

# **BLISWORTH PARISH COUNCIL**

## **MINUTES**

of the

## **PARISH COUNCIL MEETING**

held in the

## **VILLAGE HALL**

at 7.30 p.m. on

**MONDAY 7<sup>th</sup>. FEBRUARY 2011**

### **Those Present:**

Chairman:	Mr. C. Gardner;
Vice Chairman:	Mrs. P. Masterman;
Councillors:	Mrs. M. Field; Mr. A. Hargreaves; Mr. D. Dalton; Mr. H. Wilkins; M. Hawkins; Mrs. J. Hawkins;
By invitation:	Mrs. Sally Townsend (SNC); Mr. S. Clarke (SNC); Mr. B. Ingram (NCC);
Members of the Public:	11
In attendance:	Tony Lack, Parish Clerk

### **Apologies:**

Tara Cooksammy (Police)

### **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**

SNC – Planning Issues – Report on the meeting with Steve Shuttleworth (SNC) held on Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup>. February – The Clerk reported that the meeting with Mr. Shuttleworth, attended by himself, Pat Masterman, Margarete Field, Alan Hargreaves, Sally Townsend and Steve Clarke, was useful and instructive. The main points arising from the meeting were:

SNC must be able to defend a decision if it goes to appeal. There can be a conflict of interest between the Planning Authority and the Highways Authority meaning that SNC must have hard evidence to back a decision.

The proposed Localism Bill firmly requires that developers engage with Parish Councils and local communities at an early stage – i.e. pre-application.

“New Homes Bonus” is a market driven concept and proposes that a sum equivalent to the rate of a Band D property council tax (per property) will be given to the Local Authority. This will equate to 20% going to the County Authority and 80% to the District Authority. A proportion of this 80% may then be passed down to the local community.

Any requests for improvements/enhancements included in 106 Agreements should be taken from a “shopping list” being part of a Parish Plan/Design Statement – Mr. Shuttleworth warned against “getting carried away”.

Casual Vacancies – Applications for filling the three vacancies received from:

Diana Burgoyne  
Maria McKeown  
A C Jeffery

It was agreed unanimously that Mrs. Burgoyne, due to her acknowledged interest in Parish affairs and regular attendance at PC meetings, be co-opted with immediate effect. With regard to Mr. Jeffery and Mrs. McKeown it was agreed to invite them to the next meeting to meet face to face and discuss their applications. The question was raised regarding compliance with the “Two year residency” condition – the Clerk was asked to check.

Local Elections – Information letter from SNC regarding the distribution of nomination packs etc. and letter correcting the date for uncontested elections & co-option from 11<sup>th</sup>. May to 9<sup>th</sup>. May. This is the date present councillors will retire. The Clerk stated he had responded to the letter and requested twelve nomination packs be sent to him for distribution.

SNC – Standing as a Candidate in the District & Town/Parish Elections – Seminar on 17<sup>th</sup>. February at Towcester Offices between 6 pm and 8 pm.  
Mrs. Field, Mrs. Masterman and Mrs. Burgoyne to attend.

Letter from John Folliot Vaughan, following the criticism expressed by Mrs. Andrews in her Canal Partnership report, explaining what is occurring in Stoke Road and the intension to create a vineyard. The Clerk to respond accordingly.

NCC – Road Traffic Regulation – Northampton Road 40mph speed limit.

No. 89 Bus – The Clerk reported that having spoken with NCC there is a real likelihood that subsidies will be withdrawn. As yet no details are forthcoming.

Affordable Housing – SNC report a slippage in the start date for Ladyfield extension to April. The proposed open afternoon will now be in June.

NCC – Parking in Courteenhall Road – copy letter to Alan Andrews outlining the problems and offering suggestions as to solving the issues. It was agreed to support the Traffic Action Group and Mr. Andrews agreed to continue dialogue with NCC and report back to the Parish Council. The Clerk would write to Mr. Whiting at NCC accordingly with a copy to the School.

Neighbourhood Watch – Mr. Andrews reported that an arrest has been made regarding the recent spate of local burglaries however, two more burglaries have taken place in Stoke Road and Northampton Road.

Canal Partnership – Volunteers made good progress last Sunday in clearing and cleaning the area designated for the proposed pocket park. The planning for this Year’s festival is progressing well with a Music Festival hoping to be included.

**Chairman’s Items:**

The Chairman asked Cllr. Clarke if the Sun, Moon and Stars now belonged to SNC which he confirmed. Mrs. Burgoyne referred to the Planning Brief, for which she had to request a copy, stating that items purportedly requested by the Parish Council in the original discussions/correspondence were not requested i.e. Information boards and a small study centre. The Clerk confirmed that the Parish Council has not as yet received a copy of the Planning Brief.

RD2 not yet cleared – Clerk to chase.

**Planning:**

Letter from SNC – “Changes to the way we notify you about planning applications.”

2 letters from Steven Shuttleworth (SNC) – Milton Malsor Trading Estate – Luff Developments.

**Notice of Decision:**

22 to 24 Northampton Road – Subdivision and extension of existing dwelling – REFUSED.

**Applications:**

S/2011/0109/FUL – Thackstone Cottage, 21 Stoke Road – Conversion of outbuilding to form annexed accommodation including new conservatory. No objections but the style of the proposed extension and all materials used should be the same as those used in the “listed” main building.

**Amended Plans:**

None

**Appeals:**

None

**Opportunity to attend Planning/Development Control Committee:**

None

**Tree Preservation Orders:**

None

**Enforcement Notices:**

None

**Correspondence:**

SNH – Surfers Club – Notification of a free computer workshop for parents, grandparents, carers and over 50’s – Six week programme starting 19<sup>th</sup> January at Roade School.

Roade Parish Council – Proposed closure of Roade Library.

Wildlife Trust Conservation Churchyard Award Scheme – Details.

Journal of Local Planning – Localism Bill.

Letter from Ian Richardson introducing himself as providing local molecatcher services.

Needs and Aspirations Project for NCC – Unpaid Carers in your area.

The Queen Elizabeth II Fields Challenge – details of event.

The Future of the Public Forest Estate – Information leaflet.

SNC – Street Parties – Information guide.

NCALC – Update newsletter.

Sustainable Communities Act Update.

Save England’s Ancient Forests – from Fiona McKenzie.

SNVB – Newsletter.

### Finance:

Clarification regarding the Village Hall New Stage purchase:

Monies received from VH&PFA £900.00 + £856.92 = £1756.92

Paid to Stage Systems £1495.25 + 261.67 (VAT) = £1756.92

Request from the Canal Partnership for the Parish Council to sponsor a seat in the sum of £300.00 for installation in the proposed Pocket Park. Following a confused discussion and a “point of order” from the floor stating that those Members of the Parish Council who had subscribed to the Canal Partnership were ineligible to vote (Mrs. Field, Mrs Masterman and Mr. Gardner) a proposal was made by Mr. Hargreaves that the Parish Council sponsor the seat. For 4 Against 1 with 1 Abstaining. Proposal carried.

Mrs. Masterman queried the cost of administering the website. The Clerk reported that the hourly rate agreed and approved by the PC in the sum of £10.00 per hour was correct.

<u>Name</u>	<u>Details</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>VAT</u>	<u>Total</u>
Blis. VH&PF Assoc.	Stage System	856.92		856.92
Clues	Allot. rent	6.00		6.00
Ferris	Allot. rent	9.00		9.00
<b>Total</b>				<b>871.92</b>

### Payments

Clerk	Salary	398.00		398.00
	Expenses	21.60		21.60
A H Contracts	Dog Bins	79.40	15.88	95.28
J S Landscapes	Grass cutting			
Paul Chapman	Website	30.00		30.00

NatWest Bank	Bank charges		
St John Ambulance	R&A Printing		
NCALC	Training fees	22.00	22.00

---



---

**Total**

That the above accounts be accepted and approved for payment:

**Proposed:**           **Mr. Dalton**  
**Seconded:**       **Mr. Hawkins**  
**Agreed.**

**Committee Reports**

None

**Any Other Business:**

It was agreed that an advert for the replacement Clerk be made as soon as possible in order that the new Clerk could be in situ before the present Clerk retires. The Clerk was requested to prepare a job description for discussion at a separate closed meeting to be arranged before the next meeting proper.

Mrs. Field reported a tree overhanging the footpath on Towcester Road (Van Am's). She will report to Street Doctor.

Speeding Cars – Mrs. Hawkins reported a speeding car almost collided with her as she exited her driveway on High Street emphasising the need to reduce speeding through the village.

The overgrown hedge on High Street is still to be cut back. The Clerk apologised for omitting to write to the owners. He said he had knocked on the door but had received no answer. He would write immediately.

Mr. Wilkins reported that the sad death at the Park had resulted from the Park electrician climbing a ladder to repair a street light and receiving a shock knocking from the ladder and hitting his head.

Village Field – The Clerk was asked to arrange a new Tenancy Agreement for the Village Field when the rent is due in April 2011.

Suspicious behaviour on land behind the row of houses opposite the School prompted the need to keep an eye on the planning register for any development.

**Date of Next Meeting: MONDAY 7<sup>th</sup>. MARCH 2011 at 7.30 p.m.**

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 9.54 p.m.

**Open Forum:**

Mr. Chapman was complimented on the professional look of the website.

Potholes on Stoke Road are getting more dangerous.

The state of the footpaths, particularly Northampton Road, previously reported and acknowledged by NCC is still not rectified. Cllr. Ingram agreed to talk with the officers concerned and report back.

Joint Core Strategy – Consultation Document imminent.

Signed:           Chairman:

Responsible Officer:

Date: