

BLOXHAM PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES of the meeting held on Monday 2nd April 2007 at 7.30pm
in the Parish Rooms, Bloxham

PRESENT

David Chapman (BDC) Chairman
David Carr (DJC)
Philip Cavill (PCa)
Stuart Cruickshank (SC)
David Gibbard (DG)
Jim Golby (JG)
Debbie Matthews (DM)
Alan Miller (AM)
Annette Thomas (AT)

There was also one resident and a representative of the Press present.

Cllr E. Heath arrived at 7.40pm; Cllrs K Mitchell and L Thirzie Smart arrived at 8.07

2007/51 APOLOGIES

Isobel Bonner (Holidays) and Paul Christmas (work in India).

Item		Action by
2007/52	<p><u>Resident's Issues</u></p> <p>i) Attention was drawn to Ban Guardian item, which stated that there was £100,000 available for Street Wardens in Banbury and Bicester. Could Bloxham apply for some of this money for one to be appointed here, since part of their remit is to areas, which involve Anti-social behaviour and crime? These were contrasted with PCSOs (to be discussed later), and the question was raised: what is the difference? Clerk to get information.</p> <p>ii) The resident had been asked to raise the issue of the possibility of a Pelican Crossing near to Strawberry Terrace, where there had used to be a Patrol Officer. This was a matter for Highways – To be raised with Highways</p> <p>iii) There is parking on the pavement in Church St towards Barford Road.</p> <p>iv) The parking in Courtington Lane near the junction with The Avenue makes it dangerous for exiting The Avenue. Police to be informed on iii) & iv)</p>	<p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p>
07/53	<p><u>Declarations of Interest</u></p> <p>Clerk declared a prejudicial interest in the last item re his appraisal.</p>	
07/54	<p><u>Minutes of meeting of 5th March 2007</u></p> <p>These are agreed as a true record, and were signed by the Chairman.</p>	
07/55	<p><u>Matters Arising</u></p> <p>2007/35: Steve Wood of Highways had said that for next 4-5 months the traffic monitoring unit is fully booked, unless there is accident history, that needs considering. This will then mean others going further down list. Clerk had asked him to put both Milton Road & Cumberford Hill on the list.</p> <p>07/38(07/29): Millennium Photo Album: Presentation took place on 24th March at Museum, but need to get extra albums for Peter Barwell to fill in gaps. Parish Council agreed for these to be bought.</p> <p>07/41: Environment Group: Planters: To meet with Louise Harrison this Thursday (5th April) to determine place.</p> <p>07/42: Jubilee Park: To be further considered under correspondence with Bloxham School</p> <p>07/48: BDC gave report on meeting of 6th March re Local Development Framework (This was a bi-monthly meeting for consultation) and also his reply on behalf of Parish Council to the Minerals and Waste Core Strategy paper. As he was not present PCh was unable to report on response on the Regional Housing Strategy Review.</p> <p><u>Bench in memory of Connie McCammon:</u> Clerk had delivered 20 letters to residents local to proposed site asking for any comments. Three replies – two in favour and one against. Parish Council agreed to go ahead with proposal (AM proposed and DM seconded) depending on outcome from Highways. Inspector had been out to photograph proposed site. Also agreed that there should be a litterbin next to it. (Clerk to order). DG & PCa had spoken with Brian Stringer about</p>	<p>Clerk</p> <p>PCh</p> <p>Clerk</p>

	concrete base to which he agreed. DG to order wood for benches Note to be sent to relatives about inscription. Clerk to check with relatives about idea of award in her memory.	DG Clerk
07/56	Police Community Support Officers: ‘Memorandum of Understanding’ had been circulated earlier. Feeling was Thames Valley appear to interpret this differently in different areas. BDC to consider with neighbouring villages implications of investing in one of these, but with no commitment without it being brought back to full Parish Council, and if Parish Council in agreement, it should still go to full Parish Meeting since would involve extra precept. Councillors could not see why we did not get support of police in village now, since we pay tax for it. The question was raised of whether MofU can have extra clauses in it or not to cover aspect of PCSOs being removed elsewhere. Clerk to check.	Clerk
07/57	Roads and Traffic a. Fatal Accident Church St Clerk has spoken with Police and has been told that it is early days as yet, and final report will depend on Police, Highways and of course the coroner. At present it has been stated that lighting may be low, but probably within limits set by Highways. Clerk has also been in touch with Steve Wood of Highways, who has already been out. He states again that traffic-calming measures need to be discussed with Area Engineer. Steve Wood states that Church St, despite this accident, is regarded as a safe road. We will need to wait for final report, probably from coroner. Traffic Technician to recommend to Area Engineer re appropriateness of traffic calming measures.	Clerk
07/58	b. Transport representative needed for meetings in Oxford – preferably someone who uses public services. Does not have to be member of Parish Council. Clerk will contact any person suggested when Clerk has date of next meeting. Note to be placed in Broadsheet.	All & Clerk
07/59	c. Bus stop at end of Winter’s Way: Clerk had been in touch with Highways who are awaiting reply from Stagecoach on why it was moved to end of Courtington Lane. OCC proposing to inspect later this week.	
07/60	Environment Group a. Meeting of 27th March: Awaiting visit from Traffic Technician to determine place for 2 planters near Warriner School and one at Rec. Ground end, and about bulbs on side of road. b. PCa gave report (submitted on behalf of Parish Council) on Waste Disposal Sites , which was a consultative document. c. Note to go in Broadsheet about cutting back overhanging branches, clearing stones etc.	Clerk & DM
07/61	Playing Fields a. Jubilee Park DM gave report of latest meeting of JPMC Lloyds TSB are sponsoring the PA system, which can be used both outside and inside the Hall. Football club providing the stands for it for outside. Football club doing work on the field over next few months. BDC & Clerk to discuss with Football Club. Clerk still to check on repairs to fencing around under 5s play area.	Clerk & BDC Clerk
07/62	b. Recreation Ground Letter from Trustees to Recreation Ground distributed. It was felt that it did not answer any of questions asked and told us nothing. Parish Council was not suggesting that Trustees were sub committee of Parish Council. Just wanted to ensure that Recreation Ground continued in current position and answering need. It was suggested that Recreation Ground Trustees could produce a business plan, which would help Parish Council ensure that the grant of £2000 from Parish Council was being spent in best way. Agreed that another letter should be sent in response. SC to draft and circulate to Finance subgroup initially.	SC, Finance Group & Clerk

07/63	<p><u>Planning</u></p> <p>a) <u>Applications</u> (with sub groups comments)</p> <p>07/00521/F: First Floor side extension for 11 Manning Close – recently circulated. 07/00406/OUT: Renewal of planning permission 04/00502/OUT for demolition of existing workshops and erection of 3 dwellings with car parking spaces for the Depot, Cumberford Hill – Concern raised that was the original gasworks and so is of historical interest. C.03/07: OCC: rearrangements and improvements to existing car parking area at Warriner School. – No objection but what about bottle bank containers, which are currently on roadside – what is happening to them and who is responsible if there is an accident on highway?</p> <p>b) <u>Decisions</u></p> <p>06/02466/LB: Repairs to Ashwell House, Stone Hill: Granted subject to conditions 07/00042/F: Dormer windows, etc for Horelia, The Ridgeway: Granted subject to conditions 07/00057/F: Demotion of garage, etc & build side extension for 7 The Pound: Granted subject to conditions 06/02498/F: Proposed extension to include 6 closecare units, etc for Godswell House: Granted subject to conditions. (Thank you letter from Managing Director.) 07/00065/F: Conservatory to rear for 7 Bloxham Court: Granted subject to conditions 07/00089/LB: Replacement of windows, etc for 2 Sycamore Terrace: Granted subject to conditions 07/00151/F: Demolition of existing dwelling, etc – Amendments to permission of 06/01752/F - for Iley, Banbury Road – granted subject to conditions</p> <p>c) The Avenue: Concern was expressed about the development there and the placing of site huts. Cllr E. Heath agreed to look into the matter.</p>	
07/64	<p><u>Parish Plan and Strategy Group</u></p> <p>i) Grant of £1500 received via ORCC. Agreed that separate account should be opened with 2 out of 4 signatories. ii) Final Judging of design of logos by schools in village to take place at ex-Servicemen’s Hall on Saturday 23rd June iii) Clerk had checked re Insurance: Any events organised by Steering Group, which is under auspices of Parish Council, are covered for Public Liability Insurance.</p>	Clerk
07/65	<p><u>Budget 2006/7:</u> The final accounts will be available for next month. and will then need to be audited. Income: VAT for 05-06 received: £1214.08</p>	Clerk
07/66	<p><u>Budget 2007/8:</u> Ex-servicemen’s Hall: Rather than leaving it open that we would meet the shortfall, the proposal is that we should donate £2000, and for Ex-servicemen’s Committee to come back to us if necessary. In principle all agreed, but first of all clarification needed re Finance Plan. Proposed by DJC seconded by DG.</p>	Clerk
07/67	<p><u>Training (for Clerk and Councillors)</u></p> <p>Wed 6th June: An Introduction for Councillors & Clerks 10.00 – 3.00 Wed 4th July: Getting to Grips with Finance 10.15-2.30 Wed 10th Oct: Effective Responses to Planning Applications 9.30 – 1.00 Councillors to indicate at next meeting their interest.</p>	All & Clerk
07/68	<p><u>Annual Meeting of Village:</u> This will be at Jubilee Hall on Tuesday 24th April at 7.30pm. (Please note change of day and date). Format will include Keith Janes as Chairman of Parish Plan Steering Group, Cllr Keith Mitchell and Cllr E Heath. Parish Council Chairman (BDC) will give a summary of the previous year and Clerk to speak on Finances. See Notice boards for further details nearer the time. Agreed that refreshments should include wine.</p>	
07/69	<p><u>15. Correspondence</u></p> <p><u>For information</u></p> <p>DCA: Memorial Safety – copy passed to St Mary’s Church Farming And Wildlife Advisory Group: Pack received Ramblers’ Association: Pack received</p>	

CDC: Cherwell Link: Spring Edition 2007
 CDC: Standards Committee: Agenda for 22nd March and Minutes of 1st February.
 DEFRA: Review of Quality Council scheme postponed in view of Parliament Bill for 'Strong and Prosperous Communities'.
 Jubilee Park Management Committee: Thank you for balance of Grant for 06/07
 Warriner School: Thank you for donation to cost of equipping new hall.
 Junior Citizen's Safety programme: Thank you for donation to programme.
 BDO Stoy Hayward: (External Auditors- confirmed by Audit Commission) – General information re audit for 2006/7.
 OCC: News letter for March 2007 with Posters about 'Do it online'
 CDC: Youth Spotlight March 2007 edition
 OCC: Press Releases re Public Transport
 CPRE: March 2007 Fieldwork: re Planning issues
 CDC: Review of Village Categorisation – returned
 ORCC: News Bulletin April; 2007
 CAG: March 2007
 OCC: Rural Children's Project – DM to attend on 3rd May at Deddington school.
 Postwatch: letter re Closure of Post offices
 CDC: Recreation Strategy: PCa reported on meeting he attended.

DM

07/70

For Decision

i) Bloxham School – request to meet with Governors re access over Jubilee Park, Water Lane and car parking at Dewey/Jubilee Hall: Proposed 22 May at 4.30pm: Though all agreed with this, earliest most people could make would be 6.00pm. Clerk to email re this.

Clerk

Some of comments: Speed hump had been promised; The Car Park is very dark – lighting needed; At times gates to Dewey Centre have been closed. Also it was felt that JPMC, local residents, Bowls club should be represented at this meeting. Concern also expressed about gap having been put in hedge along The Ridgeway, which people are now using as a thoroughfare, and one person has recently been burgled in vicinity. Bloxham School to be contacted.

Clerk

ii) Footpath between Bloxham and Milcombe: email from Sarah Aldous: Total cost is £808m for 4 metal kissing gates and 2 metal pedestrian gates at either end of bridge. OCC will pay 50%. Parish Council previously had agreed to make contribution. All agreed that this should still be the case.

Clerk

iii) Thames and Chilterns in Bloom Association: invitation to enter competition for Neighbourhood Awards. Decision made not to participate.

iv) ORCC: ceasing to organise Best Kept Village Competition but there is instead a newer competition – the 'Calor Oxfordshire Villages of the Year'. Perhaps participate next year.

v) Thames Valley Police: Competition to Highlight Community Policing.

07/71

vi) CDC: Leisure section: Visit to Batsford Estate Thursday 10th May 4-9 pm (£5 towards transport). No one able to go.

Payment of AccountsPreviously Agreed (with date of cheques)

C Roberts: (Electricity for Christmas Tree) 26.3.07	£30.00
Karen Muir: (Internal auditor for 8.5 hours work) 26.3.07	£212.50
D.A.Townsend: (New monitor for Council's Computer) 5.3.07	£139.00
D/D: Public Works Loan Board on 30 March 2007	£5852.03
<u>Agreed:</u>	
OALC (Subscription for 1.4.07 – 31.3.08)	£508.99
CDC: (emptying of 8 dog bins for Winter period)	£272.27
Bloxham Parish Council (Gratuity Fund – March)	£24.85
Viking Direct (Ink Cartridges)	£70.11
Grants: St Mary's Church (Tree preservation & Churchyard)	£1200.00
St Mary's Thursday Club	£700.00
Bloxham Lunch Club	£520.00
Bloxham Recreation Ground	£2000.00
David Godfrey	
Salary (March 2007)	£517.04

Expenses:

BT Telephone Line	11.99
Staples (Paper & Ink Cartridge)	40.97
Broadband (April)	16.10
Total:	£69.06

07/72 **Any other item**

Chairman invited to opening of Pre-school Hall on 21st April

07/73 **Date and Time of Next Meeting: Monday 14th May at 7.30pm**

Please note that due to Bank Holiday on the first Monday the meeting will be on the second Monday of month.

Press and public excluded by resolution for next item:**07/74** **Clerk's Appraisal**

Chairman and Vice-chairman have carried this out.

Full council agreed with result and that extra increment should be given as from April 2007.

It was noted that there are also various amendments/corrections to the contract that need to be signed by Chairman and Clerk.

David Godfrey
Parish Clerk
4 April 2007