Cllr Jeffery had called on the residents. The matter had started in August 2010 when the residents had received a letter from NCC Highways informing them of illegal crossing of the footway to gain vehicle access to the front of their property. Highways proposed obtaining a licence to construct a vehicular crossing and that if crossing the footway continued an enforcement order might ensue. (at the resident's expense) The resident had responded in August 2010 stating he was a disabled pensioner and that he had requested a dropped kerb. This was not feasible due to the proximity to the road junction and the present day cost is approximately £5000. Cllr Jeffery did not have sight of this correspondence and is unaware whether the neighbour also uses the same access or has received correspondence from NCC. County Cllr Ingram knew nothing of the proposed work until it was installed.
- Cllr Jeffery and the Council felt there was no action that the PC could take. He suggested to the resident that he contact 'Age Concern' or other similar organisation to see if they could be of assistance. The Parish council stated that it was disappointed that NCC had not contacted them prior to the erection of the bollards.

#### 124. MATTERS ARISING

- i) Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy Supplementary Planning Document Consultation – Maria McKeown was looking into this, Cllr Gardner had attended a meeting in Daventry on wind energy – there is a lot of contentious issues amongst the MPs.
- ii) Parking at Blisworth Arm – Clerk had sent letter to Mr Clarke – see correspondence, no response as yet.
- iii) Revised Councillors Code of Conduct - Cllr Masterman reported that this had been adopted.
- iv) Formulation of a Complaints Procedure – The Clerk had circulated a draft procedure. This will be circulated again prior to the next meeting and it was proposed by Cllr Jeffery and seconded by Cllr Billing that it be adopted at that meeting.

#### 125. DISTRICT AND COUNTY COUNCIL REPORTS

**PCSO Tara Cooksammy** reported on any issues in the village:

- A potential drug problem was being monitored in Pond Bank.
- The area she has been working in is that of parking near the school. All parents in Blisworth, Roade and Hackleton should have received a letter requesting that they park considerately. She suggested double yellow lines on the bend.

It was agreed that **Cllr Gray** would write to the school re-iterating the plea for considerate parking.

**Cllr Stephen Clarke** reported that there had been no developments in the planning in the field next to Chapel Lane. The area had flooded recently. He wished those present a Happy Christmas!

Signed -----

Date-----

## 126. PLANNING

Applications circulated

- a) S/2012/1373/FUL - Single storey rear extension, 34 High Street, Blisworth – no objections were made
- b) S/2012/1290/FUL - Oakwood Farm, Blisworth - a retrospective application for two portacabins, One is used as a farm Office and the other as a secure animal feed store. – Cllr Jeffery withdrew from the discussion. There were no objections to this application.

**Clerk** to make response to items above.

Awaiting Decision:

- a) S/2012/1239/FUL Grafton House Barns, Gayton Road, Blisworth – conversion of existing buildings and reconstruction of single storey sections to form 3 dwellings with garaging, erection of single garage with car parking. Removal of open barn to the north side of stone barns.
  - b) S/2012/1187/LBD Grafton House Barns, Gayton Road, Blisworth – demolition of open sided building on north side of stone barns.
  - c) S/2012/1148/FUL Sandlanding Wharf, Blisworth Arm, Blisworth – new detached dwelling to replace a static home – Cllr Clarke reported that this had been approved by SNC.
  - d) S/2012/1150/FUL 75 Buttmead, Blisworth – front extension
  - e) S/2012/1057/FUL – land adjacent to Willow House, Towcester Road, Blisworth – detached dwelling with single garage – a public meeting was held on 29<sup>th</sup> November in which Cllr Burgoyne represented the PC's views. No decision has been made as yet.
- iii) Report from CPRE Planning Road Show, Little Houghton Village Hall held on 20.11.12 – Cllr Hawkins and Cllr Field had attended this, and found it useful and informative. A document will be circulated by the **Clerk**. The joining documents were handed to Cllr Hawkins by the Clerk.

## 127. LOCAL MATTERS

- i) **Footpaths** – no problems reported
- ii) **Lighting** – 2 street lights outside 31 and 91 Stoke Road need repairing.  
**Clerk** to report.
- iii) **Play Area** –
  - Cllr Dalton reported that he had checked costs of getting an annual inspection carried out on the play equipment. Wicksteed charge £45 for an unaccompanied inspection and it was proposed by Cllr Jeffery and seconded by Cllr Billing that an inspection is arranged.
  - Cllr Dalton had submitted that grant application for the fencing for the play area.
- iv) **Traffic Issues** – Cllr Jeffery reported that he had received an email from NCC stating that pedestrian warning signs could go into this year's minor works programme. He had conferred with Cllr Masterman and asked the NCC to go ahead.

Signed -----

Date-----

v) **Parish Plan Progress** – Maggie Barker read the attached report to the meeting.

*On Monday 26<sup>th</sup> November the Lord Lieutenant Lady Juliet Townsend and her husband Cllr John Townsend attended the Progress Team meeting at the invitation of Cllr Stephen Clarke, along with representatives of some Blisworth organisations. Stephen Clarke was hoping he would be able discuss an opportunity for a suitable 'Village of the Year' sign to be affixed to the Highways 'BLISWORTH' sign at each entry point to the village. Stephen Clarke has informed us that funding for the signs is available. Hopefully David Allen Lead Transport Officer from SNC will be able to attend a future meeting to give us an update.*

*The trees received from the Wildlife Trust have all been planted in temporary positions. The Chapel has 6 which are planned to be planted in the new graveyard. June Hawkins is looking after 2 for a possible central village location. The rest are in Colin Wakelin's land and all are protected against rabbits. A future position for the Jubilee oak, which was included in the pack, is still to be decided. The trees should be planted out by the end of February.*

*It was felt by some of the team that as the Village has been so successful in many different areas this year that a Village Celebration should be organised. This is planned for Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> January at the Scout Hall from 12-4pm, and invitations have been sent out already.*

vi) **Flooding of Towcester Road**, near canal bridge – the clerk had received various emails on this matter. She had checked with NCC and it seems it *may* be the responsibility of the landowner to maintain ditches to try and prevent water going on to the highway but the problem seems to be a blocked 12" pipe at the entrance to the culvert near the field gate. After discussion it was agreed that **Cllr Jeffery** would have a look at the drainage and liaise with the Clerk. **Clerk** to forward relevant emails to him. The dates the flooding occurred were 4.11.12 and 24/5.11.12.

## 128. COMMUNICATIONS

a) Correspondence – outgoing and ingoing

### Letters out

- i. Mr Clarke , Blisworth Arm – re go ahead from PC for positioning of planters
- ii. David Faulkener – re fence posts on road up to football fields - Clerk had received a response that this letter had been forwarded to Chairman of the Football Club – no response as yet.

### Letters in

- iii. SNC – revised Councillors Code of Conduct (further to July 2012) for adoption

Signed -----

Date-----

- iv. SNC – Interim Affordable housing Policy consultation draft Sept 2012 (2 copies for circulation)
- v. SNC – services to assist Parish Councils in appropriately locating play equipment
- vi. Clerks and Councils Direct
- vii. BDO – Changes to LLP extranet
- viii. PSPA – Request to display poster on Progressive Supranuclear Palsy information service in Towcester
- ix. CPRE – evening of Christmas carols, 12<sup>th</sup> December at Cranford Hall, Kettering

### Emails

- x. From Mr Mason Masterman – offering services to maintain website – Cllr Masterman declared an interest and withdrew from the discussion. It was proposed by Cllr Field and seconded by Cllr Hawkins that he go ahead. This was carried by the Council. Clerk to inform Mr Chapman.
- xi. From Mrs Sue Boothroyd – re planning application S/2012/1123/FUL, 43 Buttmead – chairman had responded agreeing to send minutes from 5.11.12 when signed
- xii. NCC and residents regarding Problems on flooding of Towcester Road and problems/photos of problems at Heligan house. (ref 642249)
- xiii. Eastfield Bollards – request to put this issue on agenda
- xiv. Street Doctor – overgrown vegetation on Northampton Road – Station Roadreported – Ref 642863 and the obscured junction sign – Ref 642860
- xv. NCC – road closure on 5.12.12 from Mill, Gayton Road to junction with Blisworth Road (map displayed)
- xvi. From the Village Hall and Playing Field Association concerning the overhanging conifers on the road up to the football fields. Clerk to contact resident concerned and request that they cut back the trees.
- xvii. From Canal s and Rivers Trust – stating that they would not consider installing another bin on the tow path unless it was paid for and serviced by a third party ie. Local authority or parish council. After discussion it was agreed by the Council not to pursue this.

## **129. FINANCE**

- i) Receipts VAT for year-end 31.3.12 of £2286.97 has been received and paid into bank.
- ii) Payments

Name	Details	Amount £	VAT	Total	Chq
A Bartlett	Expenses – Oct	£234.31	-	234.31	2094

Signed -----

Date-----

A Bartlett	Gratuity	233.40	-	233.40	2101
V Hartley	Salary for Nov	318.40	-	318.40	2102
HMRC	Tax for above	79.60	-	79.60	2103
Local Tree Works	Work on cemetery	650.00	-	650.00	2104
Eon	Supplies	215.67	43.13	258.80	2105
Anglian Water	Allotment water	117.02	-	117.02	2106
AH Contracts	Dog bins	79.40	15.88	96.28	2107
N & P Garden services	Grass cutting - Dec	469.00	93.80	562.80	2108
Blisworth VHPFA	<b>S.137 payment for carpet</b>	200.00	-	200.00	2109

It was proposed by Cllr Jeffery and seconded by Cllr Field that these payments be made. The cheque for VHPFA to be sent to Alan Lewis, Pangloss House, Stoke Road, NN7 3BZ.

- iii) **136 Mowing Agreement with NCC** – £771.88 applied for 9still not received)
- iv) It was agreed at the previous Finance meeting on 5.11.12 that the **precept remain at £31000 – the same as this year for the year ending 31.3.14.** This was proposed by Cllr Jeffery and seconded by Cllr Billing. A budget produced by the Clerk is attached to these minutes.
- v) OTHER FINANCIAL MATTERS - COURTEENHALL ALLOTMENTS –Cllr Jeffery reported on collection of rents which were nearly complete.
- vi) Another signatory – now 3 altogether was added to bank mandate. (not to include Clerk). It was decided to extend this to 5.

### 130. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS AND COUNCILLORS' COMMENTS

**Cllr D Dalton** – took details of contact if any trouble from play area

**Cllr Hawkins** reported that her green wheelie bin had not been emptied because of added rubbish while out for collection. She also reported numerous beer bottles on the grass bank in the High Street.

**Cllr Burgoyne :**

- Consideration of putting Neighbourhood Watch item on the agenda. She will see the local representative.

Signed -----

Date-----

- The litter bin on the High Street and Westbrook had not been emptied. She had reported this and been informed it will be by 7.12.12
- The Scrap book produced by the Heritage Society was complete and very impressive. It will be displayed and a CD may be produced.
- Concern over possible imminent collapse of Stoke Road – **Clerk** will be put on the next agenda.

### **131. DATE AND TIME OF NEXT and FUTURE MEETINGS (INCLUDING ANNUAL PARISH MEETING) .**

i) The dates for the April meeting was set for Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> April 2013, the AGM for Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> May and the Annual Parish Meeting the 22<sup>nd</sup> April. Cllr Hawkins agreed to make the bookings with the hall clerk.  
Meeting closed at 10.10pm

Signed: -----

Date:

### **Views from the residents –**

Mr Marsh – requested that consideration of planting to screen the bollards on Eastfield and Buttmead – request for an application of a license **Clerk** to put on the next agenda.

Mrs North – concerned about overhanging branches on Stoke Road – Soon to be trimmed back by Sam Cherry.

The parking of the lorry on the pavement on the bottom of Chapel Hill was questioned.

Request to ask owner of property in High Street with overhanging branches to cut back – **Clerk** to write

Signed -----

Date-----