

# BLISWORTH PARISH COUNCIL

## MINUTES

of the

## PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

held in the

## VILLAGE HALL

at 7.30 p.m. on

MONDAY 4<sup>th</sup>. JULY 2011

### Those Present:

Chairman: Mrs P Masterman  
Vice-Chairman: Mr C Jeffery  
Councillors: Mrs M Field; Mrs K Gray; Mrs J Hawkins; C Gardner;  
Mrs D Burgoyne; R D Dalton; M Hawkins  
By invitation: Cllr. Mrs S Townsend (SNC); Cllr. B Ingram (NCC)  
Members of the Public: 14  
In attendance: T Lack, Parish Clerk;  
Mrs A Bartlett, Parish Clerk.

### Apologies:

Cllr. S Clarke (SNC)

### 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

**South Northants Homes** – Major Works Briefing Paper – Internal Modifications – Currently on site in Courteenhall Road. Proposed works for June/July in Buttmead.

**School Crossing Patrol** – Letter received from Sara Wilks, Finance Director, TXM Recruit Ltd, confirming their commitment to donating £1900 each year for three years to The Friends of Blisworth School for the provision of the school crossing patrol. The Parish Council was advised that a letter has been received by the School confirming that twelve parishes have now joined the scheme and the school crossing patrol will continue for the next three years.

**Luff Developments** – Copies of letters from Friends of Hunsbury Park, Collingtree Parish Council, Milton Malsor Parish Council and Councillor Hugheston-Roberts to both Northamptonshire County Council and South Northamptonshire Council have been received. A letter has been drawn up echoing the concerns of these parties and drawing specific attention to the impact on Blisworth. PC to send out. The Chairman confirmed that a further letter to Milton Malsor had been received from David Farquar advising that no lorry routing agreements have been proposed but that SNC will be carrying out a traffic monitoring survey to establish current traffic levels.

PC

**Blisworth Community Directory** – The Directory has now been published and is being distributed with the July edition of Round and About. The Chairman thanked Jane Percival and all those who assisted, for their hard work.

### Chairman's Items:

**Parish Council Vacancy** – There have been a few expressions of interest in the vacancy. All parties will be asked to apply to the Parish Council in writing.

**Removal of Stones on Northampton Road** – Mr and Mrs Howard have received a letter requesting that stones placed on the grass verge outside their property be removed and have requested the support of the Parish Council. It was agreed that a letter would be written asking if NCC could place an alternative barrier along the verge if the stones were removed.

PC/  
KG  
PC

### Correspondence:

**Improve Your Patch 2011 flyer** - detailing an award given by Northamptonshire Environmental Forum. It is open to any type of community group, such as a parish council, residents association, scout or guide group, school children, Pocket Park Group, recycling group, a community transport group or neighbour's who have grouped together to carry out a project. The prizes are £400 for the overall winner, £150 for each Borough/District winner, £150 for the most inspiring project yet to start and £150 for the best wildlife project. Closing date for applications is 22<sup>nd</sup> July.

**NCALC e-Update** - containing updates on the latest legislative developments including the Localism Bill, local council audit reform and payment methods. It also has information on the recently launched Local Councils Survey 2011 and a review of the county mobile library service.

**High Speed Rail Link Information** - A new website has been launched to help people find information and get involved in the HS2 consultation before it is too late to have their say. [www.51m.co.uk](http://www.51m.co.uk) has been set up by the 51m group who are the thirteen councils (including South Northamptonshire Council) that have come together to challenge the evidence base about the HS2 project. HS2 may affect Blisworth through the reduction of services on the Northampton to Milton Keynes line.

**Northamptonshire Library Review Stakeholder Consultation** - Northamptonshire County Council is beginning an extensive library review which aims to ensure the county's libraries are fit for the 21st century. This is the first stage of the review during which the council will be speaking to key groups and organisations already involved with libraries such as Friends of the Library groups, district and borough councils and parish councils to get their thoughts, feedback and ideas on how the service can be developed to ensure they can continue to thrive despite the current financial challenges. There is a questionnaire to complete and NCC would like feedback on the initial draft of the review. There are proposed changes to the mobile library service to one visit a month between 1.30pm and 3.30pm on a Sunday. It was agreed that the Chairman would respond on behalf of the Parish Council.

PM

**South Northamptonshire Youth Information Directory** - The South Northamptonshire Youth Information Directory has details of activities, support services, news and events of interest to young people. [www.snvb.org.uk/youth](http://www.snvb.org.uk/youth)

**SNC Summer Activity Programme - SPLAT** is the Council's holiday activities programme incorporating Sports, Play, Leisure and ArTs events providing something for everybody.

**Sun, Moon and Stars** – Letter received from Calvin Bell, Director of Policy at SNC clarifying the reasons that SNC believes the building was derelict for so long.

**Adopt a Garden Scheme** – Letter from South Northants Homes about the scheme whereby council tenants in any property who are struggling to maintain a large garden is linked to a person who has requested an allotment. In return for utilising part of the tenant's garden, they would help with grass cutting etc in other parts of the garden.

**N&P Garden Services** – A copy of the Certificate of Employers' Liability Insurance has been received. The PC will forward a copy to the County Council.

PC

**CALC Local Council Survey** – Received. The PC will complete and return the questionnaire.

PC

**Western Power** – A letter has been received from Western Power stating that underground cables are to be installed in Chapel Lane due to the poor state of the low voltage overhead lines. The Parish Council will be required to replace a street lighting column as a result. It was agreed that no further action should be taken at this time.

**SNVB News** – A copy of SNVB News has been received.

**Natwest Bank** – A letter requesting amendments to the documents provided to make alterations to the account signatories. CJ agreed to deal with the matter and to deliver to the bank.

CJ

**Register of Electors** – Five new residents have been added to the Electoral Register and there have been six deletions. Jane Percival has kindly offered to deliver welcome packs.

JP

### Planning:

#### **Notice of Decision -**

S/2011/0570/LBC - Elm Tree House 11 Courteenhall Road Blisworth - Replacement windows to front elevation – Approved.

#### **Applications -**

S/2011/0812/LBC and S/2011/0811/FUL - Land adjacent to Grafton House Gayton Road Blisworth - Conversion of existing buildings and reconstruction of single storey sections to form 4 no. dwellings and car ports. 2 no. two storey dwellings. New garage and accesses. Demolition of open barn. It was decided that the application be looked at in more detail by the planning sub-group.

S/2011/0798/FUL - The Far Post Towcester Road Blisworth - New vehicular access to provide separate access to property. No observations. PC to send comments.

PC

#### **Amended Plans –**

None

#### **Appeals -**

None

#### **Opportunity to attend Planning/Development Control Committee -**

None

**Tree Preservation Orders -**

None

**Enforcement Notices -**

None

**Finance:**

<u>Name</u>	<u>Details</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>VAT</u>	<u>Total</u>
<b><u>Receipts</u></b>				
Leadbitter	Field rent	300.00		300.00
Cubs & Scouts	Water charges	104.59		104.59
Lack	Allotment rents	12.00		12.00
Lack	Allotment rents	6.00		6.00
HM Customs & Excise	VAT refund	1950.90		1950.90
<b>Total</b>				2373.49
<b><u>Payments</u></b>				
Clerk – A Lack	Salary (July)	398.00		398.00
	Expenses	49.68		49.68
Clerk – A Bartlett	Salary (July)	350.00		350.00
Nat West Bank	Bank Charges (June)	35.00		35.00
N&P Garden Services	Mowing (Village) (June)	562.80	93.80	562.80
	Mowing (Village) (July)	562.80	93.80	562.80
Liselle Solutions	Website	30.00		30.00
Alan North	R&A	35.00		35.00
Jane Percival	Blisworth Directory	250.00		250.00
E-ON	Street light maintenance	258.80	43.13	258.80
NCALC	Seminar	116.00		116.00
SNC	Electoral Services	154.02		154.02
<b>Total</b>				2802.10

That the above accounts be accepted and approved for payment:

**Proposed:** Colin Gardner  
**Seconded:** Margarete Field  
**Agreed.**

**Football Club** – It was agreed that CJ will approach Sam King at the Football Club and request the payment of the rent and water charges. CJ

**Parish Field** – The Parish Council was advised that Mr Leadbitter would like a five year lease on the Parish Field. It was agreed that a three year lease would be preferable. CJ agreed to negotiate with Mr Leadbitter. CJ

**St John's Ambulance** – Cllr Ingram kindly agreed to speak to the St John's Ambulance about sending an invoice for the printing of R&A. BI

**Additional Water Points for Allotments** – A quote has been received from a plumber for the installation of additional water points on the allotments. It was agreed that further quotes should be obtained. CJ agreed to follow this up. CJ

### Committee Reports

**Village Design Statement Group** – A first draft of the statement has been circulated and KG is awaiting comments. KG also advised that assistance from anyone living in the village is required in writing the statement.

**Canal Partnership – Canal Festival** - Alan Andrews reported that the Anglian Marine Model Club will be setting up a pool with model boats for the Canal Festival. All donations will go to the Air Ambulance. PC will request that the area is mowed before the festival. There will also be a laser zone in the play area. PC

**Canal Partnership – Pocket Park** – Forty tonnes of aggregate are to be delivered to the pocket park on 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> July. Any help to move it would be gratefully received.

**Neighbourhood Watch** – Two fridge-freezers have been stolen from houses in Wellspring. There has been an incident of criminal damage in Knock Lane. NCC have installed “No Cold Calling” signs in Greenaway, Connegar Leys, Northampton Road and High Street.

### Any Other Business:

**Sun, Moon and Stars** – A letter was sent by Di Burgoyne on behalf of the Historic Buildings Trust, to Calvin Bell following receipt of correspondence from him regarding the disposal of the site. The letter clarifies the position of the trust regarding delays in providing reports. Cllr Mrs Townsend confirmed that she had also commented on the letter.

**Village Lighting** – Di Burgoyne has received a suggestion that the Parish owned lights should be turned off after 02.00 hours. Tony Lack advised that in order to turn the lights off in this way, new and expensive equipment would be required. DB agreed to relay this information.

**Attendance Sheet** – It was suggested that members of the public should sign an attendance sheet at each meeting. It was agreed that this could be implemented on a voluntary basis. PC

### Date of Next Meeting: MONDAY 1<sup>st</sup> AUGUST 2011 at 7.30 p.m.

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 20.59 hours.

### Open Forum:

*Fiona McKenzie* – Gave information on the rules of closed churchyards. A copy of that information is appended to the minutes of this meeting.

*Ray Andrews* – Highlighted that negative comments have been made on a public internet forum regarding the Parish Plan, and expressed his concern.

*Reg Davis* – Raised concerns about the visual amenity of the former engineering works behind the Sun, Moon and Stars. He has approach SNC but been told that nothing can be done. CJ advised Mr Davis that he has spoken to Mr Clayson been advised that he is waiting for planning permission to be granted and then he will be using the materials on site.

*Jane Percival* – Raised the question of the old paper shop on the high street. It was agreed that SNC would be contacted to see if anything could be done. Mrs Percival also advised the Parish Council that the street light located near to the school has a plate that is held on by blue insulation tape. PC will contact Street Doctor regarding this. It was also noted that there are no street lights between Blisworth and Milton Malsor. PC will check the switch off schedule with NCC.

*Cllr. Mrs Sally Townsend* – Advised the meeting that she is due to attend the Mid-Northamptonshire Parish Meeting on 21<sup>st</sup> July at Kislingbury.

*Cllr. Bunny Ingram* – Advised that the Shutlanger to Heathencote road will be closed on 11<sup>th</sup> July for work to the bridge.

*Sarah Sykes* – The Parish Plan Group now has a Progress Team and are considering entering the Improve your Patch Awards for the wind up torch and personal alarm initiative. Dr. Sykes also asked that a copy of the Parish Plan be included in the new villager welcome pack.

*Ben Scarcliffe* – Advised that he will be submitting applications for tree preservation orders on two ash trees at the top of the canal bank near the tunnel. Mr Scarcliffe also raised the issue of vegetation growing along the edge of the road in Pond Bank. Cllr Ingram agreed to speak to NCC regarding this.

*Elizabeth Davey* – Raised concerns about problems on the allotments including leaving water running overnight and unsupervised bonfires.

PC

BI

Open Forum closed at 21.27 hours.

Signed: Chairman:

Responsible Officer:

Date: