



BLEDLOW-CUM-SAUNDERTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held in Bledlow Ridge Village Hall on Thursday
4th August 2016 at 7.30pm

Present: Councillors S Bird, S Breese (Chairman), J Butler, P Castle, N Cox, S Reading and A Sage;
Clerk: Jocelyn Cay
County and District Councillor: Carl Etholen
Luca Guerzoni – Neighbourhood Plan working group
15 members of the public

1. Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Councillors Mike Blackwell and Anthony Lord.

2. To approve the minutes of the meetings held on Thursday 7th July 2016

The minutes were approved and signed by the chairman as a true record.

3. Neighbourhood Plan

The members of the public present all confirmed they had attended the meeting in order to discuss the proposed Bledlow Ridge settlement boundaries within the draft Neighbourhood Plan. Cllr Breese summarised the current position of the Neighbourhood Plan with the next step being to revise the plan following the latest public consultation and then submission of the plan to Wycombe District Council (WDC) once the Parish Council have agreed it is ready. Cllr Breese reminded all present that the plan must find the best compromise of residents' wishes, planning rules, WDC views, the WDC Local Plan and the Princes Risborough Town Plan. The plan needs to have applied consistent methodology and the parish council need to be relatively sure it will pass approval from WDC and the planning inspector.

Luca Guerzoni explained how, using best practice alongside input from WDC and planning consultants rCOH, the Neighbourhood Plan Working Group had formulated a clear methodology used to determine all settlement boundaries within the Neighbourhood Plan, not just for Bledlow Ridge.

Cllr Castle responded by presenting detailed reasoning to the council as to why he thought the methodology used was flawed. He also outlined why he believed the proposed Bledlow Ridge boundaries are inappropriate, unnecessary, unacceptable and undemocratic. He proposed a modification to the proposal which restricts the boundary to a small area on the South West side of Chinnor Road.

There then followed a lengthy and detailed discussion of Cllr Castle's reasonings and suggested modification with input from all councillors, Luca Guerzoni and members of the public. Views were varied and it was concluded that the Neighbourhood Plan Working Group now had a sound idea of all the opinions and that further discussion would be necessary by the Working Group in order to determine if any refinements should be made to the settlement boundaries defined in the draft Neighbourhood Plan.

4. Molins

4.1. To agree how to respond to the latest planning amendment

Cllr Sage described to the council the basis of the draft letter he had written. Following discussion it was decided that a broader and more concise response would be preferable. It was agreed that Cllr Sage would circulate a draft letter to all councillors and that councillors should send any further comments to Cllrs Sage and Breese. Cllr Breese would then formulate a final response for the clerk to formally send to WDC.

Action: All Cllrs and Clerk

4.2. To agree how the parish might be represented at the upcoming planning appeal

Cllr Breese asked County Councillor Etholen if he thought the parish council should be represented at the Molins appeal starting on 7th September. Cllr Etholen agreed that it should. It was decided that Cllrs Breese and Sage would be best placed to represent the parish council and that Derek Stone should also be co-opted for this purpose at the September meeting of the parish council.

Initial.....

Action: Cllr Breese, Cllr Sage, Clerk

5. Provisional dates for extraordinary meeting

Cllr Breese explained that the revised Neighbourhood Plan will need approval from the parish council prior to submission to WDC. WDC need to have the plan before the Molins planning appeal in September and therefore an extraordinary meeting will be required in order for the council to agree if the revised plan should be submitted. Cllr Breese will send out requests to all councillors to determine the best date for the meeting.

Action: Cllr Breese

6. WDC Local Plan

The deadline for responses to the WDC Local Plan is 8th August 2016. Cllrs Sage and Bird distributed a draft response to the council. It was agreed that councillors should email any comments on the response to Cllr Bird by 5th August 2016 and then, once any amendments have been made, the clerk will send the response to WDC.

Action: All Cllrs and Clerk

7. Planning matters

7.1. Current applications were discussed and responses approved

7.2. The clerk informed the council that notification had been received of a planning appeal for previous applications at Old Callow Down Farm, Bledlow Ridge that had been refused. The council agreed that the original objection still stands and the clerk should respond accordingly.

Action: Clerk

8. Applications for grants

An application had been received from Brian Pitt, Bank Cottage, Church Lane, Bledlow Ridge requesting a grant to contribute funds towards repairing the surface of Church Lane, Bledlow Ridge which is in a dangerously deteriorated state and which Buckinghamshire County Council (BCC) have stated they are unable to repair due to a lack of funds. The parish council were sympathetic to the situation however agreed they are unable to provide funding as roads and byways are the responsibility of BCC. It was agreed that, should the residents of Church Lane wish to ask BCC for the road to be adopted, the parish council would support them in that application. The clerk should respond to the grant application accordingly.

Action: Clerk

9. Authorisation of payments

The following payments were unanimously agreed:

Cheque No.	Payee	Description	Net Amount	VAT	Total
100613	Jocelyn Cay	Salary – July 2016	£458.33		£458.33
100614	Jocelyn Cay	Expenses	£15.99		£15.99
100615	John Lawrence	Parish grass cutting	£268.00		£268.00
100616	Helping Hand	Two litter pickers	£24.90	£4.98	£29.88
100617	J's Screenprint & Signs	Playground signs – Meadow Styles	£60.00		£60.00
100618	Princes Risborough Town Council	Grass cutting – devolved services	£250.00	£50.00	£300.00
100620	TBS Hygiene Ltd	Bin emptying	£22.80	£4.56	£27.36
100621	Jocelyn Cay	John Lewis - Internal Auditor	£85.00		£85.00
100622	Nigel Cox	Beat the Bounds	£128.34	£25.67	£154.01
	Subtotal		£1,313.36	£85.21	£1,398.57
Neighbourhood Plan Expenditure					
100619	Bledlow Village Hall	Hire 6 th July 2016	£36.00		£36.00
	Subtotal		£36.00	£0.00	£36.00
	Total for month		£1,349.36	£85.21	£1,434.57

Initial.....

10. Quarterly financial report and bank reconciliation

Due to time constraints it was agreed the quarterly report would be discussed at the September meeting of the parish council.

The Clerk reported that Cllr Castle had verified bank reconciliations (for all accounts) produced by the Clerk and that he would sign the relevant documents as evidence thereof.

11. Correspondence, reports and issues from councillors and clerk

11.1. Cllr Etholen reiterated that funding for Broadband had been secured and that roll out was expected to be completed by 2018 although there are still no detailed plans or precise timescales.

11.2. Cllr Etholen stated that traffic sign cleaning was a low priority for BCC due to funding.

11.3. Cllr Etholen informed the council that, due to the exceptional weather and growth of vegetation, there would be four grass cuts this summer instead of two.

11.4. Cllr Butler asked about overgrown footpaths, it was agreed that it is an ongoing issue to locate and contact landowners to ask them to maintain the footpaths.

Action: Clerk

11.5. Cllr Bird formally thanked Cllr Cox for the Beat the Bounds tour of the parish that took place on Thursday 28th August. Cllr Bird will forward on her notes of the evening for inclusion with the minutes.

Action: Cllr Bird

11.6. Cllr Reading informed the council that there is a proposed start date for the Sandpit Lane improvements of 10th November 2016.

11.7. The clerk reported to the council that the lease of the Country Store in Bledlow Ridge is up for sale and the current owners of the lease had asked the clerk about the possibility of the local community purchasing the lease as per The Boot public house in Bledlow Ridge. It was agreed that this would be discussed further at the next meeting.

11.8. The clerk, on behalf of Cllr Blackwell, reported that there had been sightings of children on the West Yard development site. It was agreed that the clerk would inform WDC of the insecurity of the site.

Action: Clerk

11.9. The clerk informed the council that she had received an invitation from Neil Gibson, Interim Chief Executive of BCC, for a BCC representative to attend a parish council meeting and discuss the Unitary Authority proposals. It was agreed that this would be useful and that either the October or November meeting would be most suitable. The clerk will respond accordingly.

Action: Clerk

12. Next meeting

The next meeting will be held at Bledlow Village Hall on Thursday 1st September 2016 starting at 7.30pm.

Signed.....

Date.....