

BLISWORTH PARISH COUNCIL

Mrs V. Hartley, Clerk to the Council,
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Minutes of the Meeting 1st December 2014

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

Present:

Cllr AC Jeffery	Chairman
Cllr J Hawkins	Vice Chairman
Cllr S Billing	
Cllr C Gardner	
Cllr M Mc Keown	
Cllr A Anderson	
Cllr Burgoyne	
Cllr Dalton	
Cllr Kennedy	
Cllr M Field	

Cllr S Clarke	SNC Cllr
5 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.

130 . APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE – TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES AND APPROVE REASONS FOR ABSENCE

Cllr Masterman, Joan Kirkbride, NCC Cllr,

131. DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS – members are asked to declare any interest and the nature of that interest which they may have in any items under consideration at this meeting – None was declared.

132. RESOLUTION TO SIGN & APPROVE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETINGS DATED 3rd November 2014. The minutes were proposed by Cllr Mckeown and seconded by Cllr Field.

133. CHAIRMAN'S/CLERK'S REPORT

Chairman:

- N and P Garden Services still have to clear Stoke Road
- Aylesbury Mains invoice which was approved at last meeting for repairs to street lights - error due to communication between Clerk and AM. (work only done once!)
- New dog bin at Football fields been installed, Cllr Dalton had met with AH Contracts.

Signed-----

Date-----

Clerk:

- Elections briefing to be held on Feb 6th – **Clerk** hoping to attend
- Clerk's report from NCALC Rights of Way Course with Dr Stephen Hollowell – 1.12.14 – Excellent course, informative and interesting. See notes (Split cost with Gayton PC). Tim Noble unable to attend but course should be repeated in the Spring.

134. DISTRICT AND COUNTY COUNCIL REPORTS

Steve Clarke, SNC reported:

- More funding has been awarded to encourage joint working with other councils
- Recycling – continues to be very effective in South Northants and the Council is in the top 10 for the amount recycled.
- The government has just announced some transport schemes – the A43 Abthorpe round about is to be improved.
- New Electoral roll is out today.
- Road PC debated the NCC consultation on Children Centres last night – see correspondence.

135. PLANNING

- 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
- Progress of other recent applications : see extract from SNC Planning Register
- Land and Buildings at Candle Cottage – S/2014/2016/OUT – residential development for up to 5 dwellings with associated road works and drainage, (all matters reserved) OUTLINE** - Cllr Anderson had visited the site and met the architect. He felt the development would enhance the somewhat scruffy area which exists now. The architect had said that each property could be built one at a time, deliveries could be timed and there would be fewer workmen on site. Existing trees and the hedge adjacent to the tow path would be preserved. There would be an estimated 30 movements per day from the houses which would be based on 2 cars per house.
The following points were raised by the Council's extra meeting held in September and these were briefly discussed again.
 - *The development would be outside the Village Confines*
 - *There is concern that development could extend along the canal towards the Blisworth Arm.*
 - *The development would improve the site which at present is unsightly.*
 - *Access on to the Gayton Road is a definite problem.*
 - *Concern that the village needs affordable homes and not this development would not be affordable.*
 - *Consideration was given to the possibility of 3 and not 5 homes on the site.*

A vote was taken and the majority was in favour of objecting to the application on the grounds that

- It is outside the village confines.
- Access difficulties to and from Chapel Lane both by construction traffic and after completion.
- 'Affordable/social' housing, not houses such as these, as highlighted in the Village Plan and this should be used when determining comments on planning applications.
Clerk to respond to SNC.

Signed-----

Date-----

136. Local Matters

- i. **Footpaths** – Reports of any problems – Cllr Burgoyne reported that RD3 (above the allotments) made totally impassable by ploughing about 10 days ago. Legally the path should be re-instated within 14 days. She had informed the Rights Of Way Department and Tim Noble the Village footpath warden.
- ii. **Lighting** –
 - New design of tall light requested for outside 15 Greenaway – awaiting quote
 - Street light outside No 37 Greenaway – E-on had visited and stated it was not repairable, the lantern and column and both in poor condition and require replacing – awaiting quote.

Reporting of street light faults –

 - Cllr Dalton reported that street lights which were removed by E-on on the road up to the Football Club have still not been repaired. (first reported in November 2013). **Clerk** to report.
 - Cllr Gardner reported that the street light adjacent to 45 Courteenhall Road needs to be repaired. (It is the middle one of 3 on a wooden pole)
- iii. **Play Area** – information from Kompan via Cllr Dalton had been circulated to **all** councillors by the Clerk on 4th November on possible new equipment for discussion at this meeting - costings of equipment for infant rather than junior aged children. It was suggested that 2 items be purchased for approximately £977 and £677 + VAT and also that a surface is placed under the existing equipment. After discussion it was agreed that **Cllr Dalton** would obtain firm quotes for the next meeting including one from Viv Bartley for the matting under the existing equipment. Applications of loans from the New Homes Bonus would be explored. The councillors were aware of the competition for funding between the Cemetery gates project and the play equipment. Advice will be sought from Katie Arnold – SNC Grants Officer.
- iv. **Traffic/Highway Issues** –
 - The Clerk had written to Helen Howard requesting the extension of the 30mph Zone along Stoke Road. She wanted clarification as to the exact position. It was suggested that it is just past the entrance to the Tunnel car park. The **Chairman** agreed to look into this to confirm. **Clerk** to inform Helen Howard of request.
 - Chapel Lane and Little Lane are very congested and potentially hazardous with parked cars at certain times attending the Chapel for services, dance classes and the nursery located next to the Chapel. It was agreed that the **Clerk** write to the nursery and request considerate parking.
- v. **Neighbourhood Watch Scheme**
 - Various items of correspondence from Mark Redding had been circulated. There had been a spate of burglaries lately which the **Chairman** will report in Round and About.
 - Mark is endeavouring to obtain signatures and trainees for setting up the Speed Watch project.
- vi. **Proposed Extension to Blisworth School**
The Chairman and some councillors had attended a presentation on this project. The School may be looking for help with funding and a suggestion of them attending a meeting in the Spring had been suggested.
- vii. Allotments – Rent Requests gone out and received – on going

Signed-----

Date-----

137. Litter Heroes Award – Children’s Litter competition – this project has been completed

138. Extra dog bin – New dog bin at Football fields been installed, Cllr Dalton had met with AH Contracts.

139. COMMUNICATIONS

Correspondence – outgoing and ingoing

Out:

- i. Transport Trust – Red Wheel Support letter + response
The Parish Council and Cllr Clarke were disappointed with the response. Alan Andrews from the Canal Parish Partnership had offered to pay for a second plaque for which there must be an existing mould. It was agreed that the **Clerk** write to Peter Stone from the Transport Trust and invite him to a PC meeting to explain the position regarding a plaque at the Blisworth end of the Tunnel.
- ii. Street Doctor Requests:
 - Removal of weeds from Westbrook/Chapel Lane Alley
 - Footpath to Coronation Cottages
- iii. Street Light Requests:
 - Repairs to 37 Greenaway and 15 Greenaway (twice) including request for replacement with ‘tall’ street lights
- iv. NCC Highways – Invoice from Blisworth PC for mowing grant (£771.88).
- v. Play Area Equipment information
- vi. Request from Mark Redding for any signatures for initiation of Speed Watch Campaign

In:

- i. SNC – Purchase of blue bins for £20 (available between 23.11 and 31.12.14)
- ii. NCC – Consultation on changes to Children’s Centre Venues – **Clerk** to re-send email for comments and copy any response to Paula Judd at SNC.
- iii. National Allotment Society – Allotment Newsletter
- iv. Blisworth School – Invitation to attend planning discussion on proposed extension + offer to give presentation at this meeting.
- v. Village Website – request from Weston and Weedon Lois Parish Council for advice on setting up a website – passed to Mason Masterman.
- vi. East Midlands Allotment Association – requesting guidance on cost of renting allotments

140. FINANCE

i) Payments – for approval

Name	Details	Amount £	VAT	Total	Chq
Lisa Shepherd	Replacement of Chq 2293	150.00		150.00	2295
Charlie Jeffery	Reflectors on Home Close	6.14		6.14	2296
Shire Lumsden	R and A printing	108.00		108.00	2297
Alan Currall	Architectural	200.00		200.00	2298

Signed-----

Date-----

	services re Cemetery Gates				
Anglian Water	13.8.- 17.11.14	163.08		163.08	2299
V Hartley	Salary for Nov	414.64	-	414.64	2300
HMRC	Tax for above	103.60	-	103.60	2301
N and P Gardens	Mowing	496.50	99.30	595.80	2302

Bank Balance at 24.11.14 - £ 48853

- ii) Renovation of cemetery gates from Parish Plan Progress Team – on going
Cllr Kennedy reported on the progress of quotes.
- iii) **Automatic Enrolment , compulsory pension scheme,**
This Parish Council's employees just meet the qualifying criteria and it is required by law to complete a Declaration of Compliance which informs the Pensions Regulator what has to be done to comply with legal obligations within 5 months of the 'Staging Date'. **Clerk** to obtain more information on the Declaration of Compliance.
- iv.) Arrangement s for Blisworth Jogger Funds
The Clerk reiterated, as at the last meeting, that Parish Councils **cannot** hold funds on behalf of another body and ring fence any such funds for the other body's purposes. Parish Councils have no powers to act as bankers. If the money came to the Parish Council it would be as a donation and then subject to all the financial legislation that a Parish Council must act by. The Clerk was asked to take further advice from Danny Moody at NCALC and forward this and confirm the position in writing to Ann North, Secretary of the Blisworth Tapestry Committee.
- v.) Application made for Grass Cutting grant of £771.88 from NCC Highways - received
- vi.) Clerk's Salary for 2014/15 – under review – it was agreed that the Parish Council would pay the Clerk according to the Local Government Pay Scale.

141. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS AND COUNCILLORS' COMMENTS

- Cllr Dalton stated that the Finger post at the junction of the Northampton and Courteenhall roads is obliterating the new Village Sign – the **Chairman** will look into this.
- Cllr Dalton reported that he was concerned about the amount of monies wasted on the Eastfield parking issue re the installation and removal of bollards and that now a dropped kerb had been constructed.
- Cllr Dalton reported that there was a blocked drain on the Northampton Road near Elm Tree Cottages. **Clerk** to report.
- Cllr Burgoyne reported that Adrian Collwell had written to say that a meeting scheduled for 3rd December is recommending :
To adopt the Grand Union Canal Conservation Area Appraisal and Management Plan as agreed by the meeting of the Policy Committee on April 4th 2014 with a modification for the boundary to follow the definitive right of way (RD9) between the north portal of Blisworth Tunnel through to Bridge 51 at Towcester Road.
Any comments should be sent to Cllr Burgoyne/ Cllr Clarke prior to the meeting.
- **Clerk** to advise the Girl Guides – Laura Norman to seek help re grants from SNC via Katie Arnold .

142. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION SESSION

- i) The recently installed double yellow lines in Stoke Road at the surgery are being ignored. **Clerk** to write to NCC and request they look into the matter.

Signed-----

Date-----

- ii) Ann North presented the report from the Parish Plan Progress Team:

Cemetery Entrance Project

The project is proceeding well and we hope to have plans and quotes ready for grant applications by early next year.

Churchyard Award

We hope to apply for the Gold Award in 2016 when we will have made further progress with promoting wildlife in all our churchyards. Maintenance is proceeding well.

Hollowell Steam Rally donation

Plans are being made to have a seat near the bus shelter in the high street and another near Grafton villas thanks to the donation acquired for the village by Mick Wreford.

Parish Plan

We have been advised that 2016 would be a good time to redo the Parish Plan. That will allow 18 months to establish a Local Plan in response to the forthcoming publication of the Core Strategy. We would urge the Parish Council to use the findings of the current plan when responding to Planning Applications as this would strengthen the decisions.

- iii) The traffic in the High Street and Stoke Road is very busy – a crossing is required!
- iv) The Parish Council received thanks for the support for the School Recycling Project.

143. DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING - 5.1.15

Signed: -----

Date: -----

Signed-----

Date-----

Extract of SNC Planning Register 1.10.14 – 24.11.14

<u>Application Number</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Proposal</u>	<u>Received</u>	<u>Status</u>
<u>S/2014/2083/TLN</u>	Courteenhall Bridge Blisworth Road Courteenhall (cell ref 18833)	Notification of installation of electronic communications to install 4 transmission dishes not greater than 0.6m diameter, additional cabinets with existing compound and swap existing antennae and attach MHAs	04/11/2014	3 - Case Officer Allocated
<u>S/2014/2016/OUT</u>	Land & Buildings at Candle Cottage Chapel Lane Blisworth	Residential development for up to 5 dwellings with associated road works and drainage, all matters reserved. (Outline)	28/10/2014	5 - Site Visit Complete
<u>S/2014/1967/TCA</u>	Grafton House 1 Gayton Road Blisworth	Reduce one ash leaf maple by 20%. Remove long low lateral of one crack willow and failed limb in adjacent tree. Fell one ash tree and remove ivy from another ash tree.	22/10/2014	3 - Case Officer Allocated
<u>S/2014/2031/FUL</u>	4 Courteenhall Road Blisworth	Proposed new detached garage with home office	16/10/2014	4 - Consults Despatched
<u>S/2014/1951/FUL</u>	17 Connegar Leys Blisworth	Front porch	07/10/2014	5 - Site Visit Complete

Signed-----

Date-----