



BLEDLOW-CUM-SAUNDERTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held in Bledlow Ridge Village Hall on Thursday
4th October 2018 at 7.30pm

Present: Councillors S Bird, M Blackwell, S Breese (arrived at 7.45pm), J Butler, N Cox, A Lord, S Reading (Chairman), and A Sage
County and District Councillor: Carl Etholen
Clerk: Jocelyn Cay
County Councillor Bill Chapple
County Council Officer Andrew Jenkins
Members of the public: 13

1. Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Councillor Paul Castle

2. Bledlow Household Waste Centre

Cllr Bill Chapple, County Council cabinet member for planning and environment, attended the meeting to discuss the proposed closure of the household waste centre on Wigans Lane. Several members of the public also attended the meeting to listen to Cllr Chapple and take part in the discussion. Cllr Chapple addressed the meeting to explain the reasons for the proposed closure (a £1.2m reduction in the household waste budget for 2019/2020) and the other options that are being considered across the county such as closure of alternative sites, reduced opening hours and charging for non-statutory waste. Cllr Chapple stated that the long-term plan, given the increase in houses being built in Princes Risborough, was for a new facility to be provided in the area in conjunction with the developers but this is unlikely to happen for a few years and the budget cuts need to be in place before April 2019.

The parish councillors asked several questions covering topics such as fly-tipping, charging for out-of-county residents using the site, reducing hours rather than complete closure, how a new unitary authority would impact household waste services and what will happen to the site if it closes. There were also concerns raised by Cllr Etholen that the public consultation being run was not fit for purpose and did not provide enough options for residents to express their views. Members of the public were then invited to ask questions and a lengthy discussion took place. Cllr Chapple and Mr Jenkins answered all the questions and concerns and advised that no decisions had been made. He urged residents and councillors to complete the online consultation survey including any ideas and concerns as all options would be considered.

Cllr Reading ended the discussions at 9.15pm and thanked Cllr Chapple and Mr Jenkins for attending the meeting. He advised that the parish council would be submitting a written response to the consultation in due course.

3. Dispensations

None

4. To approve the minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 6th September 2018

The minutes were approved following a proposal by Cllr Sage, seconded by Cllr Bird. The Chairman signed the minutes as a true record.

5. Broadband

Cllr Reading had circulated a report on Broadband prior to the meeting. This was noted.

6. Planning Matters

6.1. Current applications were discussed and responses approved.

6.2. Cllr Reading still needs to arrange a meeting on planning enforcement with Ms Tollitt and others at Wycombe District Council (WDC).

Initial.....

6.3. Cllr Reading noted that enforcement action appeared to be taking place at Lodge Hill View in Saunderton with the fence, veranda and outbuildings all being addressed.

6.4. Cllr Sage noted that the WDC planning enforcement website was now showing pictures of the house adjacent to The Orchards which has installed Velux rooflights into the roof.

7. Application for grants

7.1. There were no applications for grants.

7.2. The Bledlow Ridge Ward councillors had met with the Bledlow Ridge Village Hall Committee to discuss the £4,500 grant the parish council had contributed to the new solar panels. OFGEM are not allowing the village hall to access the Feed-In-Tariff (FIT) to sell excess electricity back to the Grid as the project had been partially funded by public money. It was suggested that if the village hall returned the grant to the parish council so they would then be able to access the FIT.

8. Authorisation of payments

The following payments were approved following proposal by Cllr Breese, seconded by Cllr Lord:

Cheque No.	Payee	Description	Net Amount	VAT	Total
	Jocelyn Cay	Salary – October 2018	£458.33		£458.33
	Jocelyn Cay	Expenses	£28.98	£3.80	£32.78
	TBS Hygiene Ltd	Bin emptying (Aug & Sept)	£63.00	£12.60	£75.60
	Total for month		£550.31	£16.40	£566.71

9. Bledlow Charities

Following the retirement of Janet Shaw from the board of trustees the parish council were required to appoint a replacement. Following a proposal by Cllr Lord, seconded by Cllr Breese, it was unanimously agreed that Cllr Sage should be appointed as a trustee.

10. Correspondence, reports and issues from councillors and clerk

10.1. Cllr Bird reported that work on the Bledlow playground was due to start imminently.

10.2. Cllr Sage proposed a gift should be bought for Janet Shaw as a thank you for her work with the Bledlow Charities over the years. It was agreed that a formal proposal would be submitted next month.

10.3. The clerk reported that she had received notification from the police that there had been several burglaries in the parish. An e-fit of a suspect had been issued and will be circulated by the clerk.

10.4. The clerk reported that the 2017/2018 Annual Return had been approved by the external auditors without any concerns other than a small error whereby the figure for fixed assets had erroneously been entered as £0.

10.5. Cllr Blackwell updated the council on the trees at Hillview in Saunderton that have been causing damage to a property on Chiltern View. After a land registry search, it has been discovered that the land and trees belong to Barratt Homes.

10.6. Cllr Blackwell reported that large concrete blocks had been placed at the entrance of the Molins site by St Congar to prevent travellers from accessing the site.

10.7. Cllr Lord advised that he would be meeting with the LAF and the police to discuss SpeedWatch and that he would provide an update for the council at the next meeting.

10.8. Cllr Cox advised that the City pond in Bledlow Ridge needs attention. A complaint had been received from a resident saying it was overgrown and needs clearing out. The clerk agreed to contact Transport for Bucks to arrange for the grease trap from the road to be cleared out.

Action: Clerk

Initial.....

10.9. Cllr Reading reported that there had been cases of cars being vandalised and items being stolen from cars in Bledlow and the lay by on Wigans Lane (Lodge Hill).

10.10. Cllr Etholen advised he had received the costings in relation to the parking scheme consultation and implementation at Saunderton and would circulate them to the councillors.

Action: Cllr Etholen

11. Next meeting

It was confirmed that the next meeting will be held at Bledlow Village Hall on Thursday 1st November 2018 starting at 7.30pm.

Signed.....

Date.....