

BLISWORTH PARISH COUNCIL

Mrs V. Hartley, Clerk to the Council,
Beech House, 17 Dean's Row,
Gayton, Northampton NN7 3HA

tel[01604 858360] email:blisworthparishcouncil@gmail.com

Minutes of the Meeting 7th April 2014

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

Present:

Cllr P Masterman Chairman
Cllr AC Jeffery
Cllr S Billing
Cllr M Field
Cllr C Gardner
Cllr D Dalton
Cllr D Burgoyne
Cllr J Hawkins

Cllr Mr S Clarke SNC Cllr
10 members of the public

PUBLIC QUESTIONS, COMMENTS AND REPRESENTATIONS:

In the last item on the agenda 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.

158. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE – The following apologies were received: – Cllr Gray, NCC Cllr Kirkbride

159. 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 declared

160. RESOLUTION TO SIGN & APPROVE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING DATED 3RD March 2014, as a correct record, proposed by Cllr Dalton, seconded by Cllr Billing.

161. CLERK'S REPORT – Action points from last meeting had been carried out

- Attendance of Legal Ease Course – Cllr Hawkins and Clerk had attended this on March 18th and reported. Papers from the course had been circulated to all councillors. It was a useful course and some of the recommendations are now being implemented. (This item on the agenda replaces *Matters Arising* in an effort to avoid issues being raised not put on the agenda).

Signed-----

Date-----

162. DISTRICT AND COUNTY COUNCIL REPORTS

Cllr Clarke reported on:

- The recent developments re the **Joint Core Strategy** whose likely adoption will take place in September 2014 possibly with amendments. The Government Planning Inspectorate can reject or accept it. Developers were divided on the development areas of Northampton. SNC Officers on the panel are Adrian Colwell, Mike Warren and Andy D'Arcy.
- **South Northants Local Plan** – The responses from the villages are being collated and will go on the SNC website to help form the council policy by June 2014 in preparation for the adoption of the JCS. Hopefully the mapping, village confines and sustainability issues will be addressed by October 2014.
- **Air Pollution** – this had recently been an issue due to Saharan winds and European pollution – information is available on the website.
- **Bailiffs** - are now to be known as Enforcement Agents and the message is to contact SNC early if anyone has problems in paying their council tax.

163. PLANNING

- i) Chapel Hill Development – S/2013/0225/MAF –
 - Update on developments SNC to discharge of condition to provide access road for construction off Northampton Road (access road WILL be constructed)
 - Update on road crossing provision – the application below had been received by the Clerk on 4th April. It was appropriate to discuss it under this item as the next meeting will be after the response date:
 - S/2014/0431/MAF – Variation of condition 4a i-iii (Pre-commencement condition) of S2013/0255/MAF (residential development of 27 houses, estate road and associated works) to change the requirements of condition 4a parts i – iii inclusive to **pre-occupation** rather than pre-commencement. (The condition is to provide the zebra crossing, reposition the speed limit and provide site linkage footpaths – the access road is NOT relevant).
This was discussed and a vote was taken as to whether or not to object to the proposal to vary the condition. 5 councillors objected to the variation and 3 councillors did not object. **Clerk** to respond that Council is objecting due to lack of information.
- ii) Progress of other recent applications :
 - S/2014/ 0322/FUL – 25 Greystones, High Street – site visit complete, plans displayed and discussed. Support the App. **Clerk** to respond.
 - S/2013/1658/FUL – New Tunnel Hill Farm, Stoke Road – Two Storey side extension (granny flat) – site visit complete – (this is a further application – first one has been withdrawn – there is a slight variation in the roof line in the two applications). No objections, **Clerk** to respond
 - S/2014/0263/TCA – Reduce willow tree back to solid trunk after wind damage – information only
 - S/2014/0220/FUL & LBC – Thackstone Cottage 21 Stoke Road – conversion of outbuilding to form annexed accommodation including conservatory – consultations despatched – awaiting decision
 - S/2014/0147/TCA – removal of dead pine, Old Rectory – no objections from PC
 - S/2014/0130/TCA – Reduce height of Beech 1 and deadwood in Beech 2 – Blisworth House – consultations despatched
 - S/2014/0090/FUL – Painters Cottage, 30 Stoke Road – erection of 2 dwellings & detached garages & retention of piggeries to support the vineyard, associated activities and storage of wine – approved
 - S/2014/0036/FUL – JBJ Ltd, JBJ Business Park, Northampton Road – replace 5 fire damaged industrial units – approved

Signed-----

Date-----

164. Local Matters

- i. **Footpaths** – Reports of any problems – Clerk had reported the problems on the middle section of RD2. Helen Howard has responded and will analyse the size of the potholes to see if action is required but as it is a bridleway the parameters vary.
- ii. **Lighting** – Reporting of street light faults – Cllr Gardner reported that the streetlights along Courteenhall Road need cleaning/replacing. **Clerk** to report. He also mentioned that NBC appear to erecting taller street lights which are more effective and are down lighters. **Clerk** to enquire.
- iii. **Play Area** – Cllr Dalton reported that there had been a slight problem with the padlock which had been tampered with but now replaced.
- iv. **Traffic/Highway Issues** –
 - Update on drain problem at Cemetery gates in High Street – Cllr Dalton reported that this was no longer a problem but still being monitored.
 - Further correspondence on request for consideration of 40mph speed limit on Northampton Road between Blisworth and Milton Malsor – a proposal for a 50mph zone is now being explored by NCC Highways.
 - Community Enhancement gangs – request for work agreed at last meeting – Clerk reported that schedules are being drawn at present.
 - **Request for Planters at Bus stop** near The Oak from the Parish Progress Team – this issue was discussed. The Parish Plan had identified that villagers would like the centre of the village made more attractive and felt that the area would benefit from some planters with bulbs, plants etc.
It was agreed that a licence would have to be obtained by the Parish Council and that more clarification was required re the maintenance of the planters.
 - Enquiry about extension of 30mph speed limit along Towcester Road to include houses – **Clerk** to contact Helen Howard, from NCC Highways to request that the issue be looked at and inform the resident that this was being done.
- v. **Parish Plan Progress report:**
The Team are organising an event on Saturday 3rd May to unveil the Interpretation Board in the Old Cemetery and to celebrate the Silver Award from the Wildlife Trust. The event will also acknowledge all the hard work from volunteers which has made a place for everyone to enjoy. The Parish Councillors are all invited and have received their official invitations. It is hoped that the Board will be unveiled by a representative of the Wildlife Trust. The Team will also be looking into grants to fund the renovation of the Gates.
- vi. **Neighbourhood Watch Scheme**
Mark Redding had submitted a report to the Clerk which had been circulated to the councillors. Cold Calling cards are to be distributed. Email scams are still occurring, as is vehicular crime. He has been invited to attend the Village Assembly.
- vii. **Village sign project**
The sign has gone to be laminated.
Cllr Hawkins reported that she had attended a meeting with Adrian Colwell from SNC about the village sign and erection, SNC arrange for the construction of the frame and erection of the sign FOC. They will also carry out the Statutory Undertakings and try to have the sign erected before the 2014 Canal Festival.
- viii. **Litter Pick**
This had been well attended and a photo shoot had taken place. Cllr Masterman will select some photos for Jane Percival to put in the Chronicle and Echo.

165. COMMUNICATIONS

Correspondence – outgoing and ingoing

Out:

- i) RD2 footpath – contacted Helen Howard re centre of path.

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Date-----

- ii) Blisworth School (+appreciative response) informing them of decision to support crossing patrol – the children of the school had raised £2447 towards the crossing patrol.
- iii) Charles Wake – further request to lease land for Stoke Road footpath – request declined
- iv) South Northants Homes –Request for construction of lay-bys for parking + response – do not own land – **Clerk** to re-direct this request to SNC.

In:

- v) Waterfront – Canal and River Trust magazine
- vi) CPRE information
- vii) Various emails circulated to councillors for information

166. FINANCE

- i) The following payments were proposed by Cllr Jeffery and seconded by Cllr McKeown and agreed.

	Name	Details	Amount £	VAT	Total	Chq
	V Hartley	Salary for Feb	414.64	-	414.64	2227
	HMRC	Tax for above	103.60	-	103.60	2228
#	N and P Gardens	Mowing	595.80	99.30	496.50	2229
	AH Contracts	Empty dog bins	79.40	15.88	95.28	2230
	Shire Lumsden	Round & About	90.00		90.00	2231
	NCALC	Training (Legalese course)	58.00		58.00	2232
	B. Osborne	Payroll Services	52.50		52.50	2233
	D Dalton	Play area padlock	9.48		9.48	2234

Bank Balance at 24.2.14 - £27894.54

Clerk to ask Shire Lumsden to print 1000 copies of Round and About not 900.

167. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS AND COUNCILLORS' COMMENTS

- Vacancy for Parish Councillor – Clerk reported that she had received no response to vacancy notice.
- The Chairman had received a letter from Cllr Gray offering her resignation.
- Cllr Jeffery reminded the councillors that the next meeting was the Annual meeting and a Chairman and Vice Chairman need to be appointed.
- Cllr Burgoyne put in a request from Blisworth Heritage Society:

Some years ago a pair of old iron wheels from a waggon used to transport ironstone from the quarry to the canal was found near the allotments. They were given to the Heritage Society and placed in the yard at Gayton Junction for safe keeping. It is hoped to install them somewhere as they are part of the village history. Suggestions had included the towpath but the Canal Partnership was not happy with the idea. The second suggestion is on the grass triangle at the bottom of Towcester Road.

This would clearly be a complicated process, they are pretty heavy. An interpretation board to explain what they are would also be required.

This item will go on the next agenda.

- Cllr Burgoyne also enquired about Community Infrastructure Levies (CIL).

NBC is presently involved the introduction of the levy which is non- negotiable and charged per square metre of new build development, paid at the commencement of new development. The money raised is used to fund new infrastructure and where a new development takes place in a parish some will be passed to the Parish Council to spend on local infrastructure. 25% of the CIL will go to the Parish Council if it has a Neighbourhood Plan and 15% if not. Cllr Clarke responded that SNC have not adopted the CIL policy as yet.

- Cllr Gardener reported to Cllr Clarke that a rear window in the Sun Moon and Stars was broken.

Signed-----

Date-----

- Cllr Dalton reported that the fence at the back of a property in Greenaway Close was in danger of falling onto the alley. Clerk to report to SNC.
- Cllr Hawkins reported that she had recently been shown some very old photographs of Blisworth House and the Old Rectory – they had been taken from glass plates.

168. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION SESSION

A resident requested that staples were not used to fix notices to telegraph poles.

A suggestion to make encourage the Chapel Lane developers to make a raised zebra crossing was put forward.

A request to extend the 30mph zone down Stoke Road was made.

169. DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETINGS (AGM – Tuesday 6.5.14 and APM Tuesday 29.4.14)

Meeting Closed at 9.40pm

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Date-----