

BLACKWELL PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a Meeting of the Blackwell Parish Council held at Newton Community Centre, Newton on Monday 1 June 2009 at 7.00 p.m.

PRESENT

Councillor D G B Bullock (Chairman).

Councillors I G Cox: J Lomas: C R Moesby: I J A Newham: R J Sainsbury: S J Thorpe (left the Meeting 8.25 p.m.): A F Tomlinson: Mrs P R Wilkinson and N J B Willens.

51/2009

ALSO PRESENT

Five Parishioners.

52/2009

OPEN FORUM

Mr D Purdy, Blackwell enquired if there had been any further developments regarding the reopening of Blackwell Post Office.

Councillor A F Tomlinson advised Mr Purdy he had been in contact with the Chief Executive Officer Post Office Limited, who had indicated that the local shopkeeper was no longer interested in having a Post Office within his premises. Councillor Tomlinson had suggested consideration could be given to the use of the Office at the Councils Blackwell Community Centre.

Council Members fully endorsed Councillor Tomlinson's suggestion and Councillor Tomlinson agreed to contact the relevant individual at Post Office Ltd to arrange for a site inspection to take place.

Mr D Fowkes, Westhouses advised Council Members that the two Post Boxes adjacent to the former Post Office at Alfreton Road, Westhouses gave no indication of collection times etc.

It was agreed the Clerk contact the Head Postmaster, Derby Sorting Office, Derby requesting that collection times be affixed to the relevant Post Box.

53/2009

POLICE MATTERS

The Chairman reported for information that PCSO Fearn Barnett had been in contact with him and advised him that there had been six reported nuisance crimes within the Parish of Blackwell to 31 May 2009.

The Clerk reported for information receipt of a letter from Inspector D Stone, Derbyshire Constabulary, Bolsover Section advising that the Parish of Blackwell would still be policed by a Police Community Service Support Officer and Police cover from the same Tibshelf, Newton and

Blackwell Team but it had been decided that PCSO Paul Brownlee would be dedicated to the Tibshelf area.

Inspector Stone further advised the service the Council would receive for the Parish of Blackwell would be of high quality but he would continue to monitor any issues or concerns that may be raised.

54/2009

COUNTY COUNCILLOR C R MOESBY

County Councillor Clive Moesby advised Council Members that he had no report to give.

Councillor I G Cox expressed concern regarding the siting of the proposed new Speed Activated sign at Alfreton Road, Newton. County Councillor Moesby advised Councillor Cox that he was sure that there was no cause for concern.

55/2009

BLACKWELL RESIDENTS ACTION GROUP

Mrs K Childs, Chairman Blackwell Residents Action Group advised Council Members of:

1. Local History Weekend 16/17 May 2009 held at Blackwell Community Centre.
2. Mining Memorial Fact Finding and Consultation on its design.
3. Annual General Meeting of the Group held on 19 May 2009.
4. Tidy Up Campaign within the village of Blackwell to be held 19 June 2009.

RESOLVED Mrs K Childs, Chairman, Blackwell Residents Action Group be thanked for her attendance and report.

56/2009

HILCOTE ENVIRONMENTAL AND LEISURE PROJECT

Mr M Greenwood, Chairman, Hilcote Environmental and Leisure Project advised Council Members:

1. Public Consultation Meeting held regarding funding for the Hilcote Link (Stage 2) Woodland Walk.
2. Work in progress with regard to the raised flower beds.

RESOLVED Mr M Greenwood, Hilcote Environmental and Leisure Project be thanked for his attendance and report.

57/2009

NEWTON COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

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

1. Annual General Meeting – 18 May 2009.
2. Multi-User Sports Unit situated at the Councils Charnwood Playing Field, Newton which was officially opened 9 May 2009.
3. Film Nights – funding decision still awaited with regard to the acquisition of various items of film equipment.
4. Possible extension to the Neighbourhood Watch scheme within the village of Newton.
5. Proposed further “Litter Picks”.
6. Planting of the planters located within Newton village imminent.

RESOLVED Mrs D Willens, Secretary, Newton Community Association be thanked for her attendance and report.

58/2009

WESTHOUSES RESIDENTS ACTION GROUP

Mr D Fowkes, Chairman, Westhouses Residents Action Group advised Council Members:

1. Recent Annual General Meeting of the Association.
2. All planters within the village of Westhouses had now been planted.
3. Grass Roots Grant for running expenses of the Group for 2009/2010.
4. Engine Reclamation Site, Westhouses.
5. Possible funding for the acquisition of the former BRSA Club, Tibshelf Road, Westhouses.

RESOLVED Mr D Fowkes, Chairman, Westhouses Residents Action Group be thanked for his attendance and report.

59/2009

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

There were no apologies for absence.

60/2009

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.

61/2009

MINUTES

The Minutes of the Annual Parish Council Meeting held on 11 May 2009 were approved and signed as a correct record.

62/2009

CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were no Chairman's Announcements.

63/2009

ALLOTMENTS

The Clerk reported receipt of a letter from the Legal Consultant, National Society of Allotment and Leisure Gardeners Association Limited, regarding termination of Allotment Tenancies, a copy of which had been circulated to all Council Members.

RESOLVED the letter received from the Legal Consultant, National Society of Allotment and Leisure Gardeners Association Limited regarding the termination of Allotment Tenancies be discussed as a confidential item at the conclusion of the normal Council Meeting.

Councillor N J B Willens advised Council Members:

1. As the Councils representative to the Newton/Blackwell Allotment and Leisure Gardeners Association he had an invitation to attend all Meetings but in a non-voting capacity.
2. Any Grot Spots identified within the Parish of Blackwell – a number of Allotment Holders had expressed a willingness to assist clearing any such identified areas.
3. There had been an increase in the number of allotments let at the Councils Site, The Ridge, Blackwell.
4. Action taken by the Allotment Association regarding the tree obscuring street light column 5257 The Ridge, Blackwell.
5. The Allotment Association had in its possession a small amount of steel palisade type fencing and it was agreed that this be used to secure the allotments at Blackwell'

64/2009

HIGHWAYS

The Clerk reported his conversation with the Engineer, Bolsover District Council with regard to the re-numbering of Woburn Close, Blackwell.

RESOLVED that before any re-numbering scheme be carried out at Woburn Close, Blackwell a consultation be carried out with local residents to ascertain their views.

65/2009 **PLAYING FIELDS**

The Clerk reported receipt of an Estimate from Hunts Contractors Limited, Willingham Road, Marton, Gainsborough for the completion of the footpath at the Councils Tibshelf Road Playing Field in the sum of £8,364.10 plus VAT.

RESOLVED the Estimate received from Hunts Contractors Limited, Willingham Road, Marton, Gainsborough in the sum of £8,364.10 plus VAT for the completion of the Footpath at the Councils Tibshelf Road Playing Field, Westhouses be accepted.

66/2009 **FOOTPATHS**

The Clerk reported receipt of a letter from the Head Ranger, Clay Cross Countryside Centre, Derbyshire County Council advising that the Countryside service was currently looking into a policy for memorial seating and tree planting at the Five Pits Trail, Newton.

He further advised that the Ranger Service for the area would be putting up some Dog Fouling Signs who had spoken with the Dog Warden, Bolsover District Council who is authorised to carry out spot fines on Derbyshire County Council sites to people allowing their dogs to foul and drop litter.

Councillor C R Moesby, in his capacity as County Councillor, advised Council Members that the bridge on the footpath between Westhouses and Stonebroom had been inspected by Officers from Derbyshire County Council and was declared satisfactory for public use.

67/2009 **ACCOUNTS**

The Clerk submitted a list of accounts for payment totaling £3838.29 and it was agreed these be paid. The Clerk also furnished for Members information:

1. Copy of the Council's Reconciliation Statement.
2. Copy of the Council's Audit Form confirming the Councils current financial position.
3. Copy of the Council's Bank Statement.

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

68/2009 **BOLSOVER LOCAL STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP**

The Clerk reported receipt of a letter from the Partnership Manager, Bolsover Local Strategic Partnership, enclosing an invitation from Marches Energy Agency to participate in a sustainable energy workshop which would be held at Pinxton Village Hall on Monday 15 June 2009

from 7.00 p.m. to 9.00 p.m.

RESOLVED Councillors I J A Newham and N J B Willens be authorised to attend the Marches Energy Agency to participate in a sustainable energy workshop to be held at Pinxton Village Hall on Monday 15 June 2009.

69/2009

DERBYSHIRE ASSOCIATION OF LOCAL COUNCILS

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

1. 21/2009 – New quarterly service “Quick Employment Tips.
2. 22/2009 – General Circular – Free Training Section Agreement and the new community infrastructure levy.
3. 23/2009 – Derbyshire Constabulary Annual Parish Councils evening – 15 September 2009.

RESOLVED that Councillor I J A Newham be authorised to attend the Derbyshire Constabulary Annual Parish Councils evening on 15 September 2009.

- 4.24/2009 – Possible changes to the administration of Concessionary Travel.
- 5.25/2009 – The Power of Wellbeing.

70/2009

QUALITY PARISH AND TOWN COUNCIL SCHEME

The Chairman of the Council gave an update with regard to the Councils Website and Newsletter and requested that any Members who had items of information for inclusion on either the Website or Newsletter to pass them to the Clerk.

71/2009

PLANS

The following Plan was submitted and determined as indicated:

Mrs J Lynegar, 135 New Lane, Hilcote – change of use of garden to extend cattery and erection of 4 cattery pens and retention of 4 cattery pens – **no objections.**

72/2009

CORRESPONDENCE

The Clerk reported receipt of a letter from Miss J E Jackson, Secretary, St Werburghs Parochial Church Council thanking the Council for its recent contribution towards the upkeep of St Werburghs Churchyard.

73/2009

NOTICE OF AUDIT

The Clerk reported for information he had attended the Internal Audit

which was carried out by the Councils Internal Auditor, Mr B Woodcock and the Accounts were found to be in satisfactory order and that there were no queries arising therefrom.

74/2009

BLACKWELL/NEWTON COMMUNITY CENTRES

The Clerk reported receipt of a letter from Heatguard Windows Limited, Clay Cross for the supply and fitting of new UPVC Fascia, soffit and gutter at Blackwell/Newton Community Centres in the sum of:

- a. Blackwell Community Centre - £3860.00 plus VAT.
- b. Newton Community Centre - £2750.00 plus VAT.

RESOLVED that the Estimate from Heatguard Windows Limited, Clay Cross for the supply and fitting of UPVC Fascia, soffits and gutter at Blackwell Community Centre in the sum of £3860.00 plus VAT, Newton Community Centre in the sum of £2750.00 plus VAT be accepted.

Councillors I G Cox, R J Sainsbury, N J B Willens and the Clerk reported on the Site Meeting held on 26 May 2009 regarding the request from the Youth Secretary, Newton Carnival Team, for the siting of a small container at the rear of Newton Community Centre to enable sport equipment etc. to be stored therein.

RESOLVED, subject to consultation with the occupiers of neighbouring properties, permission be granted to the Youth Secretary, Newton Carnival Team for the siting of a small container at the rear of Newton Community Centre for the storage of sports equipment etc. be approved.

Councillor D G B Bullock declared a personal and prejudicial interest in the latter item and vacated the room during the discussion and decision thereon.

Councillor N J B Willens in the Chair.

75/2009

ENGINE RECLAMATION SITE

The Clerk reported receipt of a letter from Shires Development Limited with regard to the Engine Reclamation Site Liaison Committee and it confirmed that Shires Development Limited would be making a sum of £40,000.00 available for either the renovation of the form BRSA Club, Tibshelf Road, Westhouses for a proposed new building adjacent to Westhouses School and that a further £10,000.00 fund would be available for grants or sponsorship for other communities involved with the scheme from Blackwell, Hilcote and South Normanton.

The funds would become available in line with coal production at the site.

It was further agreed that to facilitate the distribution of the £10,000.00

fund a sub-committee be formed from the Site Liaison Committee.

ADMISSION OF THE PUBLIC AND PRESS TO MEETINGS

RESOLVED that in view of the confidential nature of the business about to be transacted it is advisable in the public interest that the public be temporarily excluded and they are instructed to withdraw.

76/2009

ALLOTMENTS

Councillor N J B Willens gave a comprehensive overview of a number of minor procedural items which had occurred and the non acceptance of allotment rent.

RESOLVED the Clerk contact the Derbyshire Association of Local Councils and request their legal opinion on the dossier prepared by Councillor Willens and report to an appropriate Meeting of the Council.

77/2009

MEETING

RESOLVED the next Meeting of the Blackwell Parish Council be held at the Hilcote Community Centre, New Street, Hilcote on Monday 6 July 2009 at 7.00 p.m.

The Meeting concluded at 8.50 p.m.