

BLACKWELL PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a Meeting of the Blackwell Parish Council held at the Newton Community Centre on Monday 5 October 2009 at 7.00 p.m.

PRESENT

Councillor D G B Bullock (Chairman)

Councillors: I G Cox: J Lomas: I J A Newham: R J Sainsbury: B Stocks:
S J Thorpe: A F Tomlinson and N J B Willens:

137/2009

ALSO PRESENT

PC Lorna Evans, Derbyshire Constabulary and eight Parishioners.

138/2009

OPEN FORUM

Mr M Greenwood/Mrs C Munks, Hilcote Environmental and Leisure Project advised Council Members that the Hilcote Trail Link would be officially opened by Dennis Skinner MP on Saturday 10 October 2009.

They also expressed concern regarding the damage to the wood fencing on the New Street side of the New Street Playing Field and asked if consideration could be given by the Council for the replacement of same. They further indicated there might be monies available to assist with such a project from the Hilcote Environmental and Leisure Project.

Mr D Lewis, Blackwell advised Council Members of his concern with regard to the overgrown state of the hedgerow etc. at the junction of Gloves Lane and the Silverhill Trail, Blackwell.

It was agreed the Clerk contact the Footpaths Officer, Derbyshire County Council requesting that action be taken to clear the offending hedgerow etc.

Mr L Walker, Hilcote made further complaints regarding the Bus Shelter adjacent to his property at Hilcote Lane, Hilcote and he was advised by the Chairman of the Council that Shelter Maintenance Limited had already inspected the Shelter and stated that it was solid in the ground and was not dangerous.

Councillor B Stocks speaking on behalf of Mr Walker requested that an inspection be carried out of the drainage system adjacent to Mr Walkers property and the flooding problems that had occurred thereon.

It was agreed the Clerk write to the appropriate Officer at Derbyshire County Council requesting that a Site Visit be carried out.

139/2009

POLICE MATTERS

PC Lorna Evans, Derbyshire Constabulary attended the Meeting and advised Council Members:

1. Crime figures to 30 September 2009.
2. Nuisance incidents to 30 September 2009.
3. The next Police Drop-In Surgery would be held at Newton Methodist Church on Saturday 7 November 2009 at 10.00 a.m./12 noon (refreshments and breakfast available at a small charge).

PC Evans also advised Council Members of the Kick Boxing Classes which she had organised at the Blackwell Youth Club on Monday evenings.

Councillor Brian Stocks advised PC Evans of the details of a pick-up truck which had been noted in the village of Hilcote and may have been involved in scrap theft.

RESOLVED that PC Evans be thanked for her attendance and report.

140/2009

COUNTY COUNCILLOR C R MOESBY

There was no report from County Councillor Clive Moesby as he was away on holiday.

141/2009

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors C R Moesby and Mrs P R Wilkinson.

142/2009

CODE OF CONDUCT/REGISTER OF MEMBERS INTERESTS/HOSPITALITY REGISTER

The Chairman of the Council, Councillor 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.

143/2009

MINUTES

The Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 7 September 2009 were approved and signed as a correct record subject to Minute 126/2009 being amended to read "Councillor I G Cox requested that attention be given to the overhanging hedgerow at Charnwood Crescent Playing Field, Newton."

144/2009

CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chairman of the Council handed to each Council Member a blank copy of the Community Response Plan for Civil Emergencies and asked Council Members to complete the Plan where possible and that this would be an Agenda Item for the Council Meeting to be held on 2 November 2009.

Councillor I G Cox reported for information that the Annual Remembrance Day Service would be held at Newton Community Centre 8 November 2009 at 3.00 p.m.

145/2009

ALLOTMENTS

Councillor S J Thorpe reported for information that the inspection of all Allotment Plots at Littlemoor Lane Allotments, Newton (Minute 109/2009 refers) would be carried out by Mr J Yates, Chairman, Standards Committee, Bolsover District Council on 7 October 2009.

146/2009

HIGHWAYS

Following a report from the Clerk **RESOLVED** that a Grit Bin be located at the junction of Alfreton Road/Tibshelf Road, Westhouses and at the junction of Victoria Drive/Glove Lane, Blackwell.

147/2009

PLAYING FIELDS

The Clerk reported for information that a 6' high steel palisade type fencing had been erected at Bamford Street Play Area (part) Newton (Minute 218/2008 refers).

The Clerk also reported receipt of a letter from the Newton Carnival Team requesting permission to hold a Community Bonfire and Firework Display at the Councils Charnwood Crescent Playing Field, Newton.

RESOLVED the request from Newton Carnival Team to hold a Community Bonfire and Firework Display on the Councils Charnwood Crescent Playing Field, Newton be approved subject to Public Liability Insurance/Health and Safety Regulations all being in place.

Councillor D G B Bullock declared a personal and prejudicial interest in the foregoing and vacated the room and took no part in the discussion and decision thereon.

Councillor N J B Willens in the Chair.

148/2009

FOOTPATHS

There were no reports with regard to Footpaths.

149/2009

ACCOUNTS

The Clerk submitted a list of accounts for payment totaling £4943.60 and it was agreed these be paid. The Clerk also furnished for Members information:

1. Copy of the Council's Bank 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).

150/2009

BOLSOVER LOCAL STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP

Councillor A F Tomlinson, in his capacity as Deputy Leader, Bolsover District Council, gave Council Members an overview of the Bolsover Apprentice Programme stating that the District Council had been successful in a bid to the Governments Future Jobs Fund in conjunction with Chesterfield Borough Council to support 18/24 year olds who had been unemployed for twelve months and 25 + year olds from unemployment hot spot wards. As a linked initiative the District Council would also be supporting an In-House Apprenticeship Programme which would focus on 16/18 NEETS.

151/2009

DERBYSHIRE ASSOCIATION OF LOCAL COUNCILS

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

1. 49/2009 Policing of Local Events.
2. 50/2009 Affiliation/Membership of DALC/NALC.
3. 51/2009 Pay Settlement 2009 – 2009/2010 National Final Salary Award for Local Council Clerks.
4. 52/2009 Parish and Town Council Liaison Meeting 22 October 2009.

152/2009

QUALITY PARISH AND TOWN COUNCIL SCHEME

The Chairman of the Council gave an update report on the Council Web Site and of the difficulties currently being experienced with the Provider.

RESOLVED the Clerk write to Mr S McKenna responsible for maintaining the Councils Web Site advising him in the strongest possible terms of the Councils dissatisfaction of the standard of service he was currently providing.

With regard to the Councils News Letter, it was hoped to have this for distribution November/December 2009.

153/2009

PLANS

The following Plan was submitted and determined as indicated:

Mr G Cox, 52 New Street, Newton – erection of double garage to rear of property – **no objections.**

Councillor I G Cox declared a personal and prejudicial interest in the foregoing Planning Application and took no part in the discussion and decision thereon and left the room.

154/2009

CORRESPONDENCE

The Clerk reported receipt of the following letters:

1. Post Office Limited – Branch re-opening at Blackwell. The Clerk reported Post Office Limited were currently carrying out a public consultation with regard to re-opening the Post Office on a part-time basis at Blackwell Community Centre which would be for 8 hours each week Tuesday and Thursday 9.00 a.m./1.00 p.m.

RESOLVED:

- a. The Clerk write to Post Office Limited supporting the re-opening of Blackwell Post Office on a part-time basis at Blackwell Community Centre.
 - b. Councillor A F Tomlinson be thanked for his efforts in securing the re-opening of Blackwell Post Office on a part-time basis.
 - c. The Blackwell Community Centre be offered to Post Office Limited on a free of charge basis.
2. Invitation to a Focus Group Meeting on 21 October 2009 Derbyshire Fire and Rescue Service.

RESOLVED that Councillor N J B Willens be authorized to attend the Meeting.

3. Invitation from the Hilcote Environmental and Leisure Group for the Council Members to the opening of the Hilcote Link 10 October 2009.

155/2009

ENGINE RECLAMATION SITE

There were no reports with regard to the Engine Reclamation Site.

156/2009

MEETING

RESOLVED the next Meeting of the Blackwell Parish Council be held at Hilcote Community Centre, New Street Hilcote on Monday 2 November 2009 at 7.00 p.m.

EXEMPT ITEM

157/2009

HILCOTE – COUNCIL REPRESENTATION

The Clerk reported for information that in accordance with Minute 135/2009 he had written to Councillor Mrs S A Gray suggesting that she review her position as a Member of Blackwell Parish Council but to date had not received any response.

The Meeting concluded at 8.35 p.m.