 **BLEDLOW-CUM-SAUNDERTON**

**PARISH COUNCIL**

Minutes of the Council Meeting held in Bledlow Village Hall on Thursday 2nd May 2019 at 7.50pm

Present: Councillors J Butler, S Breese, S Bird, M Blackwell, P Castle, A Lord,

A Sage, N Cox

County and District Councillor: Carl Etholen

Clerk: Tracey Martin

1. **Apologies for absence** None
2. **Dispensations**

No requests received.

1. **To approve the minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 4th April 2019**

Minutes were considered an accurate record of the meeting and approved.

1. **Outstanding Actions**

Cllr A Lord has the list of actions and will forward to the clerk. **Action: Cllr Lord**

1. **Broadband**

Cllr S Breese advised that the Broadband Working Group and representatives from Bledlow Church PCC were recommending engaging an architect to manage the retrospective planning application required to formalise the existing 'Rapid Rural' wireless broadband equipment installed on the church tower. Cllr Breese advised that in certain circumstances wireless communication installations can be considered as 'Permitted Development' but not in the case of Bledlow Church owing to its Grade 1 listed status.

The proposal was to use the same architect that the church had used for the recently completed 'HARP' project.

The costs for his services will be £1,500-£2,000.

Cllr S Breese asked what people thought of the quote.

Cllr A Sage thought that it sounded reasonable, Cllrs A Lord and S Reading both agreed it sounded reasonable and would be best to get in a professional.

Cllr S Breese proposed a provision of £2,000 and nobody rejected the proposal.

1. **Devolved Services** 
   * Meadow Styles – Cllr A Sage confirmed this was be handed over to Cllr N Cox
   * Meadow Styles Treework – Cllr N Cox has obtained 2 quotes, 1 declined so will obtain a 3rd **Action: Cllr Cox**
   * Grass cutting for Haw Lane and Hill View Saunderton is devolved to Princes Risborough Town Council and is being carried out on the 24th April and an invoice will be sent to Cllr S Reading.
   * Bledlow Churchyard – Cllr N Cox has received a quote but is awaiting another **Action Cllr Cox**
   * The hedge between the Crest and Chinnor Road – The contractor from Princes Risborough is not cutting up to the hedge as it damages equipment. **Action: Cllr Etholen**
   * Cllr B Bendyshe-Brown questioned whether West Lane / Perry Lane had been done. Cllr A Sage and Cllr S Reading confirmed that to the best of their knowledge the Lane had been cut last year.
   * Cllr A Lord mentioned that he had seen trucks carrying out gutter clearing around Upper Icknield Way and said we could do with them around the village. Cllr Etholen advised it was carried out around that area because it is prone to flooding.
   * Cllr N Cox stated that the bus shelter in Bledlow needs a complete new felt roof. Cllr J Butler asked if it was the same gentleman who was supposed to carry out the works in Bledlow Ridge. Cllr N Cox confirmed it was and that the work had been carried out. Cllr S Reading confirmed happy to proceed and that it was approved last year.

1. **Speedwatch**
   * Cllr A Lord confirmed advised that he had received full training for Speedwatch and that he was a competent user so able to train other people. Approval has been received from the police on sites – Perry Lane, Saunderton 40mph zone, telephone exchange hub, Meadow Styles and Hall Lane.
   * Cllr A Lord carried out Speedwatch and in 45 minutes caught 23 cars speeding
   * Cllr Lord confirmed that the LAF funding for the equipment had been received Cllr S Reading advised that he had been contacted by Paul Rogerson who was winding down the Neighbourhood Action Group. Funds still held by the group were being returned to the relevant Parish Councils. Cllr Reading had received a cheque for £75 and was asked to put it towards something safety related so will used for Speedwatch.
   * Cllr N Cox asked if we had high visibility jackets and C A Lord confirmed we had.
   * Cllr N Cox asked if we could work with West Wycombe. Cllr A Lord advised under no obligation to assist other parishes however, if requests are received it would be down to the council to decide. Policy required. **Action: Clerk**
2. **Planning**

Cllr A Sage discussed the following planning:

* + 44 Haw Lane – Step Lift, no objections.
  + Fell 4 Plum Trees (Church End Cottage) – no objections
  + Oakleigh Chapel Lane Garage / Playroom – Councillors object as on greenbelt land. Cllr A Sage urged John to make comment on the application
  + 68 Hawe Lane Garage, Council object and Cllr J Butler has written to them
  + Change in status since last meeting – Medeway and Manor House – Passed no objection

1. **Application for Grants**

Cllr S Reading - as discussed at the last meeting a request had been received to improve garden / outside space at Bledlow Village Hall and as we were unable to make a decision last time Cllr Bendyshe-Brown circulated an email. Cllr S Reading confirmed he would like to go ahead with the request.

Cllr J Butler asked what financial year’s budget grant would be funded from. Cllr Reading confirmed that the funding would come from the 2019/20 budget.

Cllr A Sage confirmed that even if we have spent budget, we can still consider other projects if they come along.

Proposed by 3 Cllrs, Cllr S Breese seconded and nobody objected.

Cllr A Lord suggested estimated costs should be presented before work is carried out. Cllr P Castle stated when grant applications are received, they should be put on agenda.

Cllr A Sage questioned whether there was proper guidance for grants on the website and something to be added to the actions list. **Action: Clerk**

1. **Authorisation of payments** 
   * Clerk salary for March and expenses
   * BALC Payment
   * Grant application
   * Cllr A Lord incurred personal expenses for Speedwatch

Cllr M Blackwell proposed, seconded by Cllr A Sage

1. **Correspondence, reports and issues from councillors and clerk** 
   * Cllr S Breese reported an issue with a signpost however, has been informed council do not deal with the signposts.
   * Cllr C Ethelon reported that 23 bollards are being replaced in Perry Lane
   * Cllr S Bird reported that the footpath around Lodge Hill View is overgrown, it is our responsibility so Cllr S Bird going to have another look and report back. Also stated the café has stopped operating the mobile building is still there. **Action**: **Cllr S Bird**
   * Cllr M Blackwell has received a complaint from a neighbour in Deansfield Close regarding the children getting on / off Motts coaches from school. They had graffitied on their property. Cllr Blackwell has spoken with Motts and been informed that it is down to Buckinghamshire County Council. It was decided that Cllr S Reading would send a letter on behalf of the parish council to the school

**Action: Cllr S Reading**

* + Cllr S Reading presented an Annual Governing Statement which required completion, it was discussed and signed. Cllr S Reading to enclose a letter with the statement explaining that we have not had a Parish Clerk for a few months
  + Cllr S Reading has been approached by a couple of neighbours regarding horn noise from trains, it was agreed there was nothing that could be done about this.
  + Cllr S Reading discussed that there was no provision for deaf people on the crossings on footpath – letter to be drafted to Network Rail. **Action Cllr Reading**
  + Cllr S Reading has been asked about the galvanised steel trespass fence which is unsightly. Cllr N Cox advised to report it to Network Rail with the possibility of painting it green to fit in with the landscape. **Action: Cllr S Reading**
  + Cllr A Lord to see if Bledlow Ridge qualify for Sky Discovery area **Action: Cllr A Lord**
  + Cllr C Ethelon has received an email that all tree cutting has been suspended all Hill View for 3 years due to condition survey / ownership of trees.
  + Cllr C Ethelon discussed Saunderton parking consultation. They will carry out at no obligation and if go ahead will cost £2k. £800 of which donated previously. Spending LAF money and £5K in holding.
  + Cllr C Ethelon advised that there will be new 2-way traffic light on Eastern Street / Queen Victoria Road closure for 6 nights overnight to 13th May.
  + No decisions on 19/20 budget - discussions next meeting.

1. **Next meeting**

It was confirmed that the next meeting will be held at Bledlow Ridge Village Hall on Thursday 6th June 2019 starting at **7.30pm**.

**Meeting Closed at 9.18pm**