

# BLISWORTH PARISH COUNCIL

## MINUTES Of the meeting of the PARISH COUNCIL

Held in the  
VILLAGE HALL  
at 7.30 p.m. on  
MONDAY 5<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 2011

- 014 **Present:**  
Chairman: Pat Masterman  
Vice-chairman: Charlie Jeffery  
Councillors: C Gardner; Mrs M Field; R D Dalton  
  
By invitation: Cllr. S Clarke; PC Tara Cooksammy  
  
Members of the public: 21  
  
In attendance: Mrs A Bartlett – Parish Clerk
- 015 **Apologies:** Ms M McKeown (work commitments); Mrs J Hawkins (holiday); Mrs D Burgoyne (family commitments); Mrs K Gray (medical appointment); Cllr Mrs S Townsend
- 016 **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.
- 017 **Matters Arising and Carry Forward Items**
- i **Mike Hawkins** – Mr Hawkins has tendered his resignation from his post as Parish Councillor in writing to the Parish Council. The Chairman advised that she had met Mr Hawkins and confirmed that the decision had not been taken lightly. It was **RESOLVED** that the Parish Clerk write to Mr Hawkins acknowledging the work that he has done for the village. PC
  - ii **Graveyard Wall** – On Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> August a large section of the graveyard wall collapsed into the graveyard adjacent to 47 Pond Bank. This is not covered by the insurance policy. It was **RESOLVED** that Mr Jeffery will go back to Blisworth Garden Services and ask for costings on additional buttresses and a lintel. CJ
  - iii **Allotments** – Concerns have been raised regarding bonfires and water usage at the allotments. It was suggested that all plot holders be written to highlighting these matters and enclosing an up to date copy of the rental agreement. It was **RESOLVED** that the Parish Clerk would write to all allotment holders and also advise them that there would be a small charge for water usage in future. PC
  - iv **The Old Newsagents** –Charlie Jeffery has approached the occupants to discuss the state

	of the frontage. Mr and Mrs Coles are keen to improve the frontage of the shop. It was <b>RESOLVED</b> that the Parish Council would support Mr and Mrs Coles if they submit a planning application to SNC providing it was in keeping.	
v	<b>Parish Council Vacancies</b> – No applications have yet been received by the Parish Council. The Parish Clerk has been unable to contact the previous contact. It was <b>RESOLVED</b> that the Parish Clerk would advertise the posts.	PC
vi	<b>Round and About</b> – The Parish Plan Group have confirmed with Shire Lumsden that the cost of printing will be 10p per sheet. It was <b>RESOLVED</b> that the Parish Clerk would contact Cllr B Ingram to confirm the last print run of the magazine.	PC
vii	<b>Open Forum</b> – At the previous meeting it was suggested that the open forum was moved to before the meeting to allow the public time to comment on matters on the agenda. It was <b>RESOLVED</b> that for a trial period of three months the open forum would be held at the beginning of each Parish Council Meeting. Members of the public will be allowed three minutes to speak on any agenda item. If the public wish to raise other matters they must contact either the Parish Clerk or a Parish Councillor more than four days before the next meeting and the matter will be put on the agenda for discussion.	
viii	<b>Minutes of Previous Meetings</b> – It has been suggested by Mr Tony Marsh that the Parish Council may wish to deposit the minutes of Parish Council meetings that date back to 1895, with the Northamptonshire Records Office. It was <b>RESOLVED</b> that the Parish Clerk would pass the minutes of the Parish Council Meetings between 1895 and 2001 to Mr Marsh who has kindly agreed to take them to the NRO and provide the Parish Clerk with the receipt.	PC/ TM
018	<b><u>Chairman's Items:</u></b>	
i	<b>Planning Subgroup</b> – An additional member is required for the Planning Subgroup. The meetings will be open to the public and minuted by a volunteer who will feed back the minutes to the Parish Clerk. The Chairman confirmed that Kathy Gray has volunteered. It was <b>RESOLVED</b> that Kathy Gray join the Planning Subgroup.	
ii	<b>Best Village to Live In and Churchyard Conservation Awards</b> – Support is required from both residents and the Parish Council if the village is to enter these competitions.	
019	<b><u>Correspondence:</u></b>	
i	<b>South Northants Homes</b> – Major Works Briefing Paper – Internal Modifications – Currently on site in Buttmead. Proposed works for August/September in Connegar Leys.	
ii	<b>Bus Service Changes</b> – Changes to the bus service between Northampton and Brackley were introduced on 5 <sup>th</sup> September 2011. Further details can be found at <a href="http://www.northamptonshire.gov.uk/en/councilservices/Transport/pubtrans/pages/Timetables.aspx">http://www.northamptonshire.gov.uk/en/councilservices/Transport/pubtrans/pages/Timetables.aspx</a> . It was <b>RESOLVED</b> that the Parish Clerk would post the timetable on the Courteenhall Road.	PC
iii	<b>Temporary Closure of Blisworth Road, Courteenhall</b> – Blisworth Road will be closed overnight, between 23.30 hrs and 09.00 hrs on 29 <sup>th</sup> October to allow the safe examination of the bridge.	
iv	<b>Digital Switchover</b> – Age UK Northamptonshire have been working with various community groups to help to explain the procedure for the switchover and would be grateful for any guidance in helping them to deliver this service. The staff will be very happy to visit any Groups where necessary and can be contacted at The Lifetime Project Office.	

v	<b>Register of Electors</b> – Six new residents have been registered and one name deleted. It was <b>RESOLVED</b> that Jane Percival would be advised of the new residents and asked if she would kindly deliver welcome packs.	PC/ JP
vi	<b>Electoral Registration</b> – SNC have sent out a reminder about completing and returning electoral registration forms, reminding people that not only is it needed for voting, but that it is a legal requirement.	
vii	<b>Northamptonshire 50+</b> - Sent information advising that there has been a review of the Home Fire Safety Checks process and whilst the web pages can generate a high risk safety check referral, the free telephone number has been suspended.	
viii	<b>Minutes of the Mid-Northamptonshire Parishes Meeting of 21<sup>st</sup> July</b> – Blisworth was represented by Margarete Field and a copy of the minutes will be appended to the minutes of this meeting.	
ix	<b>Aspirational Observational Documentary</b> – An approach has been made by a production company “trying to find groups of individuals that can show that there is still a sense of community spirit in Great Britain, hard working individuals who come together, often after a hard day’s work, and organise events for their community to bring everyone together.”	
x	<b>Rural Services Network Online</b> – Three, weekly e-mail news digests have been received covering all aspects of rural life.	
xi	<b>Open Studios Northamptonshire</b> - The largest visual arts event in the county is being launched at a special exhibition opening at Northampton Museum and Art Gallery at the end of this month. Blisworth artists are also participating with their own event taking place at the barn at the Royal Oak.	
xii	<b>Heritage Open Days</b> - There is a four-day programme, which runs from Thursday 8 to Sunday 11 September, with open buildings, guided tours, walks, talks, exhibitions, fairs and heritage bus trails. There is a free events brochure available by visiting <a href="http://www.northampton.gov.uk/heritageopendays">www.northampton.gov.uk/heritageopendays</a> or call the conservation team on 01604 837633.	
xiii	<b>South Northants Leisure Trust</b> - SNLT has been set up to provide facilities and services for recreational, sporting or leisure time occupation in the interests of social welfare and promote community participation in healthy recreation. The trust has now launched a programme of inviting applications from clubs, organisations or Parish Councils. The application document can be found at <a href="http://www.southnorthantsleisuretrust.com/grants.html">http://www.southnorthantsleisuretrust.com/grants.html</a> .	
xiv	<b>Community Development Fund Grant Scheme</b> – A poster promoting South Northamptonshire Council’s Talented Performer and Coach Education Grant Schemes, which are part of the Community Development Fund (CDF) Grant Scheme. Further details can be obtained from Mrs Pam Wood at <a href="mailto:pam.wood@southnorthants.gov.uk">pam.wood@southnorthants.gov.uk</a> .	
xv	<b>SNVB</b> – An information update for August has been received including details of Northamptonshire Community Foundations grants.	
xvi	<b>Royal Horticultural Society</b> – A letter from the RHS advocating participation in the Britain in Bloom campaign. For more details <a href="http://www.rhs.org.uk/communities">www.rhs.org.uk/communities</a> .	
xvii	<b>South Northants Homes Lifeline Service</b> – a letter and information has been received regarding the Lifeline Service which operates from £4.64 per week. More information can be obtained from Simon Barnes or Deborah Gurr on 01327 357828/357827.	
xviii	<b>Letter from P Cahill</b> - A letter from P Cahill making the Parish Council aware of the objection to the Willow House planning application.	

<b>020</b>	<b><u>Planning:</u></b>				
<b>i</b>	<b><u>Decision Notices:</u></b>				
	S/2011/0798/FUL	The Far Post Towcester Road	New vehicular access to provide separate access to property		Refusal
	S/2011/0915/TCA	Grafton House 1 Gayton Road	Fell 3 No. pine trees		No Objections
<b>ii</b>	<b><u>Applications:</u></b>				
	S/2011/1030/FUL	18 Eastfield	Two storey side and rear extensions. Retrospective		
It was <b>RESOLVED</b> that an additional meeting of the Parish Council be held on Friday 9 <sup>th</sup> September at 6pm at Eastfield Playing Area to discuss this item.					
<b>iii</b>	<b><u>Amended Plans</u></b>				
	None				
<b>iv</b>	<b><u>Appeals:</u></b>				
	None				
<b>v</b>	<b><u>Opportunity to attend Planning/Development Control Committee:</u></b>				
	None				
<b>vi</b>	<b><u>Tree Preservation Orders:</u></b>				
	None				
<b>vii</b>	<b><u>Enforcement Notices:</u></b>				
	None				
<b>021</b>	<b><u>Finance:</u></b>				
<b>i</b>	<b><u>Receipts</u></b>				
	<b><u>Name</u></b>	<b><u>Details</u></b>	<b><u>Amount</u></b>	<b><u>VAT</u></b>	<b><u>Total</u></b>
	<b>Total</b>				
<b>ii</b>	<b><u>Payments</u></b>				
	<b><u>Name</u></b>	<b><u>Details</u></b>	<b><u>Amount</u></b>	<b><u>VAT</u></b>	<b><u>Total</u></b>
	Clerk – A Bartlett	Salary (August)	350.00		350.00
		Expenses	30.46		30.46
	AC Jeffery (Contracting)	Allotment Water Pipe	253.20	50.64	303.84
	Banner Contracting Ltd	Mowing	350.00	70.00	420.00
	JS Landscapes	Mowing	200.00		200.00
	Anglian Water	Water charge	146.95	11.79	158.74
	N&P Garden Services	Mowing	469.00	93.80	562.80
	<b>Total</b>		<b>1799.61</b>	<b>226.23</b>	<b>2025.84</b>

That the above accounts be accepted and approved for payment:

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

**022** Reports

- i* **Parish Plan Project Group** – The Parish Plan is progressing well. The group has recently been awarded a certificate by the Improving Your Patch Scheme in recognition of their wind-up torch and personal alarm initiative.
- ii* **Canal Partnership** – The festival went well. There were one or two parking issues but that is under control for next year's festival. Charities raised between £8,000 and £10,000 over the weekend. The Chairman of British Waterways paid the festival a visit and was very positive about the event. The next working party on the Pocket Park will be announced soon. The work will include finishing the path and the selective felling and thinning of trees. A further grant of £2,000 has been obtained for more trees.
- iii* **Neighbourhood Watch** – The batteries from the temporary traffic lights on the Courteenhall Road have been stolen, a report of criminal damage on the Stoke Road and a burglary on the Business Park.
- iv* **Police** – PC Tara Cooksammy advised that from a Police perspective, the Canal Festival went well. She has been receiving complaints regarding the switching off of the street lights but has not received reports of additional anti-social behaviour. Residents were asked to telephone in reports of people using quad bikes and trail bikes on the towpath and note the times.

**023** Any Other Business:

- i* **Road Markings** – Road markings around the village are poor particularly at the junctions of Northampton Road and High Street and Stoke Road and High Street. It was **RESOLVED** that the Parish Clerk would contact NCC to raise the matter with them.
- ii* **Road Signage** – It was highlighted that the sign for Station Road is being obscured by vegetation and that the Blisworth Arm sign has been defaced. It was **RESOLVED** that the Parish Clerk would contact NCC and raise the matter with them.
- iii* **Bank Charges** – Charlie Jeffery has been in contact with NatWest again and they have agreed to refund all bank charges to date.

**Date of Next Meeting: FRIDAY 9<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 2011 at 6 p.m.**

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 9.21.

Open Forum:

*Mr Curtis* – Gas works have been carried out along Connegar Leys and the pavements are now in a terrible state of repair and it needs to be resurfaced. It was agreed that the Parish Clerk would contact NCC and raise the matter with them.

*Anne North* – Raised the issue of the poor condition of the pavements around the village in general and is concerned about the possibility of accidents as a result. It was agreed that the Parish Clerk would contact NCC and raise the matter with them.

*Alan Andrews* – Confirmed that road weepers have been along and swept up tarmac at the edge of the roads causing potholes. It was agreed that the Parish Clerk would

contact NCC and raise the matter with them.

*Tony Marsh* – Tarmac has been left on the path adjacent to 18 Eastfield and there is subsidence. It was agreed that the Parish Clerk would contact NCC and raise the matter with them.

*Reg Davis* – Raised the matter of the state of the land adjacent to the canal and behind the Sun, Moon and Stars.

*David Clarke* – Mr Clarke has received correspondence from Kerry Palmer requesting the removal of tyres being used as planters outside his property on Blisworth Arm. Mr Clarke has spoken to Ms Palmer who advised him that it may be possible for the Parish Council to obtain a licence to retain them. It was agreed that the Parish Clerk would contact NCC and obtain and complete application forms.

*Mr Worely* – Advised the Parish Council that it is not only the lime trees in the old churchyard that are of concern but also the ash tree which has a large hole in the trunk. It was agreed that the Parish Clerk would contact SNC and request advice from Ian Lorman.

Signed:        Chairman:

Responsible Officer:

Date: