

BLISWORTH PARISH COUNCIL

Mrs V. Hartley, Clerk to the Council,
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Minutes of the Meeting 1st February 2016

Held in the Blisworth Village Hall at 7.30pm

Present:

Cllr C Jeffery Chairman until the end of first item on agenda
Cllr J Hawkins Vice Chairman, chaired meeting from second item on the agenda.
Cllr D Dalton
Cllr S Billing
Cllr C Gardner
Cllr P Kennedy
Cllr Rose
Cllr Burgoyne

Cllr Davies, SNC Cllr
Cllr Clarke, SNC Cllr
PCSO Cooksammy
19 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. The session lasts 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.

155. ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN OF THE PARISH COUNCIL

Since the last meeting Mr Charlie Jeffery had written to the Parish Council confirming that he was standing down as Chairman of the PC with immediate effect. His letter was read to the meeting. (This was because of comments which had been placed on Facebook). The recently formed 'No rail Interchange Action Group' stated that any such comments made about anyone would be regarded as 'ignorable external noise' and Cllr Burgoyne stated that the comments were a disgrace.

Cllr Jeffery – proposed by Cllr Gardner, seconded by Cllr Dalton.

Cllr Jeffery was duly elected as Parish Council Chairman with unanimous support. Cllr Jeffery thanked all those present for their support'

156 . APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE – THE FOLLOWING APOLOGIES HAD BEEN RECEIVED AND THE REASONS FOR ABSENCE WERE APPROVED:

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Cllr McKeown, Cllr Field, Cllr Anderson and Cllr Kirkbride, NCC

157. 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).

None was declared.

158. RESOLUTION TO SIGN & APPROVE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING DATED 4th JANUARY 2016. These were corrected, agreed and adopted, proposed by Cllr Kennedy and seconded by Cllr Dalton. The notes of the Rail Freight link presentation had also been corrected and circulated prior to the meeting. There had been a request from a resident of the village for a correction to be made to the minutes of 7th December 2015, Minute 132 iv, d – 768 letters were sent out to speeding drivers during the Speedwatch Campaign not 70 as stated. This was corrected and the website’s version will also be corrected.

159. CHAIRMAN’S/CLERK’S REPORT

- **METHODS OF COMMUNICATION CHANNELS THROUGH WHICH PC MUST OPERATE – IN PARTICULAR WITH REFERENCE TO RAIL FREIGHT TERMINAL** – The Clerk briefly addressed the meeting reminding the Parish Councillors that the Parish Council is a body and cannot be represented by an individual. Letters and communications from the Council must be written/communicated on the back of an agreement at a PC meeting. This will reduce confusion and Councillors would be clearer on the position of the Council in relation to other bodies.
- **Cllr Hawkins reported:**
 - She had attended a Forum meeting at SNVB in Towcester, accompanied by Cllr Kennedy, Ann North PPPG and Pat Masterman PPPG.
 - The items covered were The Community Ambulance Service, First Responder Service Blisworth is fortunate in having two trained responders.
 - This was followed by Michael Warren Principal Planning Officer SNC his talk was on the New Community infrastructure CIL.
 - The Red Cross spoke about their dial a wheelchair service which was useful.
 - The merits of a Parish, Plan etc also the merits of A Neighbourhood Area were discussed this is a project that The PPPG are presently looking into.
 - Community Bus information on this has now been circulated.
 - University Visit re/Web Site
Mason Masterman, Cllr Hawkins and Cllr Kennedy and a PPPG representative attended. It was a superb interactive event - very

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enjoyable to be involved with so many students with creative ideas all wishing to present their work in an efficient manner. Mason Masterman was thanked for heading this project for the PC website. (see later on the Agenda)

➤ **Blisworth School Big Build Area**

The refurbished area is adding extra dimensions to the school learning activities eg cooking learning support Music and after school activities. (photographs were circulated)

160. DISTRICT AND COUNTY COUNCIL REPORTS – may include report from local Community Police Officer.

Cllr Clarke – no report

Cllr Davies – no report

PCSO Cooksammy reported on the introduction of Twitter and encouraged its use as a means of following police/crime activity. The NHW co-ordinator will still be included in circulars.

161. RAIL FREIGHT TERMINAL – UPDATE AND DISCUSSION ON THE CURRENT STATUS AND REPORT FURTHER TO LEAFLETING OF VILLAGE.

No application has been made as yet to the Planning Inspectorate. A resident from the village who is involved with Stop Rail Central Ltd reported on the Action group which has been working efficiently. A 20 page document has been submitted to Andrea Leadsom MP. The group has opened a bank account and it is working with the website and Canal and River Trust.

Cllr Dalton pointed out to the Parish Council that until a planning application is submitted the Parish Council cannot comment or form an opinion. This concurred with advice from Danny Moody at NCALC.

162. PLANNING

i) **Chapel Hill Development** – Update - if any - on 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.

Little Lane – Cllr Kennedy had been in correspondence with Martin Draper, Development Management Engineer at Northamptonshire Highways about concerns to widen Little Lane to allow access for the development. His response was that he has requested that the applicant provide clarity and / or supporting information to demonstrate whether suitable access can be achieved. He stated that the Local Highway Authority must remain impartial and if the applicant is able to demonstrate suitable proposals which mitigate any highway safety issues then the LHA would not have any firm grounds on which to object. However any proposals involving changes

to local parking (under a Traffic Order) would be subject to both Parish council & resident consultation which he suggested would be the opportunity to raise any concerns.

It was agreed that **Cllrs Kennedy and Hawkins** would draft a letter to be sent by the **Clerk** to SNC. The contents of the letter would ask SNC to address the issue that as the applicant was granted a Lawful Development Certificate why the Variations could be applied for as should not the conditions have been 'set in stone'. Other changes in the application – reduction of affordable homes and the number built in stone would also be mentioned. Another site meeting should also be arranged.

It was also agreed that the Parish Council should be represented at the Development Control meeting by **Cllrs Hawkins and Kennedy**.

The suggestion of using Station Road for access should be re-visited.

ii) **Application No. S/2015/2492/MAF** – now approved. Proposal - Installation of a solar PV array plus ancillary development, location - land to the South of Knock Lane Blisworth. The community benefit funds will not become available until the project is running.

iii) **S/2016/0034/FUL**, Proposal Side extension and dormer extension at 49 Buttmead Blisworth - no objections

163.WEBSITE DEVELOPMENTS – REPORT ON MEETING AT NORTHAMPTON UNIVERSITY

Mr Mason Masterman addressed the meeting. He thanked Cllrs Kennedy and Hawkins for attending the university with him. A copy of the feedback from Cllr Kennedy had been sent to the students. Designs for the websites had been circulated to the Council prior to the meeting and he had copies available. A vote was taken and support for the 'Group 6' suggestion was unanimous. The choice of the logo will be put to the village for further suggestions. It was agreed that a modernised website was required and a new host should be sought which costs anything between £36 and £1000 per annum. It was agreed in principle that the PC would support of awarding up to £1000 for this.

164. LOCAL MATTERS

- i. **Footpaths** –No problems
- ii. **Lighting** – Report of street light faults –
 - o Clerk has reported Chapel Lane light PL 48
 - o Cllr Gardner had discussed the lighting in Courteenhall Road with Aylesbury Mains. **The Parish Council** needs to walk the area to decide what lighting is required.
- iii. **Play Area** – Cllr Dalton reported that he had no safety issues further to routine inspections – Clerk has ordered Wicksteed to carry out annual inspection of equipment – but there is a lag time before it takes place

iv. **Traffic/Highway Issues**

- Parking on Greenside - Email received asking for action on cars parking on pavement at the bottom of Greenside despite double yellow lines. There is little the PC can do as the double lines are not enforced.
- Line Painting - A resident had seen a Highways representative about to do line painting on the road and directed him towards Buttmead and part of Windmill Avenue.
- Improved Signage in Connegar Leys - Cllr Kennedy had visited the site with Highways and it was agreed by the Parish Council to pay £100 for new road sign to be installed in the correct position. Cllr Kennedy will make contact and the Clerk will order the sign from NCC Highways.

- v. **Neighbourhood Watch** – see correspondence – Mark Redding had sent recent circulars. Now that he is so heavily involved in the Stop Rail Ltd he has requested that a new co-ordinator is sought. This will go on the next agenda.

165. COMMUNICATIONS

Correspondence – outgoing and ingoing, previously circulated to councillors

Out:

- i. **Planning Inspectorate - Response from Blisworth Parish Council to scoping opinion re Ashfield Land Management LTD for development consent for a Rail Freight Interchange (2)**
- ii. **Letter of sympathy to Mr Townsend** (husband of Sally Townsend)

In and circulated to councillors :

- i. **Letter from Chairman** – stating he is standing down as Chairman with immediate effect.
- ii. **Police - Daventry and South Northamptonshire IAG Open Evening – VENUE CHANGE to Daventry Police Station** inviting members of the public to attend an Open Evening for Daventry and South Northants Independent Advisory Group. The event will still be from 6pm – 8pm on Monday 22nd February.
- iii. **Young's Nurseries** – statement that Nurseries have NOT been sold to Ashfield Land
- iv. **NCC - Public bus service 86 : Northampton - Stoke Bruerne – Towcester** - number of journeys from Blisworth Park to Northampton has had to be reduced from 3 to 2 per day.
- v. **NCC** - January's news from my county council
- vi. **Webmaster - No rail Interchange Action Group**
www.norailinterchange.co.uk
- vii. **South Northants Council** - Food Waste Promotions
- viii. **Northampton University** – re Website – see item
 - University Group Project - Group 7
 - Stage 1 Designs Group 5
 - Group 2 proposal – design and hosting

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- Group 1 - Design Summary
- Choosing of provided website designs
- ix. **British Red Cross – dial a Wheel Chair**
- x. Request for contact details for Chairman from Milton Malsor PC re Rail Link
- xi. **Cllr Clarke - Ref: 151214_TR050004_3550715 - Application by Ashfield Land Management Limited for an Order Granting Development Consent for the Rail Central Strategic Rail Freight Interchange : FAO Hannah Pratt**
- xii. **NHS – Pressure continues at Northamptonshire Hospitals**
- xiii. **Martin Dearsley – SNC - minibus and driver for hire**
- xiv. **Planning Portal Director (via Cllr Field) - Ministers back East Midlands rail freight project *against* inspectors’ advice in Castle Donnington.**
- xv. **Stop Rail Central Ltd - requesting consideration of funding by PC – see agenda item**

166. PARISH PLAN REPORT – consideration of formation of Neighbourhood Plan.

Mrs Ann North reported that the first stage is the production of a ‘Neighbourhood Area’ which would take in land outside the Village Confines. The contribution from CIL would increase from 15 to 25% with A Neighbourhood Plan. The PPPT is having a meeting tomorrow for further discussion. The Information Bus will be visiting the village soon.

167. FINANCE

Consideration by Council to help fund the Action Group - Stop Rail Central Ltd– see correspondence item xv above. Clerk has enquired from NCALC about use of Powers under which funds could feasibly be raised. Section 137 of the Local Government Act was not advised, but the use of Section 111 might be a possibility. Until a planning application is received no definite decisions can be made.

A Funding Fair is to take place at the Towcester Race Course.

Current Bank Balances at 24.1 .16 - £30326 Business Reserve Account - £5095

a) Payments – for approval

	E-on	Electricity Supplies	1031.43	206.29	1237.72	2418
	V Hartley	Salary for Jan	436.13	-	436.13	4419
	HMRC	Tax for above	93.20	-	93.20	4420
	N and P Gardens	Mowing	496.50	99.30	595.80	DD
	AH Contracts	Empty dog bins	111.16	22.23	133.39	4421

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- b) Agreement or otherwise as to support for *incidental* expenditure incurred by Action Group against the Rail link – eg payment of room hire for meetings, printing etc.

The Village Hall and Playing Fields Association had agreed to waive the cost of the hall for the Stop Rail Central Ltd until the situation is clearer.

168. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS AND COUNCILLORS' COMMENTS

Cllr Rose

- reported that an elderly lady could not walk across the grassed area in Buttmead because of the mud.

Cllr Gardner

- Extra parking is needed on Buttmead – especially in view of the comment above, should be addressed when application for garages progresses.
- Solar Farm Community Funding – Funds for used extra lighting.

Cllr Jeffery

- Stoke Road is to be closed for Anglian Water works on 14.2.16
- The Canal Parish Partnership has requested funds from the New Homes Bonus.
- Consideration of increasing Clerk's hours in view of the extra work associated with the various large issues going on the village. This will go on the Agenda.

169. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION SESSION for this meeting

- The Clerk suggested that the PC considering purchasing a defibrillator for the village. Other parishes are looking into the issue. This item will go on the next agenda.
- The fence between Chapel Lane and Westbrook has been knocked down and the tarmac is not good. **Cllr Jeffery** will take a look at the path.
- A request was made for a recycling bin in the High Street as so much of the waste is recyclable – **Clerk** to contact SNC.
- The replacement street light in Greenside is ineffective as it is too low. Request for it to be a candidate for new expenditure on lighting.
- A request for the Council to consider purchasing a VAS for Towcester Road. **Clerk** will contact the Road Safety Team for costings.

170. DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING 7.3.16

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Please note: this is a public meeting and you may be filmed, recorded and published.

Copies of all council papers are available to download on the Blisworth Parish Council Website

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