

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 14 JULY 2008**

P R E S E N T

Councillor R. Gater – Chairman
Councillors K Bridger, A Butler, N Munday and B Tatnell

In attendance: Clerk - K. Wantling, CC M Myland, DC G Black, P Cock – Bletchingley in Bloom,
D Turner – Neighbourhood Watch and Mr Birt.

101/08 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Councillors D Martin and R Trotman, PC Shrapel, PCSO Sheppard and DC T Elias. The Chairman welcomed all to the meeting.

102/08 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No changes were made to the Declarations of Interest.

103/08 MINUTES

The minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 9th June 2008 were approved and signed by the Chairman.

104/08 RESIDENTS' REQUESTS

Bus Stop near Castle Square – The pavement is still covered in moss and very slippery when wet.

IT WAS AGREED THAT CC M Myland and DC G Black would chase this as it had been reported on several occasions.

MM
GB

Whitehill Lane Resurfacing – The resurfaced road has been painted with central white lines. There is encroaching vegetation on one side of White Hill Lane prior to the motorway bridge and encroachment of vegetation from Whitehill bridge south to the junction of Place Farm Road along Place Farm Road and Church Lane. This means that there is insufficient room for vehicles to travel on the correct side of the white line.

IT WAS AGREED THAT the Clerk would raise this issue with Highways.

KW

Footpath along A25 between Godstone and Bletchingley – This was now almost impassable due to length of grass. The Clerk confirmed she had requested it to be cut. CC M Myland reported that a further £2.5m was to be released for works to roads by SCC.

IT WAS AGREED THAT CC M Myland would chase this issue.

MM

Noise Disturbance from Red Lion – A nearby resident had complained about the noise level late at night during the warmer weather.

IT WAS AGREED THAT DC G Black would contact the resident and contact TDC re the complaint. The Clerk would write a letter to the Red Lion re the noise level late at night.

GB
KW

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MM

Red Lion – White Road Markings – The Clerk asked CC M Myland for assistance in getting these road markings reinstated.

105/08 REPORT FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR MYLAND

CC Myland briefed the Council on the Redhill Aerodrome application for a hard runway. This would result in an increase in aircraft numbers. The planning application is available on the TDC website. Local members of Keep Redhill Aerodrome Green (“KRAG”) are working on a response. Any objections should be addressed to Mr Bob Evans at TDC by the end of September.

CC M Myland confirmed that she was now a member of the Transport Select Committee and remains Vice Chairman of the SCC Local Committee.

WBB – The retrospective planning application is likely to be heard in September. Quarry Observation Group (“QOG”) are still going to judicial review.

SCC Highways has had a funding review which should make a noticeable difference to the grass gutting, gully cleaning and speeding issues over the coming months in addition to programmed work on road surfacing etc.

106/08 POLICING ISSUES

The Clerk read out PC Shrapel report in his absence due to operational requirements. There were 14 reported crimes for the period 9th June 2008 to 14th July 2008. These were down from the 20 reported crimes for the same period last year. They ranged from assault to burglary, theft and property damage.

107/08 BLETCHINGLEY IN BLOOM

Mrs Cock reported that the judges were very impressed on judging day. Presentations would now be made on the 3rd September at The Hawth, Crawley. Last year a low silver gilt had been awarded. This year it was hoped that the same or higher was achieved. The village is now seen to be making a contribution to the cause and the In Bloom team felt it worth continuing next year. Mrs Cock confirmed she would continue to chair the In Bloom Committee. The main concern for next year was Hevers’ Pond. Work needed to be started in September and approval needed to be gained prior to that.

Councillor Munday arrived.

It was crucial that whilst enthusiasm was high and support available from the appropriate wildlife groups, namely SARG and Surrey Wildlife, that this project needed to be started.

IT WAS AGREED THAT the Clerk would write a letter to the agents of the Estate, RH & RW Cluttons to stress the urgency of the project and to confirm that funding is available for sourcing once confirmation has been given that works can commence. If necessary a meeting with the owners could be arranged.

KW

Several comments had been received on how clean the village looked. Pavements were clean which was thanks to Mr Barton at TDC and his road sweepers. Mrs Cock asked whether road sweepers could be brought back to Bletchingley. The response was that at present there was no budget for these works. Attaining Quality Council Status may help with this matter.

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IT WAS AGREED THAT the formation of a road sweeping pilot scheme would be discussed at the September meeting.

KW

Mrs Muller was thanked for the wonderful refreshments and lunch she provided for Judging Day and the WI ladies for their help with serving the refreshments. TDC and SCC would also be thanked for their contribution towards making Bletchingley in Bloom a success.

KW

CC M Myland left the meeting.

108/08 MATTERS AND ACTION POINTS ARISING FROM MINUTES

The Clerk read through the report and noted that those requiring action were on the agenda later.

High Street Railings – These had now been painted and the work team had been very pleased to be involved with such a project. The work to be done at the Cemetery and the Church would start to take place in a few weeks time. It was suggested that the railings at the corner of Castle Close were included in the scheme.

IT WAS AGREED THAT the Clerk would check if this was possible.

KW

Allotments – A skip was still in the process of being arranged.

Village Fair – Hog Roast – This had once again been a great success with the meat sold out early in the day. £340.50 had been made on the day, which after payment for the Hog Roast left a loss of £179.50. Following comments, it is felt that next year, the fee should be increased to £2. The Village Fair Committee had reported a very successful day and funding requests were being reviewed.

Finance – The Annual Return had been sent to the External Auditors earlier in the day.

Community Speedwatch – The Clerk confirmed that the details of D Turner and P Day who had expressed an interest in joining the Community Speedwatch Team had been forwarded to Moira Cocks.

109/08 CURRENT PLANNING ISSUES

TA/2008/685 – 68 Coneybury, Bletchingley – Formation of Vehicular Access.

RESOLVED - No comment.

KW

TA/2008/788/L1 and L2 – 67 High Street, Bletchingley – Demolition of stable block & sheds. Erection of stable block with associated access from Castle Close, turning area, landscaping & 1.2m high stock fencing. (Full Planning Permission – 2008/788/L1) (Conservation Area Consent – 2008/788/L2).

IT WAS RESOLVED THAT The Clerk would need to make further enquiries of TDC re the proposed exit and then following consultation with councilors the Clerk had the authority to submit the appropriate response.

KW

TA/2008/840 – The Works, Church Walk, Bletchingley – Demolition of building (Conservation Area Consent).

RESOLVED - No comment.

KW

TA/2008/893 – Chi Cottage, Godstone Road, Bletchingley – removal of parapet wall. Erection of replacement sloping roof. (Amendment to application 2007/420).

RESOLVED – Previous comment to original application still stands.

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P Cock and DC G Black left the meeting.

KW

August Planning Committee Meetings – It was proposed that during August, in the absence of a full council meeting, the Planning Committee would schedule to meet in its place if there were applications to be discussed.

All

Christmas Lights – The Village Fair Committee have made enquiries as to whether Christmas Lights could be put up in Bletchingley. Funding and or lights may be available for Christmas Lights from an Alan Gaylor Fund. Details about this may be obtained from Mr Napper.

IT WAS AGREED THAT the Clerk would forward contact details on to Councillor Munday and that this would go onto the September Agenda.

KW

Determined Applications:

Below is a list of delegated action taken by TDC in relation to planning applications.

TA/2008/292 – Land North of 38 Barfields, Bletchingley – Erection of Garage – **Approved.**

TA/2008/523 – 2 Town Mead, Bletchingley – Demolition of shed. Erection of part single/2 storey side extension with skylights to front and rear roof slope to facilitate conversion of loft into habitable accommodation. – **Approved.**

TA/2008/517 – 120 High Street, Bletchingley – Demolition of sun room. Erection of 2-storey rear extension – **Approved**

TA/2008/750 – Grass verge adjacent to A25 between Stychens Lane and Red Lion, Bletchingley – Display of non-illuminated double sided sign mounted on post – **Advertisement Consent**

Appeals

TA/2008/354 – Land R/O The Whyte Harte, High Street, Bletchingley.

TA/2007/1694 – Little Tilgates, Little Common Lane, Bletchingley.

110/08 REPORTS FROM AREAS OF RESPONSIBILITY

1. Neighbourhood Watch: Councillor Bridger reported that it had been suggested that Neighbourhood Watch be stepped up over the school holidays with a more formal watch programme. The Area Coordinators should liaise with PC Shrapel. The Chairman confirmed that the CCTV system is working and currently located at the Whyte Harte. There have been reports that youths are gathering underneath the shelter in Church Walk. This has been reported.

D Turner left the meeting.

2. Footpaths and Bridleways: Councillor Munday reported on a large hole in Tilgate Common. The Clerk confirmed that the car park on Rabies Heath Road overlooking Tilburstow Hill was on the Godstone Parish boundary. Following a discussion,

IT WAS AGREED THAT the hole would be monitored to see if action was required.

NM

3. Transport: There is a new planning application in for Gatwick Airport in relation to stables. This needs to be monitored. Councillor Munday notified the Council of a pilot test in a village in the north of the UK where a 30mph speed limit is being imposed on cars and 20mph on lorries. It was thought that this was on a

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“B” road. Following a discussion,

IT WAS AGREED THAT Councillor Munday would monitor this pilot test.

NM

4. Speedwatch: Councillor Munday had nothing new to report. The Clerk reported that there were two new candidates awaiting training to join the Speedwatch programme. Contact details had been forwarded to PC Moira Cocks’ replacement in her absence. The next training was likely to be at Lingfield.

5. Cemetery: Councillor Tatnell and the Clerk were due to attend the Cemetery Management Training Course the next day. The Clerk updated on the services of the Probation Service Team and confirmed that Church House could be used and that there was work at the Church that needed doing as well as work at the Cemetery. A date had yet to be agreed but was likely to be on a Friday in August. There were sufficient brushes left over from the painting of the railings but more paint would need to be purchased. The Clerk enquired about whether further vegetation clearance could be undertaken from the boundaries of the cemetery as well as from around old abandoned headstones. Following a discussion,

IT WAS RESOLVED THAT (i) the Clerk was authorised to purchase further Hammerite Paint for the painting of the Cemetery Gates and (ii) additional clearance work could be undertaken by the Probation Service Team in the first instance and then put on the contractor’s schedule for any remaining work.

KW
KW

6. Minerals: Councillor Butler read from her report circulated in advance to all Councillors.

Tarmac: No news.

WBBM: QOG have taken legal advice and are seeking to take out a Judicial Review against SCC for allowing and continuing to allow breaches to occur despite notification of the same. SCC has two weeks to respond to a Pre-action Protocol Letter. Dust samples have been analysed by an expert employed by QOG who has confirmed that the dust is predominantly silica and therefore from the quarry. A copy of the comments in relation to the latest Application amendments had been circulated to all councillors in advance of this meeting.

SEERA: Their website states that due to the decline in the South East demand during the last few years for gravel sand, the Government needs to cut its targets by a third. This could reduce the pressure on the prospective building sand quarry zones on Nutfield Marsh.

Star Energy: Nothing further has been heard in relation to the gas analyses of the Bletchingley Gas Field. The application for more appraisal wells at Albury had recently been heard by the Planning Committee and permitted.

The Quarry Observation Group had sent an official request for funding of £500 towards the legal costs incurred in the campaign against the WBBM breaches and the Tarmac application. Following a discussion,

IT WAS RESOLVED THAT (i) a donation of £500 would be made towards the legal costs incurred, (ii) the Clerk would seek legal advice as to the best way to provide this funding. This payment would be made under LGA 1972, s137.

All
KW

7. Village Hall/Community Centre: Nothing to report.

8. Recreation/Sports Association: The Clerk confirmed that she had received the playground inspection report from Councillor Moore, which confirmed that all was

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in good order. The Council were updated on a recent request for the clearance of vegetation at the bottom of the Stychens Lane playing field and a quote received for the works. The Clerk had been asked by the resident concerned to advise the Council that should the clearance work result in too much of a loss of privacy, then a request may be made for some form of hedging to be planted in front of the boundary. Following a discussion,

IT WAS RESOLVED THAT a letter be written to the resident concerned stating that in light of the concerns raised, it would be inappropriate for the council to make a hasty and possibly costly action. The situation will therefore be monitored and will be reviewed if the nuisance problems continue.

9. Allotments: Nothing to report in Councillor Moore's absence. Allotment 18 had been handed over to new tenants. A quote was still awaited for the use of a skip and levelling work around the gate area may need to be undertaken before a skip can be delivered.

KW

10. Street Lighting: Nothing to report.

11. CCTV: Nothing to report on the police CCTV system. Metal Mickey is now back in service and all CCTV systems are working.

12. Website: The Clerk reported that 15 renewals had been paid for and a further 2 renewals had confirmed that they would be making payment shortly. 2 new letters had been sent out to potential advertisers.

Mr Birt left the meeting.

111/08 FINANCE

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

000479	Bletchingley Village Hall	9.00
000480	Mrs K Wantling	699.72
000481	HM Revenue & Customs	84.01
000482	The Surrey Hills Society	40.00
000483	Society of Local Council Clerks	217.38
000484	Bletchingley in Bloom	500.00
000485	R P Hook	585.00
000486	Sutton and East Surrey Water plc	14.55
000487	Sutton and East Surrey Water plc	16.66
000488	The Flying Pig Spitroast Company	611.00
000489	DA Landscaping & Garden Maintenance	252.00
000490	DA Landscaping & Garden Maintenance	759.00
000491	Robert McCarthy	42.00
		<u>£3830.32</u>

The following August payments were sanctioned and cheques and stubs signed. Cheques were be dated 11 August 2008.

000492	Mrs K Wantling	601.78
000493	HM Revenue & Customs	84.01
000494	R Gater	105.00
		<u>£790.79</u>

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A discussion followed and it was agreed that a letter should be publicised in the Parish Magazine thanking Mrs Cock and her Bletchingley in Bloom team for all their work in the cause of Bletchingley in Bloom.

112/08 FOOTPATH 506

Nothing to report.

113/08 CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED

A list of all correspondence received was circulated with the papers for information and only those requiring action are noted below.

1. Removal of BT Phone Box – to agree whether the public telephone boxes in Brewer Street and St Catherine’s Cross can be removed. Following consultation undertaken,

IT WAS RESOLVED THAT The Clerk would respond stating that the BT Phone Box at St Catherine’s Cross could go but that the one in Brewer Street should remain as it is within a conservation area and that there is not another within 400m. KW

2. Surrey Crime Stoppers – To consider providing financial support. The Clerk confirmed that any material provided by Surrey Crime Stoppers was always displayed either on the notice board or in the Post Office. Following a discussion,

IT WAS RESOLVED THAT no financial contribution would be made at this stage. KW

3. TVSC – to complete the Questionnaire. Following a discussion,

IT WAS RESOLVED THAT the Clerk would complete the questionnaire. KW

No further comment would be made in relation to the Travelling2 sign.

114/08 STANDING ORDERS AND COMPLAINTS PROCEDURE

To formally adopt the revised Standing Orders and to adopt the revised Complaints Procedure, which now includes reference to FOI (Freedom of Information) complaints. The Clerk confirmed that she had undertaken consultation in relation to the Standing Orders and Core Documents and that the remainder should now be formally adopted. Following a discussion,

IT WAS RESOLVED THAT (i) The Standing Orders be approved and adopted and (ii) *Appendix D – Complaints Procedure – Code of Practice* be approved and adopted. All

115/08 MATTERS FOR REPORTING OR INCLUSION ON FUTURE AGENDA

Village Fair Committee – Christmas Lights

Road Sweeping Pilot Scheme

116/08 DATE OF NEXT MEETINGS

Planning Committee – 28 July 2008

Planning Committee Meeting – 11 August 2008 (to be confirmed)

The Chairman closed the meeting at 10.30 pm