

BLISWORTH PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES

of the

AGM & PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

held in the

VILLAGE HALL

at 7.30 p.m. on

MONDAY 10th. MAY 2010

Those Present:

Chairman: Mr. C. Gardner
Vice Chairman:
Councillors: Mrs. M. Field; Mr. A. Andrews; Mrs. J. Andrews;
Mr. H. Wilkins; M. Hawkins; Mrs. J. Hawkins;
Mrs. P. Masterman;
By invitation: Mr. S. Clarke (SNC); PC Mick Wallace &
PC Greenwood (Police);
Members of the Public: 14
In attendance: Tony Lack, Parish Clerk

Apologies:

Mr. A. Hargreaves; Mr. S. Dunk; Mr. D. Dalton;
Mrs. Sally Townsend (SNC); Mr. B. Ingram (NCC);

AGM

Election of Chairman

Nomination: Mr. Colin Gardner
Proposed: Mr. H. Wilkins
Seconded: Mrs. P. Masterman

There being no further nominations Mr. Gardner was duly appointed to the Chair for the following twelve months.

Election of Vice-Chairman

Nomination: Mrs. Pat Masterman
Proposed: Mr. A. Andrews
Seconded: Mr. M. Hawkins

There being no further nominations Mrs. Masterman was duly appointed Vice-Chairman for the following twelve months.

Election of Finance Committee

It was agreed that all members of the Council would sit on the Finance Committee.

Election of Representatives for Village Hall and Playing Fields Association Committee

Chairman, Vice-Chairman and Mrs. Margarete Field

Election of Street Lighting Officer

It was agreed that the Clerk would act as Street Lighting Officer

Election of Tree & Footpath Wardens

Mr. Mike Burgoyne of 14 Westbrook is currently the Parish Path Warden appointed by NCC. It was mutually agreed that all parities would work together in the best interests of the Parish.

Appointment of the Clerk as Responsible Financial Officer

In accordance with the requirements of the Audit Commission, the Clerk was appointed as Responsible Financial Officer to the Parish Council.

Requirements for Audit

Adoption of Standing Orders – CNALC Draft Standing Orders for Local Councils.

Code of Conduct

Adoption of The Code of Conduct as approved by CNALC

Appointment of Independent Internal Auditor

It was proposed that Mr. John Smith be appointed Internal Auditor.

Letter from NCALC promoting internal audit service – cost to PC £140.31.

After discussion it was agreed that Mr. Smith act as internal auditor for the following twelve months.

Any Other Business

The Clerk announced his intention to retire in twelve months time after the next Parish Council elections.

Parish Council Meeting

Minutes of the Previous Meeting:

The Minutes of the previous meeting, having been circulated, were taken as read, approved by the Council as a true and correct record and signed by the Chairman.

Matters Arising and Carry Forward Items

Affordable Housing – Response from Gillian Spencer regarding indicative rent levels for the following:

2 bed Flats £86.21

2 bed House £93.03

3 bed House £95.25

Cllr. Clarke reported that the planning application promised by the end of April had not been forthcoming and there was questions regarding the location of the site compound to be answered.

Neighbourhood Watch – PC Mick Wallace reported on the latest crime figures stating that, in general, crimes have increased over the last year. Due to the success of Operation Guardian, which targets known criminals and is carried out on a monthly basis, this initiative would continue next year.

Mrs. Field asked how many crimes have been solved. PC Wallace stated that the clear up rates were 12% to 19% for burglaries and auto crime and 80% for drug crime.

Mrs. Field asked if the poor rate for burglaries and auto crime was due to lack of resources. PC Wallace replied that this was mostly the case but other factors were also involved.

Information from the public is very important in helping to solve crime.

Mr. Wilkins stated that Blisworth Park is very vulnerable but PC Wallace replied saying the Police tend not to get too many problems there.

Mrs. Masterman reported that the recent survey highlighted the residents' areas of concern with burglaries top of the list.

Mr. Andrews reported an increase in “cold callers” in the last few weeks. Speedwatch had identified 60 speeders today (Monday 10th. May). Viridor lorries are tipping what appears to be toxic waste over fields in Courteenhall Road. Mr. Clarke stated that SNC have details of the lorries and are dealing with the situation. A recent traffic survey in Stoke Road showed an

increase of 10% in traffic movements from last year. The total recorded being 21635 which equated to over 1 million per year. 66 mph was the fastest recorded in the 30 mph limit with 61.92% travelling at over 30 mph.

Canal Partnership – Mrs. Andrews reported that the Directors met recently with British Waterways and British Waterways have agreed to take responsibility for the Pocket Park initiative.

Parish Plan – Mrs. Masterman reported that processing the data from the survey was moving forward with the recent meeting of the Committee looking at the comment questions. It is proposed to bring two or three items to the Parish Council each month starting with the issues raised specifically relating to the Parish Council and the responses to Questionnaire Questions 48 & 49. Mrs. Masterman then handed round copies of the tabulated responses to the two questions (copy appended to these minutes) and at this point the Chairman agreed to open the meeting to the floor. There followed a lengthy discussion on the items covered with the following salient issues and actions agreed.

Who are they?

- A photograph of each Parish Council member to be displayed in the Village Hall and/or published in the Round & About.
- The re-publication of the Village Directory on a two yearly basis.
- Re-arrangement of seating at PC meetings so the public can see all the Councillors.

Communication

- A new dedicated “Parish Council” notice board with lockable cover to be installed on the wall of the Village Hall.
- Minutes of meetings to be displayed.
- Agenda for meetings to be posted.

Grass Cutting – Email – Jane Hill – Concerns regarding weedkiller. This was echoed by Mr. Andrews. The Clerk reported that he had been in contact with the contractor and it was NCC policy. The Clerk was instructed to write to NCC and ask for “strimming” to take the place of spraying.

SNC – UK Parliamentary Elections – Notices for display.

Play Park – Latest catalogue from Kompan. It was agreed to obtain information from other manufacturers.

Email – South Northants Tourism Guide – Request for information.

Email – Miss Clark, 6 Ladyfield – Concerns regarding parking. Clerk to reply.

Chairman’s Items:

Clerk to chase NCC for the new “Northampton” sign.

The Chairman asked Cllr. Clarke if SNC had decided on a new collection date for the rubbish bins. Cllr Clarke replied that no decision has yet been made.

Correspondence:

Copy of letter from Milton Malsor Parish Council to SNC regarding the land owned by Luff Developments at Gayton Road, Milton Malsor. Milton PC has strongly objected to the intensive change of use of the land. The impact of increased volume of HGV trailers and the

movements to and from the site would seriously affect the surrounding roads and villages. After discussion it was agreed that the Parish Council would strongly endorse the comments made by Milton PC.

SNC - High Speed Two (HS2) Exceptional Hardship Scheme – Formal Consultation by Department of Transport. – A voluntary purchase scheme for property owners whose properties may be affected by a high speed rail link between London and the West Midlands.

SNC – Commencement of new pre-application service on 19th April 2010. Information documents.

SNVB – South Northants 50+ Forum – “Make Your Voice Heard”. Information leaflet.

SANC – South Northants Economic Development Strategy 2010-2014. Information document.

Potterspury Parish Council – Bus route 89. Potterspury PC are alerting surrounding parish councils as to the NCC’s proposal to cut subsidy to the 89 bus service potentially reducing it from a one hourly service to a two hourly service. Potterspury wish to retain the service and are requesting support. It was agreed in principle to support Potterspury PC but to consult the public before a final decision is made.

Planning:

Notice of Decision:

S/2010/0260/FUL – Installation of bench on Towpath – GRANTED

S/2010/0277 – Certificate of Lawful Use or Development – Blisworth Arm Farm.
GRANTED.

S/2010/0222/FUL – 22 & 24 Northampton Road – Divide existing dwelling to create additional dwelling - REFUSED

Applications:

S/2010/0431/FUL – 19 Windmill Avenue – Single storey rear extension.
No observations.

Amended Plans:

None

Appeals:

none

Opportunity to attend Planning/Development Control Committee:

Residential Development for 27 houses – Land at Chapel Hill Farm, Chapel Lane.

Officer recommendation – Refusal on the grounds of insufficient documentation regarding a flooding assessment for the site and questions regarding the provision of affordable housing to meet the requirements of the SNC Interim Housing Policy.

Tree Preservation Orders:

none

Enforcement Notices:

none

Finance:

*

<u>Name</u>	<u>Details</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>VAT</u>	<u>Total</u>
<u>Receipts</u>				
SNC	Precept (first payment)	12500.00		12500.00
Blisworth Football Club	Rent of Allotment Ground	150.00		150.00
A Lack	Allotment Rents	11.00		11.00
Snapes	Allotment Rent	33.00		33.00
Blisworth Cubs & Scouts	Water charges	148.41		148.41
<u>Total</u>				

Payments

Clerk	Salary (Jan & Feb)	398.00		398.00
	Expenses	52.52		52.52
JS Landscapes	Mowing of Eastfield			
A H Contracts	Dog Bins	79.40	13.90	93.30
Alan North	R&A	35.00		35.00
				35.00
NatWest Bank	Charges (March)	13.73		13.73
				13.73
Blisworth Church	Donation	50.00		50.00
NatWest Bank	Charges for April	10.91		10.91
<u>Total</u>				

That the above accounts be accepted and approved for payment:

Proposed: Mrs. Field
Seconded: Mrs. Mastermam
Agreed.

Committee Reports

none

Any Other Business:

Comments were made regarding the state of Westbrook Alley. Weeds need spraying.

Sun Moon & Stars – Still awaiting a decision from the Land Tribunal before disposal of the site. Mr. Hawkins called for the Parish Council to give a vote of thanks to the Community Team for all their hard work. Agreed.

Mrs. Hawkins asked if there is a current bylaw requiring dogs to be on leads when on the canal towpath. Mrs. Andrews agreed to ask the BWB for a definitive answer.

Date of Next Meeting: MONDAY 7th. JUNE 2010 at 7.30 p.m.
ANNUAL PARISH MEETING – MONDAY 24th. MAY at 7.30 p.m.

Mr. Wilkins tendered his apologies for the next meeting on 7th. June 2010.

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 10.10 p.m.

Open Forum:

It was commented that the PC should make every effort to facilitate parking at the School.

With regard to the number 89 bus discussed earlier the comment was made “use it or lose it”.

It was further commented that the 89 & 88 buses combined give a half hourly service to the village. If the 89 service is reduced how long before the 88 is also reduced?

Meeting closed at 10.20 p.m.

Signed: Chairman:

Responsible Officer:

Date: