

BLISWORTH PARISH COUNCIL

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Minutes of the Meeting 2nd February 2015

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

Present:

Cllr J Hawkins Chairman for this meeting
Cllr C Gardner
Cllr M Mc Keown
Cllr A Anderson
Cllr Burgoyne
Cllr M Field
Cllr S Billing
Cllr P Kennedy

Cllr 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 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 and reasons for absence approved: Cllr C Jeffery, Cllr D Dalton.

159. DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS – members were asked to declare any interest and the nature of that interest which they may have in any items under consideration at this meeting – Cllr Hawkins declared an interest in the Planning item concerning Blisworth School as she is a Governor of the School.

160. RESOLUTION TO SIGN & APPROVE MINUTES - The minutes of the previous meeting dated 7th January 2015 were agreed and adopted, proposed by Cllr McKeown and seconded by Cllr Field.

161. CHAIRMAN'S/CLERK'S REPORT

The Chairman reported :

Thank you to Cllr Masterman for taking on the entering of the ACRE Best Village Competition.

Signed-----

Date-----

162. DISTRICT AND COUNTY COUNCIL REPORTS

Cllr Clarke reported:

- The Joint Core Strategy is now adopted and the time for legal challenge to its adoption has nearly expired. Any decisions taken by the Planning Department are now part of the development plan and it has been used in the refusal of 14 dwellings in Paulespury and withdrawal of an appeal in Harpole.
- Application for funding (for 3 projects in (Blisworth) for the New Homes Bonus Scheme – meeting to be held on 23.3.15.
- Awaiting information from Transport Trust re the two Red Wheel Plaques for Blisworth.
- Towpath requires attention - The Economic Development and Tourism Department is considering work to be done – may call for joint funding.
- Enforcement Action is to be taken on the A43 re the unlawful encampment at the old service station at Blisworth Arm.
- Residents are being sent information stating that with no registration with the Elections Office at SNC one cannot vote.

163. PLANNING

- i) Consultation with PC
S/2014/2468/EIA – proposal by Howdens for 248,200 square metres of employment (B1 & B8) development to accommodate a new 'campus' facility with off-site highway improvements, landscaping and earthworks.
Location : land west of M1, J 15 and west of A508, south of Collingtree.
Mr Steve Johnstone, Traffic Consultant and Graham Meller of Buttonwood Marketing Limited were in attendance at the meeting for discussion. Mr Johnstone reported that the project is to cost in the region of 6 -7 £million. The Highway Agency and NCC have no significant plans in the near future to improve Junction 15. The proposed plans in this scheme to increase the number of lanes and their width on the roundabout will improve the facility for trucks considerably and thus improve its efficiency. Questions were received and the speakers offered a further meeting with Howden representatives to discuss the application further. This was welcomed by the Parish Council and they agreed to liaise with the Clerk to arrange a meeting in the next 2/3 weeks.
- ii) Consultation with PC
S/2015/0022/FUL – Blisworth County Primary School – proposed roof conversion with addition of 7 roof lights – the Parish Council **supported** the application.
- iii) Consultation with PC
S/2015/0114/FUL, 45 Buttmead - Proposal Single storey extension to rear. The Parish council had **no objections** to this application.
- iv) Consultation with PC
S/2015/0103/FUL, Gayton Marina, Blisworth Arm - Variation of condition 5 (pre-commencement condition - implement remediation scheme) S/2012/0029/FUL (New building to accommodate chandlery, laundry, wetdocks, admin & stores.) to carry out remediation prior to the appropriate phase of the works, rather than prior to any of the works.
The Parish council had **no objections** to this application.
- v) Chapel Hill Development – S/2013/0225/MAF –

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- 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
- vi) Progress of other recent applications : see extract from SNC Planning Register, below

164. Local Matters

- i. Rights of Way – Reports of any problems – the footpath across the allotments has been ploughed some time ago and has not been re-instated. **Clerk** to report.
- ii. Lighting –
New design of light requested for Greenaway Reporting of street light faults – these cost about £2000 compared with £1000 for the standard lights.
The 3 lights on the Courteenhall Road (on telegraph poles) require cleaning. **Clerk** to report.
- iii. **Play Area –**
 - Progress of grant application for new equipment – application has been sent for funding from South Northants Homes Bonus.
 - Play area inspection – **Clerk** has ordered an unaccompanied inspection.
- iv. **Traffic/Highway Issues –**
 - Future of old Bus Shelter at the Oak – this will be a *future* agenda item
 - Correspondence from Mark Redding re obtaining more pledges for Speed Watch
 - The NCC agreement for new seat at Royal Oak was agreed and signed by the Clerk on behalf of the Parish Council.
 - Permission had been granted by NCC for the new seat to be sited near the Railway bridge.
- v. **Neighbourhood Watch Scheme – see Finance**
- vi. **Allotments – nothing to report**

165. COMMUNICATIONS

Correspondence – outgoing and ingoing

Out:

- i. Wicksteed Leisure – requesting Play Area inspection
- ii. Blisworth Short Mat Bowls Club – support for application for grant to buy winding mechanism for club
- iii. E-On - Stoke Road Street light repair request, 34 Stoke Road
- iv. Zurich – Request for insurance of new seats
- v. Street Doctor – request for repair of Give Way sign on Northampton Road – ref 719873, has been referred to Balfour Beattie – this has been repaired.
- vi. Blisworth Guides – informing her of Councillor’s Empowerment Fund

In:

- i. Request from Neighbourhood Watch Scheme, Mark Redding for funding
- ii. Plea for help from ACRE
- iii. NCC – Urban Highway Grass Mowing Contract – to be signed
- iv. PCSO Tara Cooksammy – Crime Report
- v. SNC - Joint Working conditions – circ
- vi. Changes to bus services 89 and 90/90A
- vii. NCALC courses
- viii. NCC Library Services Timetable – notice up
- ix. Statement from SNC re Northampton Road road works

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- x. CGD Contractors Ltd – Groundcare and Drainage – information
- xi. NCC – Household Waste Recycling Centres Opening times – notice up
- xii. Clerks and Councils Direct
- xiii. Blisworth Parish Plan Progress Group – request for funding

166. FINANCE

i) The following Payments were approved:

Name	Details	Amount £	VAT	Total	Chq
Cllr Dalton	Padlock for play area	5.08		5.08	2312
E-on	Replacement of 2 lights in Greenaway	2030.00	406.00	2436.00	2313
V Hartley	Salary for Jan	423.46		423.46	2314
HMRC	Tax for above	105.87		105.87	2315
N and P Gardens	Mowing	496.50	99.30	595.80	2316
E-on	Repair of PL 51 Pond Bank	23.47	4.69	28.16	2317
E-on	Supplies	699.16	139.83	838.99	2318
Shire Lumsden	R and A printing	108.00		108.00	2319
B. Osborne	Pay roll services	55.50		55.50	2320
ACRE	Best Village Competition entry	35.00		35.00	2321
AH Contract	Dog bins	95.28	19.06	114.34	2322

Monies received:

£5 Allotment rent

£70 from Mid Northants Parishes due to wind down

Bank Balance at 26.1 .15 - £ 45086

- ii) **Request of funding from Neighbourhood Watch , Mark Redding - £500 for 50 shed alarms** which would be sold through Round and About. Shed alarms can be purchased for as little as £5 with mid-range around £10. The feeling was that NW needs to be seen to be doing something proactive for the village to get it back on the radar. A vote was taken and it was in favour of Mark Redding purchasing **25 for £250**, possibly charging £2 - £5 per item. The **Clerk** will also advise Mark Redding to contact Nick King from snvb to see if he can obtain them cheaper.
- iii) Plea for support from ACRE – ACRE have now obtained funds and is secure for the present.
- iv) **Blisworth Parish Plan Progress Group** – Cllr Kennedy reported that a letter had been received by the Parish Council with reference to the Grant Application being made on behalf of the Parish Council to South Northants Council. The application is for funds to do the groundwork to the entrance of the Cemetery and to renovate the Heritage Gates. The Parish Council have agreed this work is needed particularly to make a safe and secure

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entrance to the Wildlife Area and to improve the High Street entrance, making it available to disabled visitors, those with push chairs and all other visitors. In the Finance section of the application it asks the level of contribution to be made by the Parish Council. The group has requested that the Parish Council contribute in the region of one third of the cost. The total cost would be in the region of £9500 and the Parish Council is asked to contribute £3200. A vote was taken and it resulted in unanimous support for this contribution. (The Parish Council is responsible for this cemetery as it is now closed for burials).

The **Clerk** to send copies of the Annual Return for year ending 31.3.14 to the committee for the application.

167. PARISH PLAN PROGRESS TEAM REPORT – Discussion on Terms of Reference if it forms a sub – committee of the Parish Council or becomes a separate organisation. This will be discussed with ACRE, the Clerk had also obtained information on this issue.

Pat Masterman is completing the Best Village 2015 application with input from various people and village organisations.

The Cemetery project continues with the help of volunteers. Memorial 1 in particular has been taken on by Lee Wykes who has also helped with areas of St Johns. 2 members of the Progress Group have met with a churchwarden to discuss how Lee can carry out repairs to the cross and other maintenance.

A grant application has been initiated but will need to come from the Parish Council. As the Parish Council is responsible for maintenance of the cemetery it was suggested that a request is made for a contribution of a third of the total cost. Quotations have been received for the whole project.

The plans for a Central Village Feature have been put on hold for some time but with the installation of the bench the progress group has discussed the possibility of the old bus shelter next to the pub being used for information about village amenities, organisations etc. This suggestion was made by someone who has moved to the village in the past 2 years.

3 members of the progress group are meeting with ACRE to discuss the matter of a bank account and advice on a constitution. This will be needed when the time comes to review the Parish Plan in 2016.

Over 60's. The Carers Support event at the Chapel Coffee House was well received. This will be a regular feature on 3rd Tuesday of each month.

168. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS AND COUNCILLORS' COMMENTS

- **Cllr Gardner** – Sun, Moon and Stars requires running repairs on a window as the rain is getting in – **Cllr Clarke** will report.
- **Cllr Field** – South Northants Volunteer Bureau are promoting the concept of voluntary 'Parish Police' who would be allocated a uniform, this item will go on the next agenda.
- **Cllr Burgoyne**
 - Chain link fence along Westbrook Path behind the Oak is in need of repair. It was agreed this was the responsibility of the Oak.
 - The grit bin in West Brook is in need of further salt.

169. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION SESSION

- A request was made and it was agreed that the **dog waste bin at the allotments near the Football club should be re-located** to Buttmead at RD2, next to the noticeboard. **Clerk** to ask AH Contracts to do this.

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- The Planters on Northampton Road need planting. **Cllr Kennedy** agreed to ask Dave Snape or Bell Plantation to see if they would do so.
- **Wild and Woolly Event** – this was held as usual on Boxing day last year and there have been reports of cars being parked inconsiderately particularly in Blisworth Park where some residents’ drives were blocked. Also the issue of access of emergency vehicles could be restricted. **Clerk** to contact Northampton Motor Cycle Club who run the event and see if anything can be done.
- A request had been sent to the Council requesting the use of **A5 sized notices** for notice boards and to not use staples to fix them. It was felt the former was not practical.
- The parking of vehicles on verges is creating an unsightly mess around the village. **Clerk** to write to Helen Howard, NCC Highways to see if this could be rectified.

Meeting Closed at 9.40pm

170. DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING - 2.3.15

Signed: -----

Date: -----

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