

# **BLACKWELL PARISH COUNCIL**

Minutes of the Annual Parish Council Meeting of the Blackwell Parish Council held at Blackwell Community Centre, Woburn Close, Blackwell, on Monday 11 May 2015, at 7.00 p.m.

## **PRESENT**

Councillor N J B Willens (Chairman)

Councillors: D G B Bullock: S A Gill: C R Moesby: Mrs C Munks:

A Naylor: I J A Newham: R A Poulter: R J Sainsbury.

**30/2015**

## **ALSO PRESENT**

Inspector Frank Burns, PCSO Paul Brownlee, Derbyshire Constabulary and five Parishioners.

**31/2015**

## **ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN FOR THE YEAR 2015/16.**

**RESOLVED** that Councillor N J B Willens be elected Chairman of the Blackwell Parish Council for the year 2015/2016.

Councillor Willens signed his Declaration of Acceptance of office.

**32/2015**

## **ELECTION OF VICE CHAIRMAN FOR THE YEAR 2015/2016**

**RESOLVED** that Councillor I J A Newham be elected Vice Chairman of the Blackwell Parish Council for the year 2015/2016.

Councillor Newham signed his Declaration of Acceptance of Office.

**33/2015**

## **COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVE TO THE NEWTON/ BLACKWELL ALLOTMENT AND LEISURE GARDENERS ASSOCIATION FOR THE YEAR 2015/2016**

**RESOLVED** that Councillor N J B Willens be the Councils representative to the Newton/Blackwell Allotment and Leisure Gardeners Association for the year 2015/2016.

**34/2015**

## **COUNCILS REPRESENTATIVE TO THE DOE HILL COMMUNITY PARK COMMITTEE FOR THE YEAR 2015/2016**

**RESOLVED** that Councillor I J A Newham be the Councils Representative on the Doe Hill Community Park Committee for the year 2015/2016.

**35/2015**

## **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor B Stocks.

36/2015

**DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTERESTS/CODE OF CONDUCT**

The Chairman reminded Council Members 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. Interest that became apparent at a later stage in the proceedings could be declared at that time.

37/2015

**PUBLIC SPEAKING (20 MINUTES)**

**Mr L Walker, Hilcote** asked the Chairman who was responsible for Health and Safety matters with regard to the Council. The Chairman advised him that this was the Clerks responsibility.

**Mr I Cox, Newton** advised Council Members that the Litter Bin situated inside Littlemoor Lane Allotments, Newton was overflowing with litter.

The Chairman advised Mr Cox that he had spoken with the Councils Parish Caretaker who would be dealing with the matter as soon as possible.

**Mr B Price, Hilcote** asked Council Members what, if any, progress had been made with regard to the removal of speed humps at New Lane/Hilcote Lane Hilcote. He was advised by the Chairman that a letter had been received from the Highways Department, Derbyshire County Council advising that no action would be taken with regard to the removal of the speed humps at the aforementioned locations.

38/2015

**POLICE MATTERS**

PCSO Paul Brownlee Derbyshire Constabulary attended the Meeting and advised Council Members:

1 Crime Figures to 30 April 2015.

2. Police Drop-In Surgeries would be at:

a. Blackwell Community Centre 14 May 2015 10 a.m./11a.m.

b. Hilcote Miners Welfare and Community Centre 15 May 2015 10a.m./11 a.m.

Councillor Mrs C Munks thanked PCSO Brownlee for the prompt action he had taken with regard to nuisance problems at the Bamford Street Play Area, Newton.

The Chairman welcomed to the Meeting Inspector Frank Burns, Derbyshire Constabulary, who gave a comprehensive overview of the Safer Neighbourhood Team located at Tibshelf/Blackwell Parishes.

He assured Council Members that there was no intention to close the Safer Neighbourhood Team but did state that he considered the premises used by the Police at Tibshelf Motorway Service Area were unsuitable and that enquiries were ongoing to find a more suitable location.

Inspector Burns did advise Council Members that PC Lorna Evans would be moving elsewhere within the Chesterfield Division and that her replacement would be PC Christopher Grant. Inspector Burns also assured Council Members that PC Evans would not be lost to the Councils area completely as she would be in, what was regarded as a reactive role, part of a mobile response team.

**RESOLVED** that PCSO Paul Brownlee and Inspector Frank Burns, Derbyshire Constabulary be thanked for their attendance and report.

**39/2015**

**COUNTY COUNCILLOR C R MOESBY**

County Councillor C R Moesby advised Council Members that he had no report to give to the Meeting.

**40/2015**

**MINUTES**

The Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 13 April 2015 and the Extraordinary Meeting of the Council held on 24 April 2015 were approved and signed as a correct record

**41/2015**

**CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS**

There were no confidential items.

**42/2015**

**CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Chairman welcomed to the Meeting Councillors S A Gill and A Naylor and hoped that they would find their roles as Councillors an enjoyable experience.

The Chairman requested that all Members present complete their Declaration of Acceptance of Office also Disclosable Pecuniary Interest and the Other Interest Forms.

The Chairman offered his congratulations to Councillors D G B Bullock and C R Moesby on their recent election to Bolsover District Council

**43/2015**

**ALLOTMENTS**

The Chairman reported for information that the Annual General Meeting of the Newton/Blackwell Allotments and Leisure Gardeners Association was held at Blackwell Community Centre on 28 April 2015.

The Chairman further reported that the Memorial Seat for the late Walter "Sam" Haynes would be located close to the greenhouses at Littlemoor Lane Allotments, Newton.

It was further noted that the next Committee Meeting of the Newton/Blackwell Allotments and Leisure Gardeners Association would be held on 12 May 2015.

**44/2015**

### **HIGHWAYS**

The Clerk reported for information receipt of an email from the Traffic and Safety Service, Derbyshire County Council advising the Council that the speed humps located at New Lane and Hilcote Lane, Hilcote would not be removed.

In response to questions from a number of Council Members Councillor C R Moesby, in his capacity as County Councillor agreed to speak with Officers from the Highways Department, Derbyshire County Council with regard to further traffic surveys being carried out on traffic movement at New Lane and Hilcote Lane, Hilcote.

The Clerk also reported for information that Severn Trent Water had applied for an extension to the temporary road closure Huthwaite Lane/Blackwell Road, Blackwell to the 30 June 2015.

Following a request from Councillor R J Sainsbury, Councillor C R Moesby in his capacity as County Councillor agreed to speak with the Highways Department, Derbyshire County Council, with regard to the gully outside 159 Alfreton Road, Newton being cleared etc.

**46/2015**

### **PLAYING FIELDS**

The Chairman reported on behalf of the Newton Community Association that a plan had been received from Groundwork Creswell with regard to Phase One of the installation of new play equipment at the Councils Charnwood Crescent Playing Field.

A copy of the plan was circulated to all Members and concerns were expressed with regard to the timber construction of the equipment and possible vandalism. The Chairman agreed to discuss the matter further with Groundwork Creswell.

The Clerk reported receipt of an email from the Assistant Contracts Manager, Groundwork Creswell, stating that the solar lighting company were due to be at Tibshelf Road Playing Fields, Westhouses on 29/30 April but had postponed this as they were unable to hire a cherry picker. An ultimatum to the contractors by Groundwork Creswell giving them until 22 May 2015 to restore the lighting to full working order and that Groundwork Creswell had been advised that the contractors would be able to resolve the situation within that timeframe.

Several Council Members expressed their concern with regard to the length of time that it had taken to repair the solar lighting and it was

**RESOLVED** that the Clerk write to Assistant Contracts Manager, Groundwork Creswell expressing:

1. Council Members concerns.
2. That in the event of the work not being carried out within the timeframe specified then suitable reimbursement be sought.

The Clerk also reported for information receipt of an email from Brabners Solicitors advising that the Charity Commission had responded to them to the effect that they were asking the current Trustees various questions with regard to the land at Pasture Lane, Hilcote and that they were taking up the proposal for transfer of the trusteeship.

**46/2015**

**FOOTPATHS**

Following a report from Councillor D G B Bullock with regard to Footpath 15

**RESOLVED** that the Clerk write to the Footpaths Officer, Derbyshire County Council, with requesting that rubbish etc that had been dumped on Footpath 15 Newton be cleared as soon as possible.

Following a number of questions from Council Members, Councillor C R Moesby in his capacity as County Councillor agreed to speak with Officers from Derbyshire County Council with regard to the latest update on the opening of the Blackwell Trail

**47/2015**

**ACCOUNTS**

The Clerk submitted a list of accounts for payment totaling £8071.99p and it was agreed these be paid. The Clerk also furnished the following documents to Members for their inspection:

1. Copy of the Councils Reconciliation Statement.
2. Copy of the Councils Audit form confirming the Councils current financial position.
3. Copy of the Councils Bank Statement.
4. List of Direct Debit Payments.

The foregoing documents conform to the Accounts and Audit Regulations (England 2I) (SI Number 2011/817

The Clerk also handed to each Member present a redacted copy of the Accounts for payment.

The Clerk also reported to Council Members the Internal Auditor's report to the 31 March 2015 and that there were no matters arising from the Internal Audit for 2014/15 which necessitated being brought to the attention of Council Members.

It was also agreed that approval be given to the Chairman to sign the Annual Return for the financial year ended 31 March 2015 which would be submitted to the External Auditor.

**48/2015**

**BOLSOVER PARTNERSHIP**

The Chairman reported for information on his attendance at the Bolsover Partnership Executive Committee Meeting which was held on 16 April 2015 at which a number of items were discussed i.e Stroke Awareness, Reduction of Youth Unemployment, Appointment of a Community Cohesion Officer in Shirebrook and local schools participating in a project to visit Namibia

The Chairman further advised Council Members that the next Meeting of the Parish Councils Liaison Group would be held on 6 July 2015.

**49/2015**

**DERBYSHIRE ASSOCIATION OF LOCAL COUNCILS**

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

1. 09/2015 - Local Government Ombudsman to Larger Parish and Town Councils consultation.
2. 10/2015- Government Transparency Fund of £4.7 million.
3. 11/20125 – A Parish and Town Councils which were inquorate
4. 12/2015 – DALC Executive Committee.

**RESOLVED** that Councillor N J B Willens be nominated to serve on the DALC Executive Committee.

5. 13/2015 – Good Councillor Guide.

**50/2015**

**QUALITY STATUS PARISH TOWN COUNCIL SCHEME**

The Chairman advised Council Members that the Council Website was functioning satisfactorily. Councillor I J Newham also advised Council Members that the deadline for the next edition of the Councils Newsletter was 28 May 2015.

**51/2015**

**PLANS**

The following Plans were submitted and determined as indicated.

1. 15/OO292/TPO – Mrs Z Parnell, 11 Dodgewell Close Blackwell –

pruning works to lime tree 10% reduction including crown lifting – **No objections.**

2. 15/00136/TPO – Mr C Guy, 27 Hallfield Drive, Newton – tree works to Ash Tree – **no objections.**

3. 15/00217/TPO – Mr L Palmer, 9 Dodgewell Close Blackwell  
crown lift to 4M – remove dead wood weak and crossing branches  
crown thin to max of 20 % and reduce overhanging branches by  
up to 1.5m and 2 lime trees to rear of 9 Dodgewell Close – **no objections.**

4.15/00204/FUL – Hilcote Arms, Hilcote

Councillor Mrs C Munks expressed concerns regarding possible parking issues thereon.

**52/2015**

### **CORRESPONDENCE**

The Chairman reported that a request had been received from a local resident requesting copies of the Monthly Minutes and Agenda, it was agreed that these be forwarded to the resident concerned at the appropriate time.

With regard to the same resident's request for the Monthly list of Accounts it was agreed that the redacted list of accounts to be paid be forwarded to the resident concerned after the Accounts for Payment had been confirmed by the Council.

The Chairman and Vice Chairman of the Council, Councilors N J B Willens and I J A Newham advised the Council Members that they had received a letter from the Monitoring Officer, Bolsover District Council, advising that she had consulted with the Independent Person in relation to a complaint made against the two Council Members by a local resident and that the Independent Person had agreed with the Monitoring Officer that the complaint did not reveal a breach of the Councils Code of Conduct.

The Monitoring Officer said that she would be taking no further action in relation to the complaint.

The Chairman also reported that he had received a message from PC Lorna Evans stating that due to family commitments on the day of the Meeting she was unable to attend the Council Meeting but since she came to the Parish in September 2008 she had enjoyed an

excellent working relationship with the Council as the dedicated Beat Officer for the Blackwell area she would be moving on with effect from the 1 June 2015 but her role would be very different to that she had currently was still hoping to be able to patrol the Blackwell Parish Council area from time to time.

**RESOLVED** that the message from PC Lorna Evans be noted and a letter of thanks be sent to her.

**53/2015**

**BLACKWELL/NEWTON/ HILCOTE COMMUNITY CENTRES**

The Chairman reported for information that a new Notice Board financed by the Newton Community Association would be erected at Newton Community Centre just for publishing community events.

**54/2015**

**DOE HILL COMMUNITY PARK**

Councillor I J A Newham and Councillor C R Moesby would be arranging a Meeting with all parties concerned with the Doe Hill Community Park Committee and would report further in due course.

**55/2015**

**STANDING ORDERS/FINANCIAL REGULATIONS/ RISK ASSESSMENT/ GENERAL POWER OF COMPETENCE**

**RESOLVED** that the Councils Standing Orders/Financial Regulations/Risk Assessment/General Power of Competence for the year 2015/2016 be approved.

**56/2015**

**MEETING**

**RESOLVED** that the next Meeting of the Blackwell Parish Council be held at Newton Community Centre, Newton on Monday 1 June 2015 at 7.00 p.m.