

# **BLACKWELL PARISH COUNCIL**

Minutes of a Meeting of the Blackwell Parish Council held at Hilcote Community Centre, New Street, Hilcote on Monday 9<sup>th</sup> April 2018 at 7pm.

**The meeting began with one minutes silence held in Memory of Mr Jeff Radford – Clerk to Blackwell Parish Council since 1997, who sadly passed away on the 17<sup>th</sup> March 2018.**

## **PRESENT**

Councillor N J B Willens (Chairman)

Councillors: D G B Bullock: T J Gascoigne: S Gill: C R Moesby:  
A Naylor: I J A Newham: R A Poulter: R J Sainsbury and B Stocks.

## **ALSO PRESENT**

Mrs H J Simpson ( Locum Parish Clerk) Several members of the public.

## **258/2018 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors I G Cox and C Munks.

## **259/2018 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.

## **260/2018 PUBLIC SPEAKING (20 MINUTES)**

**Mr L Walker** – raised the matter of 2 Freedom of Information requests submitted to the Parish Council by email in recent weeks.

It was explained to Mr Walker that due to the death of the Mr Radford the email address was no longer accessible to the Council. Mr Walker informed Council that the matter had been referred to the Freedom of Information Commissioner.

**Mr Ross Berry Hopkins** – spoke about the project to build a War Memorial at Westhouses. He explained that the project has been accepted for external Funding from the Tesco Bags for Life Scheme. He requested from the Council a letter expressing their support for the project to help them in their application. The Chairman stated that Council still had not received a plan showing the exact location of the proposed Memorial, upon receipt of this and providing that the location is deemed acceptable that a letter would be issued by the Clerk. Cllr Moesby informed Mr Berry-Hopkins of potential Planning Conditions which may be relevant to the project.

This was moved by Cllr Moesby, seconded by Cllr Bullock and agreed by all.

**261/2018 POLICE MATTERS**

Council Members noted that there was no police attendance at the meeting. Councillor I J A Newham had however produced a report showing the crime for Parish for January and February 2018.

**262/2018 COUNTY COUNCILLOR C R MOESBY**

Councillor Moesby updated those present on efforts to reduce the walkway by the George and Dragon in order to produce an improved turning corner for vehicles in that area, a decision is awaited.

Cllr Moesby was also asked about the condition of roads in the area with regard to Potholes. He advised that Challenge Funding had been applied for from Central Government to help with the necessary repairs, however a decision is still awaited. He also encouraged people to use the online reporting system whenever a pothole is spotted.

Councillor Moesby was thanked for his report.

**263/2018 COUNCILLOR D G B BULLOCK**

Councillor Bullock reported that there has been a problem at the Allotment Site at the rear of Woburn Close, where some of the fencing had collapsed. He advised that a site visit is to be held with Mr Peter Campbell to discuss options for its replacement.

**264/2018 MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 5<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY 2018**

The Minutes of the Meeting of Blackwell Parish Council held on 5<sup>th</sup> February 2018 were moved by Cllr A Naylor, seconded by Cllr T Gascoyne and signed by the Chairman as a true and correct record.

**265/2018 CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The schedule of Meetings for the coming Municipal Year were moved by Cllr N Willens, seconded by Cllr R Poulter and approved by all.

The advert for the position of Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer was approved for immediate publication via DALC until Friday 20<sup>th</sup> April 2018. Interviews to be held during w/c 30<sup>th</sup> April 2018.

Cllr Willens also read out the following statement:-

You may recall that last year when I announced that we were moving to Sheffield, I offered to stand down as Chairman if it were the wish of members of the Council. You all very kindly said that you would like me to stay until the Election which is due at our meeting next month. I thought at the time that this would be a workable arrangement but this assumed that Jeff would remain as fit as he had always been and we deal with most of the business between meetings by telephone. Sadly, this is not the way it worked out. As it

worked out, it was not possible to do the necessary from a distance. It was not possible for me to pop over to Blackwell every other day and I have had to rely on Ian to carry most of the burden. I am most grateful to him for this and also to his wife Jan for her tolerance of all the extra time he has expended.

### **266/2018 REPORT FROM THE CLERK**

- a) Council members approved the appointment of Mrs J Taylor, DALC approved Internal Auditor, for the current year end.
- b) Council members approved the Clerk and Cllr Newham's attendance of the GDPR Course at the DALC Office on 23<sup>rd</sup> April 2018.
- c) Quotations were presented to Council for Lamp Post testing for the 2018 season, it was moved by Cllr Moesby, seconded by Cllr Bullock and agreed by all to proceed with the Quotation from KIWA CMT Testing for 63 lamp posts at a total cost of £1,440.00 plus VAT. It was also requested that the Clerk check the term of the contract with Woolley Moor Nurseries.
- d) It was agreed by all that a centralised booking system is implemented with the use of an Outlook diary and email on the Council computer. It was also agreed that Cloud based Sage Accounting at a cost of £10 per month.

### **267/2018 ALLOTMENTS**

Cllr Poulter will forward the date to members for the Allotment Societies AGM. The issue with the fencing was addressed in the District Cllr's report earlier in the meeting.

### **268/2018 HIGHWAYS**

It was reported to Council that the Grit Bins within the Parish have now been filled following our request to DCC.

The issue of Double Parking on Main Street, Newton was raised, as Cars are frequently being clipped by passing motorists. Cllr Moesby agreed to follow up on this issue with Highways Department, but warned that measures to address this problem can take up to 1 year to take effect. The Clerk also agreed to take this issue up with PCSO Brownlee and PC Bacon.

### **269/2018 PLAY AREAS/FOOTPATHS**

A quotation from Bolsover District Council for the Grounds Maintenance Works to various sites within the Parish for 2018 was presented to Council at a cost of £3753.90 + VAT, the Clerk offered to obtain a comparative quotation, unless there was a significant difference it was moved by Cllr Naylor, seconded by Cllr Sainsbury and agreed by all to proceed with the Bolsover District Council quotation.

### **270/2018 ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT AND FINANCIAL REPORT**

Cllr Newham submitted a schedule of accounts for payment totalling £26,804.86, it was moved by Cllr Sainsbury, seconded by Cllr Bullock and agreed by all that these be paid.

Cllr Newham also provided copies of the Bank Balances to members of the Council for their inspection.

The Council were advised that the problems accessing our HMRC PAYE & NI information had now been resolved, and it has been confirmed that our payments are up to date.

Our written confirmation from Bolsover District Council of this year's precept payments has been received and £66,000 will be paid on 30<sup>th</sup> April 2018.

The application for Online Banking has been accepted and is now up and running, once an appointment has been made, the new Clerk will be added to the account.

Cllr Newham submitted a mileage claim incurred on Council business and this was approved by all.

Council were advised that the balance of our Public Sector Fund is £50,573.61 with a dividend of £17.69 reinvested.

All old £10 notes held have now been paid into the Council's Bank Account.

It was reported that the Locum Clerk and Cllr Newham have recently attended the DALC Internal and External Audit Training Course.

It was agreed by all that the Contact Number on the Parish Van is removed with the assistance of Kaydor Ltd at Hilcote if required, the new contact number will be printed onto the Van once the office at Blackwell Community Centre is up and running.

#### **271/2018 BOLSOVER PARTNERSHIP**

Cllr Poulter reported that the last meeting was cancelled and the next meeting is scheduled for 21<sup>st</sup> May 2018, and the Executive Board is also to be held in May 2018.

#### **272/2018 DERBYSHIRE ASSOCIATION OF LOCAL COUNCILS**

The Clerk reported for information receipt of the following DALC circular.

05/2018 – GDPR, DALC Spring Seminar, Audit 2018, and MP Lobby Day were the main topics.

The Clerk was asked to ensure any future Circulars are forwarded to all by email upon receipt.

#### **273/2018 QUALITY STATUS AND PARISH COUNCIL SCHEME**

The matter of Online Bookings through the Website was discussed, it was agreed by all to put this matter on hold for now, with the possibility to look at this again in the future.

The Newsletter advertisers had all been invoiced, however only half have paid. The Clerk agreed to follow up any outstanding payments.

**274/2018 PLANNING REPORT**

Three Planning Applications were considered as follows; no objections were raised.

Planning Application 18/00145/FUL 148 Alfreton Road, Newton, Mr & Mrs Clarke.  
Extension of existing single storey property to form two storey property. Two storey front and rear extensions.

Planning Application 18/00010/FUL Land south of Hilcote Community Centre, New Street, Hilcote, Julie Wozniczka.

Engineering works and setting back outfall to convert grassland into community wildlife area with swale and blackwater.

Planning Application 18/00190/TPO 8 Pennine Close, Newton, Mr Walshe  
Crown reduce Oak Tree by 1-1.5m and crown thin by 15%.

**275/2018 BLACKWELL, HILCOTE AND NEWTON COMMUNITY CENTRES**

Council were advised that the position of Caretaker for Blackwell Community Centre is to be advertised by Derbyshire County Council, Tracy Swallow is to meet with Kevin Farrow on 13<sup>th</sup> April to discuss providing temporary cover during the recruitment period.

It was further agreed for the Clerk to advertise locally for a weekend caretaker for Blackwell and Newton Community Centres.

It was reported that Richard had replaced 5 finger protectors on internal doors which had broken.

Council were updated on the situation with the Premises Licences on all three Community Centres. Blackwell and Newton were resolved, and a new Premises Licence application Hilcote is to be submitted.

It was agreed by all to keep the Payphone at Blackwell Community Centre as it has become apparent that it is being regularly used, and £41 had been removed and banked.

**276/2018 DOE HILL COMMUNITY PARK**

Cllr Newham advised Council Members that there was no report to be submitted. Cllr Moesby advised that Cameras for the Car Parking Area are still being looked into, HS2 issues around the Doe Hill area are still ongoing, and that funding is being transferred from Derbyshire Community Foundation to the Durham Community Foundation. The changes to Love Lane from a Highway to a Bridleway are still an ongoing issue. It was also noted that the Car Park to Doe Hill Country Park had been under 6 inches of water, this was however due to the recent heavy rainfall.

**277/2018 DATE AND TIME OF THE NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting of the Blackwell Parish Council will be held at Blackwell Community Centre, on Monday 14<sup>th</sup> May 2018 at 7pm.

**The meeting closed at 9.55pm.**

