

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 13 JULY 2009**

**P R E S E N T**

Councillor R. Gater – Chairman

Councillors: K Bridger, A Butler, PA Glenn, J Moore and S-A Ray

In attendance: Clerk - K. Wantling, DC G Black, D Turner (Neighbourhood Watch) and P Cock  
(Bletchingley in Bloom).

**99/09 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies were received and accepted from Councillors D Martin, R Trotman and N Munday. Apologies were also received from CC Elias, PC Shrapel and PCSO Wells. All were welcomed to the meeting.

**100/09 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

No changes to the existing Declarations of Interest were made.

**101/09 MINUTES**

The minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 8 June 2009 were approved and signed by the Chairman subject to one change on page 4, 92/09 paragraph 3, 3<sup>rd</sup> sentence. The words “SCC were” should be replaced with “Surrey County Councillor Elias was”. The minutes of the Planning Committee Meeting held on 29<sup>th</sup> June 2009 were approved and signed by the Chairman.

**102/09 RESIDENTS’ REQUESTS**

**Small gate entrance to Cemetery** – It was reported that this area was becoming overgrown. Following a discussion,

**IT WAS AGREED** that the Clerk would instruct the contractor to attend to this at his next visit to the cemetery. KW

**Lights in Outwood Lane** – the Clerk confirmed that this had been reported and she was awaiting a response. KW

**Parking in Barfields** – photos had been forwarded to the Clerk showing the parking problems in Barfields. These had been forwarded to PCSO Wells to deal with. PCSO

**103/09 REPORT FROM COUNTY AND DISTRICT COUNCILLORS**

DC Black reported that TE would be meeting with David Curl of SCC to discuss all outstanding issues relating to Bletchingley.

Repairs were needed to sections of the road on the A25 between Barfields and Little Common Lane. Following a discussion,

**IT WAS AGREED THAT** the Clerk would report this to SCC Highways. KW

At the recent TDC Community Services meeting, Bletchingley Playground Friends were praised for their efforts in fundraising for the new playground.

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## **104/09 POLICING ISSUES**

In PC Shrapel's absence, the Chairman read the police report provided. There were 11 reported crimes in the last month compared to the 14 for the same period last year. They ranged from damage to property and vehicles to assault and theft of a quadbike and power tools. All residents were requested to be vigilant, particularly with the warmer weather in relation to possible arson attacks. General fire safety should be considered by residents. Crime security in respect of leaving windows and doors open in the warmer weather should also be noted.

## **105/09 BLETCHINGLEY IN BLOOM**

Bletchingley in Bloom judging took place on the 8<sup>th</sup> July 2009. Mrs Cock reported that the exhibition, held in the Lambert Room of the Adult Education Centre from 2pm had been attended by all ages. The result would not be known until the 2<sup>nd</sup> September. Thanks were given to all those involved, including the roadsweepers who were out at 7am that morning and DA Landscaping for undertaking the additional grass cutting required. The judges were impressed by St Catherine's School Gardening Club's selection of vegetables and quality. Mrs Cock reported that the plants in the amenity beds had been attacked again, using a sharp implement to cut the plants. This vandalism would not be tolerated. The judges noted that Bletchingley in Bloom had understood that the competition was not just about flowers and the exhibition did a lot to prove this. Mrs Cock confirmed that Mr Cock and she would be stepping down from the running of in Bloom. The group were still eager to continue to maintain the village but may not enter the competition again. This would be discussed at their next meeting.

In relation to the Best Blooming Pub, all 5 entered and the Red Lion received first place. Special mention was given to the effort made by the Whyte Harte despite the fact that the Landlords would be leaving in the near future. Whilst most properties in the village made efforts to ensure their frontages were clean and tidy, the village shop had unfortunately made no effort. This was however rectified thanks to the efforts of the in Bloom team members who of their own accord filled the three "dead" hanging baskets and cleaned the cobbles and litter from around the shop.

All praised the in Bloom team for their efforts and for providing such a powerful exhibition of photographs and reports, which showed the efforts throughout the last year.

7.1 **Hevers Pond** – Councillor Glenn reported on the meeting recently attended by herself, Councillor Trotman and Mrs Cock to discuss the draft Hevers Pond licence offered by RH&RW Clutton. A note of Councillor Glenn's comments on the draft had been circulated to all members. Investigation of the RoSPA website raised concerns over the safety issues relating to open water. There were also concerns re the Occupiers Liability Act and the mention of the brick wall and whether past work required on the wall had actually been undertaken. It was noted that the timescale for work to be carried out in the pond this year was getting shorter, as the deadline was January. Following a discussion,

**IT WAS RESOLVED THAT** Councillor Glenn would update her comments and forward an amended version of the licence to the Clerk for forwarding on to Hedleys solicitors for their final comments. This would be followed up in September. The Clerk would update RH&RW Clutton on the progress.

PAG  
KW

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7.2 **Village Sign and Amenity Beds Grass Area** – Following the additional grass cutting undertaken by DA Landscaping prior to Bletchingley in Bloom Judging it was suggested that this should be undertaken on a regular basis as it was now a focal point in the village. Following a discussion,

KW

**IT WAS RESOLVED THAT** the Clerk would advise DA Landscaping to undertake the grass cutting of this area on a 2 week rota basis, or as growth dictated at a cost of about £38 per cut. This situation would be reviewed later in the year.

## **106/09 MATTERS AND ACTION POINTS ARISING FROM MINUTES**

The Clerk's report was noted.

**Village Gateways** – The clerk was now in possession of 3 quotes and this would be on the September agenda.

**Grass Cutting** – DA Landscaping had been instructed to undertake additional grass cutting prior to Bletchingley in Bloom judging.

**Parish Plans** – no further interest had been expressed. Councillor Ray suggested that this be advertised on the website. This was agreed.

SAR

**Tilgate Common** – a date for the meeting between Councillor Trotman and the tree warden had not yet taken place.

RT

**Litter Picking** – The Ahmadiyya Muslim Association UK joined a small band of local residents for litter picking on the 4<sup>th</sup> July. They provided refreshments afterwards for those who attended and presented Annabel Smith with a donation towards the Church House Appeal.

**BT Kiosk** – This was formally adopted on the 1<sup>st</sup> July and insurance put in place at a cost of £63.59. The excess for this item would be the same as the rest of the policy.

**Hog Roast** – This had once again been very well received by the residents, even at the increased price of £2. Following a discussion,

**IT WAS AGREED THAT** next year, more thought would be given to advertising the fact that the Hog Roast was sponsored by the Parish Council.

SAR/  
KW

**Miscellaneous** – The repairs to the Vigar Bench and Bus Shelter Glass had been completed.

**Outstanding Action Points** – On this list, the drains in Whitehill would come off the list as the problem now appeared to have been resolved following investigation work undertaken by Sibelco on its adjoining land. Following a site meeting and excavations, 2 site fractures were identified, which may have been responsible for the water. These have now been repaired and Whitehill Lane is now dry.

KW

In relation to the salt boxes, the Clerk would enquire as to when these were likely to be refilled, requesting that they are filled prior to the start of winter.

KW

## **107/09 CURRENT PLANNING ISSUES**

No applications to be heard or planning issues to discuss.

## **108/09 REPORTS FROM AREAS OF RESPONSIBILITY**

**1. Neighbourhood Watch** – PCSO Wells was commended for getting to know the residents of the village and attending various functions as well as walking around the village. The area had been relatively quiet over the half term period and the issues

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around the Church appeared to have settled down.

**2. Footpaths and Bridleways:** Nothing to report.

**3. Transport:** The Clerk reported that a letter had been received from the owners of Cleves in response to our original to them. Following a discussion,

**IT WAS AGREED THAT** a copy of this letter would be forwarded to the residents who had raised the initial concerns over continuing works at Cleves.

KW

Comments to the Draft Noise Action Plan relating to Gatwick Airport would be considered at the September meeting when Councillor Munday had had a chance to review the paperwork.

NM

**4. Speedwatch:** Nothing to report.

**5. Cemetery:** Councillor Glenn reported that she had met with the Contractor and was familiarising herself with the Cemetery. In relation to the responses to the Memorial Safety Questionnaire, the Clerk confirmed that she had not received the MoJ Guidance notes and therefore the document could not be completed appropriately. Following a discussion,

**IT WAS RESOLVED THAT** the Clerk would send off the form completed as far as possible, with a note to the MoJ asking why we had not received the Guidance Notes.

KW

*Mrs Cock and D Turner left the meeting.*

**6. Minerals/Environment/Tree Wardens – North Park Farm –** Councillor Butler read from her report. The Terms of Reference for the North Park Community Liaison Group were now signed by all parties. The last meeting was on the 16<sup>th</sup> June. Plans for the Pendell extension have still not been submitted. Continuing dust problems are being addressed by Sibelco. Sibelco held an exhibition on the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> July, which also included site visits to the quarry. The Dust Sub Committee currently meets 6-weekly, but this frequency may be reduced in future. The plans for the diversion routes of bridleway 142 and 148 have just been released and a copy was passed around. DC Black commented that the exhibition and site visits had been very good. Unfortunately the turnout from local residents had been very poor.

**7. Village Hall/Community Centre:** Nothing to report in the absence of Councillor Munday.

**8. Recreation/Sports Association:** Councillor Moore had provided the Clerk with the bi-monthly Playground Inspection report. All was in order with some graffiti. There was evidence once again of the bottom of the field being used as a gathering place for youth. Following a discussion,

KW

**IT WAS AGREED THAT** the Clerk would report this to PCSO Wells

**9. Allotments:** The 1<sup>st</sup> judging of the allotments by John Bishop had taken place. It was noted that the allotments had improved this year. Final judging would take place in September. The Clerk reported that there were now 10 people on the waiting list for allotments.

**The approval of completion of Certificate of Lawfulness and associated costs in relation to the possible creation of an additional 10 allotment plots at the Old Allotment Field, Stychens Lane.** Following a discussion,

**IT WAS RESOLVED THAT** whilst the Parish Council have the power to

KW

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undertake the creation of an additional 10 plots, in light of past events, it will proceed with the application for a Certificate of Lawfulness from Tandridge District Council at a cost of £83.75. The application will also include the creation of some form of car parking area for up to 4 vehicles at any one time within the field and only accessible via allocated keys. The parking spaces are only to be utilised by the tenants when tending the plots/field. The Clerk would endeavour to obtain the final quotations required in time for the September meeting.

KW

*DC Black left the meeting.*

**10. Street Lighting:** Nothing to report.

**11. CCTV:** The Chairman reported that Metal Mickey had been moved to its new location. The new contractor operators were now familiar with the systems. It was noted that the case had been missing a battery charger, which the contractor had purchased following confirmation that this cost could be incurred. The Parish Council would monitor the change of ownership/possible closure of the Whyte Harte. Following a discussion,

KW

**IT WAS AGREED THAT** the Clerk would make enquiries about the future of the Whyte Harte by contacting the owners.

**12. Website:** Councillor Ray reported that she had familiarised herself with the website and had several suggestions for improving the website, namely i) some form of registration page where residents could request notification by e-mail of any new information being uploaded onto the website; and ii) an “Issues” page which could be utilised for longer term items like Bletchingley in Bloom, Hevers Pond, Bletchingley Playground Friends etc. The initial costings on these suggestions needed to be investigated further as they appeared too high.

**To approve expenditure required to include an additional page on the website –** Following a discussion,

SAR/

**IT WAS RESOLVED THAT** in the interim, a page would be added for documentation relating to North Park Quarry. Further changes will be considered later when full costings are available. This may need to be included in next year’s budget.

KW

## **109/09 FINANCE**

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

All

000589	Bletchingley Village Hall	12.00
000590	Mrs K Wantling	723.97
000591	HM Revenue & Customs	121.67
000592	Sutton & East Surrey Water Plc	35.11
000593	Sutton & East Surrey Water Plc	19.50
000594	The Flying Pig Spitroast Company	621.00
000595	Surrey Crimestoppers	50.00
000596	Hedleys Solicitors LLP	492.78
000597	GACC	10.00
000598	The Surrey Hills Society	15.00
000599	Viking Direct	68.04
000600	Society of Local Council Clerks (SLCC)	55.60
000601	DA Landscaping	719.00

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000602	Robert McCarthy	45.00
000603	L G Wantling	143.75
000604	Allianz Insurance Plc	63.59
000605	Vistec Systems Limited	<u>292.68</u>
		<u>£3,488.69</u>

The following August payments were sanctioned and cheques and stubs signed. These were dated 10 August 2009.

000606	Mrs K Wantling	649.89
000607	HM Revenue & Customs	74.50
000608	R Gater	<u>115.00</u>
		<u>£839.39</u>

All

Cheque 000609 was added in manuscript to the payment schedule, which was signed by the Chairman and related to the planning fee for the Certificate of Lawfulness required for the provision of the additional 10 plots.

000609	Tandridge District Council	£83.75
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All

The Clerk reported that the Annual Return had been posted to the External Auditors that morning.

#### **110/09 CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED**

The list of correspondence received and previously circulated was noted.

12.1 To agree the responses to the questionnaire on community activities and community clean ups. Following a discussion,

**IT WAS RESOLVED THAT** the Clerk would contact Surrey Community Action for more information on this questionnaire before completing it as it was felt that the Parish Council on its own would not give an accurate picture of community activities and community clean ups undertaken in the village.

12.2 To consider comments on TDC's review of its Gambling Statement of Principles. Following a discussion,

**IT WAS RESOLVED THAT** a "No Comment" would be given.

#### **111/09 MATTERS FOR REPORTING OR INCLUSION ON FUTURE AGENDA**

Nothing to add

#### **112/09 DATE OF NEXT MEETINGS**

**Planning Committee Meeting – 27 July 2009**

**Planning Committee Meeting – 10 August 2009** (in the absence of Full Council)  
(tbc)

**Planning Committee Meeting - 24 August 2009** (tbc)

**Parish Council Meeting – 14 September 2009**

The Chairman closed the meeting at 9.25 pm