

BLISWORTH PARISH COUNCIL

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Minutes of the Meeting 6th November 2017

Held in the Blisworth Village Hall at 7.30pm

Present:

Cllr J Hawkins Chairman
Cllr Kennedy Vice Chairman
Cllr C Gardner
Cllr D Dalton
Cllr A Hillier
Cllr Field
Cllr Billing
Cllr Jeffery
Cllr Lee
Cllr Burgoyne
Cllr Anderson

Cllr Clarke, SNC, Cllr Brown, NCC

10 members of the public

PUBLIC QUESTIONS, COMMENTS AND REPRESENTATIONS:

In the last item on the agenda of meeting residents are 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. The session will last for a maximum of 15 minutes with any individual contribution lasting a maximum of 3 minutes. Members of the public should address their representations through the Chairman of the meeting and may not take part in the Parish Council meeting itself.

1. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE** – The following apologies were received:
Cllr Davies, SNC
2. **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 was declared.
3. **RESOLUTION TO SIGN & APPROVE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING DATED 2nd OCTOBER 2017 - A RESOLUTION TO SIGN & APPROVE MINUTES OF THIS MEETING** was passed – Proposed by Cllr Dalton and seconded by Cllr Kennedy.

Signed-----

Date-----

4. CLERK'S / CHAIR'S REPORT

Chairman's Report

- Blisworth continues to be active and progressive in many areas. The Art Trail held in the church was incredibly well supported, by residents and visitors.

I would like to thank all of the Members of the PC who have been so active this month.

Charlie for his input with the mowing,

Dave for his work on the Grant application for the new equipment for the East fields play area.

Paulette for her input regarding the state of Blisworth's paths and roads among other projects.

Colin for his knowledge and input into the Village Lighting project

Tony for compiling such a comprehensive response regarding the Local Plan Part 2A on behalf of Blisworth PC

The Progress Group for all of their dedicated input to the Various projects that they are presently undertaking and considering for the future For example the launch of the Blisworth Litter Campaign and the possibility of updating the Neighbourhood Plan.

5. DISTRICT AND COUNTY COUNCIL REPORTS

Cllr Clarke reported on:

- i) Local Plan Part 2 Consultation – ends on 10.11.17. This will help to form the government on national planning needs and has looked at these areas:
 - Housing needs and affordability of homes
 - Section 106 negotiations
 - Planning Fees Increase
 - New Planning Policy Framework
- ii) Homeless people concerns – report to Street Link which provides help to people sleeping rough – particularly after 3 days of severe cold weather. Count is carried out on the night of 9.11.17.
- iii) Solar Farm – £25000 to be paid as a community benefit to be dispersed by SNC according to Planning Application.
- iv) A43 Safety – as discussed at last meeting
Dave Aillen SNC Transport Officer had set up a group with representatives from Brackley, Bugbrooke, Easton Neston, Gayton, Blisworth, Milton Malsor, Radstone, and Tiffield.

Clerk to contact Simon Loake at Tiffield PC to see what has happened to the group and if it still has plans to improve the safety.

Cllr Adam Brown, NCC reported:

- i) Windmill Avenue soon to be closed for repairs, he has confirmed that Buttmead, Blisworth is now high priority and when funds are available it will be at the top of the list. Request as to why potholes are mended without much system? This is to do with road surface material.
- ii) NCC Budget – massive savings to be found – statutory responsibilities for social care of children which has proved expensive. Soon to be a breakdown of bus services which are due to be cut which he will circulate.
- iii) Grit bins costs to be passed to parishes.
- iv) Gritting routes to be cut by 30%
- v) Libraries – mobile libraries will be cut. Towcester and East Hunsbury libraries will remain. Received less money per head than other

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counties. Formula uses outdated population figures. The Department of Communities and Local Government has got Northamptonshire on its radar and policies may be released soon. NCC is in a serious predicament – Lancashire is also bad.

6. RAILFREIGHT TERMINAL – UPDATE AND DISCUSSION ON THE CURRENT STATUS IN PARTICULAR :

- Mark Redding from SRC updated the meeting
- Access to Roxhill boxes of plans – Clerk reported that these are now in the store Room of the Village Hall and it was agreed that she can arrange convenient time if anyone wants to see them.
- Andrea Leadsom MP Meeting at 3pm on Thursday – to attend by **Cllrs Hawkins and Kennedy.**
Cllr Anderson and Mark Redding will also attend
- **Air pollution monitoring** – Kits have been distributed to 12 sites, picked up again and returned to Friends of the Earth for reading results.

7. PLANNING

Planning Inspectorate and Sun, Moon and Stars – Update if any since Clerk sent request to Heritage Department at SNC to look into condition of building. The response from Heritage Department – Mandy Lumb was read to meeting ‘*The Design and Conservation Team will be addressing the matter of how to deal with those building identified as being either ‘at risk’ or ‘vulnerable’ and devising a strategy on how to prioritise and address the variety of issues faced by these buildings. The Sun, Moon and Stars will be one of those building which we will be looking into in more detail in due course. In the meantime should it be noticed that the buildings is no longer weather tight or secured, then these are matters we may be able to deal with more urgently should the need arise.*

It was agreed that the **Clerk** write to Mr Fuller, the owner of the building with contents of this letter. Ask for reassurance that building is weather proof. Send copy to Mandy Lumb.

It was agreed that the **Clerk** write to Mandy Lumb – ask whether SNC have been in the building and how long is process.

- **Appeals Notices for** S/2017/2551/EN at 3A & 3B Gayton Road and S/2017/2550/EN at 3 Gayton Road – see register below
- **Applications for circulation:**
S/2017/2635/FUL, 29 Connegar Leys, extension

No Objections from Parish Council, **Clerk** to submit to SNC

See Planning Register below for details.

8. Blisworth Football Club – Matthew Goude unable to attend so Mrs Janet Steeper informed the meeting about the Leisure Facility project:

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A new lease for 30 years has been signed. Northants FA continue to be supportive. Grant Claim of £150000 to be submitted. Planning Application has been submitted this week containing lots of reports of children activities.

The Chairman displayed a Graph showing preferred expenditure of £1000 for Best Village competition produced as a result of the suggestion boxes made available to the village. This had been circulated to councillors. The overriding suggestion was to award it to the Football Club. Janet stated that Tesco security is to cost £3000 and this donation would go towards this.

Cllr Hillier proposed the £1000 is given to Football Club security system, vote was taken 7 to 3 in favour of this proposal so the money will go to this project.

- 9. Local Plan Part 2 Consultation** – The Parish Council agreed with the draft response circulated by Cllr Hillier – Clerk to send to SNC.

10. LOCAL MATTERS

- i. **Footpaths** –reports of any problems – none
- ii. **Lighting** – Reports of faults – Clerk to report PL 20 Windmill and PL36 in Buttmead.
- iii. **Play Area** – reports of any issues – Update on grant application being made by Cllr Dalton for new equipment
Quote from Kompan is £3687.61 ex VAT (Discount of £236). Cllr Dalton will now apply for New Homes Bonus grant. The Parish Council agreed that that it was in favour of application for grant and purchase of equipment.
Blisworth Canal Partnership given a cheque for £1500 which will go towards this project. Clerk to send letter of thanks.
- iv. **Neighbourhood Watch Scheme** – Emails been circulated

- 11. Road conditions in the village** - Clerk has written to Cllr Adam Brown (NCC) and Mr Mann from Highways with priorities where work on road surfaces is desperate. Response that if money becomes available Blisworth will be top of the list! (Letter on notice board). – See Cllr Brown report
Cllr Hillier – vote of thanks to Cllr Gardner for organising the SLOW sign on Station Rd.

- 12. Grit bin – opposite Royal Oak** – correspondence from NCC indicating that licence required. May be discussed in future.

13. GRASS CUTTING ARRANGEMENTS

The Parish Council resolved that it wants Allseasons to continue grass cutting next year - for one more season at this time. Cllr Jeffery will liaise with Tim Judkins and discuss spraying the weeds. There should be another cut before Christmas and one before Armistice.

14. Dog bins: Update on repairs and quote for new one – Clerk has requested quote but not had a response. Will follow up.

15. COMMUNICATIONS

Out

Thank you letter sent to Mr and Mrs Hayward for all their work on the VAS machine data.

In and circulated:(not covered elsewhere in agenda)

- i. Towcester sports Village Proposals – request from resident of Heathencote to consider effect on Blisworth traffic – Clerk to thank him for making PC aware
- ii. NCALC – New training courses
- iii. Visit of NAB Mobile Unit to Northampton
- iv. Lilbourne Parish Council – response to Blisworth PC enquiry as to effects of DRFT. Kilsby PC have also now responded and would be willing to meet up.
- v. Safety Matters newsletter (on behalf of Northampton Police, Fire and Rescue Service and Northamptonshire Highways)
- vi. CPRE - Road Show, 9.11.17 at 7pm – Chairman booked on
- vii. NCC – Budget for 2018-19 consultation
- viii. Hartwell Scouts group – requesting funds for 2 Blisworth Scouts to attend Remembrance trip to Ypres. (Hartwell PC are funding Hartwell Scouts £300 each). Consulted Sandra O'Connor from Blisworth Scouts who said that Scouts normally raised their own funds and spaces are available in Blisworth Scouts. Clerk to respond to Hartwell that Blisworth PC will not contribute. The Chairman will respond to S O'Connor.
- ix. Andrea Leadsom MP – request to put entry in Round and About. Clerk has requested a template or example of entry but had no response. Ask how many words and state no entry possible leading up to an election.
- x. Thank you letter from resident for RD2 street light

16. PARISH PLAN PROGRESS GROUP

a) Report for November from Ann North, Treasurer

The Blisworth Litter Campaign is meeting regularly and Pat Masterman has joined the group giving them valuable expertise. Blisworth Primary School has agreed to trial the Litter Citizenship project and badges, certificates and qualification criteria are under discussion. Organisations and companies associated with the village will receive a letter requesting support. Unfortunately due to an administrative error the article explaining the Campaign leaflet was not included with R&A but will be in the next edition. A pilot scheme for litter picking will take place along Station Road.

The suggestions for how to spend the Best Village prize money have been counted and analysed (see chart attached). Although the response was poor the information is forwarded to the Parish Council for their decision.

The current Tesco's Bags of Help Award Scheme has now closed and the Football Club are waiting to hear how they have fared in the competition for an increase in the basic prize. Following the recent fly tipping it is hoped that the CCTV will be a deterrent. We are continuing to look into the possibility of using some donated books to start a village library.

The Group are researching methods and ideas for a new village survey so that we can canvas the residents' views on the future of Blisworth.

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The painted 20 mile limit signs on the approach to the hump backed bridge in Station Road are very much appreciated and we would like to thank Colin Gardner for his persistence with Highways.

The Village Hall and Playing Fields are delighted with the donation from Mr AJ Patel of our Village Shop towards the cost of the track. Hearing about the Tescos Scheme Bags of Help, AJ decided to charge for plastic bags and raised an impressive £354.

17. ALLOTMENTS – Date for rent collection to be agreed between **Cllr Billing and Clerk**

18. FINANCE

Payments – approved:

Chq	Payee	Detail	Amount
603	Aylesbury Mains Invs	17419,17467,17549	£1697.32
604	Aylesbury Mains Inv	17607 for work quoted in August	£4414.32
605	E-on	Supplies	£1559.14
606	V Hartley	Sal for Oct	£490.72
607	HMRC	Tax for Oct	£44.20
608	A Anderson	Water for cemetery trees	£50.00
609	AH Contracts	Emptying dog bins – Oct	£133.39
610	Shire Lumsden	Printing R and A	£120.00

OTHER FINANCIAL MATTERS

- Bank Balance of Current Account at Oct 24th - £34,178.42
- Quote from S Linnell for general maintenance/repairs :
 - for maintenance of seat by school and village hall - £70
 - replacement of Buttmead seat for £610 (black recycled plastic)
 - Maintenance of war memorial - £50-£60

Parish Council resolved to accept quote. Cllr Gardner will inform Mr Linnell and ask him to proceed.

Clerk to write to thank G and N Landscapes for sponsoring the bulbs and Les Carter who has carried out work for nothing. He will also deal with triangle if Allseasons continue.

19. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS AND COUNCILLORS' COMMENTS

Cllr Gardner –

- **Clerk** to write to NCC and ask them to cut vegetation around Courteenhall Road lights.
- RD2 – NCC will maintain path. **Clerk** to obtain quote for deflectors for light in case it is proved necessary.

Cllr Kennedy –

- Hollowell Steam Fair – Mr Wreford has given for £2000 cheque for planter. Quote is £1095 + VAT

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- VAS machine – needs to be moved to another site – Stoke Road. Perceived difference to speed of traffic coming down the hill - now averaging less speeds.

Cllr Dalton –

- Street Light in playing field road is not working – informed VHPFA

20. DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING – 4.12.17

21. PUBLIC SESSION

- New photo needed for village hall and directory.
- New committee for Canal Parish Partnership. Date for next festival meeting to be arranged.

Meeting closed at 10.10pm

Signed:

Date:

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