

# BLISWORTH PARISH COUNCIL

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## Minutes of the Meeting 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2013

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

**Present:**

Cllr Mrs P Masterman	Chairman
Cllr Mr C Jeffery	Vice-Chairman
Cllr J Hawkins	
Cllr Mr S Billing	
Cllr Mrs M Field	
Cllr Mr T Bartlett	
Cllr K Gray	
Cllr D Burgoyne	
Cllr S Clarke	SNC Cllr
5 members of the public	

**63. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE** – THE FOLLOWING APOLOGIES WERE RECEIVED AND REASONS FOR ABSENCE APPROVED : Cllr Colin Gardner, Cllr Maria McKeown, Cllr J Hawkins, Cllr Joan Kirkbride.

**64. 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 – none were declared.

**65. RESOLUTION TO SIGN & APPROVE MINUTES** OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING DATED 5<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST 2013 – it was proposed by Cllr Dalton and seconded by Cllr Jeffery that the minutes be adopted.

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

Cllr Jeffery reported that he had looked into the interest rates offered by Nat West bank on deposit accounts and that they were extremely low. After discussion it was agreed that further exploration will be made.

**67. MATTERS ARISING** – not covered by agenda – **Clerk** to write formally to Courteenhall Estates making a request for a woodchip footpath 1.8 – 2.0 metres wide, inside the present hedge for pedestrians along the length of Stoke Road from the allotments gate to the tunnel entrance. The status of 'Permissive Path' not a Right of Way could be used.

### **68. DISTRICT AND COUNTY COUNCIL REPORTS**

Cllr Steve Clarke reported from SNC:

- Chapel Lane development – later in agenda

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Date-----

- Sun Moon and Stars – on 24<sup>th</sup> July SNC Planning department had referred the Supplementary Planning Document, therefore it is no longer a restraint and the property is now 'For Sale' (not sold subject to contract as one notice indicates!).
- 'Please say not to Fracking' – there has been concern about this issue, SNC has no formal position and needs to follow Government guidance. This area as yet has not been affected by applications.

## 69. PLANNING

- i) Chapel Hill Development – S/2013/0225/MAF –
- Update on developments over discharge of condition to provide access road for construction off Northampton Road – possibilities of access from Station Road. Cllr Jeffery reported that he had been in correspondence with Sean Bennett, and Robert Fallon Planning Officers as a result of the suggestion to achieve an access road from Station Road. He and Cllr Billing had also met with Chris Lewis of Orbit Homes, Cllr Billing had stressed the importance of not using Chapel Lane for access. They also provided details of the Landowners to Mr Lewis, two of the relevant landowners are in favour of the proposal. SNC state that they would object to the discharge of the condition. Orbit Homes have emailed today stating that they are looking into the possibilities and will be in touch. Cllr Masterman reported that the 30mph sign had been knocked down and was lying in Pond Bank.
  - Correspondence from Consulting Civil and Structural Engineers working on behalf of Orbit Homes - As part of the agreed planning permission, condition no 4 states that: 'The development shall not commence until: a) the County Council has approved in writing a full scheme of works to construct a zebra crossing across High Street, in the locality of Primary School. A map had been included in the consultation which was circulated. The proposal was well received however it was agreed that it would be preferable to locate it slightly further South and in front of No 8 the High Street, not no 6. The other concern was that the relevant residents who would have the flashing lights and zebra outside their properties should be informed of the proposals. **Clerk** to try to obtain confirmation that their views have been sought and relay these comments back to Consulting Civil and Structural Engineers.
- i) S/2012/1057/FUL - Land adjacent to Willow House, detached dwelling and single garage additional information regarding trees – nothing to report
- ii) Other recent applications were considered :

- S/2013/1061/FUL 37 Windmill Ave - Single story side and rear extension.  
Proposed response to be made by **Clerk** No objections
- S/2013/1028/FUL Orchard House, Church lane - garden shed, revised application shows a smaller shed to the last application. Proposed response to be made by **Clerk** No objections
- S/2013/1028/FUL Buttermilk Hall Farm, conversion of redundant barns to mixed use development  
Proposed response to be made by **Clerk** No objections
- S/2013/0956/NA – West Lodge Farm, Blisworth Road, Courteenhall – variation of conditions 2,3,6 and7 of planning permission 008/00079/WAS to extend time limit for implementation – pending.

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Date-----

- S/2013/0939/FUL, 59 Stoke Road, Blisworth – Two storey side and single storey rear extensions – pending.
  - S/2013/0791/FUL – 11a Buttmead - Single storey rear extension and raised deck with railing at the rear – pending.
  - S/2013/0754/FUL – 40 Northampton Road - Single storey and first floor extensions – pending.
- i) Cllrs Jeffery and Hawkins report from NCALC training on Planning on 9<sup>th</sup> July 2013. The following report had been submitted by Cllr Hawkins:

*June Hawkins and Charlie Jeffery attended the Training day on Planning, increasing the Effectiveness of your response.*

*The Course delt with planning applications and how to increse the effectiveness of Blisworth P C's response to Planning applications.*

*The Programme covered the basic principles of planning to include strategy, planning and development management.*

*Planning Applications discussed were :- HS2 , Wind Turbines, Other Energy Developments to include incinerators. Major residential developments in Northamptonshire were also discussed.*

*Points Highlighted were:-*

1. *PC's should foster good relationships with Environmental Agencies.*
2. *A good working relationship should be established with the Planning Case Officer*
3. *Section 106 was discussed ( to include Reg 122 Test)*
4. *Community core Strategy and structure was touched but more information on that will be available when SNC has completed their policy.*
- 5 *The present Parish Plan could be used as the basis for the future. The views can be incorporated into The Village Design Statement.*

*Conclusion*

*It was an excellent course covering many areas and aspects of planning.*

*I felt that the The Planning Authorites eg. SN C would like and welcome all Parish Councils to work more closely with them in the very difficult world of Planning.*

## **70. Local Matters**

- i. Footpaths – reports of any problems – nothing to report
- ii. Lighting – second request for replacement of PL35 Buttmead, now replaced
- iii. Play Area – Cllr Dalton reported that he had written commitment from residents of 1 Eastfield and the Pre-school that they would make up 50%of the cost of the extra fencing. The deposit for the work was now paid and he is just waiting on the contractor for the work to be done.  
The safety surface under 2 of the rotating pieces of equipment is in need of repair. This will be preferable when it is used less later in the year.
- iv. Traffic Issues – no developments of double yellow lines on Courteenhall Road and Stoke Road – **Clerk** to contact Helen Howard to find out what the position is.

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v. Parish Plan Progress – Pat Masterman reported in the absence of June Hawkins and Beryl Andrews. The information boards should hopefully be in place by the end of September. Many thanks to all those involved in this project. Concern that the newly planted trees in the cemetery are short of light due to the lime trees. A request had gone into Round and About appealing for voluntary help in maintaining the area but no response had been forthcoming.

vi. Neighbourhood Watch Scheme  
Cllr Burgoyne reported that Mark Redding had been asked to put a piece in Round and About but had been on holiday, she will ask him again and also for a report for PC meetings. (She also reported that she had recently been the subject of a scam – someone asking for spurious directions as a distraction technique and advised people to be vigilant.)

vii. Village sign project – nothing to update – hopefully be ready in late Autumn.

viii. Church yards Management Plan – agreement by Parish Council required. The Chairman reported that she had whether N and P Garden Services had seen the Church Yards plan as she wants to know specifically which areas require maintenance.

Cllr Burgoyne reported that this document was actually prepared for the Woodland Trust and it was proposed by Cllr Masterman, seconded by Cllr Jeffery and agreed by the Council, that it would be agreed in principle with a view to alterations being made by Cllr Burgoyne ready for formal adoption.

## 71. COMMUNICATIONS

Correspondence – outgoing and ingoing

### Out

- i) Planning Application responses – objection to Chapel Hill, removal of Clause 17, Willow House – tree information, and no objections to 59, Stoke Road.
- ii) Second request for replacement of PL 35, Buttmead – now replaced

### In

iii) Request for memorial seat – a request had been received by a sister of a former resident of the village, by the Clerk, for a memorial seat somewhere in the village. Maintenance of it would have to be carried out by the people who had sited it. The Chairman suggested placing a seat in the cemetery. Alan Andrew reported that the Canals and Rivers Trust insist on oak seats costing in the region of £1000 for seats positioned on their land. **Clerk** to give the details for Alan Andrews from the Canals Partnership for them to correspond.

iv) Request for web link to feature on BPC website for a Bed and Breakfast – the Council policy is for no advertising on the website (or Round and About). The request was passed to Tony Marsh for Blisworth Sites.

v) Complaint about subcontractors used by Blisworth PC – the Clerk had received correspondence from a resident. The **Chairman** will write to N and P Garden Services stating that inappropriate and abusive language had been used.

vi) Comments re Village Sign – the Chairman had responded to this stating that the options were limited due to underground services and that it is still awaiting Highways permission.

vii) NCALC – Update (including training available)

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- viii) NCC – cost of salt bags – approximately £4 per bag – it was agreed **not** to order any bags.
- ix) CPRE – newsletter
- x) NCC – Library services (notice up)

## 72. FINANCE

- External Audit completed – The issues raised were reported.
- Risk Assessment Policy – The Risk Assessment recently circulated was adopted.

The following payments were proposed by Cllr Gray, seconded by Cllr Jeffery and agreed by the Council for approval:

Name	Details	Amount £	VAT	Total	Chq
V Hartley	Salary for August	333.27	-	333.27	2173
HMRC	Tax for above	83.40	-	83.40	2174
N and P Gardens	Mowing Aug	474.00	94.80	568.80	2175
Anglian Water	Allotment water	172.14		172.14	2176
Liselle Solutions	Website Hosting	35.00		35.00	2177
E-on	Replace PL 35	855.00	171.00	1026.00	2178
E-on	Repair PL 39	300.00	60.00	360.00	2179

Bank Balances – Current Account - £26131.10, Deposit Account - £5089.80

### OTHER FINANCIAL MATTERS –

- i) Consideration of quotes for **re-surfacing of Village Hall Car Park** – to remain on agenda. (The AGM for the VHPFA is in September)
- ii) Request for **rent for Parish Field** for year ending 31.3.13 - £300 – the new tenancy agreement was signed and a cheque for £300 was received.
- iii) **Allotment Issues** – Cllr Jeffery had reported a new Tenancy Agreement for the allotment holders and had previously circulated it to the Council. It was agreed that it would not be feasible to put a charge on the water used as the cost of an allotment had increased from £3 to £5. The area needs to be tidied up and under the new agreement, Tenants that default on maintaining their plots will be evicted if the plots could be improved and swapped for other plots on the site the council could potentially have an area suitable for a tennis court.

Signed-----

Date-----

iv) The Clerk had invoiced the Cubs and Scouts and Football Club for **water use** – Football Club - £240.59(50%) Cubs and Scouts – £120.29 (25%). The Cubs and Scouts contribution had been received.

v) Clerk's pay scale – carried forward to next meeting.

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

Cllr **Bartlett** reported that SNC had recently sent out information regarding grant availability for projects and suggested that the Village Hall car park could possibly be a recipient. He agreed to circulate the information.

Cllr Billing reported that a new service entrance had recently been constructed on Northampton Road in front of the Railway Cottages which could pose a hazard to traffic.

### 74. DATE AND TIME OF NEXT and FUTURE MEETING – 7<sup>th</sup> October 2013, meeting closed at 9.45pm

Signed: -----

Date:

#### PUBLIC QUESTIONS, COMMENTS AND REPRESENTATIONS:

On **close** of meeting residents were invited to give their views and question the Parish Council on issues on this agenda, or raise issues for future consideration at the discretion of the Chairman. (Members of the public may not take part in the Parish Council meeting itself.)

Comments from parishioners:

The grass needs cutting along the path from Clematis Cottage to the allotment gates in Stoke Road was the overgrown state of the allotments which are being taken on and not maintained. The **Chairman** agreed to report this to Street Doctor.

Signed-----

Date-----