

# 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 7<sup>th</sup> December 2015

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

**Present:**

Cllr C Jeffery	Chairman
Cllr J Hawkins	Vice Chairman
Cllr M Field	
Cllr M McKeown	
Cllr D Dalton	
Cllr B Rose	
Cllr D Burgoyne	
Cllr S Billing	
Cllr C Gardner	
Cllr A Anderson	
Cllr P Kennedy	

11 members of the public

**At 6.30pm - before the Parish Council meeting which started at 7.30pm, there was a presentation from the developers of the Sun Moon and Stars. The Parish Council and the 27 members of the public and were able to ask questions.**

The proposal is for 6 flats within the existing shell of the building a raised area for parking on an 'industrial cobbled' surface. Also two 2 bed houses and one 4 bed house near the entrance. The houses will be built from banded limestone.

The major concern discussed was the **parking** for the incoming residents, visitors and existing residents who live nearby. The possibility of using the grassed area near the layby was mentioned. Allocation was 1 space per flat and 2 spaces for the houses. Other questions involved the internal building which will be replaced except for the inglenook fire place, flagstone floor and some beams. Sash windows will be renewed. Estimated time for building would be 18 months. All those present were in favour of the project so long as the parking issue is addressed.

### 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. (The session can last for a maximum of 15 minutes with any individual contribution lasting a maximum of 3 minutes.

Members of the public should address their representations through the Chairman of the meeting and may not take part in the Parish Council meeting itself.)123 .

**APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE** – The following apologies were received and reasons for absence approved: Cllr S Clarke, SNC, Cllr J Kirkbride, NCC

Signed-----

Date-----

**124. DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS – To receive declarations made under the Council’s Code of Conduct related to business on the agenda.** (Members should disclose any interests in the business to be discussed and are reminded that the disclosure of a pecuniary interest will require that the member withdraws from the meeting room during the transaction of that item of business).

Cllr Field declared an interest in item 129 iii) - Willow House S/2015/1980/FUL.

**125. RESOLUTION TO SIGN & APPROVE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING DATED 2<sup>nd</sup> November 2015 –** these were agreed and adopted, proposed by Cllr McKeown and seconded by Cllr Rose.

**126. CONNEGAR LEYS GARAGE BLOCK PLANNING APPLICATION – POSSIBLE DEVELOPMENT INTO HOUSES FOR AFFORDABLE RENT – PRESENTATION /INFORMATION FROM Ms BARNES and Ms BERRIDGE, Development Officer from Grand Union Housing Group.**

Seven sites across South Northants are being explored. Notice would be served on the residents of the garages at the end of January 2016. The wall of 1 Buttmead will need to be reduced in height for visibility. Parking was the main concern of those present. The speakers agreed to look into the possibility of using the South Northants Homes grass area for the formation of parking bays. It is important that people who are interested in renting a unit need to get on to the Housing list with South Northants Homes. Section 106 agreements do not apply but a request was made that the road surface of Buttmead could be improved.

It was agreed that Parish Council would **support** the above application, with these comments to be returned by **Clerk:**

- Very concerned about the parking situation in the area, as per 2 photographs.
- With the removal of the garages, several local residents will no longer have off-road parking facilities, leading to more on street parking in this already congested area.
- As part of this planning condition, Blisworth Parish Council would request that, The Grand Union Housing Group and/or South Northamptonshire Homes who own the large grassed area opposite create a minimum of ten hard surfaced parking spaces in this area for the local residents.
- Finally PC would request that part of the planning conditions that all Heavy goods Vehicles servicing this development access Blisworth from the A508 to avoid excessive traffic passing through the village and past the village primary school.

## **127. CHAIRMAN’S/CLERK’S REPORT**

i) Report on Code of Conduct course attended by Cllr Kennedy:

The Parish Council is up to date with its Code of Conduct policy which can be viewed on the website.

ii) The Chairman reported that he is meeting with Johnny Wake about the gardens which back on to the estate land.

Signed-----

Date-----

## 128. DISTRICT AND COUNTY COUNCIL REPORTS – none available

## 129. PLANNING

i) **Chapel Hill Development** – Application No. S/2015/2472/MAF, Proposal Variation of conditions 4,15,20 on S/2014/0431/MAF(Residential Development for 27 houses, estate road and associated works) to enable viability of the site.

See correspondence below

Cllrs Jeffery, Field, Burgoyne and Hawkins and met with NCC Cllrs Michael Clarke (Head of Highways) and Matthew Clarke. Cllr Clarke was in support of the Parish Council and agreed that access should be on to the Northampton Road and Chapel Lane is not suitable. **Clerk** to request that this is put in writing. The Chairman reported that the owner of the land adjacent to the site is willing to negotiate to allow access on to Northampton Road

ii) **Application No. S/2015/2492/MAF** – now gone to appeal

Proposal Installation of a solar PV array plus ancillary development

Location Land to the South of Knock Lane Blisworth

Discussion over offer of £50000 from developers – this donation would go through SNC Planning Department see finance below

iii) **Willow House S/2015/1980/FUL** – Response to application returned to SNC and also correspondence between Parish Council and SNC Planning Officers re conduct of application. **A resolution to be taken to decide which councillor should attend the Development Control meeting. It was agreed that Cllr Hawkins would attend and represent the PC.**

iv) **3 Northampton Road – S/2015/2577/TCA Works to trees in a Conservation Area - FOR INFORMATION ONLY**

<b>Proposal</b>	<b>Reduce height of seven conifers on eastern boundary by 1.3metres and remove one laburnum tree on same boundary. Reduce height of seven conifers on western boundary by 0.61metres.</b>
-----------------	---

v) **Candle Cottage**, Chapel Lane – Notice of Appeal

Update on developments Progress of other recent applications: [see extract from SNC Planning Register](#)

vi) CPRE Road Show - Communication and Transport – attended by Cllr Hawkins and resident from the village on 12th Nov 2015. Report :

*It was well attended by a wide audience of PCs*

*The Topics covered were Superfast Broadband in the County presented by Sarah Naylor*

*Highways and Transport in the County presented by Michael Clarke and Earls Barton Neighbourhood Plan presented by Councillor Rob Gough.*

Signed-----

Date-----

*Superfast Broadband should be nearly fully installed in Blisworth by 2017 The Web site [www.superfastnorthamptonshire.net](http://www.superfastnorthamptonshire.net)*

*Michael Clarke spoke knowledgeably about highways. (It was interesting that he attended the site visit for the Chapel Lane Development.*

*Councillor Rob Gough spoke about Earls Bartons progress with their Neighbourhood Plan.*

*This was particularly helpful to myself, Pat Masterman (who will lead the Revision of Blisworths Parish Plan or the development of a Neighbourhood Plan)*

*No decision will be made on which plan to adopt until the PPPG have compiled all of the information including that of presently being formulated SNC input!*

*The session was along with being informative very thought provoking*

**130. Arrangements for RAIL CENTRAL DISTRIBUTION open meeting which will be held at the next Parish Council meeting on 4th January 2016, attended by Mr Copithorn.** There is a presentation about this at Milton Malsor Parish Council on Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> December.

**131. WEBSITE DEVELOPMENTS** : hosting, domains and web tools and consider correspondence from Mason Masterman:

**The designing of a logo for the PC website and the Village website** was discussed and it was agreed that the School could be involved and possibly the existing canal plaque could be used. **Cllr Hawkins** will photograph this and she also has an existing design which might be suitable.

### **132. LOCAL MATTERS**

- i. **Footpaths** – Reports of any problems - none
- ii. **Lighting** – Report of street light faults – for reports mad see correspondence  
A quote for £380.50 +VAT for the replacement of the street light in Stoke Road opposite the Surgery was accepted. **Clerk** to request that this is carried out as soon as possible.
- iii) **Play Area** – report of any safety issues further to routine inspections – Cllr Dalton reported that nothing was out of order and he had emptied the bin.
- iv) **Traffic/Highway Issues** –
  - a) Report from walkabout with NCC 19.11.15 – Michael Clarke, head of Highways at NCC in connection with the proposed Chapel Lane development and Mathew Clarke from NCC Highways had attended with Cllrs Jeffery. Hawkins, Burgoyne and a resident. Michael Clarke had stated that Chapel Lane was **not at all suitable** as an access road for the development. (see above – Planning)

The advice for the other Highway issues from Mathew Clarke was:

- Stoke Road siding out (next to the allotments) - to get the NCC Enhancement Gangs to attend
- Windmill Avenue potholes – involve Street Doctor
- Buttmead potholes – this is a road surface issue the potholes do not meet the criteria for work to be done

Signed-----

Date-----

- Request for extension of 30mph zone along Stoke Road – Clerk to ask Helen Howard when this is to be carried out.
- b) **Council to decide whether another grit bin should be purchased for Station Road** – it was agreed that Cllr Jeffery will get a bin and salt from BACCA for re-impementation at the next meeting.
- c) A resident had requested that work be carried out on the trees on the boundary wall of the Sun Moon and Stars on the High Street to improve the light reaching the flats in The Mill. This issue will probably be addressed by the proposed planning.
- d) Mark Redding reported on the Speed Watch campaign – 70 letters had gone out to speeding drivers. Unfortunately the second week's data had not be obtained as the equipment had not worked.
- v) Neighbourhood Watch – see correspondence. Mark Redding also reported that he still had some shed alarms available. The NHW sign on Gayton Road needs replacing – the **Chairman** agreed to look into this.

### 133. COMMUNICATIONS

Correspondence – outgoing and ingoing, previously circulated to councillors

#### Out:

- i. **Sean Bennett, SNC Planning** re Chapel Lane Development
- ii. S/2015/2472/MAF, letter of objection (removal of Clause 17)
- iii. **Orbit Homes** – Request for viability assessment with regard to development (no response)
- iv. **Helen Howard, NCC** - request for site visit at Chapel Hill and other Highway issues – see report
- v. **N and P Garden Services** - request for maintenance in Pond Bank and Stoke Road + response
- vi. **Mrs A Goss** – thanking her for her services as Highway Warden
- vii. **Mrs Estelle Rose** – thanking her for clearance of leaves in Church Lane
- viii. **SNC** -- Village Services Questionnaire 2015 (Original sent in August)
- ix. **Aylesbury Mains** – request for repairs outside 14 Eastfield, PL no 18 at the end of the Buttmead / Courteenhall Road footpath, LIGHT OPPOSITE THE DOCTORS IN STOKE ROAD
- x. **Resident** – re reporting of Eastfield street light repairs

#### In:

- i) Rough Sleeper Estimate for South Northants on 12th November 2015 (there had been not rough sleepers recorded)
- ii) Police - Towcester Safer Community Team Update, October.
- iii) Luke Warren - Ground Maintenance Tender – not to be pursued
- iv) NCC - November's news from my county council (Newsletter)
- v) Clerk – SNC - Response from Calvin Bell re the Willows
- vi) Blisworth School - PC invitation to opening of Big Build on 20<sup>th</sup> November
- vii) NCC - NCC NEWS RELEASE : Could you open your home to a foster child?
- viii) Clerk- Danny Moody, NCALC - Query re donation from developers
- ix) SNC - Committee Site Visit Invitation Solar Farm- 8.12.15
- x) Recycle for Northamptonshire news request – notice up

Signed-----

Date-----

- xi) Northants Police - Daventry and South Northants IAG Open Evening, 22.2.16
- xii) SNC - Christmas blue bin sale
- xiii) NCC - Open Market Review Consultation
- xiv) Mark Redding - Community Speed Watch 2016 + letter to Mr Barber, NCC requesting installation of monitoring equipment on the Towcester Road
- xv) SNC - Christmas Bin Collections
- xvi) Gayton resident – request for reciprocal advertising on local parish councils on website – Cllr McKeown stated as the PC was in the process of updating the website it wouldn't be advisable at this stage.

Emailed Correspondence with Mr Copithorne re Rail Central Distribution meeting now arranged.

### **134. PARISH PLAN REPORT**

**Consideration of converting Parish Plans Progress Team to Neighbourhood Plan – cost in the region of £10,000 per annum.**

**Ann North (Secretary) had submitted and read out the following 3 reports to the meeting:**

#### **DISCUSSION PAPER ON THE MERITS OF REVISING THE PARISH PLAN OR DOING A NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN**

*I have contacted Ann Addison, Parish Clerk for Kislingbury, Pattishall and Milton Malsor.*

*Kislingbury are currently undertaking a Neighbourhood Plan. The decision to do so was determined because of the proximity of Kislingbury to Northampton Borough and the concern about the high volume of new housing eroding the green areas around them.*

*The cost of the Neighbourhood Plan is in the region of £10K, £6K is from a grant and £4K from the Parish Council. This type of plan takes a lot of time and money but it has more legal standing than a Parish Plan. Kislingbury has sent their draft to South Northants Council and it will then go to an independent inspector before a referendum.*

*Both Pattishall and Milton Malsor have updated their Parish Plans and including a lot of the information required for the Neighbourhood Plan. Pattishall have consulted with residents and consequently altered the village boundaries to suit their needs.*

*I will be contacting the Chairmen of both Milton Malsor and Pattishall Parish Councils to ask for copies of their plans to see what needs to be done in terms of revision of our plan.*

*Once we have examined the two plans it is likely that in view of the lower cost and the need to move quickly on the housing requirements for the village, we would recommend a revision of our plan rather than doing a full Neighbourhood Plan.*

*Ann Addison also recommended that we attend the meeting in January in West Hunsbury about the Northampton Plan as this is relevant to our areas.*

#### **REPORT TO BLISWORTH PARISH COUNCIL FROM THE PARISH PLAN PROGRESS GROUP**

**DECEMBER 2015**

- *The Group attach a report for consideration on the merits of either doing a Neighbourhood Plan or revising the current Parish Plan.*
- *Three members of the group held a meeting with the leader of the Weedon Bec winning application for Best Village 2015. Following her advice we bring to the Council's notice that we will be trying to involve as many of the villagers and the organisations as possible in the entry composition.*
- *We have agreed that we will invite the Srvb information bus to the village in the spring.*

Signed-----

Date-----

- *Jenny Osborne of the Northamptonshire Carers a registered charity affiliated to the Carers Trust came to our last meeting. She was able to provide information useful to many residents not just those in a carer role and this information will be available for a piece in Round and About and for inclusion in the Village Directory.*

**Financial report**

- *Total funds brought fwd. £639.00*
- *Expenditure £57.40. – planters and bulbs for Chapel and St Johns*
- *Balance carried forward £ 581.60*

### 135.FINANCE

Current Bank Balances at 24.10 .15 - £33,323 Business Reserve Account - £5095

a) Payments Agreed:

Name	Details	Amount £	VAT	Total	Chq
Aylesbury Mains	Repairs to o/s 14 Eastfield, PL18 (end of Buttmead/Courteenhall Rd)Inv 15911	89.00	17.80	106.80	402
	o/s 2 Eastfield Inv 15881	64.30	12.86	77.16	
Shire Lumsden	Printing R and A	110.00		110.00	403
Anglian Water	12.8 -14.11.15	289.20		289.20	404
V Hartley	Salary for Nov	524.73	-	524.73	405
HMRC	Tax for above	4.60	-	4.60	406
N and P Gardens	Mowing	496.50	99.30	595.80	DD
AH Contracts	Empty dog bins	111.16	22.23	133.39	407

**b) Agreement and Resolution to apply for Budget for 2016/7 –** The Chairman introduced a draft budget, prepared and circulated by the Clerk. After discussion, **the Council resolved to approve the budget of £31000** that is appended to these Minutes, proposed by Cllr McKeown and seconded by Cllr Dalton. The Council then resolved to apply for a precept of £31,000 from SNC to cover the amount required by the budget.

**c) NCC grass cutting grant 2015 - applied for**

**136.Solar Farm Developers –** consideration of offer of £50,000 to PC - developer can make a contribution through s106 or through a Unilateral

Signed-----

Date-----

Undertaking but these should be negotiated by the planning authority as part of the application.

**137. TO CONSIDER PAYING OUTSTANDING INVOICE FROM E-ON FOR MAINTENANCE OF STREET LIGHTS FROM APRIL – JUNE QUARTER (last one before Aylesbury Mains took over). It was agreed that the Clerk does not pay this invoice.**

**138. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS AND COUNCILLORS' COMMENTS**

**Cllr Anderson** – reported that 230 houses in the village have Superfast Broadband, should be a lot more in 2017.

**Cllr Gardner** – Parking issues in Connegar Leys. **Clerk** to pursue with SNC Enforcement Officer.

**Cllr Hawkins** – reported that the new build opening at Blisworth School had proved a great success.

**Cllr Kennedy** – Disappointed at the decision by the PC at last meeting to drop the formal complaint to SNC Planning Department. It was agreed that the possible formation of a sub-planning group to consider planning applications prior to the full Parish Council meeting when decisions would be taken.

**139. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION SESSION**

- A further request to get the 30mph sign moved in Stoke Road as previously agreed by the NCC Highways.
- The street light at the bottom of Eastfield is out, this has been reported very recently.

**140. DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING 4.1.16**

Signed-----

Date-----