

BLISWORTH PARISH COUNCIL

Mrs V. Hartley, Clerk to the Council,
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Minutes of the Meeting 1st July 2013

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

Present:	Cllr Mrs P Masterman	Chairman
	Cllr Mr C Jeffery	Vice-Chairman
	Cllr Mr D Dalton	
	Cllr K Gray	
	Cllr J Hawkins	
	Cllr McKeown	
	Cllr Mr S Billing	
	Cllr Mrs M Field	
	Cllr Mr C Gardner	
	Cllr Mr T Bartlett	
	Cllr Mr S Clarke	SNC Cllr

9 members of the public

39.APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE – THE FOLLOWING APOLOGIES WERE RECEIVED AND APPROVED : Cllr Mrs J Kirkbride Cllr Mrs D Burgoyne

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

41.RESOLUTION TO SIGN & APPROVE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETINGS DATED 3rd June 2013 – It was proposed by Cllr D Dalton and seconded by Cllr Field that these minutes were adopted as a true record.

42.MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

The Chairman reported that heavy plant had been delivered to the site of the Chapel Hill development to level the ground.

43.MATTERS ARISING – not covered by agenda – Planning Application – S/2012/1057/FUL Willow House an amendment – it was agreed that the Clerk pursue an extension to the consultation deadline (17th July) so that comments can be agreed at the next PC meeting. If this is not possible an extraordinary meeting will be called.

44.DISTRICT AND COUNTY COUNCIL REPORTS

Cllr Clarke reported on:

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- The recent developments concerning the 'New Homes Bonus'. This is supposed to support South Northants Council to meet the need for additional housing by contributing finance towards meeting the extra pressures on services and providing new infrastructure – a strategic support to the delivery of new homes. It transpires that of the total allocation cost of £668 million, £400million is to come from the New Homes Bonus. With the present and past level of cuts this will be difficult to find.
- Recent government proposals on wind farm planning applications – there may be compromises of community benefit schemes – a tariff may be payable. Pre-applications will be significant. As yet it is unknown what effect the amendments will have on applications for wind farms.
- South Northants Council are continuing to work with Cherwell Council to help make savings. The spending review is underway – 10% savings to be made which will be a challenge.
- The development of 1000 houses in Brackley has helped prove the 5 year plan for new homes which will take the pressure of villages such as Blisworth.
- On a local note a site meeting with some Parish councillors and Helen Howard from NCC Highways had taken place to discuss the 'Best Village' signs. These would replace the Highway signs on Courteenhall Road, Towcester Road and Northampton Road and be attached in some way to the 'stockade' fencing. The other 2 signs will be free - standing.

45. Adoption of Freedom of Information Policy – this had been circulated to all the councillors prior to the meeting. It was proposed by Cllr Jeffery and seconded by Cllr McKeown that it was adopted by the Council. This was agreed.

46. PLANNING

- i) Village Confines –delay in publication of the SNC Local Plan Issues Paper due to further work to be done on the Joint Core Strategy
- ii) Chapel Hill Development – update – see minute 42. It was agreed that the **Clerk** write to Scouts advising them that some funding may be available from the developers for a sports provision – perhaps a Badminton court for which would cost about £5000. **Cllr Jeffery** will also measure up parts of the football/playing field area (adjacent to the MUGA) to see if the possibility of a tennis court could be explored.
- iii) Cllrs Jeffery and Hawkins intending to attend NCALC training on Planning on 17th July 2013
- iv) Progress of recent applications :
 - S/2013/0791/FUL – 11a Buttmead - Single storey rear extension and raised deck with railing at the rear. – pending – Cllr Jeffery reported to the Council that the planning sub-group had examined

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this application and recommended to the PC that the PC support it. This was agreed.

- S/2013/0754/FUL – 40 Northampton Road - Single storey and first floor extensions – pending - Cllr Jeffery reported to the Council that the planning sub-group had examined this application and recommended to the PC that the PC support it. This was agreed.
- S/2013/0493/FUL – 10 Eastfield - Two storey rear and side extension and new pitched roof over porch and garage - pending
- S/2013/0488/FUL – Blisworth Pumping Station - Replacement of site perimeter fence with 2.9 metre welded mesh fence with razor wire & barbed wire topping – Approval
- S/2013/0460/FUL – 43 Buttmead - First floor side and two storey rear extensions (retrospective). Rear conservatory – approval
- S/2013/0439 /TPO – Canal House, Blisworth Arm - Crown reduce copper beech tree by approximately one metre and remove any deadwood - Approved
- S/2013/0377/FUL - Orchard House, Church Lane – stone garden shed – refused
- S/2013/0446/FUL - 11a Buttmead (applied 10.4.13) – refused
- S/2012/1057/FUL Willow House amendment – see earlier minute 43.

- i. Footpaths – no reports of any problems
- ii. Lighting – report of any street lights in need of attention. Quote for Replacement PL 35 outside 71 Buttmead received for £855.00. this was discussed under Finance – minute 48.

Play Area –

Cllr Dalton reported that the second phase of the fencing of the Eastfield Play Area is now complete (paid for by the Awards For All Grant which has been received). The 'Colour Fence' invoice is to be paid at this meeting (Minute 48). The Pre-School is very appreciative of the fence as it would increase their Ofsted rating and would like to contribute possibly by way of a seat.

The additional boundary fencing for 1 Eastfield was discussed. It had been mentioned in the Wicksteed Safety report. Cllr Dalton had obtained a quote from Colour Fence for £1239 +VAT. The householder is willing to pay 50% - £619.50. Cllr Dalton will get clarification in writing that the fence will belong to the Parish Council as there will be a maintenance requirement. It was proposed by Cllr Jeffery and seconded by Cllr Hawkins that the quote is accepted. This was agreed by the Council and a cheque for £148.68 -10% deposit was issued. (see finance minute 48i)

- iii. Traffic Issues – the Chairman reported that the potholes in Courteenhall Road at the Ladyfield junction are causing lorries to damage the verge and she has reported this to Street Doctor. The promised warning pedestrian signs in Stoke Road have still not been erected. **Clerk** to contact Helen Howard, NCC. Cllr Bartlett asked whether there was any progress in the formation of a path alongside the field. Cllr Jeffery stated that there had a verbal negative response. Cllr Bartlett wondered whether this should be pursued in writing.

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- iv. Parish Plan Progress – Maggie Barker presented the following report to the Council

Parish Plan Progress Team report for the Parish Council Meeting 1st July 2013

1. *The Diocesan Advisory Council has recommended the provision of the information board in The Old Graveyard (Cemetery). Permission is needed from the Chancellor of the Peterborough Diocese and the appropriate forms have been submitted, as well as public notices being displayed.*

There was a meeting this morning of the people involved with designing the board and it is very near completion and ready for printing.

Sarah Sykes has been on a course about Managing Churchyards for wildlife and has much useful resource information for the on-going maintenance of the various areas.

2. *The bench in the front of the Chapel garden is now ready for use. Many thanks to the very generous donation from the Film Club towards the cost of this project. A plaque will be fitted to the bench acknowledging the gift.*
3. *Di joined a site meeting to look at possible locations for the Best Village Award signs and some of the original places we had planned proved not to be suitable. Some because of obscuring vision of motorists and others not being visible enough to drivers entering the village. The Team visited the proposed new sites after the meeting on 17th June and approved the slight alterations to the location of the sign*

- v. Neighbourhood Watch Scheme – The Parish Council was pleased to welcome Mark Redding who was present reported that he is willing to take on the Neighbourhood Watch Scheme. If any was help/information is available he would be grateful.
- vi. Village sign project – (Decorative sign) – The Chairman reported that she had met with Alan Baillie and the artists to determine the sign which will be 2 sided. The Heritage Society have agreed to the sign being attached to the plinth. A site visit to Elm Tree Corner was also made.
- vii. Church yards Management Plan – agreement by Parish Council required. Di Burgoyne had sent a plan which had been circulated and will be again for the next meeting when this item will be re-visited.

47. COMMUNICATIONS

- A) Correspondence – outgoing and ingoing

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Out –

- i. NCC – re yellow lines proposals – no developments to report as yet
- ii. E-on – request for repair to ‘metal plate’ street light outside 11 Chapel Lane – response that the shield will be tightened.
- iii. NCALC – booked 2 places for NCALC planning event on 17th July
- iv. SNC – SPLAT on the road – 9.8.13 and 23.8.13 at 1.30pm to be held at Eastfield confirmed - however there was a discussion as to whether it was actually the football fields.

In

- i. Blisworth Village Hall and Playing Fields Association – request for assistance with re-surfacing of village hall car park – different options costing from £1425.00 to £4400.00. These quotes were discussed and it was agreed that the Parish Council would in principle financially support this project. However it was agreed that further quotes and information should be obtained before any decisions on the amount could be agreed.
- ii. Quote from E-on for Replacement PL 35 outside 71 Buttmead received for £855.00. it was proposed by Cllr Jeffery and seconded by Cllr Hawkins that this street light is replaced. The Council agreed. (The concrete column has disintegrated). **Clerk** to request replacement.
- iii. SNC – Progression SNC Settlements and Development Management Plan – delayed by work to be carried out on Joint Core Strategy.
- iv. Bernice – Update on Planters – these had now been planted by the Youngs and Hennesseys. **Clerk** to write and thank them for their efforts.
- v. NCALC – Update - circulated
- vi. NCC – Tree and Hedge Packs for farmers - circulated

48. FINANCE

Internal Audit – John Marshall from NCALC has audited Blisworth PC - awaiting report

i) Payments – for approval

Name	Details	Amount £	VAT	Total	Chq
AH Contracts	Empty dog bins	79.40	15.88	95.28	2154
N and P Gardens	Mowing - June	474.00	94.80	568.80	2155
V Hartley	Salary for June	333.27	-	333.27	2156
HMRC	Tax for above	83.40	-	83.40	2157
Colour Fence	New play area fence	3935.80	894.50	4830.30	2158
NCALC	Internal Audit	175.00	-	175.00	2159
Blisworth School	Crossing Patrol	1000.00	-	1000.00	2160
Colourfence	deposit	148.68			2161

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OTHER FINANCIAL MATTERS –

- i) **The Clerk had circulated the Section 1 of the Annual Return for perusal by the councillors prior to the meeting.(fixed assets figures must remain the same unless purchase or disposals made during the financial year). The Chairman read the statements out to the Council and the Internal Audit Report from John Marshall (NCALC) was presented. (This had also been circulated).In it he had explained the issues he had raised concerning the budgeting and precept setting process which had been corrected this year. The adoption of Financial Regulations had also been rectified. The Clerk had also circulated a proposed Risk Assessment. After discussion it was agreed that the Return be approved and accepted, proposed by Cllr Jeffery and seconded by Cllr Gardner. The Risk Assessment was also adopted, proposed by Cllr Hawkins and seconded by Cllr McKeown. Cllr Jeffery had attended the Internal Audit and found it useful and informative.**
- ii) Consideration of quotes for re-surfacing of Village Hall Car Park- see minute 47 i
- iii) Parish Field for year ending 31.3.14 – Cllr Jeffery reported that Mr Leadbitter wanted to rent the field again for £300 per annum. Cllr Jeffery had drawn up a tenancy agreement for the period.
- iv) Donation towards School Crossing Patrol - £1000 – it had been agreed by the PC three years ago that £1000 be given to this scheme each year for 3 years. This £1000 completes the agreement. A cheque was drawn up for £1000 payable to Blisworth County Primary School.
- v) £32.40 had been received in allotment rent.
- vi) Bank Balance at 20.6.13 - £35,722.58**

49. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS AND COUNCILLORS' COMMENTS

Cllr Billing – the Canal and River Trust AGM was held on 6.5.13. They are hoping to involve the village in various projects for which he circulated information about their objectives.

Cllr Dalton – Gates on the road to the Play Area are locked. He will make sure they are open for the SPLAT activities.

50. DATE AND TIME OF NEXT and FUTURE MEETING – 5th August 2013 (unless there is an extraordinary meeting for planning issue) .

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Date:

These minutes can be found on the Blisworth Parish Council website.

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Residents commented on the following:

- The new recycling arrangements had started in Towcester.
- The Jim Payler Photo Exhibition had been extremely well attended – from all over the country.
- There will be three weather forecasts coming from Blisworth on Day break TV in August.
- The Canal Festival meeting is to be held 5th July.
- Clerk will inform N and P Garden Services when the festival is to be held in order for the grass to be cut in the week before. (10/11th August).

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