

BLACKWELL PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a Meeting of the Blackwell Parish Council held at the Blackwell Community Centre, Woburn Close, Blackwell on Monday 4 June 2007 at 7.00 p.m.

PRESENT

Councillor D G B Bullock (Chairman)

Councillors: I G Cox: Mrs S A Gray: J Lomas: C R Moesby: I J A Newham: R J Sainsbury: Mrs P R Wilkinson and N J B Willens.

53/2007

ALSO PRESENT

Nine Parishioners

54/2007

OPEN FORUM

Mrs S Bingham, Newton asked, on behalf of the Newton Carnival Team if an extra grass-cut could be arranged for Charnwood Crescent Playing Field, Newton by no later than 8 July in readiness for the Carnival which would be held on Saturday 14 July 2007.

Mrs Bingham, in her capacity as Secretary Newton/Blackwell Leisure Gardeners Association, requested the waste bin which had been provided by the Grot2Green Project, at the Council's Littlemoor Lane Allotments, Newton be emptied as soon as possible.

Councillor Mrs S Gray in her capacity as District Councillor advised Mrs Bingham that she would pursue this particular matter at District Council level.

Mrs Bingham also advised Council Members there had been an alleged incident of harassment by an allotment holder. It was agreed the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Council would attend the next Committee Meeting of the Allotment Holders Association and interview the individuals concerned.

Mrs K Childs, Blackwell requested the Council give consideration to providing an additional Notice Board at the junction of Primrose Hill/Alfreton Road, Blackwell. It was agreed the Clerk make appropriate enquiries.

55/2007

POLICE MATTERS

The Clerk reported for information he had received a telephone call from PC Amanda Clark, advising him she was unable to attend the Council Meeting.

56/2007

COUNTY COUNCILLOR C R MOESBY

County Councillor Clive Moesby advised Council Members:

1. Improved street lighting Cragg Lane, Newton.
2. Improved road markings Alfreton Road, Newton.
3. Resurfacing part of Alfreton Road, Westhouses.
4. Repairs to the pavement at Bamford Street, Newton.
5. Vacancies for Lay visitors to the Custody Suites at various Police Stations within Derbyshire.
6. Car seat check be held in Chesterfield – 2 July 2007.
7. Additional work to be carried out on the Silverhill Trail. Following a suggestion from Councillor J Lomas, County Councillor Moesby agreed to make enquiries with regard to the provision of car parking facilities at different points on the Trail.
8. Youth Service Survey.
9. Crime Reduction.

Car Crime/House burglaries.

Derbyshire County Council had been in receipt of £1.5 million pounds for achieving targets connected with the aforementioned offences.
10. Blackwell Community Centre would be the location of the proposed new Children's Centre.
11. Following a number of motorcycle fatalities, improved road safety measures throughout the County.

Following a request from Councillor I G Cox. County Councillor Moesby agreed to investigate at County Level the possible provision of an electronic speed sign at Main Street, Newton.

RESOLVED that County Councillor Clive Moesby be thanked for his report.

57/2007

NEWTON COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

Mrs D Willens, Secretary Newton Community Association advised Council Members:

1. A Newsletter had been delivered to each household within the village of Newton giving details of the

Community Associations activities over the past twelve months.

2. The Grot2Green Project at different locations within Newton had now been completed.
3. The Community Association had been in contact with the superstore B & Q with regard to the provision of hanging baskets but a reply was still awaited.
4. A request had been made by local youngsters with regard to the provision of a Climbing Wall at the Council's Charnwood Crescent Playing Field, but the Association was still awaiting information from the Special Projects Officer, Leisure Services Department, Bolsover District Council.

RESOLVED Mrs Willens be thanked for her attendance and report.

58/2007

WESTHOUSES RESIDENTS ACTION GROUP

There was no report from the Westhouses Residents Action Group.

59/2007

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors E P Newell and A F Tomlinson.

60/2007

**CODE OF CONDUCT/REGISTER OF MEMBERS
INTERESTS/HOSPITALITY REGISTER**

The Chairman of the Council, reminded Council Members of the principals of those holding public office which were selflessness, integrity, objectivity, accountability, openness, honesty, leadership and these principles form part of the new ethical framework guidance issued by the Standards Board for England. The Chairman also reminded Council Members that Members must, within twenty-eight days of receiving any gift or hospitality or materials, benefits or advantage over the value of £25.00 relating to or arising out of their position as a Member, provide written notification to the District of Bolsover Monitoring Officer of the existence and nature of that gift or hospitality, material, benefit or advantage.

61/2007

MINUTES

The Minutes of the Annual Parish Council Meeting held on 14 May 2007 were approved and signed as a correct record.

62/2007

CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

Following a report from the Chairman of the Council and the Clerk

regarding the Code of Conduct which would include the Ten Principles of Public Life, i.e. Selflessness/Honesty and Integrity/Objectivity/Accountability/Openness/Personal judgement/Respect for others/Duty to uphold the law/Stewardship/Leadership.

RESOLVED the Blackwell Parish Council adopt as recommended by the Standards Board of England, the Local Authorities (Model Code of Conduct) Order 2007 No. 1159 the Model Code of Conduct for Parish and Town Councils including paragraph 12 (2).

63/2007

ALLOTMENTS

The Clerk reported receipt of a letter from Mr T Firman who was currently negotiating to purchase 15 South Street, Newton requesting to purchase an area of Council owned allotment land at South Street, Newton for the erection of a double garage.

Following advice from the Clerk

RESOLVED the Clerk write to Mr T Firman advising him the Council do not sell allotment land (Minute 39/2000 dated 8 May 2000 refers).

64/2007

HIGHWAYS

The Clerk reported for information receipt of a letter from the Highways Engineer, Derbyshire County Council following concerns expressed regarding the location of the pedestrian crossing at the junction of Main Street, Littlemoor Lane, Newton.

The Highways Engineer highlighted additional works that had been carried out at this particular location:

1. Extend the zigzags towards Tibshelf to improve intervisibility between approaching vehicles and pedestrians waiting to cross the road.
2. Introduce high visibility boards to the zebra beacons to improve forward visibility of the zebra to approaching drivers.
3. Provide and improve pedestrian crossing warning signs on both approaches to the crossing.

65/2007

PLAYING FIELDS

The Clerk reported for information he had been in contact with the Direct Services Manager, Bolsover District Council with an urgent request that the grass be cut at the Bamford Street Play Area, Newton.

The Clerk was advised this would be carried out within the next 1 to 2 weeks.

66/2007

FOOTPATHS

The Clerk reported for information receipt of a letter from the Highways Engineer, Derbyshire County Council, regarding Public Footpath 15, Charnwood Crescent/Littlemoor Lane, Newton, stating it was not possible to erect barriers at this location or at its terminal points with Littlemoor Lane. The path was only 1.2m wide which was the minimum width that should be provided to accommodate all highway users (wheelchairs/mobility scooters/pushchairs).

There was an additional problem with erecting barriers at the edge of the highway as the kerbs are dropped for vehicular access to 14 Littlemoor Lane. The erection of meaningful barriers at this location would inevitably obstruct/egress to the property.

The Clerk also reported receipt of a letter from the Bolsover Countryside Partnership Manager, Derbyshire County Council with regard to illegal vehicle use on the Silverhill Trail and advised the Council that the Countryside Partnership Service was working in conjunction with the local Police to tackle the issue and a number of operations since March had been organized resulting in motorbikes being impounded. A further list of up and coming operations was currently taking place on average once a week.

The Bolsover Countryside Partnership Manager also advised the Council they had been working with Derbyshire County Council Consulting and Contracting Division (who are responsible for building the Trail) on appropriate designs at key access points. Phase 1 works had now been completed and they largely dealt with the installation of the Trail and not the surrounding land. However, the Partnership Manager had pushed for improvements to access furniture around Tibshelf Ponds to try and avoid problems created by illegal motorbike use. The County was currently looking to fund Phase 2 works to address further boundary improvements and this would include the opportunity to address any access points that had not been funded in Phase 1.

Councillor N J B Willens reported that he had walked Public Footpaths 10/11/12/13/14 and highlighted his concerns regarding access.

Resolved that the Clerk write to the Footpaths Officer, Derbyshire County Council requesting that remedial action be taken regarding access to Public Footpaths 10/11/12/13/14.

67/2007

ACCOUNTS

The Clerk submitted a list of Accounts for payment totaling £4410.90 and it was agreed these be paid. The Clerk also furnished for Members information:

1. Copy of the Councils Reconciliation Statement.
2. Copy of the Councils Audit Form confirming the Councils current financial position.

The foregoing documents conform to the Accounts and Audit Regulations 2003 (SI No. 553).

68/2007

BOLSOVER LOCAL STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP

Following a report from Councillor N J B Willens on his attendance at the Bolsover Local Strategic Partnership and Parish Council Liaison Meeting held on 15 May 2007.

RESOLVED:

1. Councillor Mrs S Gray be nominated to the Bolsover Local Strategic Partnership Board.
2. The Communication Protocol as circulated to all Council Members be adopted.

69/2007

DERBYSHIRE ASSOCIATION OF LOCAL COUNCILS

The Clerk reported receipt of the following Derbyshire Association of Local Councils Circulars:

11/2007 – Training for new Councillors 21 July 2007 at Hulland Ward Millennium Village Hall.

RESOLVED that Councillors D G B Bullock, Mrs S Gray and N J B Willens be authorized to attend the Training Course for new Councillors to be held on 21 July 2007 at Hulland Ward Millennium Village Hall.

14/2007 – Election of Executive Committee 2007/2011.

RESOLVED that the Councils nomination to the Executive Committee 2007/2011 be Councillor R J Sainsbury.

It was also **RESOLVED** that the appointment of one Parish Council representative and one substitute Member to Bolsover District Councils Standards Committee be:

Councillor I G Cox and the Substitute Member be Councillor R J Sainsbury.

70/2007

QUALITY PARISH AND TOWN COUNCIL SCHEME

1. Councillor I J A Newham reported for information the upgrading of the Councils Web-Site was proceeding satisfactorily.
2. The Chairman of the Council outlined his proposals for the next Parish Newsletter and, following a suggestion from Councillor Mrs S Gray, it was agreed to include a schedule of

dates for proposed Members Surgeries.

71/2007

PLANS

The following Plans were submitted and determined as indicated:

1. Mr and Mrs A Mellors, The Farm House, Cragg Lane, Newton – erection of one single-storey dwelling – **no objections.**
2. Mr and Mrs A Mellors, The Farm House, Cragg Lane, Newton – demolition of out-buildings – **no objections.**
3. Mrs L Depear, Blackwell Care Home, Gloves Lane, Blackwell – single-storey extension to both side elevations – **no objections.**

Councillor Mrs S Gray advised Council Members that in her capacity as a District Councillor she had been appointed to the Planning Committee, Bolsover District Council and, therefore, took no part in the discussion and decisions on the foregoing Planning Applications and vacated the room.

Councillor N J B Willens declared a personal interest in items 1 – 2 and took no part in the discussion and decision thereon and vacated the room.

Councillor J Lomas declared a personal interest in item 3 and took no part in the discussion and decision thereon.

72/2007

PART TIME PARISH HANDY PERSON

The Chairman of the Council and the Clerk reported that Mr R Walker, South Normanton had commenced his duties as Caretaker in charge of the Council's Newton Community Centre.

RESOLVED

1. The report by the Chairman of the Council and the Clerk be noted.
2. Mr R Walker, South Normanton be employed as the Council's Part Time Parish Handy Person with effect from 4 June 2007.
3. The Clerk make appropriate arrangements with Maun Motors, Berristow Lane, South Normanton for the hire of a suitable vehicle to enable Mr Walker to carry out his duties.

Councillors C R Moesby and I J A Newham declared a personal interest in the foregoing

item and took no part in the discussion and decision thereon.

73/2007

CORRESPONDENCE

The Clerk reported receipt of a letter from the Senior Sport Development Officer, Bolsover District Council requesting the Council to give consideration to providing financial support towards the Sports Development Outreach Programme 2007/8.

RESOLVED that the Council support Bolsover District Council Sports Development Outreach Programme 2007/8 in the sum of £700.00.

74/2007

MEETING

RESOLVED the next Meeting of the Blackwell Parish Council be held at the Newton Community Centre, Newton on Monday 2 July 2007 at 7.00 p.m.

The Meeting concluded at 9.00 p.m.