

76  
BLOXHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Action  
By

Item

MINUTES of the meeting held on Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> September 2007 at 7.00pm  
in the Parish Rooms, Bloxham

PRESENT

David Chapman Chairman  
David Carr  
Philip Cavill  
Stuart Cruickshank  
David Gibbard  
Jim Golby  
Debbie Matthews  
Alan Miller  
Annette Thomas

07/129 There were four residents, & Cllr Eric Heath present.  
APOLOGIES Cllrs K Mitchell, and L Thirzie Smart (meetings) and Paul Christmas (late from work)  
No apology from I Bonner

07/130 Ralph Grant, OCC Highways Department spoke re Traffic Calming in the village, especially with regard to A361. Only two ways of getting funding now:

- i) Road Safety Team: But in village over last 5 years only been one fatality (still under investigation) and one serious out of 11 in total on A361 – Never more than 2 at any particular junction.
- ii) Through Local Transport Plan: Government has changed criteria – and have to justify local scheme according to national criteria - i.e. congestion, safer roads, better air quality, improving street environment, access for key services. Bloxham does not get anywhere nears to be able to submit bid under any of these criteria.
- iii) Other alternatives: Parish Council has to find funding – Road signs and high visibility backing: app £180 – unless so badly damaged has to be replaced then Highways will do it. High St/Church St: It was pointed out to RG that there were a lot of services especially for elderly people near Godswell Surgery area and there was only a narrow footpath on one side, and none on part of the other. RG said it was not the worst section of the village. If a controlled pedestrian crossing was required in area than this would be for Parish Council to arrange funding which could be £15-20K
- iv) Another issue raised was: the giving of information to A361 as a route for lorry drivers. Clerk to check and inform RG if this is correct or not
- v) Cllr Heath pointed out that there was now the need to know Bloxham – it has changed a great deal and there are a lot of unreported accidents or near misses. He felt that there was the need for a survey lorries going through the village, and proposed that speed limit in village should be changed to 20mph
- vi) RG agreed to get team to consider air quality test. He said there was an annual survey of A361 and records were available on website.
- vii) RG agreed to speak with Louise Harrison re meeting with Cllr Heath and clerk about the parking at Old Bakery.
- viii) RG agreed for reinstatement of 30mph roundel that had been covered over in recent re-surfacing.

Clerk

07/131 Residents Issues:

- i) Re Crabtree Close development: No footpath from main road into Ells Lane. Email from Colin Baird to Cllr Keith Mitchell read out in which stated that developers hoped to start work on 17<sup>th</sup> September – delay has been due to a legal hold-up.
- ii) Tree needed as replacement for Greenhills Park – to be followed up
- iii) Re: Flooding: Pipes had not been cleared – only the drains. Resident (Mark Taylor) will follow this up.

Clerk

07/132 Minutes of last meeting of 2<sup>nd</sup> July 2007 were agreed by all as true record and signed by chairman.

07/133 Matters Arising  
07/97: Code of Conduct – Chairman and Clerk attended training session at Bodicote House on 14<sup>th</sup> August 2007 and DJC attended the same at Bicester on 28<sup>th</sup> August. Copies of overheads to be made for everyone.

Clerk

07/96: Petition re Winters Way/The Avenue has now been delivered to Charter Housing since not owned by CDC. Highways are also to be asked about ownership.  
 07/117: Accord Highways to attend October meeting.  
 07/118: Kissing Gates: Invoice for share of cost been received  
 07/123: Acknowledgement of donation for Bloxham Windmill – planned to be opened mid July 2008, but prepared to open up for individuals or groups.  
 07/125: Acknowledgement of grant towards work at Ex Servicemen's Hall  
 07/71: Acknowledgement of grant for hiring Parish Rooms for Lunch Club enabling them to keep costs of lunches to £2.50.

07/134

Roads and Traffic

Meeting held at Chairman's house on 29<sup>th</sup> August for Transport group – Tony Baldry, Cllrs Mitchell and Heath also attended. Two main issues were discussed:

1. The recent floods (20<sup>th</sup> July): It was suggested that a balancing pond might help The Old Jail and also properties in Greens Garth and Schofields Way. Discussions to be held with Bloxham School and the Warriner School. Meeting with Bloxham School on Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> October at 6.00pm when this will be one of items. It was noted that water needed to be contained and slowed down - not just to pass problem further down the line.

Cllr Heath noted that Northern Area Planning were now asking for longer Thames Valley report re water and drainage on all planning applications rather than the short one that has been given to now. If not there, then application will be sent back.

Clerk due to send letter to MP for him to re-circulate to CDC, Thames Valley and Environment Agency about what happened in Bloxham. If there are more places known of that were flooded, affected by the excess water, then Clerk to be notified as soon as possible.

2. Traffic Calming measures, the issue of a crossing near Godswell Surgery and the junction with Courtington Lane near Bloxham School were also raised. These were all discussed further with Ralph Grant at beginning of meeting. Re Junction of Courtington Lane and Bloxham school he had not been able to find out anything as it was before his time.

Clerk

07/135

Environmenta. Planters

These have now been constructed. Tom and Pete Smith have provided the soil and have offered to have the first planting done for this autumn and winter. Suggestions required about whom to approach for the ongoing planting and care. Warriner School to be approached for possible maintenance. Clerk to send letter of thanks to Smiths and item to be in Broadsheet.

Clerk

b. Dog Bin

One to be installed in Bloxham Grove and when the crossing position from Crab Tree Close is finalised another dog bin to be erected there.

Clerk

c. Benches:

DG now has the metal ends and the wood. Agreed that priority should be for the broken one at end of Winters Way and then the one top of Cumberford by bus stop. Brian Stringer to do concreting. Height needed to be double checked re regulations. Copy of these to be sent to PCa

DG

Letter of thanks to Martin Phillips, Swan Foundry for bench ends.

Clerk

d. Cherwell Green Spaces and Playing Pitch Strategies:

Reply from Pca to be used as basis. To include MUGA perhaps on Milton Rd development site.

Clerk

07/136

Playing Fieldsa. Jubilee Park

DM reported re meeting.

Site meeting with Jackson fencing to be held on this coming Wednesday Service Agreement needed with JPMC: BDC, DM, PCa and Clerk to meet with JPMC to discuss further

Clerk

b. Recreation Ground

Letter received from Chairman of Trustees requesting names at Charity Commission who had given out information. Discussion had with Charity Commission and letter with names sent to Chairman. Awaiting date and time of proposed meeting. They have limited attendance to two Parish Council members and two Trustees. Parish Council believed that any proposed meeting would now be fruitless, and so there was no longer any purpose in pursuing. Letter to be sent in November/December to all organisations re justification for request for grant.

Clerk

07/137

Planning

07/01653/REM: Milton Road Development –considered by full council: Original application 07/00796/REM withdrawn prior to this one. In principle no objection but concern expressed about future developments in field to the rear as the roads on the development appear to lead to nowhere otherwise; concern for right turning traffic out of development onto Milton Road, In view of recent floods then calculations re drainage must be properly done so that there will be less water into the system; will there be sufficient funding (106 agreement) to ensure that proper inspection reports are carried out on play areas; What about a MUGA to be included on site?; According to SE Plan all infra structures are to be provided beforehand.

b. Other Applications (with sub-groups comments)

07/01614/OUT: Renewal of 04/00264/OUT erection of single detached dwelling for 13 Gauntletts Close: Objection since very restricted access, blocking light for others

07/01655/F: Extension for 23 Gascoigne Way: No objection

07/01638/TCA: Fell Ash Tree for 15 High St: No objection

07/01701/F: Conservatory for 3 Salmon Close: No objection

07/01673/F: replace existing rear extension with conservatory for 8 Hyde Grove. No objection

07/01381/F: Demolition of the Poplars and replacement with 3 dwellings: Objection because of increased traffic, liability to flooding (as at Crabtree close); services are overstretched already

07/01258/ADV: 2 directional signs for Warriner School: No objection except to colour of background.

07/01226/TCA: reduction of Cherry tree for The Avon, Little Bridge Rd: No objection

07/01232/ADV: External sign for Dentist Surgery, Godswell: No objection

07/01449/F: Car Port, Conservatory, garage conversion for Ash House, Milton Rd: No objection

07/01584/TCA: reduction of various trees for Woodbine Cottage, Old Bridge Rd; No objection

07/01250/TCA: Removal of trees for 2 Queen St: No objection

07/01585/F: Conservatory for Dursley, Banbury Rd: No objection

07/01475/F: Resubmission of 07/00207/F: Retrospective external spray booth for Unit 1C/D Yew Tree Farm: No objection

c. Decisions

07/01324/F: Extension for 4 Greens Garth: Agreed subject to conditions

07/01113/LB: Strengthen part of roof for Killowen House, South Newington Rd: Agreed subject to conditions

07/01279/TCA: Felling of trees for Bennetts, Rose Bank: Agreed

07/01153/F: Extensions for 5 Strawberry Hill: Agreed subject to conditions

07/01226/TCA: Reduction of Cherry Tree for The Avon, Little Bridge Rd: Agreed

07/01348/TCA: Reduction of trees for 5 Maltings Court: Agreed

07/01284/F: Extension for 13 Strawberry Hill: Agreed subject to conditions

07/01089/TCA: Reduction of trees for Ibstock, Little Bridge Rd: Agreed

07/01027/TCA: Pollarding sycamore for St Mary's Church: Agreed

07/01090/TCA: Felling of Larch for The Garden House, Goose Walk: Agreed

07/00963/LB & 07/00962/F: Conversion of existing outbuildings for The Old Barn House, Cumberford: Agreed subject to conditions

07/00950/TPO: Removal of various trees for Orchard House, Barford Rd: Agreed subject to conditions

07/01038/TCA: felling, etc. of various trees for Pighle, 2 Stone Hill: Agreed

07/00934/F: Conservatory of rear for Hifields, Banbury Rd – Retrospective: Agreed subject to conditions

07/00919/F: extension for 5 Courtington Lane: Agreed subject to conditions

d. Refusal

07/01258/ADV: Non-illuminated signs for Warriner School.

07/138

Parish Plan and Strategy Group

PCa reported that next meeting due in September when Keith Janes is back from holiday. Two events have gone well with good feedback about needs of village.

07/139

Finance

a. Following seminar that SC and Clerk attended need to review Risk Assessment procedures – Independent auditor (e.g. Les Angel) needed to look at system and procedures, etc. Clerk to arrange with Finance subgroup

b. Accounts 2006/7

Acceptance of Internal Auditor's report by Parish Council and of Annual Return to

Clerk

Clerk

External Auditor agreed by all – Proposed by SC and seconded by PCa

07/140

**Correspondence**

**For Information**

**CDC: Programme of Touring Arts Events: Oct – March 07/08**  
**CDC: Legal Services available at £76.00 +VAT per hour**  
**Glasdon: Latest information re seating and dog bins, & notice boards, etc.**  
**Ramblers Association: Magazine for Autumn**  
**Ramblers Association: Walker August 2007**  
**OCC: Temporary Road Closure: Little Bridge Road up to 14 September**  
**OCC: Road signs being stolen across the County**  
**OCC: Liaison meeting for Parish Councils at Warriner School on 13<sup>th</sup> September: BDC to attend**  
**OCC: Newsletter July 2007 & August 2007**  
**OCC: Guide to OCC Services**  
**OCC: Tree work in Bloxham**  
**OCC: Proposed Diversion of footpath No 2 at Bodicote Mill**  
**OCC: Provision of caravan sites form Gypsies and travellers**  
**CDC: Cherwell-Local: Free websites**  
**CDC: Standards Bulletin and Annual Report 2006/7**  
**CDC: Review of Overview and Scrutiny Select Committees 2006/7**  
**CDC: Review of database for Concessionary Travel Scheme**  
**CDC: Neighbourhood Management with Thames Valley Police**  
**CDC: Blue Bin fundraising scheme – press release for Broadsheet**  
**CDC: e consultation on planning applications**  
**CDC: Annual Performance Report 2006/07**  
**Viking Direct: Latest Catalogue**  
**OCC: Parish Transport Representatives Meeting – minutes of 23<sup>rd</sup> July – next meeting will be on Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> November**  
**ORCC: Rural Transport Newsletter Summer 2007**  
**ORCC: Oxfordshire villages of the Year Competition: event held on Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> August – No one available to attend**  
**ORCC: Migrant workers in rural communities – role of Parish Councils**  
**OPFA: The Playing Field Newsletter for Summer 2007**  
**OPFA: AGM: Monday 1<sup>st</sup> October at Chalgrove Village Hall at 7.30pm**  
**Carers Centre: Newsletter Summer 2007**  
**Jacksons Fine Fencing Catalogue and Newsletter**  
**Clerks & Councils Direct: newsletter July 2007**  
**CAB: Campaign to encourage take-up of State Benefits by over 60s. Poster included**  
**OCVA: Transport co-ordination**  
**WRVS: Cornhill Centre: Helping Older People get more out of life**  
**Associated Surfaces and Materials: leaflet re Play area surfaces**  
**Urbanscape: Catalogue 2007/8 re dog bins, notice boards, bollards, seating, etc.**  
**SLCC: Magazine ‘The Clerk’ for July 2007**  
**RSS: Outdoor Fitness Range: Catalogue requested**  
**Anchor Staying Put: Redesigned leaflets**  
**Banbury Town Council: Produce Show 9<sup>th</sup> September 2.00 – 4.00 Free entry**  
**Wicksteed: updates: Brochure requested**  
**Matta Products (UK): New website re playground safety surfacing: Brochure requested**  
**CPRE: Newsletter ‘Fieldwork’ for September 2007**  
**Co-operative Futures: updated leaflet of help available**  
**SE Plan: CD received of the Examination in Public held Nov 2006 – March 2007**  
**Mrs E.J. Cox: Letter expressing concern re Kings Rd, the Gogs footpath, and Frog Lane**  
**Countryside Alliance: Consultation re Flytipping**

**For decision:**  
**Ramblers Association: Winter raffle £1.00 a ticket: Parish Council not taking up.**  
**Ramblers Association: Coastal Access Appeal: Clerk to write.**  
**CDC: Annual Electric Blanket Testing 12th September; Poster to be put up**  
**Star Fireworks: Flash Maroon Order for November (£39.00 +VAT per pack):**  
**Agreed to be ordered.**  
**CDC: Recreation Strategy for Cherwell 2007-12: Launch Friday 14<sup>th</sup> September at Steeple Aston Village Hall 12.00 – 1.30pm : Clerk to attend**  
**CDC/Adams Hendry: Local Development Framework event Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> September at Courtyard Centre, Bicester 6.30pm – 9.00pm: No one able to attend**  
**CDC Planning: Briefing on Development Control Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> September 6.00-9.00pm. To be followed by briefing on 106 agreements (limited to 25 participants):**  
**BDC & Clerk to attend**

Clerk  
Clerk  
Clerk

Clerk

BDC &  
Clerk

CDC: Village Traffic Calming: Portable Speed Indicators We have indicated that we would be interested in two ground fixing points – estimate of £800. Estimate accepted. Clerk to write.

Clerk

CDC: Adopting a bottle Bank - Can earn us £158.92 per year – we need to clean area at least 3 times a year. No.

CDC: Draft statement on Licensing Policy: can be seen in District Offices or on website: Comments to be in 1<sup>st</sup> October. PCa to circulate round public houses.

PCa

SLCC: 33<sup>rd</sup> National Conference (at Coventry) – subsidised day fee of £30+ VAT on 27<sup>th</sup> October: Agreed for Clerk to attend

Clerk

CAB Annual Public Meeting at Bodicote House 5<sup>th</sup> September at 7.30pm: SC already attending - will represent Parish Council as well.

SC

ORCC: Affordable Housing: James Alcock (who spoke with us earlier this year) has left ORCC: Housing Needs Survey to be incorporated in Parish Plan Questionnaire.

Oxfordshire Association for the Blind: Donation requested – they have 15 clients living in area: £100 donation agreed.

Clerk

07/141

**Payment of Accounts Agreed****Already paid: (in August)**

ARC Grasscutting:		863.40
Telephone Line (D/D for July)		10.99
D Godfrey Salary for July		533.13
Expenses: Broadband etc for July	15.66	
Staples: Paper & Doc wallets	25.81	
Stamps:	12.72	
<b>Total</b>		<b>54.19</b>
BPC: Gratuity for July		25.64
SLCC (Book: Local Council Finance)		11.90
OPFA: Subscription renewal		40.00

07/142

**To be paid**

ARC Garden services		527.20
OCC: Contribution to new gates of Footpath 5		202.00
Telephone Line (D/D for August)		10.99
 D Godfrey Salary for August		 533.35
Expenses:		
Broadband etc for August		15.18
 BPC: Gratuity for August		 25.64
Oxfordshire Association for Blind		100.00
Star Fireworks(for Remembrance Day)		45.83

07/143

**Venue for Meetings**

Parish Council agreed to remain at Parish Rooms.

07/144

**Other items announced**

1. Meeting with Bloxham School: 6.00pm Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> October
2. Invitation to Parish Council and all villagers by Films in Bloxham to Film: An Inconvenient Truth- about climate change: In Drama Studio, Warriner School on Friday 28<sup>th</sup> September at 7.45pm - Free.
- 3.Meeting at Shipton re A361 on 13 November: BDC & Clerk to attend

07/145

**Date and Time of Next Meeting:** 1<sup>st</sup> October at 7.00pm as Accord Highways wish to attend and speak with Council.

David Godfrey  
Parish Clerk  
9<sup>th</sup> September 2007