

BLISWORTH PARISH COUNCIL

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Minutes of the Meeting 6th July 2015

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

Present: Cllr C Jeffery Chairman
Cllr M Field
Cllr S Billing
Cllr P Kennedy
Cllr Anderson
Cllr D Dalton
Cllr B Rose
Cllr D Burgoyne

Cllr Clarke, SNC Cllr Davies, SNC
13 members of the public

PUBLIC QUESTIONS, COMMENTS AND REPRESENTATIONS:

In the last item on the agenda of meeting residents were invited to give their views and question the issues on this agenda, or raise issues for future consideration at the discretion of the Chairman. Members of the public may not take part in the Parish Council meeting itself.

43 . APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE – The following apologies were received and reasons for absence approved: Cllrs Hawkins, Gardner and McKeown and Cllr Kirkbride.

44. 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 – Cllr Jeffery declared an interest in item 48i as a friend of the applicant and Cllr Field declared an interest in the 48iii as the owner of the property and also where her property was referred to in correspondence. – item 50 I and x.

45. RESOLUTION TO SIGN & APPROVE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING DATED 1st June 2015 – These were agreed and adopted, proposed by Cllr Dalton and seconded by Cllr Billing.

46. CHAIRMAN'S/CLERK'S REPORT – Actions carried out as per last meeting. It was agreed that the Tesco's 'community' representative would be invited to a meeting.

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47. DISTRICT AND COUNTY COUNCIL REPORTS

- Cllr Clarke introduced Cllr Hywel Davies as the recently elected SNC representative.
- The venue for the Job Club has now moved to The Forum in Towcester.
- £120,000 funding has become available to SNC for worthwhile services – details on the website.

48. PLANNING

i) Please note this item was presented at the start of the meeting – S/2015/1233/MAF – Solar Power Inc Services Limited for a Solar array on Knock Lane – Nisha Rehm AIEMA , Senior EIA Consultant gave a 10-15 minute presentation about the application.

The development is for a 4MW installation, South facing away from the road with no concrete foundations so low soil compaction. There has been an ecological survey and as an arable field of 89% Grade 3b and 11% Grade 3a land it is of low value ecologically. Traffic during construction would be directed to and from Knock Lane to the A508 at Roade and monitoring would be carried out. The access point would be away from the bridleway and some screening would be planted where the site is visible which would take 3/5 years to establish.

Questions/Answers were raised:

- Council wanted assurance that the traffic would go through to the A508 and that signage would be used.
- There would be no lighting at night.
- A resident pointed out the problems of flooding at the junction of Stoke Road and Knock Lane and the representatives agreed that drainage would be looked at to control any run off.
- The aspect of community benefit was mentioned. Other similar installations locally have explored a 'Community Interest Company' in which an organisation other than the PC can invest (eg School) as its members do not have to declare interests as the Parish Councillors do.

Parish Council response to be made by **Clerk : No objections**, community benefit and traffic management to be mentioned.

ii) Planning application S/2014/2468/EIA by Howdens/Roxhil at Junction 15 M1, Northampton for 248,200 sq m of employment (B1 & B8) development with off-site highway improvements – WITHDRAWN

iii) Tree Protection at the Willows – see in-coming correspondence – the Chairman reported that he had got the correspondence altogether ready for circulation to councillors for their perusal before the next meeting. There had been no application for building yet.

iv) S/2015/1334/FUL – 27 Windmill Avenue – side single storey annexe -
Parish Council response to be made by **Clerk : Support the application**

v. S/2015/1182/FUL - 33 Courteenhall Road - Single storey side extension and front porch –
Parish Council response to be made by **Clerk : No objections to the application**

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vi) Mandy Lumb, Senior Conservation Officer for SNC gave a short presentation about the recently reviewed Conservation Area for Blisworth. (along with 60 others in South Northants).

A Conservation Area Appraisal allows the aspects which contribute to the special architectural or historic character of a settlement to be understood, defined and protected. It also provides a framework for the future management of the settlement, which will help to assess applications and to ensure that the character is protected for future generations.

Some parts of the village conservation area are being removed due to overlap are now included in the Canal conservation area.

Some of the land connected to the Old Rectory had also been removed, which was of a concern to some councillors due to its close proximity to the Old Rectory, the land linking the Old Rectory to the canal and the ancient stone wall adjoining the canal towpath.

The report had been circulated to residents and the Parish Council. A discussion took place and the deadline for responses (in writing) to the consultation is **5pm on 31.7.15.**

It should be noted that listed buildings have greater protection than those in a conservation area.

49. Local Matters

- **Rights of Way** – Reports of any problems – the Clerk reported that she had received a report today from a resident about the footpath near Gayton Road but that the overgrowth had been cut back today.
- **Lighting** – See Finance
- **Play Area** –
 - Progress of new equipment – Cllr Dalton reported that the new springers were being fitted tomorrow and that Bartley Landscapes had carried out the ground work today in preparation. **Cllr Dalton** will carry out the necessary watering of the turf.
- **Traffic/Highway Issues** –
- **Stoke Road** – White lines along edge of road in Stoke Road - the Clerk reported that Helen Howard from NCC Highways had responded that the road was too narrow for lines. She had asked whether 30mph terminal signs had '30' painted on the road and if not they could be added to her list for this financial year. The Council agreed that **the Clerk** request a site meeting at 5.30pm or 8.30 – 9am on a week day for further discussion on the dangers of this particular road.
- **Cycling sign in Connegar Leys** – work instructed to take place within 2 months of 22.4.15.
- **Neighbourhood Watch Scheme** – various warnings of scams have been circulated.
Mark Redding who was in attendance reported that he needed more volunteers to support the Speed Watch Campaign. He had also paid for the

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shed alarms and was owed £210 by the PC which they had previously agreed to pay.

- **Allotments** – no issues

50. COMMUNICATIONS - outgoing and ingoing

In-coming

- Request from resident for correspondence to be circulated re tree protection at the **Willows**.
- **Clerks** and Councils Direct

Out going

Blisworth School - re 'The Big Build' project indicating that a contribution may be made from the Parish Council when more information becomes available.

SNC - Support letter request for Blisworth Canal Partnership

E-on – David Mooney – re: Street lighting maintenance contract details within 7 days

Circulated to councillors:

- Willow House Development, Towcester Road – to be circulated again
- NCC Consultation - Wellbeing Community Interest Company Initial Online Consultation
- Tara Cooksammy - June's Update and circulars re scams etc
- SNC - Free football sessions inspired by Women's World Cup
- Danny Moody - Electricity Procurement – update
- SNC and Elizabeth Rollo – Walker - Howdens withdrawal from J15
- Internal Audit Report
- Solar Power Inc UK Services – request for presentation re application (ref. S/2015/1233/MAF) for a solar PV array south of Knock Lane, within Blisworth Parish.
- NCC Highways - TTRO(15/16) 097 - Stoke Road, Blisworth road closed 6th July, notice up
- Public presentation notes re Willow House Blisworth
- Mark Redding - Bogus caller in Pond Bank
- Cycle 4 Cynthia 2015 – 13th September
- SNC - New drop-in service for volunteers at The Forum
- Tara Cooksammy - **South Northants Homes - Skills4U, a training programme of courses**

51. FINANCE

i) Cheque payments to agree:

	Name	Details	Amount £	VAT	Total	Chq
	V Hartley	Salary for June	423.53	-	423.53	2359
	HMRC	Tax for above	105.80	-	105.80	2360
	V Hartley	Exps since 4.11.14	271.21		271.21	2361
#	AH Contracts	Dog Bins				2362
	SLCC	Membership (40%)	59.60		59.60	2363
	Scaino Services	Cemetery entrance - deposit	2300.00		2300.00	2364

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N and P Garden Services	Payment for June mowing	595.80	99.30	496.50	DD
B Osborne	Pay Roll	58.50		58.50	2365
BVHPA	Rent for April-Jun	27.00		27.00	2366
Mark Redding	Re-imberse for shed alarms (agreed at previous meeting)	210.00		210.00	2367

amount unknown at time of writing

iii) **Monies received:** 50% precept - £15500

Bank Balance at 24.6 .15 - £ 40972.83

iv) Internal Audit Report – circulated –good report, only suggestion was to number the minute pages

iv) **Street Lighting** – E-on had not responded with a contract or anything else despite being asked to do so within 7 days. **It was agreed that the Clerk write to Aylesbury Mains for an agreement to maintain the street lights for Blisworth from now on.** A contract should not include the High Street lights or those on Lady Field and an inventory should be obtained.

v. Query from BDO External Auditors re Fixed Assets and Clerk's Salary.

The fixed assets for 2015 included the purchase of the seats and the Clerk's salary had been increased in January 2014 (agreed at finance meeting held on 19.11.13). **Chairman** to respond to BDO.

52. PARISH PLAN PROGRESS TEAM FINANCE REPORT –

Balance brought forward	£639		
Monies in	£0	Expenditure	£0
		Balance carried forward	£639

REPORT TO BLISWORTH PARISH COUNCIL JULY 2015 -

We are pleased to see the progress of the project to improve the entrance to the Old Cemetery. This will ensure that everyone has a safe access to the area, including those in wheelchairs, mobility scooters and pushchairs. It will also be good to see the gates restored to their former glory.

The planters donated by Youngs in the High Street are looking very good. Our thanks to Valerie Hayward who donated and installed the plants. Thanks also to Christine Pinfold for taking on the watering.

Also we have to thank Matt Gamble of GLN Landscapes who has done a fabulous job planting the four large planters at both ends of the village.

The Group now have a Constitution and once all the members have signed it, a copy will be forwarded to the Parish Council.

We have started looking at the requirements for the revision of the Parish Plan in 2016.

Many thanks to Cllr Anderson for all his watering.

53. Cemetery Boundary

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Date-----

There had been no further developments concerning the boundary.

54. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS AND COUNCILLORS' COMMENTS

Cllr Billing – he reported that he had attended the CPRE workshop on 4th June. A presentation on how to avoid unwanted building within villages had been held and another item on Broadband.

Cllr Anderson – new cemetery gates looked excellent , this was agreed by the other councillors.

Cllr Burgoyne – concerned that the application made by the Shop for new facia had been turned down despite using the some of the pre-application system. Cllr Burgoyne to advise the applicant to contact Premier for assistance with the application.

55. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION SESSION

- i. **Alan Andrews** from the Canal Parish Partnership was concerned that the new signs erected the previous Friday asking for consideration by boaters in the **use of generators** would antagonise the boaters just prior to the Canal Festival. He thought that the PC would have contacted the Canal Parish Partnership before erecting the signs.
The PC felt that the sign was polite and inconspicuous and should not cause offence. Cllr Billing explained that the signs were erected in response to residents of Pond Bank being adversely affected by smoke and electrical interference in the evenings from the generators.
- ii. Tow path to be temporarily closed for repairs.
- iii. The School 'Big Build' project just started.
- iv. Conegar Leys pot holes are very bad – **Clerk** to report to Street Doctor.
- v. Street Light in Stoke Road out – **Clerk** to report to Aylesbury Mains if it is not picked up in the survey when they start the contract for maintenance.

56. DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING - 3.8.15, meeting closed at 9.35pm

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Date-----