

CHURCHILL AND BLAKEDOWN PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of Churchill and Blakedown Parish Council held on Wednesday 15th April 2015, in the Pavilion, Blakedown Sports Centre, Birmingham Road, Blakedown.

PRESENT: Cllr P A Dearden (Chairman), Cllr Mrs. S Cartwright, Mrs. S Fowler, Mrs. P Hayward, Cllr B Humble, Cllr R Keys, Cllr J W Long and Cllr R J Shade

In attendance: Angela Preece, Clerk to the Parish Council, PCSO and 2 members of the public

1. Chairman's Opening Remarks: The Chairman welcomed Council members and members of the public to the meeting.

Cllr Shade proposed a vote of thanks to the Chairman for the work he has undertaken as Parish Council and for having taken the role of Chairman for the last four years. All Members were in agreement.

2. Apologies for Absence: Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr B Pitt and Cllr M Hart.

3. Declarations of Interest: No other interests were declared by Councillors other than those previously declared.

4. Community Policing: PCSO Rebeca Ruston provided the Police Report. Four crimes had been reported, two non-dwelling burglaries, criminal damage of a vehicle by the station and the theft of a trailer. Funding has been received for CRE marking of items, if people are interested an event could be organised. Cllr Keys advised that the Neighbourhood Watch network was active and agreed to forward emails to the Clerk for circulation to Councillors.

The meeting was adjourned for Public Question Time notes of which are appended to these minutes
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5. Dispensation Requests: None received.

6. Reports from County and District Councillors: No reports received

7. Minutes: The minutes of the Parish Council meeting on the 18th March 2015 were approved

8. Lengthsman Reports: a) Lengthsman duties: Unable to attend the meeting but he is currently very busy with work to complete. He has received compliments from two village residents who were pleased with the work he is doing. The vehicle activated sign outside The Swan has received 15,000 hits in the space of one week. b) Litter and benches: request to move small bin by fence at Station on Sculthorpe Road. c) Grass cutting: Has started the grass cutting programme and now taken over the contract for the grass cutting from Wyre Forest District Council.

9. Car Park: No response received from Linda Collis regarding the management of the car park. Clerk asked to chase a response.

10. Signal Box: Churchill and Blakedown Villages Trust in the process of being set up. The meeting of the Norman Dawson Trust has taken place on Monday 16th April 2015. A business plan had been requested, which Cllr Jim Long had provided in time for their meeting. A grant in the sum of £72,000 had been requested, the remainder of funds required for the project could be applied for from other sources. The deconstructed signal box may need to be removed from it's present location so a favorable decision from the Norman

Dawson Trust would enable work to commence in moving from the present location.

11. Housing Needs Survey: No update yet received.

12. Neighbourhood Plan: Now have a draft plan which is in a format which can be produced for the Annual Parish Meeting. Neighbourhood Plan survey has been distributed with Parish Newsletter and there are post boxes and a supply of forms in The Swan, The Old House at Home and the Village Shop. Replies can be forward to the Clerk or placed in the post boxes.

13. Reports for information: a) Parish website - no report. b) Blakedown Station – Cllr Fowler agreed to make contact regarding the software update. Cllr Long advised that Worcestershire County Council transport plan, LTP3 included an improvement plan for Station Drive plus new passenger shelters.

14. Planning and Development Control:

a) Planning Applications Received

15/0161/FULL - THE SPINNEY WAGGON LANE KIDDERMINSTER

Two storey side extension. Date Received: 20 March 2015 - No objection

15/0182/FULL - ALBRIGHTON WOODLAND HUNT KENNELS AND 1 AND 2 HURCOTT LANE
HURCOTT VILLAGE KIDDERMINSTER

Temporary of a residential caravan (12 months) during refurbishment of existing dwellings

Date Received: 30 March 2015 – No objection providing caravan is removed at end of twelve month period.

b) Planning Applications Withdrawn

15/0074/FULL - THE SPINNEY WAGGON LANE KIDDERMINSTER

Two storey side extension

c) 15/0017/TCA St James the Great Church, Churchill

Work completed

d) Planning Decisions Approved

14/0722/FULL - 46 BIRMINGHAM ROAD BLAKEDOWN KIDDERMINSTER DY103JN

New single storey Granny Annex to side and rear of property, plus addition of single family room to extend kitchen at rear

15/0038/FULL 13 New Wood Lane, Blakedown

Proposed access entrance, gates, dwarf wall and railings

15. Financial Report and Payment of Accounts:

a) Members noted bank balances at 12th March 2015

b) Members approved payments as per the list with the addition of £590 to Mark Jones for Lengthsman, Wyre Forest contract and Handyman work.

c) The following payments were ratified

Kirkwells Planning Consultants	001344	£4,800
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DPS Print	001345	£185.29
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d) The final accounts for the 2014/2015 financial year were noted.

16. Land adjacent to 77 Belbroughton Road, Blakedown: In progress.

17. Highway and Street Lighting Matters: No progress made with street light repairs, Clerk to investigate if

there is a contract in place to deal with repairs.

18. Churchill War Memorial: a) Update on grant application – Cllr Keys has obtained a list of war memorial specialists in the West Midlands and found a Dudley based Company that has a branch in Kidderminster. Cllr Keys has made contact with them and they are taking a look and will provide a quote this week for basic cleaning the Memorial. b) Registration of ownership and village green status – unable to register as unable to establish ownership of land. Clerk to contact Worcestershire County Council regarding ownership of land.

19. Parish Council Elections Thursday 7th May 2015: Parish Council election uncontested, one vacant seat for Churchill ward. Election expenses forms need to be returned by 4th June 2015, a nil return must be made.

20. Correspondence Report: Correspondence report issued with the agenda was noted.

21. Clerks Report: The Clerks report issued with agenda was noted.

22. Councillor’s Reports and items for future agendas: It was agreed that Cllr Fowler would take on the role of Chairman for the next meeting to chair the election of a new Chairman. Cllr Keys asked for the location of the bin outside the Church in Churchill to be re-evaluated.

Cllr Long proposed a vote of thanks to all retiring Councillors and also a vote of thanks to the retiring Chairman who has lead the Council through some difficult issues during the past few years.

23. Date of Next Meeting which is the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council: 20th May 2015 at 7.30 p.m. in the Pavilion, Blakedown Sports Centre, Birmingham Road, Blakedown.

The meeting closed at 21.50 pm.

Dated this 20th May 2015

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Chairman to Churchill and Blakedown Parish Council

Notes of Public Question Time

The following issues were raised

1. British Telecom doing work in Belbroughton Road – trip hazard – already been reported by Chairman.
2. Speeding traffic in Stakenbridge Lane, Churchill.