



# BLEDLOW-CUM-SAUNDERTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held in Bledlow Village Hall on Thursday 5<sup>th</sup>  
July 2018 at 7.30pm

Present: Councillors M Blackwell, S Breese (arrived at 8.30pm), P Castle, N Cox, and  
S Reading (Chairman)  
Clerk: Jocelyn Cay  
Members of the public: Mike Britnell, Bill Bendyshe-Brown, Katherine Hill

## 1. Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Councillors Sue Bird, June Butler, Anthony Lord, Andrew Sage and County and District Councillor Carl Etholen. Councillor Simon Breese advised that he would be arriving late at around 8.30pm.

## 2. Dispensations

None

## 3. To approve the minutes of the meetings held on Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> June 2018

Due to the small number of councillors present it was decided that approval of the minutes would be held over until the next meeting on 2<sup>nd</sup> August 2018.

## 4. Outstanding Actions

The clerk worked through a list of all actions outstanding from previous meetings. Progress of note had been made in the following areas:

- 4.1. Grass cutting and footpath overgrowth continues to be a problem in the parish. Manor Estates Groundcare are able to do the work and will assess the areas to come up with costings and timescales however, as an urgent priority, they did cut the churchyard at Bledlow prior to their summer fete on 30<sup>th</sup> June. Ian Darkins has also offered to help with footpath clearance and is in the process of checking his insurance details.
- 4.2. A request has been submitted in writing to Local Area Technician James Tunnard for the installation of 3 new salt bins in the parish.
- 4.3. It has been established that it is the Streets Works Licences Team at Bucks County Council (BCC) that are responsible for issuing and enforcing cultivation licences for verge gardening. It was agreed that the clerk would contact the team to report the issues in the parish and also to remind the team that no licences should be approved for the parish as verge gardening the Neighbourhood Plan prohibits verge gardening.

**Action: Clerk**

- 4.4. BT had been contacted to enquire about the removal of the now defunct phonebooth at The Crest, Bledlow Ridge. They were unable to give a specific timescale but advised that it was listed as being due for removal and that all phonebooths across the country will be removed by March 2019 at the latest.
- 4.5. Mike Britnell of Bledlow Village Hall had been in touch to advise that the works required on the playground at Bledlow would cost £4,599 plus VAT and would provide 5-10 years of use before major replacement needs to be done. The parish council have budgeted £2,000 towards the project and have also agreed to use £4,835 of S106 monies for the scheme. It was agreed that the council would formally consider the request at the August meeting.
- 4.6. Further enquiries had been made of David Lidington's office as to the nature of the changes associated with the Chilterns becoming a National Park. They confirmed that the current idea is that the rules and regulations would be the same as for existing National Parks but that is potentially subject to change once it goes to review. Bill Bendyshe-Brown reported that the main benefit of a National Park would be that it would have planning authority rights which would provide consistency

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across the Chilterns which currently is covered by many districts. He confirmed that the new National Park would have the same boundary as the current AONB and that the timeline was unknown but thought to be around 2-5 years. It was agreed this would be discussed further at the August meeting.

4.7. The proposed parking scheme in Saunderton is progressing with Cllr Etholen due to meet Kirk Adams from Transport for Bucks (TfB) to discuss the options as there have been some objections from residents. The LAF have agreed to contribute £5,000 (to be match funded) and will meet with Cllr Etholen to discuss this further once a firm estimate of costs has been received from TfB.

**5. Broadband**

Cllr Reading provided an update from the Broadband Working Group (BBWG). There have been no updates from Jacqueline Ford or Open Reach regarding the switching on of new boxes or the misleading information that some boxes are showing as being active but which in reality are not. The BBWG are continuing to work with the church in Bledlow Ridge towards securing a faculty for a permanent installation. It appears the process is extremely detailed and expensive and it may be that an external company needs to be employed to take on the project. Cllr Reading has contacted another church in the diocese who have successfully applied for a faculty to ask for advice.

(Cllr Breese arrived at 8.30pm)

**6. Planning Matters**

6.1. Current applications were discussed and responses approved.

6.2. Katherine Hill attended the meeting to discuss the parish council's response to planning application 18/06352/FUL for semi-detached houses on Shootacre Lane. Cllr Breese explained the planning process and how the parish council are invited to comment on applications however it is Wycombe District Council that make the decision. A lengthy discussion ensued where the details of the plans were discussed and Cllr Breese summarised that although the plans have merits the development is too large for the plot and therefore the parish council will be objecting to the application.

6.3. A response had been received from Gemma Davies to a letter sent enquiring about planning enforcement, specifically regarding breaches of planning conditions at Lodge Hill View in Saunderton and the new development adjacent to The Orchards, Bledlow Ridge. Mrs Davies advised that several enforcement notices had been served on Lodge Hill View and that a retrospective planning application was also in the process of being submitted. In respect of the development in Bledlow Ridge, she advised that the site had been visited by the case officer and that the main dwelling appeared to be in accordance with the approved plans but the garage was not and the developer has been given the opportunity to submit a retrospective planning application for the garage. The council discussed the fact that the main dwelling in Bledlow Ridge was not in accordance with the approved plans as rooflights had been installed and it was agreed that the clerk would respond to Mrs Davies asking about this. In addition, a meeting has been scheduled for Cllr Reading to meet with Mrs Davies and Penelope Tollitt on 4<sup>th</sup> August to discuss planning enforcement as there are real concerns that letters and retrospective planning applications are not much of a deterrent to developers contravening the planning rules.

**Action: Clerk**

**7. Application for grants**

None had been received.

**8. Authorisation of payments**

The following payments were unanimously agreed following proposal by Cllr Castle, seconded by Cllr Reading.

Cheque No.	Payee	Description	Net Amount	VAT	Total
100747	Jocelyn Cay	Salary – June 2018	£458.33		£458.33
100748	Jocelyn Cay	Expenses	£520.97	£129.79	£650.76
100749	TBS Hygiene	Bin emptying May & June 2018	£63.00	£12.60	£75.60
100750	Princes Risborough Town Council	Grass cutting (Non-devolved services)	£628.30	£125.66	£753.96
	<b>Total for month</b>		<b>£1,670.60</b>	<b>£268.05</b>	<b>£1,938.65</b>

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**9. Year-end bank reconciliation**

It was noted that Cllr Castle had completed a year-end bank reconciliation for the 2017-2018 accounts and that all was in order.

**10. Correspondence, reports and issues from councillors and clerk**

- 10.1. The clerk advised that the Annual Return had been completed and submitted.
- 10.2. The clerk informed the council that a new laptop and software had been purchased with the money received from the NALC transparency grant.
- 10.3. The clerk reported that she had been contacted by Mark Averill in relation to an extension of the devolved services agreement for a further 4 years. It was agreed that this would be added to the agenda for discussion at the August meeting.
- 10.4. The clerk advised that she had been contacted by a councillor from Radnage Parish Council enquiring about the view of a campsite from Bledlow Ridge as there are some concerns about breaches of planning conditions. Nothing out of order had been noticed by any councillors.
- 10.5. Cllr Reading reported that he had written to a Bledlow Ridge resident who had complained about cutting of verges.
- 10.6. Cllr Reading advised that Bill Bendyshe-Brown wished to address the council to advise of the plans for WW1 commemorations and to ask the parish council to lay a wreath at a ceremony in November. It was agreed this would be added to the agenda for the August meeting.
- 10.7. Cllr Breese reported that he was still waiting to hear from the Chinnor & Princes Risborough Railway as the chairman had been away.
- 10.8. Cllr Castle enquired if it would be possible for councillors to have email address from the parish council domain in order to keep parish council work separate from their private emails. It was agreed the clerk would look into the costs and report back at the next meeting.

**11. Next meeting**

It was confirmed that the next meeting will be held at Bledlow Ridge Village Hall on Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> August 2018 starting at 7.30pm.

**Signed**.....

**Date**.....