

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 09 FEBRUARY 2009**

**P R E S E N T**

Councillor R. Gater – Chairman

Councillors: A Butler, D Martin, J Moore, N Munday, B Tatnell and R Trotman

In attendance: Clerk - K. Wantling, PC N Shrapel, P Cock (Bletchingley in Bloom), D Roberts and  
O Evans – Surrey Mirror.

**16/09 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies were received and accepted from Councillor Bridger, DC T Elias and G Black and CC M Myland. The Chairman welcomed all to the meeting.

**17/09 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

No changes to the Declarations of Interest were made.

**18/09 MINUTES**

The minutes of the Planning Committee meeting held on 26<sup>th</sup> January 2009 were approved and signed by the Chairman. The minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 12<sup>th</sup> January 2009 were approved and signed by the Chairman subject to the correction of a spelling error on page 4, 10/09, paragraph 1 – “Coping” be corrected to “Scoping”. The In Committee minute for 12<sup>th</sup> January 2009 was also signed and agreed by the Chairman.

**19/09 RESIDENTS’ REQUESTS**

**Footpath 558** - It was reported that the footpath between Claire Cottages and the A25 near the bus stop needed cleaning to ensure easy access for disabled users.

**IT WAS AGREED THAT** the Clerk would report this matter.

KW

**Whitehill Lane** – Recent weather conditions had left the road very icy as a result of ongoing drainage issues. There had been an accident at the junction of Place Farm and Whitehill Lane. Accident statistics might assist the efforts to get the drainage work in Whitehill Lane attended to. Following a discussion,

**IT WAS AGREED THAT** PC N Shrapel would review the accident reports on Whitehill Lane and report back.

PCS

**20/09 REPORT FROM COUNTY AND DISTRICT COUNCILLORS**

Nothing to report

**21/09 POLICING ISSUES**

PC N Shrapel read from the police report for the last month. These ranged from property damage, vehicle damage, stolen property to assault. An arrest has been made following an assault on 17 January and CID investigations are ongoing in relation to the assault on 6<sup>th</sup> February. PC N Shrapel warned that house burglaries are high in other locations, particularly in relation to cash, jewellery and now large

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electrical items. Enquiries in relation to the assault at Priory Farm are still ongoing. It was hoped that our new PCSO would be available by the end of March 2009.

*PC N Shrapel left the meeting.*

**22/09 BLETCHINGLEY IN BLOOM**

Mrs Cock reported that the 2<sup>nd</sup> phase of the amenity beds had finally been planted on the 17<sup>th</sup> January. Some of the helpers on the day had decided to litter pick rather than plant and this could become the format for Bletchingley in Bloom working parties on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday of every month. St Catherine's School Gardening Club is up and running and being well attended. Judging would take place sometime between 6<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> July. Mr & Mrs Cock would be attending a seminar on the 6<sup>th</sup> March and hoped to receive the final date then. Mrs Cock forwarded a complaint about the litter around the Village Shop. It was confirmed that the shop was responsible for the litter bin in front of the shop and TDC for the one on the side. The litter bin in front of the newly planted amenity beds needed to be relocated and the Clerk confirmed that she had contacted TDC about the relocation of the bin.

**Hevers Pond** – D Roberts and O Evans updated on the conversations with the agent dealing with this matter. To date no response had been received from the owners in response to the letter from the Parish Council, a copy of which had been sent to the agents. Following a discussion,

**IT WAS AGREED THAT** the Clerk would (i) contact B Evans at TDC for legal and environmental advice as to the responsibilities of the owners in respect of the pond; (ii) write a letter to RH & RW Cluttons stating that the Parish Council could not accept the Lease; (iii) relevant correspondence would be sent to O Evans.

KW  
KW  
KW

*D Roberts and O Evans left the meeting*

**Litter Picking** – An offer had been received from Ahmadiyya Muslim Association UK to assist Bletchingley with a litter picking session at their own expense. P Cock stated that Bletchingley in Bloom preferred the flexibility of being able to change their work party days and would discuss the offer at their meeting on Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> February. Following a discussion,

**IT WAS RESOLVED THAT** the Clerk would contact the company stating that their offer of help would be appreciated closer to Bletchingley in Bloom judging day and that this would be covered under the Parish Council insurance if the Parish Council organised it. The Clerk would also make enquiries about the use of high viz jackets from TDC and suggest the use of Church House as an alternative to the Community Centre/Village Hall for refreshments.

KW

**23/09 MATTERS AND ACTION POINTS ARISING FROM MINUTES**

The Clerk's report was noted. No changes were made to the list of outstanding action points.

**Village Gateways** – SCC would not provide North and South Gateways. The Clerk would endeavour to obtain quotes to produce wooden gateways like the Godstone gateway on the M25 exit.

KW

**Highway Issues** – the traffic island bollards had been reported.

**Cemetery** – the Clerk updated on enquiries being made about a dedicated memorial garden and that research had shown that the burial fees needed updating. A proposal

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would be put to the Council at the March meeting.

**Parish Emergency Plans** – The first draft was in the process of being completed.

**Salt boxes** – Enquiries about additional salt boxes for Coneybury and Claire Cottages had been raised with SCC. This request would be looked at during the winter review meeting to be held in June/July.

**Parish Plans** – At the Planning Committee Meeting it had been suggested that the Clerk should look into the procedure for undertaking a Parish Plan and that details would be reported back at the March meeting.

KW

*P Cock left the meeting*

## **24/09 CURRENT PLANNING ISSUES**

9.1. **TA/2008/1683/L1 and L2** – 1 St Mary's Walk, Bletchingley – erection of side conservatory (including Conservation Area Consent (L2)). – To ratify decision of No comment made at Planning Committee Meeting on 26 January 2009.

**RESOLVED** – No comment

KW

9.2. **TA/2008/1650** – Springmeadow Stud, Springbottom Lane, Bletchingley – Erection of rear conservatory.

**RESOLVED** – The Parish Council would like to draw attention to concerns raised that this is a very large conservatory on a building built for a previous specific purpose.

KW

9.3. **TA/2008/1658** – Coldharbour Barn, Coldharbour Lane, Bletchingley – Erection of detached garage, porch canopy and associated hard landscaping.

**RESOLVED** – No comment

KW

9.4. **TA/2008/1711/TCA** – The Hawthorns, Pendell Road, Bletchingley – Fell 1 Sweet Chestnut. Reduce large lateral branch overhanging on road on 1 Sweet Chestnut by 30%. Fell 1 Sycamore and 1 Oak.

**RESOLVED** – No comment

KW

9.5. **TA/2009/12** – Castle Place, Castle Square, Bletchingley – change of use from 6 flats to single dwelling. Councillor Butler declared a Personal Interest as a nearby resident.

**RESOLVED** – No comment.

KW

9.6. Any other current planning matters – discussion only

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

**TA/2008/1635** – Dairy Business Park, Brewer Street, Bletchingley – Retention of Flues and Extraction Ducts to western roof slope – **Grant**.

**TA/2008/1626** – Coppice Lea, Bletchingley Road, Merstham – Erection of various single storey extensions – **Withdrawn**.

**TA/2008/1556/L1 and L2** – The Barn, Place Farm Road, Bletchingley – Part demolition of the existing garage to separate the garage from the barn – **Approved (Full)/LB Consent**

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**TA/2008/1611/TCA** – 3 Castle Cottages, Bletchingley – reduce height of 4 x Lawson Cypress to form consistent height of 4 metres – **Approved by letter**

**TA/2008/1612/TCA** – Quince Cottage, Castle Square, Bletchingley – Reduce laterals overhanging garden by up to 3 metres of 2 x Ash trees – **Approved by Letter**

## **25/09 REPORTS FROM AREAS OF RESPONSIBILITY**

- 1. Neighbourhood Watch** – Nothing to report.
- 2. Footpaths and Bridleways:** Nothing to report.
- 3. Transport:** Nothing to report.
- 4. Speedwatch:** No action due to weather restriction.
- 5. Cemetery:** The proposed Grant of Exclusive Right of Burial which the Clerk had prepared and had checked by a legal adviser was approved. Following a discussion,

**IT WAS AGREED THAT** the term of future Grants would be 60 years.

KW

- 6. Minerals/Environment/Tree Wardens – Waste** – The Incinerator at Capel has been refused.

**Sibelco** – The press release on recent matters and applications at North Park Quarry should appear in the local papers shortly. There is to be an exhibition showing details of the proposed extension of the Quarry to Pendell on 25<sup>th</sup> February from 2-8pm in the Community Centre. The Scoping Request and latest dust monitoring report will be discussed at the Sibelco Dust Subcommittee meeting on 16<sup>th</sup> February. Sibelco have submitted 2 additional plans. The next meeting of the Sibelco Liaison Committee is on 2<sup>nd</sup> March and the Terms of Reference will be signed by the relevant parties. Bletchingley Historical and Conservation Society is now represented on the Committee. Following a discussion,

**IT WAS AGREED THAT** any of the 3 parties representing Bletchingley Parish Council could sign the Terms of Reference on behalf of Bletchingley Parish Council.

**Star Energy** – No more details have been received about the oil exploitation at King's Farm. All gas installations have been removed from site.

- 7. Village Hall/Community Centre:** The drains are scheduled to be blasted by Dyno Rod. Bletchingley Players are currently getting quotes for the stage lighting. There is still 1 TEN available at present.

- 8. Recreation/Sports Association:** Nothing to report in relation to Stychens Lane Playground. The Football pitch is currently too wet to play on. In relation to cricket, no bookings can be taken until the summer season.

- 9. Allotments:** A complaint had been raised about some vandalism on the allotments and that the boundary fence at the top of the allotments bordering on to the back garden of one of the properties needed to be reinstated. Nos 13 and 14 appeared to have had no work done to them. Renewal letters would be going out in March and the Clerk would stress the importance of maintaining the plots in a good condition. Following a discussion,

**IT WAS AGREED THAT** the Clerk would write a letter to the owner of the

KW

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property whose garden bordered the allotments and ask for the boundary fence to be reinstated.

**10. Street Lighting:** No 1 light in Crescent Road is damaged.

**IT WAS AGREED THAT** the Clerk would report this.

KW

**11. CCTV:** All CCTV cameras were working correctly. Prices for the advert in the Surrey Mirror and County Border News were discussed. The CCTV contract needed to have the maintenance scheme renewed to take account of the fact that the system is now digital and that it should also reflect that the Parish Council is responsible for contacting Mel in relation to any technical problems with Metal Mickey. An additional site for the location of Metal Mickey was suggested for Barfields. Following a discussion,

**IT WAS RESOLVED THAT** (i) the advert would only be placed in the Surrey Mirror (ii) the maintenance contract would be amended to show monthly visits on a reviewable basis and (iii) Councillor Munday would report back on sight lines for the suggested new location.

KW  
RG  
NM

**12. Website:** The Clerk had nothing to report.

## 26/09 FINANCE

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

All

000542	Bletchingley Village Hall	12.00
000543	Mrs K Wantling	611.78
000544	HM Revenue & Customs	74.01
000545	R Gater	115.00
000546	Hedleys Solicitors LLP	5787.50
000547	DA Landscaping	504.00
000548	Allianz Insurance Plc	<u>24,702.54</u>
		<u>£31,806.83</u>

11.2 To decide whether joining the Rural Services Network would benefit the Parish Council for a yearly fee of £60 plus VAT per annum. Following consultation and advice from SCAPTC and Surrey Community Action,

**IT WAS RESOLVED THAT** the Parish Council would not gain any additional benefit from membership and therefore would not be joining the Rural Services Network.

KW

11.3 To consider and agree an amount to be provided to Bletchingley Playground Friends for the Playground Project (Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976 s19). Councillor Munday reported a personal interest as a member of an organisation who had already contributed towards Bletchingley Playground Friends. The Clerk gave a presentation on behalf of Bletchingley Playground Friends in relation to the proposal to install a new playground at Grange Meadow rather than renovating the existing Coneybury Playground. Draft plans and an overview of projected costings were provided to give a feel of what could be expected. Following a discussion,

**IT WAS RESOLVED THAT** a fund of £10,000 would be made available for the project on the basis that specific equipment would be purchased direct by the Parish

All

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Council once details were formalised by Bletchingley Playground Friends.

**27/09 CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED**

12.1 Reigate & Banstead Borough Council – To consider what comments should be made to the Local Development Framework – Core Strategy Submission Document. Following a discussion,

**IT WAS RESOLVED THAT** the Councillor Trotman would review the papers and report back as the Parish Council did have an interest as a bordering parish. They were also interested in the overlap between TDC's and Reigate and Banstead Borough Council's Core Strategies, particularly in relation to planning and Traveller sites.

RT

12.2 Reigate and Banstead Borough Council – To consider what comments should be made to The Redhill Town Centre Area Action Plan – Preferred Options (Regulation 26). Following a discussion,

**IT WAS RESOLVED THAT** Bletchingley Parish Council would respond stating that they welcomed the development, particularly any improvements to the Theatre, Library and Transport facilities.

KW

**28/09 TO SET DATE FOR THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING**

The date set for the Annual Parish Meeting was Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> May. The Clerk's proposal for the production of a Parish Council Annual Report was considered. Following a discussion,

**IT WAS AGREED THAT** the report would be produced, to contain a report from each Councillor and that a new format for the agenda would be set, allowing time for speakers. The Parish Magazine and Bletchingley Playground Friends would be invited to do a presentation.

KW

**29/09 MATTERS FOR REPORTING OR INCLUSION ON FUTURE AGENDA**

The April meeting date was set for 6<sup>th</sup> April. Cemetery Fees, Village Appraisal and the Emergency Plan would be on the March agenda.

**30/09 DATE OF NEXT MEETINGS**

**Planning Committee – 23 February 2009**

**Parish Council Meeting – 9 March 2009**

The Chairman closed the meeting at 10.45 pm