

## CHURCHILL AND BLAKEDOWN PARISH COUNCIL

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Minutes of the Meeting of Churchill and Blakedown Parish Council held on Wednesday, 21<sup>st</sup> January 2015, in the Pavilion, Blakedown Sports Centre, Birmingham Road, Blakedown.

**PRESENT:** Cllr P A Dearden (Chairman), Cllr Mrs P Hayward, Cllr B Humble, Cllr J W Long and Cllr R J Shade

In attendance: Angela Preece, Clerk to the Parish Council and 7 members of the public

**1/15 Chairman's Opening Remarks:** The Chairman welcomed Council members and members of the public to the first meeting of 2015.

**2/15 Apologies for Absence:** Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr Mrs S Cartwright, Cllr R Keys (illness). County Cllr S Clee and Mark Jones.

**3/15 Declarations of Interest:** No interests were declared, other than those previously declared.

**4/15 Community Policing:** PCSO Niall Ryland provided the Police report. In addition to the report sent out there had been three incidents of burglary, the taking of a motor vehicle in Wannerton Road and a vehicle stop had found the occupants in possession of cannabis and small dealer bags, the vehicle was not registered locally.

The meeting was adjourned for **Public Question Time** notes of which are appended to these minutes

**5/15 Dispensation Requests:** None received

**6/15 Reports from County and District Councillors:** Cllr Hayward asked to Clerk to arrange for the signs advertising Christmas trees in Churchill to be taken down.

**7/15 Minutes:** The minutes of the Parish Council meeting on the 10<sup>th</sup> December 2014 were approved and signed by the Chairman.

**8/15 Litter Picking and New Bins:** Cllr Long advised that the new service seems to have gone down well with residents and expressed his thanks to Wyre Forest District Council for the contribution towards the cost of the bins from the Localism grant. He also expressed thanks to the staff at Wyre Forest District Council works department for installing the fixings for the bins. There had been a press release in the Kidderminster Shuttle and also an article in the Clerks and Council's Direct magazine which is circulated throughout England and Wales. Residents have been asking for dog bag dispensers to be installed in other locations and there was still a spare dispenser to be installed when the location had been decided. Some bins may be re-located when usage has been assessed.

An account has been opened for the Lengthsman to obtain timber to refurbish the benches and Cllr Long has sourced some suitable name plates for the benches and bus shelters. The bus shelters also need staining.

Cllr Hayward asked for the bin outside the Church in Churchill Village to be moved to the side of the telephone kiosk as it is obscuring the view of the Church when visitors are taking photographs.

**9/15 Grass Cutting/Lengthsman/Handyman Responsibilities:** Lengthsman is satisfied with the way the contracts are working. Cllr Long advised that the Parish Council is still waiting for clarification from County regarding grass cutting contracts.

**10/15 Car Park:** Clerk to discuss the maintenance of shrub beds on the car park at a meeting with Linda Collis scheduled for the following week. Cllr Hayward queried the location of the disabled parking bay on the car park in relation to the shops.

**11/15 Blakedown Signal Box:** The Parish Council was advised that it would be necessary to set up a Charitable Incorporated Organisation, the fee for which would be £700. All members agreed that the Solicitor should be asked to go ahead.

**12/15 The Avenue:** Deferred until a later date.

**13/15 Housing Needs Survey:** Final amendments have been issued, now waiting for the survey to be sent out.

**14/15 Neighbourhood Plan:** Members felt the meeting with Claire Parker from Kirkwells Planning Consultants on 12<sup>th</sup> January 2015 had been very productive. A skeleton plan would be provided by the end of the following week and another meeting was scheduled for the 11<sup>th</sup> February 2015.

**15/15 Reports for information:** a) Parish web site is now three quarters built, there will be the facility for all Parish Councillors to have an email address if they so wish. Any other websites in use will be linked to the Churchill and Blakedown-pc.gov.uk website.

b) Handyman/Lengthsman already covered. c) Possible footbridge at Blakedown Station – meeting to be arranged shortly with Network Rail. d) 192 Bus service – to continue as 192a.

#### **16/15 Planning and Development Control:**

a) Planning Applications Received

14/0722/FULL - 46 Birmingham Road, Blakedown - New single storey Granny Annexe to side and rear of property, plus addition of single family room to extend kitchen at rear-  
The Parish Council has no objection

15/0017/TCA - ST JAMES THE GREAT Church, Churchill Lane  
CHURCHILL - Remove 4 branches from a Yew overhanging the S.W. corner of the Church  
The Parish Council has no objection

b) Planning Applications Refused

14/0669/FULL – Laguna, Churchill  
Two storey rear/side extension and single storey rear extension

c) Planning Decisions Received

14/0590/CERTE - New Wood Farm Bungalow, New Wood Lane, Blakedown  
Approved certificate of lawful development in respect of agricultural occupancy

14/0710/CERTP – 14 Churchill Lane, Blakedown  
Certificate of Lawful development for proposed detached garage

#### **17/15 Financial Report and Payment of Accounts:**

a) Members noted bank balances at 4<sup>th</sup> December 2014

b) Members approved payments as per the list with the addition of £810 to Mark Jones for Lengthsman and Handyman work.

c) Members resolved to set the precept in accordance with sample precept modelling example 1- no percentage increase in Council Tax

d) Bank reconciliation period ending 31<sup>st</sup> December 2014 was approved and signed by the Chairman

**18/15 Highway and Street Lighting Matters:** Cllr Hayward raised the issue of lowering the kerb in Brookside Way to assist a disabled resident. County Cllr Stephen Clee has advised Cllr Hayward that he is willing to pay half the cost from his County budget. Costs to be sought but the Parish Council is in agreement that this is something they would support.

Path adjacent to 77 Belbroughton Road onto the sports field – owners willing to transfer ownership to the Parish Council. Members agreed to have the path transferred to them.

It was reported that the street light outside 17 Mill Close has been out for about 12 months.

**19/15 Churchill War Memorial:** Cllr Keys has applied for grant - further action deferred.

**20/15 Sports Committee:** Looking to increase number of Trustees, bookings are on the increase. Cllr Long would like it minuted that he is encouraged by the progress of the committee as this is a valuable village asset.

**21/15 Correspondence Report:** Correspondence report issued with the agenda was noted.

**22/15 Clerks Report:** The Clerks report issued with agenda was noted

**23/15 23. Councillor’s Reports and items for future agendas:** Arrangements to be made to take previous Clerk Roger Gurney out for a meal as a token of thanks for all his hard work.

**24/15 Date of Next Meeting:** 18<sup>th</sup> February 2015 at 7.30 p.m. in the Pavilion, Blakedown Sports Centre, Birmingham Road, Blakedown

The meeting closed at 10.20 pm.

Dated this 18<sup>TH</sup> February 2015 .....

Chairman to Churchill and Blakedown Parish Council

Speeding Vehicles

Problems with speeding vehicles in Gladstone Place and other areas in Blakedown.

Dog Bins

Approval for the new dog bins and suggestion that a good location would be on Belbroughton Road, on the right hand side going up the road near the 30mph speed sign.

Blakedown Railway Crossing

Incident reported where local resident was trapped inside the barriers on the railway crossing. There are other issues to be raised with Network Rail.