

# BLISWORTH PARISH COUNCIL

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## Minutes of the Meeting 3<sup>rd</sup> DECEMBER 2018

Held in Blisworth Village Hall at 7.30 p.m

### Present:

Cllr Hawkins           Chairman  
 Cllr Kennedy         Vice Chair  
 Cllr Bunker  
 Cllr Hillier  
 Cllr Gardner  
 Cllr Burgoyne  
 Cllr Billing  
 Andrew Vincent  
 Cllr Field  
 Cllr Lee

Cllr Stephen Clarke

7 members of the public

### PUBLIC QUESTIONS, COMMENTS AND REPRESENTATIONS:

In the last item on the agenda of the meeting residents are 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 will 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.

Cllr Hawkins thanked everyone for attending. She explained that Viv Hartley, the Parish Clerk is still recovering from her operation.

1. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE** – The following apologies were received: County Cllr Adam Brown.
2. **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. The additional Planning Applications to be considered were noted and no declarations were made.

Signed-----

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### **3. RESOLUTION TO SIGN & APPROVE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING DATED 5<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER 2018.**

The following corrections had been received and the minutes amended:

- Para 7 Chapel Lane – Andy Leighton is NCC not SNC
- Proportion of payment to Ann North Net and Vat incorrect
- Proportion of payment to Aylebury Mains for repairs Net and Vat incorrect.
- Para 14 final bullet sentence amended to read ‘All agreed providing the payment is within the financial rules’.

The resolution to sign and approve the minutes was proposed by Cllr Gardner and seconded by Cllr Bunker.

### **4. CLERK/CHAIR’S REPORT**

The Chair thanked Ann North for her tremendous input and support as she felt that without her assistance the PC would not be functioning to the high standard that it is.

She also thanked the Councillors for their support at this difficult time.

Blisworth’s commemoration of Remembrance Day was splendid. Poppies everywhere and the production of a wonderful book commemorating those soldiers from Blisworth who lost their lives during the 1st World War. She said that she hoped that the PC would consider donating £100 towards the printing of the book.

She wished everyone a very Happy Christmas and a prosperous New Year.

Ann North asked that all Councillors copy her into any correspondence they make on behalf of the Chair and the Clerk so that she has a complete folder of the activities of the PC during the Clerk’s absence. She will then be able to update the Clerk when she returns.

### **5. DISTRICT AND COUNTY COUNCIL REPORTS**

Report from local Community Police Officer – if available.

Cllr Clarke made the following statement about the item on Chapel Lane in the last minutes.

With regard to the issue over Chapel Lane, South Northamptonshire Council was not aware of the change in ownership of the land or the applicant’s interest until the application to vary the condition was submitted.

The Parish Council was notified of this change as part of the formal consultation process and, therefore, was advised of the change a few days after South Northamptonshire Council was informed upon receiving the application.

South Northamptonshire Council does not keep nor is required to request from applicants, developers or land owners confirmation that ownership in land or rights over which applicants or developers have changed or been removed.

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In the event that an applicant or developer relies on an access across land that they do not have access to cross, this is a matter between the two parties.

In the event that the applicant or developer cannot secure access, an alternative route needs to be secured and, as in the Chapel lane development, if this needs a further application to be considered then the applicant or developer needs to lodge this application before any works commence.”

He hoped this clarified the position of SNC.

Cllr Clarke also reported on the consultation on the formation of two unitary authorities which opened on 29<sup>th</sup> November. There is a proposal to delay all council elections until 2020.

SNC has set up an initiative called ‘Stay Active Towcester. Information about it can be found on the council’s website.

SNC’s Christmas and New Year opening times have been published. The calendar for bin collections showing the amendments for the holidays is also on the website.

Cllr Lee asked if Cllr Clarke would circulate his report to the Parish Councillors prior to the meeting and he agreed to do so in future.

## 6. RAIL FREIGHT TERMINALS

Mark Redding sent his apologies. All submissions to the **Northampton Gateway** inspection are complete and Mark has sent a full submission on behalf of the Parish Council. Site visits are now being arranged. Expressions of Interest can now be made on the **Rail Central** project. Efforts are being made to encourage all members of each household to send in their own submissions. Cllr Hillier will register an interest on behalf of the PC. A meeting of volunteers who have agreed to deliver leaflets and canvas all households will take place on 8<sup>th</sup> December for training. The Stop Rail website is up and running again and has pointers for areas to include in the 500 word expression of interest. Cllr Hillier agreed to write the full submission for the PC when the time comes.

## 7. CHAPEL LANE

Cllr Bunker reported that Highways had confirmed that they had not carried out a specific risk assessment of the proposed site for off street parking at the time of the TTRO application. However retrospectively they consider it acceptable taking into account the limited timescales and the lack of suitable alternatives. Cllr Bunker has also spoken to the developers and they say they may have difficulties with the development but that they would consider alternative sites for off street parking or possibly a banksman at the car park entrance. It was felt that the PC should explain to all village residents that they have fought long and hard over the proposals but have lost the battle. They still have concerns about the location of the alternative parking although delivery times have been limited to weekdays between 10-2. The Chair will include this statement and an update in her piece for Round and About.

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## 8. PLANNING

S/2018/2520/FUL	Change of use of garden to industrial and erection of warehouse.
Location	JBJ Business Park Northampton Road Blisworth.
Application agreed.	
S/2018/2508/MA	Residential development of up to 20 starter homes (outline application with all matters reserved)
Location	Land at Candle Cottage 20 Chapel Lane Blisworth NN73BU

All councillors agreed that all the properties must be affordable. The site is not being treated as an exemption site where 100% of the housing must be affordable. Therefore the developer would not need to offer the properties first to village people and their dependants.

Cllr Burgoyne has written a comprehensive response of opposition to the proposal on behalf of the Parish Council which was discussed. She had already asked for an extension to the closing date and the new date should be checked. It was agreed that the Chair should sign the letter. The Chair thanked Cllr Burgoyne for her work on this matter and her excellent letter.

## 9. LOCAL MATTERS

### I. Footpaths –

- Mike Burgoyne has agreed to walk the paths and will use the maps available. Cllr Billing offered to do any cutting back identified. Andrew Morton had not been able to identify any dog walkers who might be willing to assist as footpath wardens but it was suggested that the PC should request volunteers using the Blisworth Facebook sites including the Blisworth Dog Owners site and the Chair's piece for Round and About.

Cllr Burgoyne will remind the previous Footpath Warden Tim Noble about returning the markers.

- II. **Lighting – Lights reported:** Cllr Kennedy had reported all faulty lights to the contractor- outside No 50 Pondbank and 28 Connegar Leys.
- III. **Play Area –** No issues reported but Cllr Dalton has cleaned all the equipment and continues to empty the bins. The monthly checks are recorded in the diary.
- IV. **Neighbourhood Watch Scheme –** Residents can sign up to receive updates directly.
- V. **Highways – Stoke Road works.** The parking restrictions have commenced and will continue until Christmas.
- VI. **Allotments –** Nothing to report.

**10. NCC Highways – review of Grit bins –** Cllr Kennedy has written a comprehensive report on the review. There had been some concern by residents at the loss of the bin near Candle Bridge but Cllr Billing has offered to barrow the grit to the

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bridge area when required. The PC will notify the insurance company of the responsibility for some bins once the insurance details can be obtained. The bins that are now the responsibility of the Parish Council will need filling and Cllr Kennedy has contacted Mr Judkins about supplying some better grit. He will do a site visit and supply 10 bags for £80. She suggests the PC use All Seasons for one year and consider the situation again in August. Cllr Gardner proposed approval of a one year contract to Mr Judkins and Cllr Dalton seconded.

## **11. COMMUNICATIONS (not mentioned elsewhere on the agenda)**

### **OUT**

- Letter to Anne Goss re planters
- Letter of support to S Northants Hearing Advisory Service
- Letter to Canal and River Trust re running of boat generators
- Chair to Danny Moody for further advice on Sickness and Absence Policy

### **IN**

- Correspondence received by Cllr Bunker on Chapel Lane
- FIT letter from Viv Hartley
- SNC email re DPO service continuation – Cllr Kennedy actioned
- CPRE email re Green Clean 2018 results – sent to Cllr Hillier for Litter Group
- Reminder from Danny Moody , NALC about SNC Grants Consultation – Cllr Bunker agreed to respond on behalf of the PC and Cllr Hillier suggested that prior to opening up the funds to all Parish Councils, the ‘owning’ council’ be given a period of time to utilise the funds before they are made more widely available.
- Letter from Ann Addison re crossing warden – Cllr Hawkins has responded to Ann Addison clarifying that the PC make a contribution to the cost of employing a crossing warden and that is the extent of their involvement.
- Letter from Gary Wright, Safer Roads Team, Prevention and Community Protection Department, Northants Police. Cllr Hawkins will tell Gary Wright that Blisworth wish to take part in the 2019 Speed Watch and has asked Graham Juffs to deal with it on the PC’s behalf.
- Email from Wayne Campbell re Candle Cottage application – used in the letter of opposition to the planning application.

## **12. PROGRESS GROUP REPORT**

### **Survey Group**

The Group has not met in November but will be looking at a Housing Needs Survey in view of the potential housing projects that may be implemented in the village.

### **Community Land Trust**

The Group will be looking into the possibilities offered by the Trust in helping villages provide housing that meets their needs.

### **100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the end of WW1**

The knitted poppies are being collected in and will be dried and stored until next year. They may then be used in a different way. The Group this morning agreed to fund a further run of the Anniversary booklet and it will be offered for sale initially to village organisation at £8 with £1 given as a donation to the British Legion.

### **Litter Campaign**

- The volunteer litter pickers continue to collect on a regular basis, some using the equipment donated by SNC.

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Date-----

- The liaison with Ed Potter of SNC continues and the council have been very helpful and positive in respect of additional bins.
- A temporary bin will soon be provided outside the village shop and will be emptied by SNC. If successful a permanent bin will be installed.
- A new type of combination recycle/waste bin is being considered for the bus stop area at the Royal Oak.
- Liaison with the Canal Partnership and others may result in a bin at the Canal car park.
- Canvassing of village organisations for donations to fund additional bins has been very successful and all sums will be handed over to the PC for the ring fenced Litter Campaign funds.

### Best Village

Janet Steeper was interviewed by Northampton Radio in order to encourage other villages to enter the competition.

We will be enquiring as to the timetable for 2019 and village organisations will be asked if they can offer a volunteer to help with the Blisworth entry.

### Finance report

**Total funds - £1509.11 of which £900 is ring-fenced for the Litter Group**

## 13. FINANCE

### Payments – for approval

Chq	Payee	Detail	TOTAL	NET	VAT
714	Shire Lumsden	R&A printing	125.00		
	(Omitted from November report)				
715	Ann North	Ink, paper, stamps	93.98	78.31	15.67
716	JP Hawkins	Wreath	35.00	29.16	5.84
717	HMRC	Nov & Dec	66.00		
718	V Hartley	Dec pay	607.75		
719	Flowercraft	Autumn planters	144.00		

- **Bank Balance** £37,691.00
- **Budget and Precept Information**- Cllrs Kennedy and Bunker will look at the spreadsheets and draft a budget for 2019/2120 and report back.
- **Funding of WW1 booklet.** Heritage Society has offered £100 towards the printing costs of the first print and after discussion the PC agreed to pay the balance of £162. Proposed by Cllr Gardner and seconded by Cllr Dalton. The second print run will be funded initially from the Progress Group's funds and recouped by the sale of copies at £8 with £1 donated to the British Legion
- **Community Fund**  
The clerk had sent the letter to the Chairman of Blisworth Football Club and the Village Hall and Playing Fields have now been invited to their AGM. 7 cameras for CCTV have been purchased with the grant from Tesco's Bags of Help and the FC have been reminded that notices must be displayed informing visitors to the area that CCTV is in operation. It is hoped that will deter fly tipping and litter. Ann North reported that the FC have appointed a solicitor and are in the process of lodging their lease with the Land Registry. They will then be able to receive the SNC grant. This will then go into the Project Account which has the required number of signatories and is entirely separate.

Signed-----

Date-----

**14. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS AND COUNCILLORS COMMENTS**

- Cllr Burgoyne wished the PC to be aware that she wishes to resign as a Councillor next May. The Chair thanked her for all her work particularly for working with Cllr Billing on planning matters.
- Cllr Burgoyne has written a personal letter to the residents of Pond Bank who are having problems over boat owners running their engines and explaining that the Canal and River Trust have been made aware of their concerns.

**15. DATE AND TIME OF NEXT AND FUTURE MEETINGS – 7<sup>th</sup> January 2019 7.30 pm.****16. PUBLIC SESSION**

- Ann North expressed concern over the poor surface on Towcester Road where the recent works had taken place. It will be reported to Street Doctor.
- Jane Percival was concerned at the use of the large hall as the public find it difficult to hear and asked if it is used again that the PC members use the microphones.
- It is understood that the PC is very busy at the moment but the photographs of the PC are so out of date that they should be removed for the time being.

Signed .....

Date .....

Planning Register

**Online Planning Register Link:**

<http://snc.planning-register.co.uk/plandisp.aspx?recno=99237>

**Applicant :**

Kevin Amies  
Seima Construction Ltd 3,  
3a and 3b Gayton Road  
BLISWORTH Northants  
NN7 3

**Decision :      Decision date :**

Approval      23/11/2018

Signed-----

Date-----

Signed-----

Date-----