

# BLISWORTH PARISH COUNCIL

Parish Clerk:  
Mrs. Alison Bartlett, Cornerways, 61 Stoke Road, Blisworth, Northampton, NN7 3BZ  
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**Meeting of Blisworth Parish Council**  
to be held at **7.30pm** on **Monday 1<sup>st</sup> October 2012**  
in the upstairs room of Blisworth Village Hall.

## MINUTES

<b>95</b>	<b>Present</b>	
	Chairman:	Cllr Mrs P Masterman
	Vice- Chairman:	Cllr C Jeffery
	Councillors:	Cllr S Billing, Cllr Mrs M Field, Cllr C Gardner, Cllr Mrs J Hawkins, Cllr D Dalton, Cllr Mrs M McKeown, Cllr Mrs K Grey, Cllr Mrs D Burgoyne, Cllr T Bartlett
	By Invitation:	Cllr S Clarke (SNC), Cllr Mrs S Townsend
	In Attendance:	Mrs A Bartlett (Clerk)
	Members of the Public:	22
<b>96</b>	<b>APOLOGIES</b>	
	None	
<b>97</b>	<b>DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:</b>	
	Cllr Gardner – Declared an interest in item 100vi of the Agenda on the grounds of being on the Village Hall and Playing Field Association committee. Cllr Mrs M Field – Declared an interest in item 100vi of the Agenda on the grounds of being on the Village Hall and Playing Field Association committee, and also item 101ib on the grounds that she owns the land but is not the listed applicant.	
<b>98</b>	<b>MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING:</b>	
	Cllr Mrs Burgoyne advised that the Canal & River Trust was now the new name for British Waterways. The Minutes of the previous meeting of 3 <sup>rd</sup> September 2012, having been circulated, were approved by the Council as a true and correct record and signed by the Chairman. <b>Proposed: Cllr Mrs J Hawkins</b> <b>Seconded: Cllr S Billing</b>	
<b>99</b>	<b>ONGOING MATTERS</b>	
	<b>Old Cemetery Trees</b> – The Parish Clerk has contacted local arboriculturalists regarding the maintenance of the trees and is awaiting quotes. Cllr Jeffery has had site meetings with two of the companies and will forward the quotes to the Parish Clerk.	<b>CJ</b>
	<b>Best Village Cup Insurance</b> - The Parish Clerk has contacted ACRE and has been advised that the cups are not insured by ACRE but that they may be covered by the Parish Council insurance. It was agreed that the Parish Clerk would contact Zurich to establish if they were insured.	<b>PC</b>

	<b>Street Lighting Maintenance Contract</b> – The Parish Clerk has contacted Balfour Beatty and has received an electronic copy of the proposed contract and has also received charging information from Western Power, the current supplier. It was agreed that the information would be forwarded to the Parish Councillors for consideration at the next meeting.	<b>PC</b>
<b>100</b>	<b>BUSINESS ITEMS</b>	
<b>i</b>	<b>Applications for Post of Parish Clerk</b> – Mrs Viv Hartley was introduced as the new Parish Clerk.	
<b>ii</b>	<b>Best Village Banners</b> – It was confirmed that the banners have now been removed. The Parish Clerk advised that the licence was free but a letter was required from the adjacent landowner giving permission. It was agreed that the Parish Clerk would contact NCC and ask how long the licence would remain valid for.	<b>PC</b>
<b>iii</b>	<b>Joint Core Strategy Pre Submission Consultation</b> – To consider making comments in response to the consultation. SC advised it would be in the interests of PC to make comments. It was agreed that the Parish Council would support the document but to include in the response that they have concerns about reduction in affordable housing.	<b>PC</b>
<b>iv</b>	<b>Energy Efficiency &amp; Renewable Energy Supplementary Planning Document Consultation</b> – To consider making comments to SNC on the draft document. It was agreed that since this is a large document Cllr Mrs McKeown would consider it and make recommendations to the Parish Council at the next meeting.	<b>MM</b>
<b>v</b>	<b>Courteenhall Allotments</b> – To consider a price increase on the allotment rents and recharging allotment holders for water usage. Cllr Jeffery has contacted the National Association who recommended that water should be included in the rent. They also advised that the Parish Council need to give a 12 month notice of any rent increase. Cllr Jeffery has offered to tidy the site for no charge. Mrs Jane Percival of the Stoke Road Allotments kindly offered to lend the Parish Council a measuring wheel and a formula for calculating the size of the plots as it was suggested that rents should be based upon plot size. It was agreed that the Parish Clerk should investigate the cost for the installation of a water meter and that last year’s water figures would be used to give a suggested increase in rent including water.	<b>PC</b>
<b>vi</b>	<b>Contribution towards the carpeting of the village hall</b> – A discussion was had regarding the funding of the village hall during which the Parish Council was advised that lots of major works had been undertaken this year and funds are being drained rapidly. No action was agreed.	
<b>101</b>	<b>PLANNING:</b>	
<b>i</b>	<b>APPLICATIONS</b>	
<b>a</b>	S/2012/1096/FUL 15 Greenside Blisworth Variation of condition 2 on S/2010/0828/EXT 2 detached chalet bungalows with integral garage (Time extension to permission S/2005/0997/P) to proposed a change to the front boundary Response: No objections	
<b>b</b>	S/2012/1057/FUL Land Adj To Willow House Towcester Road Blisworth Detached dwelling with single garage Response date: 03/10/12 Having declared an interest by being owner of the land Cllr Mrs M Field left the room.	

Having written a personal letter of objection to SNC regarding the matter, the Chairman requested that Cllr Mrs J Hawkins left the room.

The Chairman read out letters from Cllr Mrs J Hawkins, Blisworth Heritage Society and Mr and Mrs T & H Davenport, sent to SNC and copied in to Blisworth Parish Council.

Mr Mike Hawkins – Opposed the planning application and felt that the application would not improve the area but damage it. The application is outside the confines of village. The Parish Council have a duty to preserve the village confines. Concerns were raised about heritage and the size and impact of the development. Also raised concerns about the visibility of four large properties from canal side and the egress of traffic onto the main road.

Mr Eric Warner – Opposed the application as the site will be grossly overcrowded and the proposed development does not match the area. It was also highlighted that the footpath needs to be 5ft wide near to canal not 2ft wide as proposed.

Mr Mike Burgoyne- Advised that the footpath was not the original one but it has been there for 20 years and if a footpath is used for 20 years without objection then it may now be a right of way therefore the land owner can't change it, it can only be changed by the local authority if new right of way was not going to be a detriment.

Mr Tony Marsh – Opposed to the application as the previous application would cause “harm to character of this edge of village” according to SNC and was rejected. Mr Hargreaves (applicant) plan shows the development to be 1 m closer to canal than the last application and there will be lots of windows and a door onto the canal. The south end of the building would be 9m from the canal and the other end 11 m which only leaves 5m to accommodate hard standing, wall etc. The garden would be 7.25 m from the vestigial path and therefore is overstepping the village confines by 1 m.

Mrs Jan Andrews – Opposed the application and spoke about re-routing the footpath which would be integral to the application. The footpath has met the criteria for an MMO. An application has been sent to SNC regarding this. The Ramblers Association has agreed. It will take 42 days for the application to be considered and Mrs Andrews will appeal if the application fails. The garden boundary of the development will go over current footpath. 10yrs ago the footpath moved. Major tree works and embankment works will be needed to move the footpath and SNC will have to maintain it.

Mr Alan Andrews – Opposed the application and spoke about the ecology report which showed a SSSI within two miles. There are birds nesting within the vicinity of the boats and wildlife in the area, including bats, the survey should have taken the fringe into account. The trees on the proposed site are important to the landscape. The vast majority of the trees are healthy and could be improved. The development will be crammed into the plot with no landscaping able to hide the red brick.

Mr Alan Hargreaves (Applicant) – Advised that Amanda Haisman (SNC) had contacted him regarding comments made by Mr and Mrs Andrews and Mr Marsh therefore he has run off plans for the Parish Council and for the general public. NCC have agreed to the reinstatement of RD2 thus allowing room for softening of the development by planting. It was stated that the village confine skirt alongside Heligan House.

The Chairman referred the Parish Councillors to the SNC guidance on material planning considerations. Following a discussion between the Parish Councillors a vote was held and the results were – to support the application 0, to object to the application 8, no objections to the application 1.

	Response: Objection on the grounds of design, the number of dwellings on site bearing in mind the application that has already been approved for the construction of a further dwelling on site and the negative effect on the countryside.						
<b>ii</b>	<b>DECISIONS – All decision notices can be found on the SNC website</b>						
	S/2012/0661/FUL 1 Greenside Blisworth Replace existing lean to with extension to rear Decision: Approval						
<b>102</b>	<b>FINANCE</b>						
<b>i</b>	<b>RECIEPTS</b>						
	<b>Name</b>	<b>Details</b>				<b>Amount</b>	
	ACRE	Best Village Competition prizes				£300.00	
	<b>Total</b>					<b>£300.00</b>	
<b>ii</b>	<b>PAYMENTS</b>						
	<b>No</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Details</b>	<b>Amount</b>	<b>VAT</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Chq</b>
	45	A Bartlett	Salary (September)	£318.60		£318.60	2085
	46	HMRC	PAYE (September)	£79.60		£79.60	2086
	47	N&P Garden Services	Mowing	£469.00	£93.80	£562.80	2087
	48	AH Contracts	Dog bins	£79.40	£15.88	£95.28	2088
	49	NASLG	Allotment Association	£55.10	£11.00	£66.10	2089
	<b>Total</b>			<b>£1001.6</b>	<b>£120.68</b>	<b>£1122.88</b>	
	The above accounts were accepted and approved for payment. Proposed: Cllr Mrs M McKeown Seconded: Cllr C Gardner						
<b>103</b>	<b>CORRESPONDENCE FOR INFORMATION</b>						
	<p><b>Letter from Eric and Brenda Warner</b> – Eric was knocked over near tunnel spinney. Cllr Jeffery contacted NCC regarding the incident and will visit the site with Helen Howard from NCC but has already been advised that there is no money in the budget until April next year. It was agreed that the Parish Council need to push for improvements along this stretch of road and have as a standing item on agenda.</p> <p><b>Letter from the Parish Plan Progress Team</b> - requesting suggestions for locations to plant trees that have been allocated by the Woodland Trust. It was agreed that the Parish Councillors would put forward suggestions to the PPPT on e-mail or phone.</p>						
<b>104</b>	<b>DISTRICT AND COUNTY COUNCILLORS' REPORTS</b>						
	<b>Cllr Steve Clarke</b> – Legal representatives for the potential purchasers of the Sun, Moon and Stars are in discussion with Solicitors from SNC.						
	<b>Cllr Mrs Sally Townsend</b> – Advised that Roade has “smiley faces” as part of their speed prevention campaign. A consultation has opened on council tax changes on the government website.						
<b>105</b>	<b>COUNCILLORS' REPORTS AND ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDA</b>						
	Cllr Gardner – Requested an update regarding the hedge on the Northampton Road, the Parish Clerk advised that NCC have looked at the hedge and do not consider it to be						

a problem. Requested a plan of the nature areas in the churchyard and to discuss what is planned by the Parish Plan Progress Team.

Cllr Mrs Hawkins – Raised concerns about dog fouling along the canal bank. It was agreed that the Parish Clerk would ask Canal & River Trust for a new dog bin at the mill. Advised that speeding down the High Street is quite bad.

Cllr Mrs Burgoyne – Suggested that the Parish Council should consider advertising on dog bins.

Cllr Mrs Grey – Has received an enquiry about parking in the village hall car park. The matter was referred to the Village Hall and Playing Field Association representative.

Cllr Bartlett – Advised that he would like to attend the Settlement and Development training at SNC if no-one else wishes to attend. Requested an update on the dog fouling situation around the village and in particular on the football field.

Cllr Mrs McKeown and Cllr Gardner – Went to the Windfarm Meeting and found it very informative.

Cllr Billing and Cllr Mrs McKeown are working on the village sign project.

Cllr Dalton – Advised that the street light on Windmill Avenue (no. 22) is out. He is reworking the application for the fence around Eastfield play park.

Cllr Mrs Masterman – Advised that the WI have donated the £200 they raised during the Canal Festival weekend to the Village Sign project. It was agreed by the Parish Councillors that the £300 prize money for the Best Village Competition should also be donated to the project. The drain on Chapel Lane has grass growing out of it and it has been reported.

<b>106</b>	<b>GROUP REPORTS FOR INFORMATION</b>	
<i>i</i>	<b>Parish Plan Progress Team:</b>	
<b>107</b>	<b>DATE OF NEXT MEETING</b>	
	To confirm the date of the next meeting as 5 <sup>th</sup> November 2012.	
	<b>Signed:</b>	<b>Mrs Viv Hartley Clerk to Blisworth Parish Council</b>
	<b>Signed:</b>	<b>Cllr Mrs Pat Masterman Chairman</b>

**PUBLIC QUESTIONS, COMMENTS OR REPRESENTATIONS:**

Ann North – Advised that the hedge alongside Stoke Road still needs to be cut back. The Parish Clerk advised that Mr Cherry would be trimming it back when it was possible.

Eric Warner – Thanked the Parish Council for trying to get something done about the footpath on Stoke Road.