# BLEDLOW-CUM-SAUNDERTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held in Bledlow Village Hall on

Thursday 5th September 2019 at 7.30pm

Present: Councillors M Blackwell, S Breese, P Castle, N Cox, S Bird, J Butler,

S Reading (Chairman), and A Lord (Vice Chairman)

County and District Councillor: Carl Etholen

Clerk: Tracey Martin

Cllr A Lord Chaired the meeting until the arrival of Cllr Reading

1. **Apologies for absence**

Cllr Sage

1. **Dispensations**

Cllr Castle had submitted a Dispensation Request to the Clerk prior to the meeting in relation to the Land Between on the Orchards and Crofters. Cllr Lord asked if any Councillors objected. As no Councillors objected the Dispensation Request was approved.

1. **Adoption of Revised Standing Orders**

After due consideration the motion to approve new standing orders in the form previously emailed to councillors and presented to the meeting and initialled by the chairman for identification and to publish the document as definitive and prevailing was proposed by Cllr Castle, seconded by Cllr Lord and carried unanimously save for one abstention,

Pursuant to the provisions of standing order 3.l of the new Standing Orders it was noted that henceforth the clerk may record proceedings of council meetings for the purposes of drafting accurate minutes and that such recordings would be deleted in their entirety as soon as possible after the minutes of a meeting have been approved by council as a true record

1. **To approve the minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 1st August 2019.**

The minutes were approved following a proposal by Cllr Lord and seconded by Cllr Castle. The Vice Chair signed the minutes as a true record.

1. **Outstanding Actions** 
   1. **Salt Bins:** James Tunnard has raised an issue with the Salt Bin at the City and the justification for it. The Clerk has liaised with a resident and sent their comments. Councillors discussed the location and it was decided to leave the decision to James.
   2. **New Bins**: Cllr Butler stated that Jocelyn had a list of locations where bins were required. Clerk to locate the list. **Action: Clerk**

**Cllr Reading arrived at 7.45pm and took over from Cllr Lord in Chairing the meeting.**

* 1. **Verges / Gardening**: Reported via Fixmystreet, awaiting update. **Action Clerk**
  2. **Princes Risborough & Chinnor Railway**: Cllr Breese informed the meeting that thanks to Cllr Cox’s introduction he had received complimentary tickets and had made some progress.  **Action: Cllr Breese / Cllr Cox**
  3. **Painting of Gatepost (Princes Risborough Side Bledlow & Bus Shelter on Chinnor Road Bledlow Ridge):** Clerk reported that she’d had discussions with Ian Darkins. The Clerk asked the meeting what works had previously been quoted and approved. Cllr Cox informed the Clerk that the Bus Shelter had been approved on a material only basis. Clerk to give Ian Darkins the go ahead to commence work. **Action: Clerk**
  4. **Saunderton Parking** Cllr Etholen and Cllr Blackwell met with Simon Garwood. The Clerk reported that she had received an email confirming that North West Chilterns LAF has agreed to allocate funding towards the Saunderton Vale Waiting Restrictions scheme. Clerk to forward email to Cllr Etholen. Cllr Etholen to look at the questionnaire. **Action: Clerk / Cllr Etholen**
  5. **Bledlow Cross:** Deferred to next meeting due to absence of Cllr Sage. **Action: Cllr Sage**
  6. **Extending Burial Ground:** Ongoing, now Clerk has access to Land Registry we can start looking into this. **Action: Clerk**
  7. **School Zig Zags, Chinnor Road:** Cllr Reading confirmed that the LAF Funding deadline had been extended to the 12th September. Cllr Reading signed the forms and Clerk to submit. Cllr Cox asked if we have recommendations from the Transport Officer, Cllr Reading responded that is what we are asking TfB for. Cllr Blackwell reported that he had received a report that cars at pick up time where completely blocking the roads and it’s getting worse. **Action: Clerk**
  8. **Bledlow Churchyard Wall:** Cllr Breese reported that he should have received the 3rd estimate next week and will be able to discuss with the clerk then. **Action: Cllr Breese**
  9. **Planning Enforcement Meeting:** Two dates have been proposed 14th October & 18th October. The Clerk has responded to Penelope Tolitt’s PA and is awaiting her reply. **Action: Clerk**
  10. **Access to Land Registry:** The Clerk has received usernames / passwords.
  11. **50% Grass Cutting Charge:** Ongoing
  12. **Debit Card:** Clerk to look into getting an additional HSBC account. **Action: Clerk**

1. **Broadband**

Cllr Breese had sent out a report prior to the meeting to all Councillors. Cllr Breese stated that there are 2 not spots, Callowdown Farm and the west end of North Mill Road.  The issue with North Mill Road can be resolved with the proposed use of a wireless repeater at an estimated cost of £1300.  Cllr Breese stated that for Shimmells Farm and Callowdown Farm he proposes that when someone requests 4G the Parish Council pay for the modem an external aerial and installation.  The resident would be responsible for Power and Ethernet Cables this would cost approx. £275 for each property.  If the Council does this it will have achieved the objective that everyone in the Parish has the opportunity to get 10mbps.  Cllr Breese reported that out of the £20k budget there would be an estimated total spend of around £9000. Cllr Castle asked if we had actually canvassed householders.  Cllr Breese responded that members of the Broadband Working Group had dropped leaflets and knocked on doors.  Cllr Breese asked if all Councillors were in agreement, all Councillors were.  Cllr Cox suggested that Cllr Breese write an article for the Parish Magazines.                                                      **Action: Cllr Breese**

1. **Speedwatch**

Cllr Lord reported that Speedwatch is hindered by the need for 2 more individuals to operate the equipment and is requesting that all Councillors either volunteer themselves or find somebody else willing to help out in order to make the most of the £3k that was spent on the equipment. **Action:All Councillors**

Cllr Lord proposed we purchase 5 Speedwatch Signs (approved by Bucks Transport) at a cost of £85 + VAT per sign.

The signs will be placed at three entrances to Bledlow Ridge (Chinnor Road \*2 and Haw Lane) 40mph stretch on the 4010 in Saunderton (2) Perry Lane Bledlow (2)  
Cllr Etholen reported that he has some Community Leaders funds which would be a good use for the money and agreed that he would contribute £500. Clerk to send Cllr Etholen bank details. **Action: Clerk**

1. **Devolved Services and Parish Maintenance**

The Clerk referred to the previously circulated quotes from G Spratt regarding Footpaths. Cllr Reading asked if anybody had any objection to the quotes. No councillors objected so all footpaths will now be maintained by G Spratt.

The Clerk has received a letter from Bucks County Council regarding the continuation of Devolved Services for an additional two year. This will be carried forward to the next meeting.

Cllr Breese asked Cllr Etholen if he could get a Conservation Officer to attend Church End as excavation work has been carried out that wasn’t in the planning permission.

Cllr Etholen left the meeting at 8.20pm

1. **Planning Matters**

Current applications were discussed

1. **Applications for grants**

No Applications were received

1. **Authorisation of payments**

The following payments were submitted for approval:



* 1. The Clerk also presented two additional payments for approval: A cheque for £500 for Bledlow Recycling Centre as agreed in the meeting on 1st August 2019 item 6 and a cheque for PKF Littlejohn £240 which was approved and raised in March however, the cheque has gone missing so needs to be reissued.
  2. All payments were approved following a proposal by Cllr Castle, seconded by Cllr Lord.

1. **Correspondence, reports and Issues from Councillors and Clerk**
   1. **CIL 2020/2021 Funding:** Cllr Reading raised the fact that we have CIL money that needs spending and asked for suggestions of suitable projects.

Cllr Breese suggested Bledlow Ridge School, Saunderton Burial Ground extension and Bledlow Halt which are all major items.

Cllr Castle confirmed that we have £52k to be spent at the moment of which £6k to be spent by March 2020. Cllr Reading confirmed that it doesn’t have to be spent but ear marked for a project.

Cllr Breese added that there are 3- 4 projects and given the amount of money we have we should assume in principle subject to estimates etc that we fund all three. Cllr Reading to liaise with Bledlow School and see if they have any requirements at the moment. **Action: Cllr Reading**

* 1. Cllr Breese raised an issue with a footpath at the bottom of Perry Lane which has become severely overgrown and requested the clerk sends a letter to the homeowner. **Action: Clerk**
  2. **Yewsden House:** Cllr Cox updated Councillors on the background of the Dell based next to Yewsden House. The residents contacted the Clerk as a branch had come down in the wind and hit the resident. Following this the Clerk arranged for an Arboricultural Officer to attend and following his report the Clerk is in the process of obtaining quotes as 4 trees were highlighted as needing some attention.

Cllr Blackwell asked if there was a boundary between the land and discussions were had on this.

Cllr Reading confirmed that the Parish Council are the freeholders and that the land is not for sale.

Cllr Reading stated that going forward the Parish Council will deal with the dangerous trees and a potentially good idea to clear some of the area would be a village working party however, it is a wild place and the Parish Council will be keeping it that way.

* 1. Cllr Lord informed the meeting that Cllr Breese will be taking the place of Cllr Sage presenting at the next WDALC meeting on our Neighborough Plan.
  2. Cllr Lord raised the CIL report again which the clerk needs to review. **Action: Clerk**
  3. Cllr Castle stated that the bank reconciliation for the first quarter was satisfactory although we are behind on the quarterly financial report and needs completing for the next meeting. **Action: Clerk**
  4. Cllr Butler raised the issue of the footpaths by Lodge Hill View which has now been cut back and hopes that it gets maintained.

* 1. Cllr Bird reported that “Angel”, who has been camping on land in Saunderton to the north of the Icknield Way and east of the railway which it adjoins, is being evicted following the land being bought. There is a lot of rubbish there, estimated at over 500 bags. The eviction is being carried out under common law.
  2. Cllr Cox requested the quotes for Meadow Styles Hedges be resurrected for the October / November meeting so they can be approved. **Action: Clerk**

1. **Members of the Public Invited to Speak**

No members of the public present

1. **Next meeting**

It was confirmed that the next meeting will be held at Bledlow Ridge Hall on Thursday 3rd October 2019 starting at 7.30pm.

Meeting closed at 9.10pm.

**Signed…………………………………………….. Date…………………………………………..**