

BLEDLOW-CUM-SAUNDERTON PARISH COUNCIL

**Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held in Bledlow Village Hall on Thursday,
6th November 2014**

Present: Cllrs. Britnell, Breese (Chairman), Butler, Cox, Reading, and Taylor.
County Cllr. Etholen.
Mr. M. Blackwell

Seven members of the public.

Apologies for Absence: Cllrs. Hojer and Stone

Minutes of the last Meeting

The minutes of the meeting held on 4th September 2014 were approved and signed by the Chairman as a true record following a proposal by Cllr. Cox and seconded by Cllr. Taylor.

Co-option of a Member for Saunderton Ward

Following the resignation of Cllr. Stallwood, the vacancy for Saunderton Ward had been advertised to be filled by election. Only one person had put forward to WDC to stand for election and the vacancy had therefore been advertised to be filled by co-option. Again, the same person, Mr. Michael Victor Blackwell, had responded.

A proposal to co-opt Mr. Blackwell to the Parish Council to represent Saunderton Ward was made by Cllr. Britnell, seconded by Cllr. Butler and approved unanimously.

The Chairman therefore invited Mr. Blackwell to join the meeting.

Matters Arising from the Minutes

Devolution of BCC Services

The Clerk said that the meeting scheduled for 15th October to further discuss devolved services had been cancelled. However, he had spoken to Madeleine Howe to enquire whether the large hedge at The Crest in Bledlow Ridge was included in Princes Risborough Town Council's list of devolved services. She appeared to believe that no hedges are included for our Parish.

The Clerk was asked to take this matter up with Cllr. Bendyshe-Brown and copy in Cllr. Etholen and Madeleine Howe.

The Clerk confirmed that the previously agreed contract with BCC to trim and clear public footpaths in the Parish had been completed. Mr. Lawrence had submitted a bill for the work, and BCC had in turn been invoiced for reimbursement of the costs.

WDC had now proposed devolving some of their services, and our Parish had been asked whether it could consider taking on the work of cutting the verge at the rear of Hillview in Saunderton. The devolved annual budget for the work is £35. Mr. Lawrence would be asked whether he could do the work, and within the stated budget.

Proposed Touring Caravan Site

The Parish Council has received formal notice from the Caravan Club that it has abandoned its plans for a touring caravan site in Chapel Lane, Bledlow.

Website

The existing Bucks Voice website would continue to be used as a platform for the Parish Council.

Cllr. Britnell had already made substantial changes to the design and appearance of the site, and will extend the scope to include an archive of meeting minutes and other statutory documents for public availability.

The site will also include links to other organisations within the Parish.

Parish Notice Boards

Deferred until the next meeting

Planning Matters

Parish Council Decisions

- 14/07427/FUL The Paddock, Routs Green, Bledlow Ridge
Construction of single-storey side extension.
Applicant: Mr. R. Johnson
Resolved: No objection
- 14/07605/CTRE 1 Manor Close, Church End, Bledlow
Reduce height of Norwegian spruce to below adjacent electric cable.
Applicant: Miss B. Green
Resolved: No objection
- 14/07486/FUL Drovers Hill Farm, Upper Icknield Way, Saunderton
Erection of two-storey detached building creating a two-storey 2-bed dwelling and incorporating basement packaging, plant and archive/storage rooms, garage/kennel to side, first-floor office and print room.
Applicant: Mr. & Mrs. M. Knop
Resolved: Objection. Over-large dwelling for its location. Possible creeping urbanisation.
- 14/07686/FUL Highlands, Hill Top Lane, Chinnor
Construction of detached ancillary building.
Applicant: Mrs. L. Fitzpatrick
Resolved: Objection. No purpose for or proposed use of the building specified in the application.
- 14/07726/AGI Highlands, Hill Top Lane, Chinnor
Erection of an agricultural building for the storage of machinery and materials.
Applicant: Mrs. L. Fitzpatrick
Resolved: Objection. Inappropriate building for the stated purpose.
- 14/07742/AGI Highlands, Hill Top Lane, Chinnor
Erection of an agricultural building for the storage of machinery and materials.
Applicant: Mrs. L. Fitzpatrick
Resolved: Objection. Apparent duplication of 14/07726/AGI

Wycombe District Council Decisions

14/07086/FUL St. Ives, Perry Lane, Bledlow

Construction of single-storey side extension (alternative to scheme in PP 13/07721/FUL).

Applicant: Mr & Mrs. C. Barlow

PERMISSION GRANTED

14/07186/FUL Old Farm, Wigans Lane, Bledlow Ridge

Construction of two-storey side extension, single-story rear extension, construction of detached garage with guest accommodation over and alterations to existing agricultural building to provide stable block.

Applicant: Mr. R. Stewart

PERMISSION GRANTED

14/07225/FUL Old Callow Down Farm, Wigans Lane, Bledlow Ridge

14/07226/LBC Proposed demolition of existing extension to dwelling and erection of part two/single-storey extension. Conversion of outbuilding including mezzanine floors and erection of single-storey side extension to provide ancillary accommodation.

Applicant: Mr. & Mrs. Chalmers

PERMISSION GRANTED

Local Plan and Proposed Saunderton Developments

The Chairman said that he would summarise the Parish Council's many concerns regarding the WDC Local Plan, and circulate the draft letter to all members before sending it to WDC. The letter would be copied to Cllrs. Bendyshe-Brown and Etholen.

There is to be a public consultation meeting convened by WDC at a venue and date in early December yet to be confirmed.

The meeting agreed that the main concerns the Parish Council had are about the proposed Wests Yard and Molins developments.

They are: serious soil contamination at Wests Yard; parking at Saunderton Station; the need for pedestrian access from the Molins site to the station; the dependency on cars given the location of the Molins site; access on to the A4010 and the apparent agreement by TfB for alternate single-way traffic under the Haw lane bridge controlled by traffic lights; the need for additional education and retail facilities.

Financial Matters

Payments

The following payments were approved by the meeting. After a proposal by Cllr. Britnell, seconded by Cllr. Taylor.

| Cheque No. | Payee | For | Amount £ |
|-------------------|----------------------|---------------------|-----------------|
| 100449 | Bledlow Village Hall | Hire of Hall | 36.00 |
| 100450 | M. J. Evins | Salary and Expenses | 443.94 |

| | | | |
|--------------|-------------------------|--------------------------|----------------|
| 100451 | Playground Services Ltd | Disc Roundabout Bearings | 615.00 |
| 100452 | Lawrence Landscapes Ltd | Various (See Below) | 2188.55 |
| 100453 | TBS Hygiene Ltd | Bin Emptying | 27.36 |
| 100454 | D A Saunders | Work at Meadow Stiles | 45.00 |
| | | | |
| Total | | | 3355.85 |

Draft Budget

A draft budget for the year ending 31st March 2016 had been pre-issued to all members in management accounts form to show last year's data, this year's estimated income, expenditure and cash balances based on actual data to the end of October 2014, and a projection of income and expenditure for next financial year. A precept of £18000 had been written into next year's income, an increase of £1000. The Clerk stressed that no contingency had been written into next year's figures and that grant expenditure in particular had assumed no payments of grants beyond the usual £2000 each to the village halls, and £250 each to the parish newsletters.

It was also important to recognise the existing CIL fund of £4700, and the projected CIL income in April 2015 of almost £10000. These funds must be spent on capital projects within the parish within five years of their receipt.

Cllr. Cox proposed that £4000 be set aside from the CIL money within next year's budget to enable appropriate capital expenditure to be made if necessary, and that provision should be made for a possible increase in the Clerk's salary. The Chairman also suggested that, in view of the likely surplus cash balances this year and next, a precept increase would not be appropriate.

The Chairman said that he would rework the spreadsheet he had produced, and that the budget would be taken forward to the January 2015 meeting for approval, and so that a precept requisition could be forwarded to WDC thereafter.

Applications for Grants

An application had been received from Bledlow Ridge Village Hall for grants to cover the cost of three new Gopak tables and a Village Hall sign. Mrs. Ley had told the Clerk that she was having trouble getting a satisfactory quote for the sign, and the grant request for that could be deferred.

After a proposal by Cllr. Butler, seconded by Cllr. Hojer, a grant for £160 for the tables was agreed.

Sundry Parish Matters

Councillors Code of Conduct

The Chairman said that he had been concerned about the content and tone of some recent emails, and told the meeting that all members should conduct themselves in public and in writing in a way that would not bring the Parish Council into disrepute.

Speed Limit for Sandpit Lane

Cllr. Britnell told the meeting that the derestricted speed limit in Sandpit Lane is causing considerable concern to residents. There have been several incidents of vehicles using the road at excessive

speeds and in a way that puts lives in danger. This problem is particularly acute at the Phoenix Trail crossing, where Sustrans have failed so far to install chicane- type safety barriers.

The meeting was told by Cllr. Etholen that the speed limit survey was concluded about four years ago and a change to reduce the speed limit in Sandpit Lane would be unlikely. However, he agreed to take the matter up with the TfB Road Safety Team. He would also try to arrange a meeting between the Team and Cllr. Britnell.

Correspondence

Hemley Hill Action Group

A letter had been received from HHAG confirming that the travellers had moved on and the field had been purchased by a consortium of local residents. HHAG appealed in the letter for Parish Council assistance towards the cost of returning the field to its original state.

Whilst the meeting was pleased that the long-running Hemley Hill problem had finally been resolved, no financial assistance could be offered as the field is now owned by a commercial organisation.

Other matters not requiring decisions

Molins Site

Cllr. Cox told the meeting that the Molins site had again been subject to break-ins, and suggested that the Parish Council get in touch with the site owners to request they tighten security.

No Parish Council action will to be taken on this matter.

Household Refuse Site

Several members reported that the site's floodlights were lit all night. Cllr. Etholen agreed to take up the issue with BCC.

Bledlow Ridge VAS

Cllr. Cox said that both VAS are defective in that the 'zero' character on both is not lit. TfB are dealing with the matter.

Date of Next Meeting

There being no other business, the meeting was closed at 9.45pm.

The next meeting will be held on Thursday, 4th December 2014 in Bledlow Ridge Village Hall.

Signed.....(Chairman) Date.....