

BLACKWELL PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Monthly Meeting of Blackwell Parish Council held at Blackwell Community Centre, Woburn Close, Blackwell on Monday 3rd June 2019 at 7.00pm.

PRESENT

Councillor D Bullock (Chairman)

Councillors: D Marshall-Curtis (Vice Chairman), I Newham, H Pell, P Knott, T Gascoyne, C Moesby, J Thorley, T Battelle and S Knox.

ALSO PRESENT

Mrs H J Simpson (Parish Clerk) a large number of members of the public.

27/2019 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors B Stocks and T Firman.

28/2019 DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTERESTS/CODE OF CONDUCT

The Chairman explained to Council Members the importance of the need to declare the existence and nature of any disclosable pecuniary interest they had in subsequent Agenda items in accordance with the Parish Councils Code of Conduct. Any Interest that became apparent at a later stage in the proceedings could be declared at that time.

Cllr Marshall-Curtis declared an interest in Agenda Item 19 Planning and remained in the meeting. Cllr Gascoyne declared an interest in Agenda Items 12 and 15 he left the meeting when Item 12 was discussed, Cllr Moesby declared an interest in Agenda Item 15 and left the meeting.

29/2019 PUBLIC SPEAKING (20 MINUTES)

The following topics were raised by members of the public:-

Concern over recent Crime Figures was expressed, the resident was informed that a Police Officer had been expected to attend the meeting, but unfortunately had not turned up. Cllr Moesby agreed to follow up on the residents' concerns.

The Clerk also agreed to try again to get a Police Officer to attend July's Meeting.

A resident raised a further complaint regarding the highway in front of his property. He also asked to be given the details of the Councils Internal and External Auditors. The resident also asked for the names of the Councillors present when a Resolution was passed to prevent him from attending the Parish Office without an appointment. He was told to email the Clerk with his request and she would reply in due course. Cllr Moesby agreed to follow up on the Highways issues.

County Cllr C Moesby – followed up on complaints from a Resident. Cllr Moesby advised that there was a Public Spaces Protection Order in place covering the whole of the Bolsover District. A follow up was given on issues raised about pavements in the Charnwood Crescent, Red Barn Close area, inspectors had been out and inspected the area and they don't meet the criteria for urgent follow up.

Newton Wood Lane will be closed on 16th July between 9am and 4pm for urgent works.

Cllr Moesby further informed those present of a meeting he was to attend the following day with Victoria Young of HS2 Ltd, he advised that he will give feedback to the local HS2 Group.

District Councillor – Nothing reported.

Crime figures for March 2019 were noted with concern due to the unusually high numbers. The Clerk was again asked to try to arrange for a Police Officer to attend the next meeting.

30/2019 MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 13th May 2019.

The Minutes of the Annual Meeting of Blackwell Parish Council held on 13th May 2019 were moved by Cllr Gascoyne, seconded by Cllr Knott and signed by the Chairman Cllr Bullock as a true and correct record.

31/2019 CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

Cllr Bullock updated members that the Clerk had now submitted an application to the Lottery Community Fund for the project to purchase Red K6 Telephone Boxes and Defibrillators. Members were further advised that the Chairman and the Clerk had recently met with a representative from Viridor at Newton Community Centre, who was delighted with the new flooring and said that it was money well spent!!

The Chairman also read the following statement in order to reinforce the importance of Councillors working together as a Corporate Body and adhering to the correct governance and protocols:-

When making decisions you must remember that the Council is a Corporate Body, no single Councillor has the authority to act on behalf of the Council without prior authority being given. Authority is given by a Resolution being passed after discussion, debate, a motion being moved, seconded and agreed by all.

Decisions can only be made by Council as a Corporate Body, and by the Councillors present at the meeting in question, not sent in writing or by email.

Resolutions made by Council are usually carried out by an employee. Employees are employed by the Council as a Corporate Body, no single Councillor can instruct any employee alone to carry out a task.

Any correspondence sent on behalf of the Council must be sent via the Clerk.

Refer to page 23 of Standing Orders, point 25 (a) unless duly authorised no councillor shall:-

- ii. Issue orders, instructions or directions.

I appreciate that some of you are passionate about specific issues, but as a Councillor you are bound by Rules and Regulations which can be frustrating at times, but none the less must be adhered to.

32/2019 REPORT FROM THE CLERK

The Clerk advised those present of the Community Event to be held at Newton Community Centre on Saturday 15th June 2019. She also reminded all Members of the importance of attending the upcoming DALC Essential Councillor Training to be held at Blackwell Community Centre on Tuesday 16th July 2019 at 6pm – 8.30pm.

The Clerk updated Members on the progress of the Active Communities Programme, with a reminder of dates of upcoming events.

It was moved by Cllr Pell, seconded by Cllr Bullock and agreed by all that the Clerk organise the Annual Children's Community Pantomime, to be held in December at Blackwell Community Centre.

33/2019 APPLICATIONS FOR FUNDING SUPPORT UNDER S137 OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972

An application from Blackwell Miners Welfare Football & Cricket Clubs for £353.52 to assist with the costs of the Annual Ground Rates for the Sportsfield was considered, it was moved by Cllr Gascoyne, seconded by Cllr Newham and approved by all.

34/2019 HS2

Letters drafted by Cllr Thorley to Chris Grayling MP, Michael Gove MP, Mr Simon Spencer DCC, and Mr Nick Bisson, Director of HS2, Phase 2, were discussed. It was moved by Cllr Moesby, Seconded by Cllr Gascoyne and agreed by all that these letters and any further necessary letters on the same subject are authorised to be sent by the Clerk. It was confirmed by the Clerk that Victoria Young and her Colleague Marcus will be attending our July Meeting to be held at Newton Community Centre 6pm start, the public are welcome to attend and will be managed by the Chairman .

35/2019 BLACKWELL, NEWTON AND HILCOTE COMMUNITY CENTRES.

Nothing further to add.

36/2019 BLACKWELL MINERS WELFARE.

Cllr Marshall-Curtis gave feedback on the main points from a recent public meeting to look into the possibility of reopening the old Blackwell Miners Welfare:-
 Agreed to keep things simple at this early stage; confirmed that the group are aware on the position regarding Ownership, and charging orders. They have support from CISWO to explore ways to progress with this matter. Understanding the implications of trying to move forward with reference to Historical Matters and any restrictions. Confirmation of local public interest in at least exploring what is possible.
 It was moved by Cllr Gascoyne seconded by Cllr Pell that Cllr Marshall-Curtis shall support the setting up of a Community Group to pursue the future of Blackwell Miners Welfare and feedback to Blackwell Parish Council Meetings.

37/2019 HIGHWAYS

It was noted that there has been an unusually high number of Roadwork's with temporary traffic lights within the Parish recently.

38/2019 RECREATION AREAS/PLAY AREAS/FOOTPATHS

Council were advised that Scanderlands Pavilion is now close to completion, it was delayed by further damp found following the removal of the old flooring, and electrical works. The loss adjusters have now been out and their report is awaited.
 Fencing quotes were considered for the top perimeter of Scanderlands Recreation Ground, it was moved by Cllr Knott, seconded by Cllr Battelle and agreed by all that the Quotation from Pugh-Lewis for £4,686.00 is accepted.
 It was moved by Cllr Marshall-Curtis, seconded by Cllr Thorley and agreed by all that the Clerk arrange the replacement of the damaged Goal Post at Charnwood Crescent subject to a maximum spend of £500.
 An Email received from Ross Berry-Hopkins enquiring about the possibility of placing Boulders along the Perimeter of Westhouses Memorial Playing Field to prevent Cars parking on the Grass Verge was discussed; a decision was delayed whilst further enquiries

were made regarding possible alternative measures due to the liability issues around cars being damaged by Boulders.

39/2019 ALLOTMENTS

Cllr Pell provided a report from a Meeting of the Allotment Committee held on Tuesday 28th May at the Sherwood Street Club, Newton. The main points covered were that 4/5 new plots had been created at Blackwell due to ground clearance. North Street site also had spare plots. It was agreed by all that a skip could be located at the top left of the Car Park at Blackwell Community Centre for a short period of time to help with the clearance of some plots on the site.

Repairs needed at the Littlemoor Lane site were now in hand, a joiner had been arranged. The Clerk agreed to advise Emma regarding funding applications for a Storage Container.

40/2019 PARISH COMMUNITY ASSOCIATIONS

Council Members were advised that the Westhouses Community Building Project has been shelved until at least early 2020.

Cllr Gascoyne advised Members that the recent Percy Topliss History Event had been a huge success with over 70 residents attending. Although it was not a fundraiser, £42 had been raised for BRAGG on the sale of refreshments.

A member of the WRAG group advised Members of a project to acquire a Steam Train Wheel and incorporate this into the Westhouses Village Sign, this was given the full support of the Members present.

41/2019 ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT, FINANCIAL REPORT & STAFF HOLIDAYS

The Clerk submitted a schedule of accounts for payment totalling £7,373.90 it was moved by Cllr Pell, seconded by Cllr Bullock and Resolved that these be authorised for payment. The Clerk provided the Current Account Bank Balance of £70,953.56 as at 28.05.2019, a Bank Reconciliation at 28.05.2019, with a Reserve Account balance as at 28.05.2019 of £40,942.09 to members of the Council for their inspection.

The Clerk confirmed that this year's Annual Governance & Accounting Return, and supporting reports had now gone to the External Auditors PKF Littlejohn and had been acknowledged. The reports had been uploaded to the Website and the period when the Public Rights to inspect the Accounts is confirmed at Monday 17th June 2019 until Friday 26th July 2019.

Members were reminded that the Clerk was on Annual leave from Wednesday 5th June until Tuesday 11th June and also on Thursday 20th June and Friday 21st June 2019. Mr Steve Chamberlain would be on leave Monday 10th June until Monday 17th June 2019.

42/2019 BOLSOVER PARTNERSHIP

The Clerk advised that Cllr Steve Knox and Cllr Thomas Battelle had been nominated to represent Blackwell Parish Council on the Bolsover Partnership Committee.

43/2019 DERBYSHIRE ASSOCIATION OF LOCAL COUNCILS

The Clerk reported for information receipt of the DALC Circular 07/2019 which had been emailed to all members prior to the meeting. The Clerk had also been contacted by DALC to ask for nominations to sit on the DALC Executive, anyone interested was asked to let the Clerk know as soon as possible.

44/2019 PARISH COUNCIL NEWSLETTER AND WEBSITE

The Clerk confirmed that the target date for the next Parish Newsletter to go to the printers is 19th June 2019. Last date for any articles for inclusion was Friday 14th June 2019 latest.

45/2019 PLANNING REPORT

All applications and decisions on this month’s report were discussed; the Clerk was not asked to make any objections or comments this occasion.

46/2019 DOE HILL COMMUNITY PARK

Cllr Newham provided feedback to members that the Viridor Funding Application for the Drainage improvements was almost ready for submission. He also advised that the next meeting will be held on Wednesday 26th June, at Blackwell Community Centre it would be a closed meeting with representatives from HS2 Ltd, Derbyshire County Council, Blackwell Parish Council and Banks Ltd attending.

47/2019 DATE AND TIME OF THE NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of Blackwell Parish Council will be held on Monday 1st July 2019 at Newton Community Centre, 6pm start as HS2 Ltd will be attending for the first hour.

48/2019 CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS

Council members present were provided with feedback from a recent meeting of the Chairman, the Clerk and Victoria Dawson, Legal Team Manager, Bolsover District Council, and the course of action planned for future meetings.

Disappointment was expressed at the lack of Police presence at this meeting despite assurances that an officer would attend.

The meeting closed at 8.55pm.

Signed

Date