#  BLEDLOW-CUM-SAUNDERTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held in Bledlow Ridge Village Hall on

Thursday 1st August 2019 at 7.30pm

Present: Councillors A Sage, M Blackwell, S Breese, P Castle, N Cox, S Bird

S Reading (Chairman), and A Lord (Vice Chairman)

County and District Councillor: Carl Etholen

Clerk: Tracey Martin

Cllr B Bendyshe-Brown (In attendance as a member of the public to discuss the Household Waste Recycling Centre)

1. **Apologies for absence**

Cllr J Butler

1. **Dispensations**

None.

1. **To approve the minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 4th July 2019.**

Cllr Lord proposed an amendment to item 1. “Cllr Lord chaired the meeting due to the advised late arrival of Cllr Reading” this should not be recorded under absences.

The minutes were approved following a proposal by Cllr Sage and seconded by Cllr Blackwell. The Chair signed the minutes as a true record.

1. **Motion 2 – Recording of Meetings**

The council discussed the clerk recording meetings. Cllr Castle proposed that Item 4 is withdrawn as it doesn’t comply with the existing Standing Orders. Cllr Castle will amend the Standing Orders for the September meeting where the clerk will then be able to record meetings. All Councillors agreed.

 **Action: Cllr Castle**

1. **Outstanding Actions**
	1. **Salt Bins:** The Clerk confirmed that new bins will be installed in The City and Church Lane but James Tunnard is not happy with the location at Anderson Cross Roads so will be visiting the site again. A new salt bin for Haw Lane has been ordered to replace the damaged one. **Action: Clerk**
	2. **New Bins**: Carry Forward **Action: Clerk**
	3. **Website (NP Page)**: The Clerk reported that this has now been completed. To be removed from Outstanding Actions.
	4. **Verges / Gardening**: Reported through Fixmystreet July 2019 by Clerk **Action Clerk**
	5. **Princes Risborough & Chinnor Railway**: Cllr Cox confirmed he has a meeting next week.  **Action: Cllr Breese / Cllr Cox**
	6. **Painting of Gatepost Bledlow & Bus Shelter:** Ian Darkin’s is on holiday. To be carried forward. **Action: Clerk**
	7. **Saunderton Parking** Cllr Etholen confirmed that he has a meeting with Simon Garwood on 2nd August. Cllr Blackwell will also be attending. Cllr Sage asked if the Parish is happy to do the Parking Consultation. Cllr Reading confirmed that the Parish Council are.

**Action: Cllr Etholen / Cllr Blackwell**

* 1. **Bledlow Cross:** Cllr Sage confirmed that he had emailed Neil Taylor following the last meeting but is yet to hear back. **Action: Cllr Sage**
	2. **Extending Burial Ground:** Ongoing, this will need to be a separate project. **Action: Clerk**
	3. **School Zig Zags, Chinnor Road:** Cllr Reading reported that he had raised the possibility of LAF funding for this project at the last LAF meeting. It was agreed that Cllr Reading would pursue this as a parking solution and apply for LAF funding. **Action: Cllr Reading**
	4. **Bledlow Churchyard Wall:** Cllr Breese declared an interest as he knows one of the contractors supplying a quote. Cllr Breese confirmed that 2 quotes had been received and a third is required. **Action: Clerk**
	5. **Planning Enforcement Meeting:** The Clerk has sent a letter to Penelope Tollitt, awaiting response. **Action: Cllr Reading**
	6. **Creation of Parish Council Email Addresses:** This has now been actioned and closed.
	7. **Access to Land Registry:** The Clerk confirmed that forms to apply had been completed and presented them for signing. **Action: Clerk**
1. **Motion 2 – Household Waste Recycling Centre**

Cllr Reading welcomed Cllr Bendyshe-Brown to the meeting. Cllr Reading informed the meeting that a working group had been set up by a number of parishes and interested parties. Cllr Reading and Cllr Sage had both attended meetings. Cllr Reading stated that he is happy to represent the Parish Council unless somebody else would like to put themselves forward.

Cllr Reading confirmed he has split the motion into 3 parts:

1. Re-opening of the HRC as a Household Waste Recycling Centre is in the overall interests of the Parish and therefore the PC’s policy is going forward is to support the activities and aims of the working group.
2. To continue to be represented on the working group by the Chair of the Parish Council (or nominated representative)
3. Contribute £500 from reserves to support the engagement of specialist planning consultants and stand-up the planned CIC.

Cllr Bendyshe-Brown informed the meeting that there are 12 Town and Parish Councils and 2 more to be confirmed. Thame had contributed £500 and Princes Risborough £1000 and so far, nearly £3000 has been received through the Justgiving page. Cllr Bendyshe-Brown confirmed that £10,000 is the projected cost for planning and the total cost for planning and to prepare the site would be £50,000. He stated that virtually all Parish Councils are represented by their Chair.

Cllr Castle asked if the proposal is to open the dump in the same way it was operated i.e. no commercial waste. Cllr Bendyshe-Brown confirmed that there will be no commercial waste. Cllr Sage asked about if down the line they will consider commercial waste. Cllr Bendyshe-Brown responded that they wouldn’t. Cllr Castle addressed concerns of other Parish Councils supporting as they do not get the adverse effect of traffic. Cllr Bendyshe-Brown responded that when the application is made a Public Consultation Vehicle Survey will be undertaken.

Cllr Sage asked about the long-term view, is it sustainable because of traffic issues and then taking into account Princes Risborough doubling in size. Cllr Bendyshe-Brown replied that the site was under utilised for its size.

Cllr Bird asked if the site will be run by a company and if there was a business case. Cllr Bendyshe-Brown responded yes it will be part of the planning application.

Cllr Reading asked if people will have to pay to use the dump. Cllr Etholen responded that initially the public may have to pay a small amount however once set up it will go out to a commercial company. Cllr Bird confirmed that she is in favour however, raised a concern that one of her neighbours had mentioned the reduced traffic since the closure of the site and is concerned that the traffic will resume if the site reopens.

Cllr Lord commented that when it closed, he was upset however, now it seems beyond belief to open a tip within an area of natural beauty as there are so many other more suitable places. Cllr Lord confirmed he is opposed to it being at the centre of the Chilterns on the highest ridge.

Cllr Blackwell stated that he felt fly tipping had increased since the closure.

Cllr Breese commented that as it is going to be in our Parish then we have to be involved so is in support of the motion.

Cllr Etholen informed the meeting that he and Cllr Bendyshe-Brown are working on this totally independently. Cllr Bendyshe-Brown advised that they had a deadline to get everything set up of 31st March 2020 and if the deadline isn’t met the site will be disposed of.

Cllr Reading formally moved the motion and Cllr Breese seconded it. It was decided to take a vote on each element.

1) Against 4 votes. For 3 votes

2) It was unanimous with 7 votes

3) Against 2 votes. For 5 votes

Cllr Bendyshe-Brown left the meeting at 8.30pm.

1. **Princes Risborough Expansion**

Cllr Reading presented to the meeting the Expansion Plan which is to expand Princes Risborough by 2,500 homes in 4 phases. Cllr Reading stated that we should be concerned because it is built on shifting sand, the property market is depressed and there is a risk that developers will not complete the full proposed development. Of particular concern to the Parish is the proposed use of Shootacre Lane as the preferred route for construction traffic. In earlier iterations of the plan a relief road was to be built that would alleviate the need to use Shootacre Lane. However, in this current iteration the relief road would not be built until phase 4 of the development sometime in the future. Cllr Etholen responded they are looking to spend ½ million pounds, the consultation was closed on 21st July and that residents of Shootacre Lane had been contacted.

Cllr Reading informed the meeting that he had submitted a comment and that one Councillor had not been in support of his view and had submitted their own comments.

Cllr Breese explained that the Chairman’s response having been submitted in the [Parish] Council’s name appeared to be very close to suggesting the [Parish] Council has approved a new policy for the Molins site when no formal decision had been taken, and that the Chairman should, at the very least, have circulated his draft by email before submitting it.

Cllr Sage confirmed that he supported the letter Cllr Reading submitted.

1. **Broadband**

Cllr Breese advised that no substantial progress had been made and that he is overdue a meeting with Steve Daly. Cllr Reading informed the meeting that he had received an invoice from Christian Randall and an invoice for the planning application which will be discussed later in the meeting.

1. **Devolved Services and Parish Maintenance**
	1. Proposals for grass cutting and footpaths had previously been circulated to all councillors within the meeting pack.

Cllr Reading asked who the preferred contractor is. Cllr Cox stated that G Spratt was his preferred contractor as discussed at the last meeting.

It was decided that G Spratt would be awarded the work for the footpaths and grass.

9.2 The Clerk raised a letter that had been received from Wycombe District Council regarding Hillview and the devolution agreement. The questions they are asking are:

1. If the Council is interested in continuing their participation for devolved green space management
2. Is your Council interested in permanent ownership of the site (Hillview)

Discussions were had and it was decided that the Parish Council are happy to proceed with question A above but would not like to take permanent ownership. **Action: Clerk to respond**

1. **Planning Matters**

Current applications were discussed.

* It was noted by Cllr Castle that an objection should have been submitted for application 19/06499/FUL – The Leys, 3 Little Lane, Saunderton. **Action: Clerk**
* Application 19/05841/FUL – Oakleigh, Chapel Lane: This application has been permitted. Following the councils submitted objection on 15/07/19. A letter is to be sent to the Planning Officer Valerie Bailey objecting to the decision. It was discussed the best way to do this is for the Parish Council to raise breaches / objections through the Clerk.
1. **Applications for grants**

No Applications were received

1. **Authorisation of payments**

The following payments were submitted for approval:



* 1. All payments were approved following a proposal by Cllr Lord, seconded by Cllr Sage.
	2. Cllr Reading stated the requirement for a debit card as this is how 1and1 (website) takes payment and it would also be useful for other payments as required. Cllr Castle said that he did not think we should have a debit card linked to our current account and that a second account should be opened with a maximum figure in the account agreed e.g. £1,000. Pre-Paid debit cards were also discussed.

The clerk to investigate opening a second current account solely for use with a debit card **Action: Clerk**

* 1. The Clerk presented a change of address and Primary Internet User form for HSBC to be signed.
1. **Motion 3: Budgetary Control**

The motion to approve an amendment to the council's Financial Regulations adopted on 3 March 2016 as amended on 3 January 2019 to delete "£200" and to insert in its place "£500" in paragraphs 4.1, 4.5, and 6.18, and to adopt and publish the resulting modified version as definitive and prevailing was proposed by Cllr Castle, seconded by Cllr Breese and carried unanimously

Cllr Reading raised the invoice from Christian Randall the architect. The invoice for work carried out will be presented at the next meeting however, the payment for the planning application was proposed by Cllr Breese and Cllr Lord seconded. A cheque was raised in order to not delay the application.

Cllr Castle informed the meeting that Statement of Interest forms need to be sent to the monitoring officer at Wycombe District Council. Clerk to send out forms to Councillors. **Action: Clerk**

1. **Approve and Adopt Code of Conduct**

The motion to approve and adopt a new Code of Conduct in the form presented to the meeting and initialled by the Chairman for the purposes of identification, and to publish the document as definitive and prevailing was proposed by Cllr Castle, seconded by Cllr Reading and carried unanimously

1. **Correspondence, reports and issues from Councillors and Clerks.**
	1. **LAF Funding**

Cllr Reading informed the meeting that we have a limited time to apply for LAF Funding and proposed two things the money could be used for. Parking Controls at the School and / or following contact from a Saunderton resident extending the footpath on a part of Wycombe Road. Cllr Etholen stated that he had discussed extending this particular footpath with James Tanner and the work would be extremely expensive at a cost of around £17K and it would only benefit one resident. Cllr Reading to consider Parking Controls and complete relevant forms. **Action: Cllr Reading**

* 1. **CIL 2020/2021 Funding**

Cllr Reading stated that we had received an email regarding funding for 20/21. Discussions were had as to where the funding could be allocated. Cllr Breese informed the meeting that we had £5900 of CIL money which was to be used by the end of March 2020

Clerk to forward the email to all councillors and to be added to the agenda for the September meeting for further discussion. **Action: Clerk**

* 1. **TfB Stakeholder Conference**

Cllr Reading stated that an email had been sent out regarding this and there was no need to discuss further.

* 1. Cllr Breese raised the issue of septic tanks and the capacity of the sewage systems and whether Thames Water take into account septic tank waste. Cllr Etholen suggested the Cllr Breese send a letter to Thames Water regarding this.
	2. Cllr Blackwell asked if the Clerk could obtain the Ward Boundary Maps and circulate to all Councillors. **Action: Clerk**
	3. Cllr Blackwell informed the meeting that he had been elected as a trustee of a charitable organisation, High Wycombe Society but didn’t think there would be any conflicts. The Parish Council offered their congratulations to Cllr Blackwell.
	4. Cllr Lord asked for Speedwatch to be added to the agenda for the next meeting. Cllr Lord presented some Speedwatch signs which will be displayed in the village. Cllr Lord also stated that additional people are required to operate the equipment and asked if councillors knew of anybody to let him know. Cllr Sage suggested this could be put on Facebook to see if there was any interest. Cllr Lord advised he had spoken to Sgt Benfield and that the Speedwatch produces high hits of greater than one car every three minutes.
	5. Cllr Etholen communicated that at the LAF meeting at the end of June TVP reported that there was a shortage of officers. Cllr Etholen and Cllr Bendyshe-Brown will be meeting with the Area Commander to see what can be done.
	6. Cllr Bird reported that the footpath behind the farm which was reported in May still needs to be cleared, BCS545/6. Clerk to get G Spratt to rectify this. **Action: Clerk**
	7. Cllr Bird passed on the thanks from Bledlow Village Hall regarding the Playground which has been well received and residents feel it is a lovely community place.
	8. Cllr Cox informed the meeting that the playground inspection at Meadow Styles will be carried out in September. Cllr Cox asked if the Bledlow Village playground should be included. Cllr Reading responded that as its owned by the Village Hall it would be their responsibility. Cllr Bird to check. **Action: Cllr Bird**
1. **Next meeting**

It was confirmed that the next meeting will be held at Bledlow Village Hall on Thursday 5th September 2019 starting at 7.30pm.

Meeting closed at 9.55pm.

**Signed…………………………………………….. Date…………………………………………..**