

BLISWORTH PARISH COUNCIL

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Minutes of the Meeting 5th October 2015

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

Present:

| | |
|--------------------------|---------------|
| Cllr C Jeffery | Chairman |
| Cllr J Hawkins | Vice Chairman |
| Cllr M Field | |
| Cllr M McKeown | |
| Cllr P Kennedy | |
| Cllr D Dalton | |
| Cllr B Rose | |
| Cllr D Burgoyne | |
| Cllr S Billing | |
| Cllr C Gardner | |
| Cllr S Clarke, SNC | |
| Cllr H Davies SNC | |
| 16 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 Parish Council on 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.

89. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE – The following apologies were received and reasons for absence approved: Cllr Anderson, Cllr Joan Kirkbride, NCC

90. 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 Field declared an interest as the owner of the property concerned in the planning item 94i.**

91. RESOLUTION TO SIGN & APPROVE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING DATED 7th SEPTEMBER 2015 - These were agreed and adopted, proposed by Cllr McKeown and seconded by Cllr Dalton.

92. CHAIRMAN'S/CLERK'S REPORT – Actions carried out as per last meeting. Nothing to report which is not on the agenda.

Signed-----

Date-----

93. DISTRICT AND COUNTY COUNCIL REPORTS.

Cllr Clarke, SNC:

- A parking survey of the district is being conducted and the Council is invited to a workshop on 19.10.15. Anyone interested should apply to Dave Allen from SNC.
- SNC are running a 'Deposit Guarantee' scheme to help people obtain rented accommodation and provide incentives for landlords to provide properties for rental.

94. PLANNING

i) For comments this meeting and a short open session was held for comments before a vote:

Application No. S/2015/1980/FUL – AMENDED PLANS

Proposal Demolish existing house and garage and build 5 new houses and garages

Location Willow House Towcester Road Blisworth

Each Councillor stated their views on the application. The Council objected for the following reasons:

- The proposed plan showed an overcrowded development facing onto an area of scenic beauty as the Grand Union canal enters the village, the access road has a slope of 1 in 15 passing within one metre of an adjacent property and within one metre of a proposed dwelling on the opposite side.
- Five houses are far too many for the site and for such an historical area of the village.
- Referring to policy R1 of the West Northamptonshire Joint Core Study Local Plan which sets out where housing requirements have been met through planning permissions; further housing development will only be permitted subject to certain criteria, which fail to apply in this case.
- Permission has already been granted for 27 new dwellings in Chapel Lane plus 4 dwellings in the barn conversions adjacent to Grafton house. Therefore Blisworth has already contributed well to the 5 year housing supply required by SNC and SNC has already met this 5 year target.
- The design & Access statement is inadequate and does not address the impact of the site on the adjacent Canal side Conservation area, also the proposed development does not reflect the character of a Canal side setting by the form and massing of canal side buildings.

Many letters of objection from village residents, have been submitted and the Blisworth Canal Partnership, Highways Authority and Building Control have raised concerns about various non-compliance aspects of the scheme.

The public session also reflected opposition to the development including concern about subsidence of the bank.

Concern was also raised about the planning process of this application. Cllr McKeown will write a letter on behalf of the Council

Signed-----

Date-----

ii) For other applications – see SNC Planning register

iii) Refusal for S/2015/1233/MAF – Installation of a solar PV array plus ancillary development, land south of Knock Lane

The Chairman reported that there had been concern that the community benefit funds were allocated by the Parish Council to the school but in fact should the application go ahead individual organisations should apply directly to Solar Power Inc.

Cllr Gardner reported on the development in Bugbrooke where an on-going return over a period of years rather than a one-off payment might be more lucrative.

95. Local Matters

- **Rights of Way** – the following problems were reported:
 - Footpath alongside Willow House needs cutting back
 - Bridleway RD2 needs attention to prevent it from getting churned up by horses. Jane Percival stated that the Allotment Society has some funds. The Chairman agreed to have a look at the path.
 - RD3 has been ploughed up. **Cllr Burgoyne** will report to Rights of Way.
- **Lighting** –
 - Request to repair PL 59, Stoke Road.
The Chairman and Cllr Gardner is looking into the lighting. It was resolved that the Council trial 3 sample lights in Courteenhall Road and then choose and pay for the preferred one at a cost of £300. (cheaper than E-on)
- **Play Area** – Project completed and Cllr Dalton reported that the £2000 grant had been received from SNC and paid into the bank.
- **Traffic/Highway Issues** –
 - **Stoke Road** – road works completed
 - **Street Doctor Ref : 737962** – Rusted/dangerous no cycling sign in Connegar Leys - Greenaway footpath, – Cllr Dalton explained that he had removed the offending sign but the NCC Highways had renewed one unnecessarily. The one near 15 Greenaway now needs re-instating. **Clerk** to make request.
- **Stoke Road speeding issues** –Appeal against decision not to reduce speed limit successful!
- **Speed Watch Project** – Awaiting results
- **Allotments** – The Chairman reported that the rent requests are about to go out.
- **Bins** – Swapping of bins not possible as wrong base – **Clerk** to order new larger new bin for High Street.

96. Website

Mr Masterman reported to the meeting, Northampton University have offered (via ACRE) to help with design of the website as a 2nd year project. Each design will be submitted by groups of 3 or 4 students working to a remit supplied by Blisworth PC. Cllrs Anderson and McKeown will work with him to decide the remit taking in to account any suggestions made by the PC.

Signed-----

Date-----

He is going to the University on 12.10.15 for a one to one meeting with a representative hoping to get more information on hosting, domains and web tools and will report any outcomes of the meeting to the PC.

97. COMMUNICATIONS - outgoing and ingoing

Out going

- i. NCC Highways request to replace damaged salt bin on the corner of Stoke Road and Buttmead – now replaced
- ii. E-on – request for information regarding electricity supplies – passed to Aylesbury Mains

In-coming and Circulated to councillors:

- i. Round & About newsletter contribution from Tesco contact? (Contact has now stopped working for Tesco).
- ii. NCC - Allotments and community planting in Northamptonshire – questionnaire completed by Jane Percival
- iii. Robert Fallon, SNC - Willow House Development, Towcester Road, Blisworth - resident / Robert Fallon correspondence
- iv. SNC - Notification of opportunity to attend Development Control Committee re S/2015/1233/MAF – Installation of a solar PV array plus ancillary development, land south of Knock Lane
- v. Helen Howard, NCC Highways - Appeal upheld against decision not to extend Speed limit in Stoke Road
- vi. PCSO Cooksammy - : skills 4U
- vii. Clerk – information re Transparency Code
- viii. NCC Highways - Northamptonshire Highways - Community Liaison Team
- ix. Rebecca Miller – NCC – will the PC need salt this winter? About 7 bags remain from last season so none required. The Chairman agreed to put out the temporary bins.
- x. Community Speed Watch 2016 – participation next year?
- xi. Tony Marsh – Web Domains
- xii. NCC , Highways Newsletter
- xiii. Copies of letters between neighbours of The Willows and SNC planning officers
- xiv. Northants Licensing - Consultation on Statement of Principles - Gambling Act 2005 (three yearly review)
- xv. Focus Magasine - Midshires What's On – request for input
- xvi. Solar Power Inc. - agreement to provide the £50,000 community benefit to the village to be used for the local primary school
- xvii. Katherine Harrison, SNC - Confirmation of Blisworth Conservation Area Appraisal Adoption
- xviii. Cllr Clarke - CIL / S106 Information
- xix. NCALC - Chairmanship Training 28 September 2015 – Cllr Hawkins attended this and reported that it was helpful. The PCs paper work is fit for purpose.
- xx. NCALC - Northamptonshire Local Nature Partnership third annual conference - 7 October 2015
- xxi. Paula Judd – SNC - Council Tax Reduction Scheme – **Clerk** to forward to Jane Percival

Signed-----

Date-----

- xxii. NCC - School admissions news request, notice up and sent to website
- xxiii. Correspondence re crushed salt bin
- xxiv. SNC - SPLAT comes to October half-term (and website)
- xxv. TADD - Can you please help TADD ? – request for volunteer drivers – a resident commented on the useful work the organisation carries out.

98. FINANCE i) Cheque payments:

| Name | Details | Total | VAT | Net | Chq |
|-----------------------------|--|---------|-------|---------|------|
| Aylesbury Mains | PL 46 Chapel Lane | 64.68 | 10.78 | 53.90 | 2386 |
| BDO LLP | External Audit | 240.00 | 40.00 | 200.00 | 2387 |
| V Hartley | Salary for Sep | 423.53 | - | 423.33 | 2388 |
| HMRC | Tax for above | 105.80 | - | 105.80 | 2389 |
| Aylesbury Mains | 94 Connegar Leys | 70.80 | 11.80 | 59.00 | 2390 |
| AH Contracts | Dog Bins | 166.74 | 27.79 | 138.95 | 2391 |
| N and P Garden Services | Payment for Sept mowing | 595.80 | 99.30 | 496.50 | DD |
| Friends of Blisworth School | Contribution towards Big Build Project – Section 137 payment | 5000.00 | - | 5000.00 | 2392 |
| NCALC | Chairmans training | 39.00 | | 39.00 | 2393 |

- Current Bank Balance at 24.9 .15 - £25226.04 Business Reserve Account - £5095.13
- Decision whether to trial lamps for Courteenhall Road and then purchase 3 of the favourite – see Street lights
- External Audit completed – Report stated that Fixed Asset Register needs dates when items purchased

99. PARISH PLAN PROGRESS TEAM - REPORT TO THE PARISH COUNCIL FROM BLISWORTH PARISH PLAN PROGRESS GROUP

1. *The comments on the Best Village related to tony Marsh's website and not the Parish Council. Mason Masterman has been liaising with Julia Vernon over the website.*
2. *Thanks to Paulette and Valerie Hayward for replenishing the planters for the autumn.*
3. *Thanks to Andy Newbury for mowing the main paths to supplement the work carried out by N&P.*
4. *The bird boxes have been erected in the Chapel Cemetery.*
5. *The Dunkley family attended the September meeting of the Heritage Society and were very appreciative of the work carried out on the Dunkley grave and the appearance of the Old Cemetery overall.*
6. *The PPPG will let David Snapes know that the PC will not be taking forward the repair of the wall in the light of his report.*
7. *The Diocese will also be made aware of the problems associated with the reinstatement of the wall.*

The Parish Council requested that Ann North write to the DAC relating that the PC has taken advice that the wall is not replaceable.

100. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS AND COUNCILLORS' COMMENTS

Cllr Kennedy : the planters were now installed in the High Street, Request agreed for Parish Council to pay nominal sum for the autumn plants.

Signed-----

Date-----

Cllr Gardner:

- The windows at the side of the Sun Moon and Stars are broken. **Cllr Clarke** will report.
- Clerk to ask South Northants Homes when they are going to work on trees.
- The church notice board is not in keeping with the area.

101. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION SESSION

- 30mph and national speed limit signs on Gayton Road obscured by hedge. **Clerk** to speak to owner of the hedge which will probably be cut soon.
- Cars go too fast and go over the junction of Church Lane and High street. Possibly more signage required?
- Pot holes in Buttmead are as bad as ever – Cllr Clarke agreed to report to NCC Highways.
- A new resident reported that he had found the village very friendly and helpful since moving here!

102. DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING - 2.11.15

Signed: -----

Date: -----