

BLISWORTH PARISH COUNCIL

Parish Clerk:
Mrs. Alison Bartlett, Cornerways, 61 Stoke Road, Blisworth, Northampton, NN7 3BZ
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MINUTES	
of the	
Annual General Meeting of Blisworth Parish Council	
held at 7.30pm on Monday 14th May 2012	
in the upstairs room of Blisworth Village Hall.	
16	PRESENT
	Chairman: Cllr Mrs P Masterman
	Vice- Chairman: Cllr C Jeffery
	Councillors: Cllr S Billing, Cllr Mrs M Field, Cllr C Gardner, Cllr Mrs M McKeown, Cllr T Bartlett, Cllr Mrs J Hawkins, Cllr D Dalton, Cllr Mrs K Gray
	By Invitation: Cllr S Clarke (SNC), Cllr S Townsend (SNC)
	In Attendance: Mrs A Bartlett (Clerk)
	Members of the Public: 12
17	APOLOGIES
	PC Tara Cooksammy, Cllr S Clarke, Cllr S Townsend, Cllr B Ingram
18	DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:
	None
19	ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN
	Nomination: Cllr Mrs P Masterman Proposed: Cllr C Jeffery Seconded: Cllr Mrs J Hawkins There being no further nominations Cllr Mrs P Masterman was duly appointed to the Chairman for the following twelve months and took the Chair.
20	ELECTION OF VICE-CHAIRMAN
	Nomination: Cllr C Jeffery Proposed: Cllr Mrs P Masterman Seconded: Cllr Mrs J Hawkins There being no further nominations Cllr C Jeffery was duly appointed to the Vice-Chairman for the following twelve months and took the Chair.
21	ELECTION OF FINANCE SUB-GROUP
	It was agreed that all members of the Council would sit on the Finance Sub-Group.
22	ELECTION OF PLANNING SUB-GROUP
	It was agreed that Cllr C Jeffery, Cllr Mrs M Field, Cllr Mrs K Gray, Cllr T Bartlett and Cllr Mrs J Hawkins would sit on the Planning Sub-Group.

23	ELECTION OF REPRESENTATIVES FOR VILLAGE HALL AND PLAYING FIELDS ASSOCIATION COMMITTEE	
	It was agreed that Cllr Mrs M Field and Cllr C Gardner would sit on the Village Hall and Playing Fields Committee.	
24	ELECTION OF REPRESENTATIVE FOR MID-NORTHAMPTONSHIRE PARISHES GROUP	
	It was agreed that Cllr Mrs M Field and Cllr Mrs J Hawkins would attend the Mid-Northamptonshire Parish Group.	
25	ELECTION OF STREET LIGHTING OFFICER	
	It was agreed that Cllr Mrs P Masterman and Cllr S Billing would act as a Street Lighting Officers.	
26	ELECTION OF TREE & FOOTPATH WARDENS	
	It was agreed that the Parish Clerk would approach the current post holder and enquire if he would like to continue in that role.	PC
27	APPOINTMENT OF THE CLERK AS RESPONSIBLE FINANCIAL OFFICER	
	It was agreed to appoint the Parish Clerk as the Responsible Financial Officer in accordance with the requirements of the Audit Commission.	
28	REVIEW OF FINANCES	
	Financial records were reviewed and agreed.	
29	REVIEW OF ASSETS	
	Asset list reviewed and agreed. It was agreed that the Parish Clerk would check if there are covenants on Eastfield Playpark and the Parish Field and does it therefore have a value.	PC
30	INDEPENDENT INTERNAL AUDITOR	
	Findings of the independent internal auditor, Mr E Symons, reviewed and agreed. Paperwork signed by Cllr Mrs P Masterman.	
31	ADOPTION OF STANDING ORDERS	
	Adoption of the CALC Draft Standing Orders for Local Councils and to add the following Order – The Chairman shall not hold office for more than three successive years. Proposed: Cllr Mrs M Field Seconded: Cllr Mrs J Hawkins	
32	CODE OF CONDUCT	
	Adoption of the CALC Code of Conduct was agreed.	
33	COMPLAINTS PROCEDURE	
	It was agreed that the current procedure laid out in the Standing Orders was still applicable.	
34	FREEDOM OF INFORMATION AND DATA PROTECTION	
	It was agreed that the national guideline for Freedom of Information requests and data protection would be adhered to.	
35	MEDIA POLICY	
	It was agreed that any approaches made to the Parish Council should be referred to the Chairman.	
36	DATES OF MEETINGS FOR THE NEXT YEAR	
	It was agreed that the Parish Council Meetings for the year 2012 to 2013 will take place on the first Monday of the month unless that day falls upon a bank holiday in which case it will take place on the second Monday of the month. Extraordinary meetings will be held as necessary.	



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37	MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING:	
	<p>Cllr Mrs K Gray asked that her apologies be recorded as she had informed the Parish Council of her absence prior to the meeting.</p> <p>The Minutes of the previous meeting, having been circulated, were approved by the Council as a true and correct record and signed by the Chairman.</p> <p>Proposed: Cllr Mrs M McKeown Seconded: Cllr Mrs P Masterman</p>	
38	ONGOING MATTERS	
<i>i</i>	Luff Developments – SNC have received a retrospective planning application (S/2009/0384/P) from Luff Developments	
<i>ii</i>	Light on Chapel Lane – The residents are not happy with the deflector put on the light and are in direct contact with E-ON and the Environmental Protection Team at SNC. Mr Thornton advised that E-ON have agreed to paint part of inside of glass black.	
<i>iii</i>	Village Networks Information Vehicle – There has been a small but positive response to the proposal to bring the Information Vehicle to the village and Nick King has been contacted regarding availability.	
<i>iv</i>	Planning Training – The first planning training session has been carried out by Andy D’Arcy and Wendy Cooper of SNC. The training was very successful. The next training session will be on Tuesday 12 th June.	
39	BUSINESS ITEMS	
	Sun, Moon and Stars – It was agreed that an extraordinary meeting of the Parish Council is to be convened when all Councillors have received copies of previous documents produced on the subject.	
	Litter Bin – It was agreed that the Parish Council would approach SNC to enquire about the siting of a litter bin near to the bench on Connegar Leys.	PC
	2012 Rural Insight Survey – It was agreed that the survey should be completed.	
	Northampton Bus Station – The Parish Clerk would write to Northampton Borough Council expressing concern about the proposals to relocate the bus stops for the buses that come to Blisworth, in the Drapery.	PC
	SNAST MEMBERSHIP – It was agreed that the Parish Clerk would contact Blisworth Neighbourhood Watch Team about joining SNAST	PC
	PLANNING:	
40	APPLICATIONS	
	<p>S/2012/0545/LDE Sandlanding Wharf Blisworth Arm Blisworth Use of the land for siting of two residential caravans to be used as one dwelling and use of adjoining land as residential garden Response: No objections</p>	
	<p>S/2012/0536/NMA Land off Chapel Hill Farm Chapel Lane Blisworth Non-material amendment to revise the position and design of chimneys and flues. To planning permission S/2011/1501/MAR Approval of Reserved Matters pursuant to S/2009/0961/OUT and S/2011/1563/FUL (Residential development for 27 houses and estate road and associated works). Response: No objections</p>	




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	<p>S/2011/1619/FUL 64 Pond Bank Blisworth New dwelling attached to existing dwelling Response: Objection. The Parish Council have concerns about the front vehicular access and parking.</p>	
	<p>S/2012/0485/FUL 43 Buttmead Blisworth Conversion of garage to habitable room, first floor extension to side with roof over porch, two storey extension to rear and conservatory to rear. Response: No objections.</p>	
	<p>S/2012/0494/EXT Elm Tree House 11 Courteenhall Road Blisworth Extension of time to implement planning permission S/2009/0268/P Rooflight and dormer addition to rear elevation Response: No objections</p>	
	<p>S/2012/0392/TPO The Stables Church Lane Blisworth Remove deadwood and damaged branch of sweet chestnut tree Response: No objections</p>	
	<p>S/2012/0393/LDP Unit 8 Prospect Court Courteenhall Road Blisworth Certificate of proposed lawfulness for use of part of office for a dispensary. Response: No comments required on this application</p>	
41	DECISIONS	
	<p>S/2012/0353/TCA 2 Northampton Road Blisworth Remove row of conifer trees Decision: No objections</p>	
	<p>S/2012/0311/FUL 7 Chapel Lane Blisworth Demolition of existing commercial/light industrial buildings. Erection of 2 No. 3 bedroom dwellings with associated parking, bin storage, and courtyard gardens. Decision: Withdrawn</p>	
	<p>S/2012/0304/FUL 36 Buttmead Blisworth Conversion and extension to single store garage at the side of the property. Decision: Approval</p>	
	<p>S/2012/0278/TCA 4 Northampton Road Blisworth Removal of 1 no. Hawthorne, 1 no. Alder and 2 no deciduous trees Decision: No objections</p>	
	<p>S/2012/0173/FUL The Sticks Towcester Road Blisworth Porch/conservatory to side of property. Decision: Approval</p>	

42	FINANCE						
i	RECIEPTS						
	Name		Details			Amount	
	SNC		Precept			£15500.00	
	Total					£15500.00	
ii	PAYMENTS						
	No	Name	Details	Amount	VAT	Total	Chq
	2	A Bartlett	Expenses	£138.48		£138.48	2042
	3	N&P Garden Services	Mowing	£469.00	£93.80	£562.80	2043
	4	JS Landscapes	Mowing	£50.00		£50.00	2044
	5	AH Contracts	Dog bins	£79.40	£15.88	£95.28	2045
	6	E-ON	Lighting maint.	£215.67	£43.13	£258.80	2046
	7	Shire Lumsden	R&A printing	£90.00		£90.00	2047
	8	AH Contracts	Dog bins	£79.40	£15.88	£95.28	2048
	9	E-ON	Lighting energy	£679.35	£135.87	£815.22	2049
	10	N&P Garden Services	Mowing	£469.00	£93.80	£562.80	2050
	11	A Bartlett	Salary (April)	£318.40		£318.40	2051
	12	HMRC	PAYE MO1	£79.60		£79.60	2052
	13	ECKA – Kingsthorpe	Audit donation	£50.00		£50.00	2053
	14	Liselle Solutions	Website	£20.00		£20.00	2054
Total			£2738.30	£398.36	£3136.66		
That the above accounts be accepted and approved for payment: Proposed: Cllr Mrs K Gray Seconded: Cllr Mrs J Hawkins							
43	CORRESPONDENCE FOR INFORMATION						
	To note the attached Appendix 1 of items which have been circulated and are available for inspection.						
44	DISTRICT AND COUNTY COUNCILLORS' REPORTS						
	Cllr S Clarke – Cllr Clarke will be attending the HGV monitoring training and advised that the monitoring would help tackle the wider implications of HGVs through the village including Luff Developments. There are a number of interesting papers in the June Cabinet including and update on the Sun, Moon and Stars, the Interim Housing Policy, the Affordable Housing Policy, a document on the New Homes Bonus and the National Planning Policy.						
45	COUNCILLORS' REPORTS AND ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDA						
	Cllr T Bartlett – Following a short discussion on the emptying of dustbins, Cllr Bartlett agreed to write a short piece for inclusion in R&A on how to contact SNC with concerns. Cllr Bartlett has drafted some questions to put to parishoners in response to the planning training carried out by SNC. He will e-mail them out and would like responses.						
	TB						



	<p>The issue of transport for elderly residents in the village is ongoing and discussions are still being held with the Gayton bus service.</p> <p>Cllr Mrs J Hawkins – Raised concerns about the amount of rubbish being thrown from the canal towpath onto land adjacent.</p> <p>Cllr Mrs P Masterman – A resident has reported that the dog poo bin on the canal towpath is overflowing. The Parish Clerk will contact British Waterways.</p> <p>Cllr C Gardner – The noticeboard on Courteenhall Road is in a poor state of repair.</p> <p>Cllr D Dalton – Has been in touch with Awards for All regarding lottery funding and he will be sent forms. Cllr Dalton has also spoken to Mel Bignell at SNVB who will assist with wording & Alan Hargreaves.</p> <p>Cllr M Field – Reported that there was pooling of water outside new rectory.</p>	<p>PC</p> <p>PC</p> <p>DD</p>
46	GROUP REPORTS FOR INFORMATION	
<i>i</i>	Parish Plan Progress Team: A report from the Parish Plan Progress Team has been attached at Appendix 2 of this Agenda.	
<i>ii</i>	Stoke Road Allotments: An open air theatre performance is being held on Wednesday 6 th June at 7.30pm. Everybody is welcome to this free of charge event. Bring your own chairs and blankets.	
47	DATE OF NEXT MEETING	
	<p>The date of the next meeting was confirmed as 11th June 2012.</p> <p>There being no further business, the meeting closed at 21.20 hours.</p> <p>Signed:  Mrs Alison Bartlett Clerk to Blisworth Parish Council</p> <p>Signed: Cllr Mrs P Masterman Chairman</p>	

PUBLIC QUESTIONS, COMMENTS OR REPRESENTATIONS:

Mr P Thornton – Advised that the Sun, Moon and Stars is Grade 2 listed, it is not attractive but there are opportunities for it to benefit community. Mr Thornton suggested that a discussion group could be set up with SNC if it goes that far.

Ms T White – Suggested that Parish Council should ask SNC about having the land adjacent to the SMS for the village.

Mrs J Percival – Advised that neighbour has received clear bags from SNC for additional cardboard. The Chronicle and Echo is to become a weekly paper and Down Your Way will be cut down.

Mr A North – R&A has been oversubscribed with articles recently. Mr North has spoken to the printer who said that he could do an additional A4 double sided for £45 but that he could not collate them. Mr North suggested that it could be done occasionally. It was agreed that the matter would be put on as an Agenda item for the next meeting in the meantime the Parish Clerk was asked to check the budget and speak to the deliverers.

Mrs A North - Raised concerns about footpaths getting narrower alongside allotments, and the hedge is also overhanging. Cllr C Jeffery offered to send a trimmer along in the next cutting season and Mrs Percival said she would speak to the resident.

Mrs B Andrews – Advised that other villages have volunteer prescription collectors, and she is thinking of putting a note in R&A. Mrs Andrews asked for volunteers or to be told of

anyone who may need such a service.

Mr Wortley – Requested an update on the trimming back of the trees in the old cemetery. Cllr Jeffery said he would chase the matter up.

APPENDIX 1
Monday 14th May 2012

1.	E-mail from Resident – Copy of a letter sent to SNC regarding planning application S/2012/0334/FUL (car wash on Northampton Road) and incidents that have occurred over the Easter weekend.
2.	Rural Network - Weekly email news digest Monday, 10 April 2012.
3.	Anglian Water - water saving kits are available on the Anglian Water website.
4.	E-mail from Resident – The resident has contacted Environmental Health SNC regarding the street light outside their property and EH are going to assist in an approach to E-on.
3.	Northamptonshire Police Community Connect - Forced entry was made to a building in the grounds of a premises in the village of Blisworth between Monday 9 and Sunday 15 April. Nothing was taken.
4.	Northamptonshire Police Community Connect - It is now two years since the launch of the National Stalking Helpline. Northamptonshire Police are reassuring the public that they should be confident in reporting to the Police, partnership agencies or the National Stalking Helpline.
5.	Northamptonshire Police Community Connect - The 2012 Force Open Day will be held at Force Headquarters, Wootton Hall Park, from 11am to 4pm on Saturday 12 May. NOW CANCELLED.
6.	SNC Press Release - Plans for a revised and improved waste and recycling service were approved at a meeting of South Northamptonshire Council on 18 April. The changes will include a simpler recycling system, a weekly food waste collection service and other changes.
7.	50+ Network - Northampton Alive, which opens at the Guildhall at 10am on Monday 23 April, will set out how plans for the regeneration of Northampton are shaping up and give an update on the progress on some of the key projects that are underway, including the Grosvenor/Greyfriars development; Northampton Waterside Enterprise Zone; Castle Station; St John's and Avon Nunn Mills.
8.	SNC Press Release - Towcester woman found guilty of benefit fraud, claiming over £6,300 in benefits she was not entitled to last week (Friday 13th April).
9.	Rural Services Network - Weekly Email News Digest - 16 April 2012
10.	Towcester's First Literary Festival - June 2012 - 'A Write Good Festival' is being held on Sunday 10th June 2012 at Towcester Library from 1.30-3.30pm.
11.	Rural Services Network - Weekly Email News Digest - 23 April 2012
12.	Mid-Northants Parishes - Agenda for the AGM 17th May 2012, the minutes from last years AGM 19th May 2011 and the minutes from the last meeting 27th October 2011.
13.	Sun, Moon and Stars – Letter from Mr Mike Hawkins outlining his thoughts on the development of the site.
14.	Northampton Bus Station – Letter from Mr Trevor Pinfold requesting that the Parish Council object to the relocation of the bus station to the site of the former indoor market



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	and detailing his thoughts on the matter.
15.	Chapel Lane Development – E-mail received from Ms Amanda Morton who has had had great difficulty exiting her drive due to large vehicles parked on the side and traffic cones along the length of the access way and further up.

APPENDIX 2

BLISWORTH PARISH PLAN PROGRESS TEAM

UPDATE MAY 2012

We continue to meet monthly, and are currently working on the following items:-

1. The Best Village Competition entry has been prepared and submitted jointly by a team of people from both the Parish Council and the Progress Team. Judges visit 23rd June The owners of the erstwhile Paper Shop have kindly agreed to posters from the Heritage Society being placed in the old shop window. This will improve the look of the centre of the village. We need to continue the good work being done by volunteer litter –pickers.
2. Churchyard Conservation Scheme. A bid has been put in to the Woodland Trust for 105 new trees, which if the bid is successful would be delivered in November. These would be available to improve hedgerows suitable for small nesting birds in the churchyards, and could also be placed in other suitable areas around the village. The trees would include another Jubilee Tree. The Wildlife Trust has visited the four village churchyards with a group of over twenty villagers, and an application has been submitted to them for a Conservation Churchyard Award. A small team of volunteers have divided snowdrops and added donated aconites in the churchyards. The mowing of the churchyards has been slightly modified to improve conditions for wildlife. We have also been given cowslip seeds to distribute in the village – kindly donated by the Churchwarden of Newton Bromswold Parish Church, which has won the Northamptonshire Conservation Award for twelve out of the twenty-five years it has been awarded.
3. A Central Village Feature in the area around the pub bus stop would enhance the environment for everyone. We have measured the area and drawn up a few ideas for discussion. We plan to present it to the Parish Assembly too. The Craft Group kindly designed some possible features. The draft has been circulated to several village groups for comments. There are other copies for anyone who would like to see it and make suggestions. We do not have a Village Sign, for example, and if this could be started this year it could perhaps be a Jubilee Sign. Funding and Planning would need to be addressed, and this is likely to be a very long process. However if we had a long-term plan for how we would like this area to be, it could perhaps be managed in stages.

Sarah Sykes, Chair



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