

Please note these are draft minutes until approved and signed at the next meeting.

**BLETCHINGLEY PARISH COUNCIL  
MINUTES OF MEETING HELD IN THE  
COMMITTEE ROOMS ON MONDAY 8 OCTOBER 2007**

**P R E S E N T**

Councillor R. Gater – Chairman  
Councillors K Bridger, A Butler, D Martin, N Munday, R Trotman

In attendance: Clerk - K. Wantling, County Councillor (CC Myland), District Councillors (DC) Black and Elias, PC Shrapel and PCSO Sheppard, Mrs P Cock – Bletchingley in Bloom, Mr Tunstall – Neighbourhood Watch

**130/07 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies were received from Councillors Nathanail, Tatnell and Moore and Councillor Munday would be late.

**131/07 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

No changes were made to the Declarations of Interest.

**132/07 MINUTES**

The Chairman stated that Minute 125/07 would be dealt with in Committee due to the ongoing Court Case. The remainder of the minutes of the Bletchingley Parish Council meeting held on 10 September 2007 were approved and signed by the Chairman subject to two minor typing errors as follows: Page 4, minute 122/07, first paragraph, “Councillor Butler” should read “Councillor Tatnell”; Page 9, minute 127/07, second paragraph, “principal” should be replaced with “principle”.

**133/07 RESIDENTS’ REQUESTS**

The footpath between Castle Square and Outwood Lane is very muddy due to bank vegetation being removed from the boundary bordering Bletchingley House resulting in land slippage. A request was made for a letter to be written to Mr and Mrs Abel of Bletchingley House requesting that they construct some form of ditch at the bottom of their property to reduce the amount of run off from their property onto the footpath. Following a discussion,

**IT WAS AGREED THAT** the Clerk would write a letter to Mr and Mrs Abel. KW

A request was received for volunteers to attend a Brownie session at St Catherine’s School (date to be confirmed) to help with the understanding of Remembrance Sunday. Following a discussion,

**IT WAS AGREED THAT** the Clerk would contact the Chairman of the British Legion, Derrick Coppard for advice. KW

**134/07 REPORT FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR MYLAND**

CC Myland thanked Bletchingley Parish Council and individual Councillors for all its offers of support relating to the Nutfield Memorial Hall fire. Further to the recent Tandridge Local Committee meeting held on 5 October 2007, CC Myland read the report relating to suggested improvements to a section of road near Outwood Lane

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Bridge and the actual bridge itself. SCC Highways are prepared to do scooping work for Bridge improvements but have requested that the Parish Council contribute £3000 towards these costs.

*Councillor Munday entered the meeting.*

Following a discussion,

**IT WAS AGREED THAT** the Parish Council were not willing to pay £3000 towards exploration costs and were not happy about being expected to pay these costs. It was agreed that the proposed changes to the Outwood Lane site near Poundhill Cottage, just south of the single-track bridge be progressed and that the Parish Council reserve the right to take up the option for alterations to the Bridge at a later stage if it was still felt necessary. CC Myland would pass this information on to the SCC Highways Department.

MM

CC Myland thought that the Tarmac planning application would not likely come before the Committee before November.

The next Tandridge Local Committee meeting is on 14 December 2007.

### **135/07 POLICING ISSUES**

The Chairman expressed thanks for the excellent work of PCSO Sheppard and welcomed PC Shrapel to the meeting.

PC Shrapel updated the Council on the 7 reported crimes since the previous meeting. In 2006, for the same period, there were 16 reported crimes.

Councillor Munday updated PC Shrapel on an incident he had reported relating to a person standing on the bridge over the M23.

PC Shrapel commented on the Local Policing Plan Survey that the Clerk had recently received and distributed to the Chairman and Councillor Bridger. He also supported the Council's opinion that the presence of a "Beat Bobby" is the best method of policing.

The motorbike nuisance appeared, at present, to be very quiet and at the latest Police Panel a resident had congratulated the police on their efforts in this regard.

PC Shrapel proceeded to explain how the Neighbourhood Issues List was available to different sections of the police and therefore at any one time, more than one response could be received for an incident if other areas were quiet. If other sections were quiet, they would then consult the Neighbourhood Issues List and decide which area would be most appropriate for a visit at that time.

The Police were thanked for their efforts so far and hoped that this would continue. Following a discussion,

**IT WAS AGREED THAT** Councillor Bridger would, in conjunction with Mr K Tunstall, complete the Local Policing Plan Survey.

KB

*PC Shrapel, PCSO Sheppard and CC Myland left the meeting.*

### **136/07 BLETCHINGLEY IN BLOOM**

Mrs Cock updated the Council on the progress relating to the Village Sign. One concern was whether planning permission would be required. It was hoped that the design competition would be launched in November, with designs being judged and finalised in February/March. The competition would be advertised in the Parish

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Magazine. It was thought that a “Community Panel” should be formed to judge the competition and this should include a member from the Parish Council. The first fundraising event would be taking place in November. The cost of the sign is likely to be around £800 and should reflect both past and present Bletchingley. Following a discussion

**IT WAS AGREED THAT** the Clerk would make enquiries relating to the planning permissions required and if necessary, the Parish Council would undertake to apply for the planning permission.

KW  
All

Permissions had been received for bulb planting and the proposed date for the first bulb planting session was Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> October. Details to follow. A plea for new volunteers would be placed on the website in due course. The grass cutting and street cleaning were discussed again as to whether these two processes could be better co-ordinated. It was confirmed that there was no dedicated group for cleaning pavements. This was only ever a targeted area when required. The Clerk would endeavour to get the grass cutting team and street cleaning team to co-ordinate their work.

KW

*Mr K Tunstall entered the meeting.*

In relation to the Village Gateways, no progress had been made. Following a discussion,

**IT WAS AGREED THAT** the Clerk would make further enquiries of CC Myland.

KW

Mrs Cock was asked to provide the Parish Council with an indication of future funding requests so that these may be discussed for inclusion in the budgeting process due to take place in November. Ideas/projects were being sought for the 2008 in Bloom competition.

#### **137/07 MATTERS AND ACTION POINTS ARISING FROM MINUTES**

The Clerks report and Action Points were duly noted. A response from the owners of Five Acres in relation to Stychens Lane was read to the Parish Council. Following a discussion,

**IT WAS AGREED THAT** whilst the Parish Council had made enquiries as to the responsibility and ownership of the land in question, the clearance of road banks was the responsibility of the owners of the land and it was their duty to ensure that the vegetation on their banks was not impeding access. The Parish Council would still endeavour to report any problems as they arose.

#### **138/07 NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH**

The report from Areas of Responsibility relating to Neighbourhood Watch was brought forward to enable Mr Tunstall to update the Council on recent events. A recent meeting between Mr Tunstall and Councillors had been well attended. It was agreed that community involvement was key to identifying cause and preventing future crimes. Mr Tunstall outlined areas that could start to build community involvement, particularly in the White Post Estate: i) benches near the school entrance; (ii) , moving the play area to the centre of Whitepost; and (iii) provide further benches and picnic places. TDC give their full support towards proposals and DC Elias and Black will involve CC Myland and undertake to do a survey of residents around the green. A previous petition signed 8 years ago to move the play

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area had met with opposition. Councillor Martin explained some of the background to the original petition.

The Chairman confirmed that a donation received a few years ago from East Surrey Residents Association was still in the bank and could be used towards funding this idea. CC Myland also has access to a funding pot. Contacts for the bike club were passed to Mr K Tunstall, although at present, due to lack of accommodation facilities, this idea had been shelved.

Councillor Munday had offered to attend one of the iBus sessions and talk about the Speedwatch programme. Following a discussion,

All

**IT WAS AGREED IN PRINCIPLE THAT** subject to proposals, the funding from the Surrey Residents Association could be used towards this cause and that the Parish Council gave their full support to the idea and that even if there were some objections, this idea should not be pushed aside.

Councillor Munday proposed forwarding the idea to the Village Fair Committee to help with funding. The Clerk enquired as to whether some form of seating could be provided by the dirt bumps as this appeared to be a popular area for the older youth to meet. Mr K Tunstall would look into this.

*Mr K Tunstall left the meeting.*

#### **139/07 CURRENT PLANNING ISSUES**

Councillor Martin updated the Council on the new planning procedure, with particular reference to the 21 day response deadline. Following a discussion

**IT WAS AGREED THAT** the Clerk would make enquiries about the legal issues involved with forming a sub-committee, to be made up of any 4 available Council members, to deal with planning issues arising outside of the normal monthly meeting. The Clerk would report back with her findings and a resolution made at the next meeting. The Clerk would notify TDC that the set of plans for the Parish Council would still be sent direct to Howard Cundey, where they would then be available to the public and the Councillor responsible for planning.

KW

**TA/2007/1321** - Roughets House, Roughets Lane, Bletchingley – Demolition of conservatory. Erection of single storey side extension to provide orangery, swimming pool building and gym with garaging, also the erection of a 1.8m high fencing on 2.1m high posts (Amended description).

**RESOLVED:** Bletchingley Parish Council has no comments to make on this application, but would like to note a possible error on the placement of the fence. (This could not be checked however as plans were not available). It is believed that the fence to be erected should be located on the north side of the property, but south of the public right of way. If this is not a mistake, then the Parish Council would like to object as the placement of the fence would spoil the view from the right of way over the Downs.

KW

**TA/2002/183/D2/A** - North Park Farm Quarry, North Park Lane, Godstone. – Details of restoration and landscaping pursuant to Condition 26; details of a drainage scheme pursuant to Condition 29; and details of a scheme for the removal of existing sand storage and dispatch silos and associated plant and hardstanding located to the East of North Park Lane pursuant to Condition 31 of planning ref: TA/02/0183 and RE/02/0268 dated 19 July 2004. (County Determination).

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**RESOLVED:** Bletchingley PC has already sent in its comments on this application via Councillor Butler.

**TA/2007/1446** - 2 Fountain Cottages, Cuckseys Lane, Bletchingley. – Demolition of sheds. Erection of summer house and garden shed.

**RESOLVED:** NO COMMENT

**TA/2007/1121** - Branslands, Outwood Lane, Bletchingley – Retention of 2 garden sheds and summer house in rear garden.

**RESOLVED:** NO COMMENT

**TA/2007/1436** - Junction of Mitcheners Lane and Outwood Lane, Bletchingley – Alteration to access onto Outwood Lane, including removal of roadway, traffic island, concrete path and driveway. Formation of 2 grassed verges with alteration to kerb line, new gravel drive and erection of gate to former quarry entrance.

**RESOLVED:** NO COMMENT

**TA/2007/1521** - The Old Dairy, Brewer Street, Bletchingley. – Change of use of existing building to Veterinary Hospital (Class D1) with ancillary accommodation and new link unit connecting units with gas, cycle and bin store and hardstanding providing car parking.

**RESOLVED:** No plans were available to discuss this application in full. Bletchingley Parish Council would like to **OBJECT** on the basis that this development is likely to increase the amount of traffic already using the roads and that the application is for the formation of new residential accommodation within the Greenbelt and conservation area. Numerous complaints have already been received about the volume and size of traffic using the affected roads.

KW

#### **140/07 REPORTS FROM AREAS OF RESPONSIBILITY**

1. **Neighbourhood Watch:** Councillor Bridger had nothing further to report.
2. **Footpaths and Bridleways:** Councillor Trotman had nothing to report on footpaths but stated that once Quality Status was gained, the Parish Council could obtain the budgets from SCC for some remedial path repairs.
3. **Transport:** Councillor Munday had nothing to report. He was planning on attending the next GACC Annual General Meeting due to be held on Friday 26 October 2007 and would report back at the next meeting. Councillor Butler reported that the WI had invited GACC to attend one of their meetings on 30<sup>th</sup> October at 7.30pm. This was open to members of the public.
4. **Speedwatch:** Councillor Munday reported that one of the volunteers had dropped out of the scheme. The other 4 volunteers were scheduled for training on 18 October 2007. The Clerk stated that Nutfield were looking at joining the scheme but their sites were limited to the A25. Following a discussion

**IT WAS AGREED THAT** the Clerk would contact the Clerk of Nutfield and suggest that they join forces with Bletchingley. Councillor Munday offered to act as a “float” speedwatch volunteer until such time as another volunteer came forward.

KW

5. **Cemetery:** Councillor Martin confirmed that he had located the 2 war graves of Pvt Streeter and Drummer Humphries. The Clerk had been notified that one of the gravestones was becoming unstable. Following a discussion

**IT WAS AGREED THAT** the Clerk would identify the memorial and take any

KW

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action necessary to temporarily make the memorial safe. An article would be placed in the Parish Magazine asking for relatives to undertake work to secure the memorial. If no relatives came forward, then the Parish Council would take steps to lay the memorial flat.

6. **Minerals: WBB** – The missing plan had arrived. SCC had not yet sent it out due to the postal strike and therefore it was not yet under consultation. Councillor Butler confirmed that she had sent a response on behalf of the Parish Council and a copy had been provided to all Councillors in advance. She had been invited to attend a meeting at the County Hall to speak on behalf of Bletchingley, Godstone and QOG. The issue surrounding the emissions from the drying process had still not been addressed. This was now apparently being dealt with by the Environmental Health Agency. It is thought that no further progress would take place on this until around Christmas time. At this stage, the Parish Councils would have no slot, but Councillor Butler thought she may be asked to speak on behalf of QOG. There was a question re the validity of data collected from the dust meters, which, according to the manufacturers, were the incorrect meters for obtaining the records suggested.

7. **Village Hall/Community Centre:** Robert McCarthy is currently reviewing the effects of the proposed changes to the new Licensing Act.

8. **Recreation/Sports Association:** Measures had been taken to restore the Cricket Green. The Clerk enquired as to any volunteers for restarting a school Cricket Club at St Catherine's School. It was suggested that Ken Bolitho would be the best contact. The Clerk updated the Council on the damaged bench that had to be removed from Stychens Lane Playground due to total vandalism. Tilgate Common still required cutting. Following a discussion,

**IT WAS RESOLVED THAT** (i) Councillor Moore and the Clerk would obtain quotes for a replacement bench/picnic table and that £500 would put towards this cost and (ii) DA Landscaping would be instructed to undertake the grass cutting of Tilgate Common.

JM/  
KW

9. **Allotments:** Nothing to report in Councillor Moore's absence. There was no change to the waiting list.

10. **Street Lighting:** Street light No 2 in Church Lane was once again on continuously.

KW

**IT WAS RESOLVED THAT** the Clerk would report this to the relevant department.

11. **CCTV:** The system was running normally. The future replacement of the current DVD system at the Curry House remained unresolved. The Chairman would endeavour to obtain an update from Inspector Burtenshaw on their CCTV proposal prior to the next meeting.

RG

12. **Website:** The Clerk confirmed that the last 3 years Report & Accounts were on the website, temporarily located under the heading of minutes. It was proposed that slight modifications would be made to the site next year to include a new section for documents such as Report & Accounts and any legal documents such as Code of Conduct etc.

## **141/07 FINANCE**

The following October payments were sanctioned and cheques and stubs signed.

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000391	Bletchingley Village Hall	9.00
000392	Mrs K Wantling	562.61
000393	HM Revenue & Customs	44.54
000394	Oxsted Citizens Advice Bureau	100.00
000395	DA Landscaping & Garden Maintenance	564.00
000396	Viking Direct	<u>72.72</u>
		<u>£1352.87</u>

The Clerk suggested that the purchase of a Councillor's Information Pack from SALC for the price of £30.00 plus VAT would be of benefit to the Council. Following a discussion,

**IT WAS RESOLVED THAT** the Clerk should purchase 1 copy initially which would then be available for use by Councillors.

**142/07 FOOTPATH 506**

Mr and Mrs Herrtage have objected to minute 125/07 and the Parish Council are taking advice from Legal Counsel on the matter.

In view of the special confidential nature of the matter to be discussed, it is advisable in accordance with the provision of the Data Protection Act 1998 and the Freedom of Information Act 2005, the matter be discussed "In Committee".

**143/07 CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED**

**Tandridge District Parish Councils** – to review draft Constitution for an Association of Tandridge Parishes and agree any response. Following a discussion,

**IT WAS RESOLVED THAT** Councillor Trotman would undertake to draft a response which would then be circulated to all Councillors.

RT

**SCAPTC 2007 Questionnaire** – The Questionnaire was completed. The Clerk would return the completed Questionnaire to SCAPTC.

KW

**CPRE** – to consider a subscription to CPRE for £27.00 for annual membership. Following a discussion,

**IT WAS RESOLVED THAT** the Parish Council would subscribe to CPRE.

KW

**144/07 MATTERS FOR REPORTING OR INCLUSION ON FUTURE AGENDA**

TVSC – A further appeal for a donation of £500 had been received. This would be included on the November Agenda and in the budget process for agreement in December.

**145/07 DATE OF NEXT MEETING – 12 November 2007**

The Chairman closed the meeting at 10.35pm