



BLISWORTH PARISH COUNCIL

Email: blisworthparishcouncil@gmail.com

Minutes of the Meeting 7th October 2019

Held in Blisworth Village Hall at 7.30 pm

Present:

Cllr Billing
Cllr Hillier
Cllr Bunker
Cllr Dalton
Cllr Field
Cllr Gardner
Cllr Hawkins

Cllr S Clarke, SNC

Clerk and 6 members of the public

PUBLIC QUESTIONS, COMMENTS AND REPRESENTATIONS:

In the last item on the agenda of the 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. **ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN – Cllr Gardner was elected, proposed by Cllr Dalton, seconded Cllr Field.**

2. **CO-OPTION OF NEW COUNCILLOR, INCLUDING SIGNING OF ACCEPTANCE OF OFFICE.**

The co-option of Mr David Wilson was proposed by Cllr Hillier and seconded by Cllr Gardner. He and the Clerk signed the Acceptance of Office and he took the Declaration of interests forms for completion and submission to SNC before the next meeting.

3. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE –** The following apologies were received: Cllr Hywell Davies

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4. **DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS** – members are 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.

5. **RESOLUTION TO SIGN & APPROVE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING DATED 2.9.19**

The minutes were approved and signed by the Chairman.

6. **CLERK'S/CHAIR'S REPORT** - Actions carried out as per last meeting.
- Clerk had attended Contracts and Procurement training (NCALC course) on 4.9.19.
 - Received today and circulated :
 - i) SNC Local Plan consultation on modifications – date 15.11.19, councillors to read ready for response at **next meeting if required.**
 - ii) Letter from resident of Stoke Road requesting the review and reduction of the 60 mph speed restriction – see Highways item 18.

7. **DISTRICT AND COUNTY COUNCIL REPORTS**

Cllr Clarke, SNC

- Autumn Edition of SNC Review – refers to Blisworth, money advice service, held at Parkslope surgery. Seems to be successful and he would be interested in feedback. Could be advertised in R and A.
- Planning Enforcement being clarified. Timescales and concern can be reported on-line. Phone for those not able to go on-line they can call to Development Management team.
- Wharf Trees – (see item 10 below)
- Cllr Field request that his report to go to Clerk for circulation.

8. **UPDATE - ROYAL OAK FROM REGISTER OF ASSET OF COMMUNITY**

VALUE – Nomination form had been completed by Clerk and Mrs Ann North and submitted to, and formally accepted by SNC – awaiting outcome (13.11.19). Chairman thanked Ann North for her work in completing the nomination.

9. **MOORING OF BOATS AND FUMES** – PC previously applied to Canal and River Trust for consideration of having shorter term visitor moorings in the area. This is not feasible. Clerk now written to Environmental Health Department of SNC and is awaiting response. **Cllr Hillier** will add to his report in R and A.

10. **UPDATE ON REMOVAL OF TREES IN CANAL CONSERVATION AREA AT:**

Blisworth Tunnel Narrow Boats Limited, Mill Wharf. Ref: Enforcement Record E/2019/0236 – reported by Cllr Clarke:

This investigation was allocated to Gary Hunt, Planning Enforcement Officer. The Council does not consider taking further action in relation to the work completed, as the work carried out (were the work to an acceptable standard) would have very probably been approved (had such approval been correctly sought).

However, the land is untidy and detrimental to the appearance of the conservation area, so he has asked that the trees are reduced to ground level in a uniform manner, and that all debris arising from the works is removed from the land. He has advised that a Section 215 notice

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may be served should the work required not be completed within 21 days of the date of his letter to Blisworth Tunnel Boats (i.e. by 17 October 2019).

11. **RELOCATION OF VAS DEVICE FOR STOKE ROAD – Response for breakdown of costs received from Steve Barber, NCC:**

The existing head would have to be dismantled from its existing pole, which would also involve disconnecting the mains electricity at this point and removing the connections from the pole. (EON or Western Power for the electricity, SWARCO for the head.)

Removal of the pole and its foundations and making good any electrical connections. (Highways and EON/Western Power)

Select new site and design new pole etc (Highways)

Erect new pole at new site – (in the interests of safety, Highways rarely use a pole twice).(Highways)

Run power to the new site and make connections within the pole, (Western Power or EON)

Refit the head - if old, it may need to be replaced, (Swarco).

Average all up cost for new device is approx £10,000.

12. **Street lighting –**

- 16 Buttmead light has been converted to a (now white) 19w LED Philips Trueforce lamp for £120.00 ex VAT.
- No Reports of repairs required.

13. **CHAPEL LANE STREET LIGHTING – Council considered the proposal from Eastco Homes – a calculation of their proposed commuted sum of £3,003.35**

The calculation is based on the ADEPT Commuted Sums method and includes a discount factor (inflation) of 2.2% - explanation:

PERIODIC DISCOUNT RATE (D)

The recommended discount rate (effective annual interest rate) is 2.2%, and is worked out as follows:

$$D = ((1.045/1.0225) - 1) \times 100m = 2.2\%$$

where 1.045 is the interest rate (4.5% based on long-term neutral base rate), 1.0225 is the inflation rate (2.25% based on RPI-X that is RPI excluding mortgage payments). This formula ensures that both the interest earned on the commuted sum, and the effect of inflation in increasing the cash sums eventually required, are taken into account

After discussion it was agreed that the Council **accept the proposed figure of £3003.35. Clerk** to respond to Chris Hall.

14. **GDPR** – all councillors present returned their completed GDPR security checklist to the Clerk.

15. **ELECTRONIC PLANNING CONSULTATION** – Clerk has completed application for grant. SNC have acknowledged this and are sourcing equipment.

16. **RAIL FREIGHT TERMINALS** – Update –**Northampton Gateway Rail Freight Interchange (TR050006)** – Mark Redding had responded on behalf of Parish Council – response circulated. The Planning Inspectorate should be reporting on the outcome of the Gateway (Roxhill) application on 9.10.19.

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17. GRASS CUTTING ARRANGEMENTS FOR 2019 – Clerk has applied for a free annual media licence to copy Ordnance Survey material so map can be produced. Application being processed.

The Chairman allocated new maps issues to each councillor for them to peruse with a view to decided where grass should be mowed. The Clerk advised the Council that for clarity all grass within the 30 mph zone should be mowed with any exemptions noted but the Council preferred to make use of a map. **Clerk** to Re-send existing contract. The Clerk advised the council that a new contract should be awarded early in the new year.

18. HIGHWAYS

- **Re-surfacing of Buttmead and Connegar Leys** – Should take place 7th October to 2nd November
- **Clerk has requested 30 mph speed limit down Northampton Road to the Railway Cottages including Station road (past the Grafton bridge) and 30 mph speed limit from Pond Bank up to the fork to Gayton Road.** Response from Helen Howard at NCC is that these two requests will be considered by the speed limit review panel in October.
- **Correspondence received from resident requesting a 30mph zone in Chapel Lane and Gayton Road** – Clerk has requested steps taken to prevent parking on pavement/verge in Pond Bank on the approach to the canal bridge. Information received on how to apply for restriction of parking had been circulated. It was agreed that this suggestion should be put in R and A with for feedback to PC and then put on an agenda for discussion at a meeting.
- **Grit bins** – Council had previously agreed and Clerk had accepted offer from Tim Judkins (Allseasons) to supply salt for £5 per 25 kg bag + VAT. He picked it up and distributed it for £25. PC had purchased 7 bags.
- **Late correspondence (after publication of agenda) requesting review and reduction of 60 mph limit on Stoke Road** – This item was discussed as it is a relatively urgent matter which should not be subject to more delay. The letter contained many reasons why a reduction should be imposed including a report of a very accident resulting in someone have to be cut from a car taking about 3 hours. It was agreed that the **Clerk** write to Highways asking for the review and reduction, referring to this letter, and including the increase in number of vehicles using the road (particularly at rush hour times), the recommendation from the recent Speed Watch campaign to obtain the mobile speed camera, and the volume of traffic resulting from the business park.

19. PLANNING –

- See Planning Register below for details of applications presently under consultation –
- S/2019/1782/NMA – Crieff House, 1 Stoke Road – NMA S2019/0287/FUL (proposed demolition of existing 2 storey bay window with replacement extension to from bedroom and study. Proposed glass link to existing hallway) to replace glass link with flat roof stone structure.
Clerk to respond to SNC with no objections.

Signed-----

Date-----

- S/2019/1679/FUL – Retention of use of land for siting of caravan for limited residential occupation (retrospective) at Pynus Paddock, 29 Towcester Road – PC had concern about what land is being used for – business? More information required.
Clerk to respond to SNC with objection and this concern.
- S/2019/1746/TPO – T3 Cedar – to dismantle leaving a monolith with coronet cuts, G1 Lawsons to remove dead stems to ground level, The Lowndes, Station Road – **Clerk** to respond to SNC with no objections.
- West Northamptonshire Strategic Plan - Issues Consultation until 11.10.19.

20. Footpaths –

- Reports of any problems – none to report.
- RD2 - Cllr Dalton to report on work carried out on overgrown hawthorn bush and elder in High Street – Awaiting quote from Local Tree Works.
Clerk to follow up, but also at Cllr Billing's suggestion, obtain a quote for trimming trees hanging over into 45 Pond Bank from cemetery. (Pond Bank and High Street were cut in the last few years but not the cemetery).

21. Play Area – Reports of any issues – none to report.

22. Neighbourhood Watch Scheme – Updates being sent from Richard Akers circulated to councillors via Clerk

23. COMMUNITY SPEED WATCH 2019 – Update from second project which took place in September – Cllr Dalton reported that total number caught speeding was 147. Maximum recorded speed on Courteenhall Rd was 47 mph, 42 mph on High Street. The 147 will receive a letter. Recommendation from project is for a Survey box and mobile camera to go on Stoke Road to try to reduce speeds as this road is extremely busy.

24. COMMUNICATIONS (not mentioned elsewhere on the agenda)

IN : request for allotment by resident

OUT:

- i. **NCALC** – Updates
- ii. **CPRE** - CPRE Northants October 10th 2019 Planning Roadshow – **Clerk** to request notes as no councillors can attend.
- iii. **GDPR** – Data map requested and sent to Progress Group.
- iv. **Mark Redding** - West Northamptonshire Strategic Plan - Issues Consultation, for information.
- v. **Progress Group** – Village Confines map
- vi. **Steve Barber** – Request for breakdown of costs for moving VAS device on Stoke Road

25. PROGRESS GROUP REPORT – see adendum.

26. FINANCE –

- i) The 2018/19 - Annual Governance and Accountability Return (AGAR), Section 3, External Auditor Report had been received. There were no

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issues and the AGAR, the closure letter and notice of conclusion of audit had been put on the website and circulated to councillors.

ii) Payments and Receipts -

Balance at 24.9.19 –	£53183.80
Less unrepresented payments (cheques 63,78,90)	£(652.52)
Payments Approved:	

Chq	Payee	Detail	Gross	VAT	Net
793	B Osborne	Pay roll – Jul-Sept	64.50		64.50
794	PKF (auditors)	External Audit	240.00	40.00	200.00
795	V Hartley	Sal for Sept	640.75		640.75
796	NCALC	Contracts and Procurement course	42.00		42.00
797	Allseasons	Grass cut for Sept and filling of grit bins	630.00	105.00	525.00
798	Andy Newbury	cutting of cemetery (annual sum)	100.00		100.00
799	V Hartley	2 years virus protection	39.99		39.99
800	Flowercraft	Container plants	105.00		105.00
801(PG expenses)	Barnett Landscapes Ltd	Supply 2 rowan for cemetery	60.00	10.00	50.00
802	Alan North	Production of 2019 R and A	175.00		175.00
	Total		2097.24		

The Council considered the request (previously circulated) from Mr Alan North for payment for production of Round and About including past issues, at £35.00 per issue.

Agreed to pay £175 for this year's copies. The £35 to be reviewed at the next budget.

Monthly Standing orders for Wifi - £8.00, direct debit for internet - £8.39 and Anglian Water £54.50

Available Balance after payments made - £50434.04

Monies received – £19,000 - 50% precept from SNC

27. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS AND COUNCILLORS COMMENTS

SB - Football club road – child recently fell out buggy due to large pothole and had to go to hospital due to facial injuries. This was considered a definite safety issue and Cllr Gardner will arrange for a repair by Arnolds up to £200.

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SB - Fence on allotment still down. **Clerk** to write again – informing them that PC may have to hire a contractor to repair the fence at their cost.

JH - Art Show currently on in church

MF - BT manhole cover near SMS made safe. (Had visited day of report by Clerk)

MF - Church Lane/High Street bushes hanging over pavement hazard to pedestrians, **Clerk** to report.

AH - concealed entry on Station Road at entrance to Blisworth Park – **Clerk** to send again as this is considered very dangerous.

CG - Mead View lighting, residents complaining that it not working. **Clerk** to contact Grand Union.


28. DATE AND TIME OF NEXT AND FUTURE MEETINGS – 4th November 2019

29. PUBLIC SESSION

- A North – Canal Festival committee want to put something in R and A. Asking for volunteers to take it forward. Council agreed.
- Concern about empty home in Home Close – Cllr Clarke will inform relevant contact at SNC

Signed Date

Planning Register at 30.9.19

<u>Application Number</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Proposal</u>	<u>Received</u> 	<u>Status</u>
<u>S/2019/1782/NMA</u>	Crieff House 1 Stoke Road Blisworth NN7 3BZ	Non-Material amendment S/2019/0287/FUL (Proposed demolition of existing 2 storey stone bay window with replacement extension to form bedroom and study. Proposed glass link to existing hallway) to Replace glass link with stone built flat roof structure.	10/09/2019	3 - Case Officer Allocated
<u>S/2019/1783/LBC</u>	Crieff House 1 Stoke Road Blisworth NN7 3BZ	Replace glass link with stone built flat roof structure.	09/09/2019	4 - Consults Despatched

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PROGRESS GROUP REPORT OCTOBER 19

Dropped kerbs

As realistically we will not get all the dropped kerbs we require, we are meeting to prioritise them. All will be shown on the map but the most important will be marked separately.

The Survey Group have completed the questions needed for the Blisworth Housing Needs Survey and they were agreed by the full Group with just a couple of additions. It is hoped that as there are fewer than 10 questions Survey Monkey can be used at no cost. We are still looking for a suitable garden contract but have obtained maps which show all the grassed areas.

GDPR

Having reviewed the matter it was decided that the declaration already signed by members of the Group and subsidiary groups is sufficient and the Group is compliant. Any new members will be asked to sign the declaration.

Handyman

We appreciate that employing a handyman has implications for tax and insurance. We therefore intend to produce a 'Please Spare an Hour to Help your Village' leaflet listing the type of jobs required. Hopefully with maximum publicity we can get a good response. In the meantime can the PC please contact the houses along Church Lane about regularly clearing the leaves. Now the weather has changed the path is very bad for pedestrians, push chairs and mobility scooters.

Finance

Paulette is chasing the invoice for the summer planting as she will be purchasing autumn plants shortly. The honorarium for Andy Newbury is now due and will be invoiced. Two rowan trees are to be bought for the Old Cemetery with posts, compost and protective tubes which is to come from PG funds.

Tea and games afternoons - Planning is still ongoing.

Outdoor Equipment

Three of the members will be looking into the possibility of a project to improve the grassed areas at the top of the village. Ideas include better parking, adult exercise equipment and some tree planting. Should it prove feasible, the project will be costed and grants looked for. Such a project would fit well with South Northants Sports and Leisure Strategy. Residents will of course be consulted and it is hoped that the PC will offer their support.

Village website

Improvements to the site include: live weather, a pop-up question as to whether viewers found what they were looking for and current events highlights. Future ideas include an aide memoire on environmental matters and health and lifestyle.

Armistice 2019

What plans do the PC have for commemorating the Armistice in 2019. The Progress Group have decided to make a display using the knitted poppies, at the three main entrances to the village for maximum effect.

Ann North, Secretary, Progress Group

Signed-----

Date-----