



BLEDLOW-CUM-SAUNDERTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held in Bledlow Ridge Village Hall on Thursday
2nd February 2017 at 7.30pm

Present: Councillors S Bird, M Blackwell, S Breese (Chairman), J Butler, P Castle, N
Cox, A Lord, S Reading and A Sage
County and District Councillor Carl Etholen
Clerk: Jocelyn Cay
1 member of the public

1. **Apologies for absence**

There were no absences.

2. **To approve the minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 5th January 2017**

The minutes were approved and signed by the chairman as a true record. Proposed by Cllr Butler and seconded by Cllr Bird.

3. **Neighbourhood Plan**

Cllr Breese provided an update of progress. Representatives of Wycombe District Council (WDC) and the Neighbourhood Plan Working Group (NPWG) had met to discuss the new wording of the policy under scrutiny following the independent examiner's report. WDC have now proposed new wording and asked if the council is happy with it. The council discussed the options in detail and a majority agreed that, as the alternative would be to abandon the Plan and start from the beginning again, they were content with the proposed wording. The clerk will write to Chris Schmidt-Reid of WDC to confirm this. Cllr Sage explained to the council that as the new wording did not represent a major change from the original there would be no requirement for a re-examination and that the next steps would be for WDC to publish the independent examiner's report and their response. This was anticipated to happen by 7th February following an extension to the original deadline.

Action: Clerk

4. **Planning matters**

4.1. Current applications were not received in time for the meeting and will be discussed with the relevant ward councillors via email before responses are submitted.

Action: Clerk and all councillors

4.2. The clerk reported that she had received notification from WDC of proposed street names for the development of Bledlow Homes, Bledlow. The council agreed that the suggested names of Perryfield Court, Union School Close and Roberts Close were acceptable. The clerk will respond to WDC accordingly.

Action: Clerk

4.3. The clerk informed the council that an email had been received from Bucks County Council (BCC) in respect of the request by Mr Malaure of Haw Lane to have a traffic mirror positioned on BCC land opposite his driveway. BCC are unable to support the introduction of a mirror as special authorisation is required from the Department for Transport and the collision history of the location does not meet their stringent conditions. Cllr Lord will inform Mr Malaure.

Action: Cllr Lord

4.4. Cllr Breese reported that the council had been consulted by Oxfordshire County Council on their new Minerals and Waste Local Plan. It was agreed that Cllr Cox would look into the proposals and decide if a response is necessary.

Action: Cllr Cox

5. **Applications for grants**

There had been no applications for grants.

6. Authorisation of payments

The following payments were unanimously agreed following proposal by Cllr Lord, seconded by Cllr Reading:

Cheque No.	Payee	Description	Net Amount	VAT	Total
100648	Jocelyn Cay	Salary – January 2017	£458.33		£458.33
100649	Jocelyn Cay	Expenses	£22.93	£2.59	£25.52
100650	TBS Hygiene	Bin emptying	£57.90	£11.58	£69.48
100651	ATF (S Cook)	BRVH new fencing grant	£1,468.00		£1,468.00
100652	BVH	Rent (£36 x 3 meetings)	£108.00		£108.00
	Total for month		£2,115.16	£14.17	£2,129.33

7. Quarterly Financial Report

The clerk presented provisional quarterly accounts. The report contained correct figures however it had not yet been reconciled by Cllr Castle. The council noted the report.

8. Broadband

The minutes of the first Broadband Working Group (BWG) meeting were acknowledged. Cllr Reading updated the council on progress. He confirmed that there was a good mix of expertise in the working group and that activities initiated included encouraging parishioners to take part in a survey to help map broadband in the area and looking into potential 4G solutions. Cllr Reading confirmed that work was still continuing with Buckinghamshire Connected Counties however it was proving frustrating. The latest update from them indicated that approximately 300 properties, mostly in Bledlow Ridge, will benefit from their project which leaves circa 500 remaining properties in the parish that will not. Cllr Reading is due to have a meeting with the new project manager of Buckinghamshire Connected Counties. The next meeting of the BWG will take place on Tuesday 6th February.

9. Speedwatch

Cllr Lord informed the council that he had received a selection of dates from the police for the training day and that Thursday 23rd February was the most suitable. Once Cllr Lord has confirmed the timings the clerk will contact the volunteers to let them know the details.

Action: Cllr Lord and clerk

10. Correspondence, reports and issues from councillors and clerk

10.1. The clerk informed the council that, as there are elections being held on Thursday 4th May, the parish council meeting for that month will be moved to the day before, Wednesday 3rd May, still at Bledlow Village Hall. The Annual Meeting of the Parish Council will also take place on this day, prior to the usual council meeting. The Annual Meeting of the Parish will be held prior to the April parish council meeting on Thursday 6th April at Bledlow Ridge Village Hall.

10.2. The clerk reported that she had received a quote for £125 from John Lawrence to fix the broken entry gate to Bledlow on the Chinnor Road. Cllr Etholen confirmed that he would be able to use his ward budget to fund the repairs. The clerk will ask John Lawrence to do the work.

Action: Clerk

10.3. The clerk reported that John Lawrence had investigated all the footpaths that Bledlow-cum-Saunderton Parish Council are responsible for under the devolved services agreement and ensured that they are clear at the moment.

10.4. Cllr Cox advised that there had been further vandalism at the Molins site. The clerk will report the issue to St Congar.

Action: Clerk

10.5. Cllr Cox also informed the council that the film “Denial” that had been filmed at the Molins site had recently been released.

10.6. Cllr Sage reported that the new tenants had taken over at the Country Store in Bledlow Ridge and seemed to be doing well with the shop now open for longer hours.

10.7. Cllr Reading advised that he had been dealing with Transport for Bucks regarding the flooding

under the railway bridge on the Upper Icknield Way as it had been blocked for approximately 2 weeks. A jetting lorry is due to visit the scene shortly.

10.8. Cllr Lord raised the issue of the bridle way on Lodge Hill that is currently impassable as a footpath due to the amount of mud there. He asked if the parish council have any power to close a bridleway. The council confirmed that it does not but the clerk will report the issue to Bucks County Council.

Action: Clerk

10.9. Cllr Blackwell reported that the clearance of the West Yard site was going well and that the company conducting the work were doing a very professional job. He was concerned however that the worst area of contamination will not be cleaned as the contractors have not been asked to clear the boundary of the site and the hedges situated there will become part of the boundaries of the new properties. Cllr Breese asked Cllr Etholen to write to environmental health regarding the council's concerns over the area near the hedge.

Action: Cllr Etholen

10.10. Cllr Breese informed the council that a QC had twice given written opinions to the Neighbourhood Plan Working Group over the course of the project and had not charged for his services. Cllr Breese asked the councillors if they would agree to demonstrate their thanks by presenting him with a case of wine to a value of approximately £100. The councillors agreed this would be appropriate.

10.11. Cllr Breese asked about the status of street sign cleaning in the parish. The clerk confirmed that she had recently asked Princes Risborough Town Council to undertake this work but she will ask again.

Action: Clerk

11. **Next meeting**

It was confirmed that the next meeting will be held at Bledlow Village Hall on Thursday 2nd March 2017 starting at 7.30pm.

Signed.....

Date.....