

BLEDLOW-CUM-SAUNDERTON PARISH COUNCIL

**Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held in Bledlow Ridge Village Hall on Thursday, 6th
December 2012**

Present: Cllrs. Breese (Chairman), Cox, Reading, Mrs. Stallwood, Stone, and Mrs. Taylor

Apologies For Absence: Cllr. Britnell

Minutes of the last Meeting

The minutes of the meeting held on 4th November 2012 were approved after a proposal by Cllr. Reading, seconded by Cllr. Mrs. Stallwood, and were signed by the Chairman as a true record.

Matters Arising

Parish Council Vacancy

Mrs. June Butler was proposed to be co-opted to the Bledlow Ridge ward vacancy by Cllr. Cox and seconded by Cllr. Mrs. Stallwood. Mrs. Butler's co-option was unanimously agreed, and she was invited to take her place at the meeting.

A letter of resignation had been received from Cllr. Ingram with regret. The Clerk would initiate the process of advertising the vacancy.

Hemley Hill

The Chairman invited a representative of the Hemley Hill Action Group present to address the meeting. The Parish Council was thanked for having written to WDC to ask for clarification of a number of issues related to the eventual evacuation of the site. However, WDC's reply had not contained sufficient comfort that enough action is planned to achieve the evacuation as quickly as possible. It was claimed by HHAG that some of the travellers' assertions to defend evacuation are not as they would appear, and the requirement for the provision of mains water seems strange after three years of occupation without it. It was noted that the trench dug for the supply had not been filled in after WDC had halted the process.

The Chairman asked what more the Parish Council might do, and the answer was to push for the earliest possible evacuation of the site, and to attempt to get the local District Councillor more interested in the matter than he seems to be. Cllr. Stone suggested that HHAG would be best advised to telephone Cllr. Angell as written communication seemed to have little effect.

Holy Trinity Churchyard

The Clerk told the meeting that he had spoken to the churchwarden about the work quoted for by John Lawrence and approved by the Parish Council. Mr. Oakley had agreed that the work should be carried out, and Mr. Lawrence had been given the go-ahead.

Road Maintenance and Traffic Calming

Speaking about the letter he had written to Mr. Chris Williams, the Chief Executive of BCC, and Mr. Williams' reply, the Chairman said that the reply had been disappointing and contained statements that seemed to be supported by Mr. Williams' signature, but were inaccurate. It was agreed by the meeting that BCC had covered many things demanded by the Parish Council, but work is still required to finish or do others, such as the 40mph roundels in Bledlow Ridge, surfacing the bottom half of Haw Lane, and attending to enlarging or clearing out culverts to prevent the flooding in Upper Icknield Way, and West Lane and the B4009 in Bledlow.

The Clerk would make contact, again, with the new LAT to arrange a meeting.

Cllr. Cox also said that there appears to be a potential encroachment of the boundary of the Service Station building site.

It was however noted that BCC are to install two VAS in Bledlow. The position of one has been agreed, and the Clerk will speak to BCC about a suitable location for other one on the Longwick side of the S bends.

Cllr. Reading said that having seen BCC's gritting schedule, he would like to see Upper Icknield Way and Lee Road included, as both are school bus routes. The Clerk would speak to BCC about this.

Cllr. Cox said that the footway near Bledlow Ridge Village Hall badly needs repair, and that he had seen a diversion for footpath 3 publicised in the Bucks Free Press that had not been notified to the Parish Council. The Clerk would pursue both matters.

Website

The Chairman said that he had contacted the editors of both local newsletters about their interest in contributing to a Parish Council website. The editor of Contact had been enthusiastic, but the editor of The Parish Messenger had expressed concern that the publication should continue to be distributed in its physical form. Cllr. Breese said that the aim of any website should be as inclusive for as many local clubs and institutions as possible, and that it should act as a supplement, not a replacement, for the existing publication, so that it became a comprehensive source of parochial information. Cllr. Breese would arrange a meeting with the Messenger's editor to discuss the matter and try to allay his concerns.

Phoenix Trail Safety Barriers

The Clerk had spoken to the Police about this matter and had been told that whilst Thames Valley Police are keen to support proposed safety measures, there had been no recorded safety incidents at the location mentioned.

The meeting agreed to put the issue into abeyance for Cllr. Britnell to raise again should he think it appropriate.

Planning Matters

Parish Council Decisions

- 12/07336/FUL Grangewood, Chapel Lane, Bledlow Ridge
Engineering works to garden area to level the site (part retrospective)
Applicant: Mr. S. James
Resolved: No objection
- 12/07404/FUL Cutlers Orchard, Perry Lane, Bledlow
Erection of two 5-bed detached dwellings with detached double garages,
construction of two-storey side extension and new detached garage to main
building and associated access alterations.
Applicant: Mr. & Mrs. B. Lansley
Resolved: Objection. Possible over-development of the site.
- 12/07440/FUL Dean Valley Nursery, Deanfield, Saunderton
Change of use of part of redundant landholding for the siting of four yurts for
short-term holiday accommodation and conversion of an existing barn to
provide ancillary guest services
Applicant: Mrs. E. Hojer

Resolved: No objection, conditional on the redundant glasshouses being being removed or made safe

12/07539/FUL Dragons Mount, Hill Top Lane, Chinnor

Construction of two-storey side extension comprising additional bedroom space to the main house at first-floor level and a self-contained and linked annexe at ground-floor level with raised decking area.

Applicant: Mr. E. Davies

Resolved: No objection

12/07541/FUL Runcton Cottage, Oddley Lane, Saunderton

Construction of new triple garage with storage above at front of dwelling

Applicant: Mr. P. Parkhouse

Resolved: Objection. Proposed garage too large and at front of dwelling

12/07675/FUL Dean Farm House, Deanfield, Saunderton

Removal of existing outbuildings, proposed minor remodelling of existing house to front and rear and construction of two-storey side extension, single-storey side attached outbuilding and associated external and internal alterations.

Applicant: Mr. & Mrs. L. Stringfellow

No objection

12/07569/FUL 80 Haw Lane, Bledlow Ridge

Alteration of hipped roof to gable ends including dormer windows to front and rear elevations to accommodate first-floor living accommodation.

Applicant: Mr. & Mrs. G. Bunker

Resolved: No objection

12/07721/TPO 50 Saunderton Vale, Saunderton

Raise crown to 4 metres and reduce lateral branches by 6ft to oak T1 and beech T2 subject to TPO 23/2004

Applicant: Mr. P. Madden

Resolved: No objection

Wycombe District Council Decisions

12/07281/FUL 13 The Crest, Bledlow Ridge

Two-storey side extension, first floor rear extension, insertion of rear dormer window in existing rear roof slope and single-storey rear extension (alternative to permission on 11/07461/FUL)

Applicant: Mr. J. Dodds

PERMISSION REFUSED

Financial Matters

Payments

The following payments were authorized following a proposal by Cllr. Cox and seconded by Cllr. Reading.

Cheque	Amount	Payee	For
100309	35.00	BledlowRidge Village Hall	Hire of Hall
100310	204.14	M. J. Evins	Salary & Expenses

100311	250.80	HMRC	Clerk PAYE
100312	27.36	TBS Hygiene Ltd	Bin Emptying
100313	65.99	Software Asset Management	Office 2010 Software
Total	583.29		

New Bank Mandate

The Clerk said that he had spoken to Cllr. Reading, the one outstanding signatory, before the meeting, and now needed to go back to HSBC Thame branch in order to finalise matters.

2013/2014 Budget

It was agreed to postpone approval of the budget until next meeting, pending clarification of the effect on Council Tax of the government's withdrawal of the Council Tax subsidy. It seems likely that, despite holding precepts at their current level, the measure would result in higher Council Taxes.

Co-Operative Bank

Details of the Co-Op Banks deposit rates had been distributed before the meeting, and it was approved, after a proposal by Cllr. Breese, seconded by Cllr. Reading, to open a fixed term deposit account at a much higher rate than that offered by HSBC.

Applications for Grants

None made.

Sundry Parish Matters

Saunderton Vale Parking

This matter has resurfaced following a Vale resident raising the prospect of parking problems resuming when Chiltern Railways put on an additional morning train and the reimposition of parking charges at Princes Risborough. The meeting agreed that no action would be taken unless the feared problems actually occurred. Meanwhile, Cllr. Mrs. Stallwood had kindly agreed to put up warning posters on the station railings. The Clerk would also write to the resident in question to explain the Council's position.

Footpaths

The diversion to FP BCS 8 had been approved by BCC and was noted

The obstructions along the line of FP BCS 52 at Woodlands Farm had still not been removed, but BCC are now at a stage with the property owner of issuing legal charges.

Correspondence

Risborough Area Forum

A letter from Risborough Area Forum inviting interest from local organisations including the Parish Council was discussed without coming to a conclusion.

Chilterns Conservation Board

A letter of thanks had been received following the Parish Council having given a grant of £250.

Any Other Business

Village Hall Committees

Cllr. Britnell had attended the last meeting of the Bledlow Village Hall committee and had indicated that he would be willing to act as the Parish Council's representative.

There is no Parish Council representative for Bledlow Ridge Village Hall, but Cllr. Mrs. Butler agreed to attend the next committee meeting.

HS2

It was agreed that the Parish Council would re-state its opposition to the HS2 project.

Footpath Maps

Cllr. Cox said that some other local parish councils had put weather-proof maps on their noticeboards showing country footpaths in their area. He suggested that we did the same. The Chairman thought that the Chilterns Conservation Board might be a source of financial support.

Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be held in Bledlow Village Hall at 7.30pm on Thursday, 3rd January 2013

There being no other business, the meeting was closed at 9.10pm and thrown open to public discussion.

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