

BLISWORTH PARISH COUNCIL

Mrs V. Hartley, Clerk to the Council,
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Minutes of the Meeting 5th November 2012

Held in the upstairs room of Blisworth Village Hall at 7.30pm

Present:

Cllr Mrs P Masterman
Cllr Mr C Jeffery
Cllr Mrs J Hawkins
Cllr Mrs D Burgoyne
Cllr Mrs M Field
Cllr Mr D Dalton
Cllr Mr S Billing
Cllr Mr T Bartlett

Chairman
Vice Chairman

Cllr Mr S Clarke
Cllr Mr Bunny Ingram

SNC Cllr
NCC Cllr

13 members of the public

108. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE – THE FOLLOWING APOLOGIES WERE RECEIVED AND APPROVED :

Cllr Mrs M McKeown
Cllr Mrs K Grey Cllr
Cllr Mr C Gardner

109. DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS – members were asked to declare any interest and the nature of that interest which they may have had in any items under consideration at this meeting – none declared.

110. RESOLUTION TO SIGN & APPROVE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING DATED 1st OCTOBER 2012

- that the minutes were approved was proposed by Cllr Jeffery and seconded by Cllr Dalton.

111. MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

a) Old Cemetery trees

Two quotes had been obtained for the work to be done on the trees in the old cemetery:

i. Local Treeworks - £650 for re - pollarding of 7 lime trees, 2 laurel and work on 2 Ash trees and remove debris from large Ash tree

ii) N and P Garden Services - £650 to remove debris from large Ash tree, + £45 for Laurel +£875 for re-pollarding lime trees (net of VAT) .

It was proposed by Cllr Jeffery and seconded by Cllr Dalton that quote i from Local Tree Works should be accepted. This was agreed by the council. **Cllr Jeffery** will liaise with Local Tree Works and tell them to go ahead with the work.

A short discussion followed as to whether work on the Ash trees should take place in view of the 'Ash Die Back' disease but it was agreed to proceed under the assumption they were not diseased.

b) Best Village cup Insurance – Clerk to get confirmation from ACRE that the Rose Bowl and 2 cups are covered by their insurance. (all are displayed in a locked cabinet in the village hall).

112. MATTERS ARISING

a) Joint core Strategy Pre Submission Consultation – Council agreed to go with SNC comments

b) Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy Supplementary Planning Document Consultation - Cllr M McKeown is looking into this issue.

c) Parking at Blisworth Arm – The Clerk had received the documentation about this issue and had a discussion with Mr David Clarke from the Arm. He is prepared to pay for planters himself. It was agreed that if he paid for the planters, that they were in accordance with NCC Highway regulations, and would be maintained and removed by him if he moved away he could go ahead. The **Clerk** to inform him but the Council stipulated he must put the above in writing before erecting the planters.

113. DISTRICT AND COUNTY COUNCIL REPORTS

Cllr Steve Clarke reported that the Local Plan workshop was held on 24th October and a document will follow shortly.

114. PLANNING

a) Applications:

i) S/2012/1239/FUL Grafton House Barns, Gayton Road, Blisworth – conversion of existing buildings and reconstruction of single storey sections to form 3 dwellings

with garaging, erection of single garage with car parking. Removal of open barn to the north side of stone barns.

Response date 7.11.12 (extended)

ii) S/2012/1187/LBD Grafton House Barns, Gayton Road, Blisworth – demolition of open sided building on north side of stone barns.

Response date 26.10.12 (Clerk had agreed extension)

The planning sub- committee had met and viewed the plans agreed that the plans show a sympathetic development of this site of derelict farm buildings, it seems to be within the village curtilage and the sub group recommended that **the PC support the application** with the following proviso.

A turning point is constructed for the new garage to avoid vehicles having to reverse out onto the Gayton road.

To confirm that the area to the west of the development outside of the curtilage of the old farm yard is retained as green belt or a conservation area.

That any additional stone required for the development is to match the existing. This response was agreed by the Council.

iii) S/2012/1148/FUL Sandlanding Wharf, Blisworth Arm, Blisworth – new detached dwelling to replace a static home

Response Date 19.10.12 extension agreed

Retrospect permission was only granted for the caravans in May this year!!

After some discussion the sub group recommended that the PC **object to this application** for the following reasons. The 2 story dwelling would be outside of any development areas, in a high prominent position in open countryside and visual from many areas.

In addition the plans show that the dwelling will be constructed within 2.5 metres of the canal bank, which we feel which would be detrimental to both the canal and the canal users.

This response was agreed by the Council.

iv) S/2012/1150/FUL 75 Buttmead, Blisworth – front extension

Response Date 19.10.12 – extended

The wet room is being constructed so that an elderly relative may remain with the family. The plan shows a revised direct entrance into the house through an enlarged lobby with ample room to gain access to the wet room. The sub group did not feel it should object to this application. although it is at the front of the property.

However the new room does not extend any further forward than the existing porch therefore the sub group recommended **no objection**. This response was agreed by the Council.

v) S/2012/1123/FUL 43 Buttmead

Too late to comment, as the decision will have been made before the PC meeting.

The application is to convert the garage to domestic living area, build a second storey over the garage commencing parallel to the existing front of the main house and also to build over the single floor existing rear extension. In addition to replace the flat roof of the front of the garage and porch with a mono pitch roof.

This seems quite a large extension and we have a letter from a neighbour objecting to the size of this extension.

There have been several extensions of this type along Buttmead, in home Close and Eastfield. This may not be any larger than some of them, however the proposed size does seem overpowering for the site also the proposed sloping roof to the porch and front of the garage may restrict light to No.45.

There is ample parking for several cars on the block paved front area.

The Sub group was undecided on this application, it did not feel it should object to the application, however the development seems large for the plot.

vi) S/2012/1290/FUL Oakwood Farm, Blisworth

This application can be deferred to the next PC meeting - an extension has been obtained.

A retrospect application for two portacabins, One is used as a farm Office and the other as a secure animal feed store.

As this is Cllr Jeffery's application, he retired from the room for the sub group to discuss it.

Clerk to send Council's comments into SNC Planning.

b) Awaiting decision:

S/2012/1057/FUL – land adjacent to Willow House, Towcester Road, Blisworth – detached dwelling with single garage.

c)Blisworth Conservation Area Appraisal – re correspondence about appraisal soon to be conducted by SNC

d) CPRE Planning Road Show, Little Houghton Village Hall, 6pm 20.11.12

Cllr Hawkins and Cllr Masterman and possibly Cllr Burgoyne will attend this. The £29 will cover the cost of membership for the year. **Clerk** to book places.

115. LOCAL MATTERS

- i) **Footpaths – RD2** the bridleway through the allotments is extremely muddy. **Clerk** to report although the considering the wet season there is little action which can be taken. No other matters reported.

- ii) **Lighting - c) Street Lighting Maintenance Contract** – street lighting has been an issue in the village over the past few weeks with numerous lights not working. The clerk and Chairman have been reporting to Eon as they come in and some have been repaired. However the Council were in agreement that the service is not good enough and **Clerk** to write to E-on and complain.
- iii) **Play Area** – Cllr Dalton is working on the Awards for All grant application. The clerk reported that the play area should be inspected annually to comply with insurance arrangements.
- iv) **Traffic Issues –**

Bollards in Eastfield

Numerous bollards had been recently erected by NCC along the side of the junction of Buttmead and Eastfield preventing some elderly residents from parking outside their properties. Cllr Ingram had written to NCC Highways to enquire as to why a dropped kerb had not been used – the response was due to the proximity of the bend and that the bollards were positioned to ensure pedestrian safety. A heated discussion followed, as the elderly residents – one of whom is registered disabled felt they were being unfairly treated and now had to walk a long way to his vehicle. The Parish Council had not been informed that NCC were intending on positioning the bollards. There had been correspondence between the residents and NCC. **Cllr Jeffery** agreed to visit the residents and consider the issue.

Stoke Road Speeding

The Chairman reported that there had been another incident of a pedestrian being knocked by a car. An incident number was obtained. Matthew Clarke from NCC had not been in touch about more signage – Cllr Jeffery agreed to chase him up. A discussion followed about how to move the problem on.

LGV (Large Goods Vehicle)Traffic survey update

Cllr Masterman reported on the survey. Only 0.8% of the vehicles were LGVs. It is imperative that the registration plate and name is taken of offending vehicles and this information is reported to the Parish Council. Another survey on Stoke Road would be useful and she appealed for support in carrying one out.

Overgrown hedges in High Street

Cllr Hawkins raised concern over overgrown hedges on the High Street between the shop and Church Lane as they make the pavement extremely dangerous for pedestrians. **Clerk** to write to residents.

Cllr Bartlett wanted move forward with the issues of speeding in the village and offered to draft appropriate letters as necessary. It was agreed an item should be included in Round and About requesting that incident numbers are obtained from the police.

- v) **Parish Plan Progress**

Maggie Barker reported on the Parish Plan- a report is attached.

116. COMMUNICATIONS

a) Correspondence

out going

- i. Canal and River Trust – email - request for new dog poo bin at the canal bridge under Towcester Road – forwarded to South East office
- ii. NCC –email - enquiry re licence to position banners
- iii. Reported street lamps : PL at bottom of Greenside, 30 Greenside and 32 Station Road.

In going

- ii. NCC – 136 Agreement Parish Mowing Payment Request 2012 - Clerk will apply.
- iii. SNC – Changes to democratic structure at SNC
- iv. SNC – Standards Committee – Town / Parish Council Co-opted Member vacancy
- v. Local Government Boundary Commission – Electoral Review of Northants :Final Recommendations
- vi. Iain Anderson, South Northants Development Worker – email - offering help in supporting of young people – Mrs Percival has a hard copy of youth survey conducted in 2009 which she offered to the Chairman.
- vii. SNC – Blisworth Conservation Area Appraisal
- viii. Ann North – email - concern over placement of bollards in Buttmead, near Eastfield
- ix. Ann North – email - Request for rent for hall and contribution to new carpet in hall – see Finance
- x. David Clarke – email& other correspondence from NCC – re parking at Blisworth Arm willing to fund planters himself
- xi. Emails from NCC re speeding and traffic on Stoke Road
- xii. Country Gardens and Ground Care – re village grass maintenance
- xiii. CPRE Planning Road Show, 20.11.12 at 6pm, Gt Houghton Village Hall

Quotes for tree work in cemetery:

- xiv. Local Treeworks and N and P Garden Services – see Matters Arising

b) Website – this has not been updated since July 2012. **Clerk and Cllr Masterman** to see Mr Chatman and rectify the situation. This item to go on the next agenda.

117. FINANCE

i) Receipts

Name	Details	Amount - £
ACRE	Winnings for Best Village	300.00
Blisworth WI	Donation for village sign	200.00

ii) Payments

No	Name	Details	Amount £	VAT	Total	Chq
50	Alison Bartlett	Salary – Oct	318.40	-	-	2090
51	HMRC	Tax for above	79.60	-	-	2091
52	E-on	Electricity Supplies	686.81	137.36	824.17	2092
53	Shire Lumsden	Printing Out and About Leaflets	135.00	-	135.00	2093
54	A Bartlet	Expenses	234.31	-	234.31	2094
55	AH Contracts	Empty dog bins	79.40	15.88	95.28	2095
56	N and P	October grass maintenance	469.00	93.80	562.80	2096
57	Viv Hartley	Salary for Oct	318.40	-	318.40	2097
58	HMRC	Tax for above	79.60	-	79.60	2098
59	AH Contracts	Empty dog bins	99.25	19.85	119.10	2099
60	CPRE	Membership and tickets	29.00	-	29.00	2100

These payments were approved by the Council – proposed by Cllr Jeffery and seconded by Cllr Bartlett.

- iii) **136 Mowing Agreement with NCC – clerk** to invoice NCC for £771.88 mowing grant.
- iv) **OTHER FINANCIAL MATTERS - COURTEENHALL ALLOTMENTS –**
Cllr Jeffery had drafted a letter to go out to all allotment holders informing them of the increase. All plots are to be measured and the rent to be charged at 50p per pole with a minimum rental charge for plots of less than 10 pole to be £5 per plot. At this time the charge still to include the water supply. It was agreed by the Council that the letter and this rent go ahead. **Cllr Jeffery** will organise this.

118. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS AND COUNCILLORS' COMMENTS

Cllr Billing – the location of the proposed village sign was still under discussion.

Cllr Jeffery – reported the flooding which had occurred at the canal bridge Towcester Road – it was felt the rain was exceptional. However the issue of the responsibility of water run off was mentioned.

Cllr Masterman – reported she had requests for further seating around the village.

Other comments:

- Posts have been erected along the road towards the football club. No one knew who had put them in!
- The WI have recently won a Cup for the Annual Challenge!

Meeting closed at 10pm and was followed by the Finance meeting to discuss the budget for 2013/14.

119. DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING – 3rd December 2012

Signed: -----

Date: