

CHURCHILL AND BLAKEDOWN PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of Churchill and Blakedown Parish Council held at 7.30 p.m. on Wednesday 9th December 2015, in the Pavilion, Blakedown Sports Centre, Birmingham Road, Blakedown.

PRESENT: Chairman Cllr R Shade, Cllrs. Mrs. S Fowler, B Hession, J W Long, J Lorton, P Mellor and N Rowlinson.

In attendance: Angela Preece - Clerk to the Parish Council and seven members of the public.

- 1. Declaration of Acceptance of Office:** Cllr Neil Rowlinson signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office and joined the meeting.
- 2. Chairman's Opening Remarks:** The Chairman advised that there had been a meeting of the Finance Committee since the Parish Council last met and that Finance Committee Meetings will now be taking place on a quarterly basis.
- 3. Apologies for absence:** Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr M Hart, Cllr I Hardiman and Mark Jones. Vice Chairman Cllr Mrs. P Hayward had left her apologies with the Clerk.
- 4. Declarations of Interest:** The Chairman declared an interest in any agenda items relating to The Avenue. No further declarations of interest were made, previously made declarations (for which a dispensation has been granted) still in place.
- 5. Community Policing:** No attendance from the Police. Cllr Mrs Fowler advised that she had been given an update from the Police as follows: a) no particular issues following the burglary that took place last month. b) there had been a number of drink driving checks and vehicle checks over the Christmas period which would be continuing. c) a complaint had been received from a resident regarding parking on the crossing and zig-zag lines on the A456, notices advising that this is an offence have been provided to be displayed on notice boards and hopefully the shop.

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

6. Dispensations: Cllr Long has an existing dispensation which allows him to participate in discussions relating to the car park. He requested to present some factual information relating to that agenda item (8b), he stated that he did not wish to take part in the debate and would leave the room for that agenda item once the factual information had been presented. Previously granted dispensations still in place.

Cllr Mellor was granted a dispensation to take part in any discussion relating to agenda item 17 d), grant application for Blue Hoots Nursery. The Chairman was granted a dispensation to take part in any discussion on agenda items relating to The Avenue.

7. Planning and Development Control:

a) Planning Applications Received

15/0652/FULL - 46 BELBROUGHTON ROAD, BLAKEDOWN
Single storey rear extension – no objection

15/0656/TREE THE REDDINGS 12 CHURCHILL LANE, BLAKEDOWN
Fell row of conifers – no objection

15/0663/TREE - 2 LYNWOOD DRIVE BLAKEDOWN KIDDERMINSTER

Fell Ash – no objection

Planning applications received since close of agenda;

15/0668/TCA - DRYBRIDGE CHURCHILL KIDDERMINSTER

Reduce a Silver Birch and reshape canopy by 2-3m and reduce a Holly to previous points – no objection

15/0682/OUTL - LAND AT STATION YARD OFF LYNWOOD DRIVE BLAKEDOWN

Outline planning permission for up to 7 residential dwellings and provision of parking for railway station. The Parish Council strongly objects to this application, all previously made objections to the original application are still valid. It was noted that there is mention of the entrance area off Station Drive being gifted to the Parish Council, this has never been discussed with the Parish Council. There is also a 5 metre amenity strip running parallel to the railway boundary, no indication of who will maintain that is given. The garden of the bungalow that backs onto Swan Close in the south west corner of the site is outside the noise fence. The transport statement is inaccurate. The viability study is incorrect as the conversion of apartments is existing building not 'new build'.

b) Planning Decisions received

None

c) Planning Appeals Notified

14/0661/OUTL – LAND AT STATION YARD, OFF LYNWOOD DRIVE, BLAKEDOWN

Outline application with access and layout to be determined for up to 16 residential dwellings and provision of parking for railway station – previously made concerns and objections still valid.

The Chairman brought forward Agenda item 17 d) to this point in the meeting in order to allow the applicants to hear the outcome of their application without having a lengthy wait.

17 d) Grant Application Blue Hoots Nursery: Members considered the grant application from Blue Hoots Nursery and decided that they were unable to assist as the application did not satisfy the criteria in the grant application policy.

Councillor Rowlinson left the meeting at 8.30 p.m.

8. Highways, Traffic, Street Lighting, Car Park and Parking Matters: a) traffic and parking issues; traffic census currently taking place, results should be received early in the new year. Residents should report traffic issues to the Parish Council to be forwarded on to the Safer Roads Partnership. Yellow lines outside School beginning to deteriorate already. b) Avenue car park: Cllr Long gave an update following the meeting with Linda Collis which had taken place the previous Monday. Cllr Long then left the room whilst Members debated the motion 'Would the Parish Council be prepared to accept and on what basis, the transfer of The Avenue Car Park, should the District Council be prepared to offer the transfer for a nominal sum'. Members resolved to accept the transfer of the car park for a nominal sum of £1 and on condition that the Parish Council reserves the right to make decisions on how the car park is managed following the transfer. Cllr Long rejoined the meeting. The Chairman advised he had done some investigation into costs to convert the Vehicle Activated Signs to mains power. c) Street lighting; Street light number 14 is not working.

9. District and County Council Matters: No Members in attendance.

10. Minutes: The minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 18th November 2015 were approved.

11. Lengthsman and Environmental Maintenance: a) Lengthsman; Lengthsman had advised that the containers were overflowing and he would be attending to the Christmas Tree. He will be looking at the broken dog bag dispensers with Cllr Lorton. b) Litter and benches; will be working on benches the following week. c) Grass cutting; still doing some grass cutting.

12. Charitable Incorporate Organisation: No further updates.

13. Signal Box: Members resolved to approve the transfer of land from Wyre Forest Community Housing to the Parish Council and the transfer documents were duly signed.

14. Housing Needs Survey: No further updates.

15. Neighbourhood Plan: Neighborhood Plan is still out for consultation until 13th December 2015, responses are being collated and will be available following the end of the consultation period. A meeting of the Steering Group will be arranged to consider the responses.

16. Reports for information: a) Parish website – still looking at alternative provider to manage website. b) Neighbourhood Watch - no further updates.

17. Financial Report and Payment of Accounts:

- a) Members noted bank balances at the 2nd December 2015.
- b) Members approved payments as per the list with the addition of the following payments; Mark Jones £582 for Lengthsman and contract work.
- c) Members received an update on the draft budget proposals for the 2016/2017 financial year.
- d) Grant Application: Dealt with following agenda item 7.

18. Standing Orders: Members resolved to adopt the draft Churchill and Blakedown Standing Orders.

19. Clerk's Report: Clerks report on ongoing items noted.

20. Correspondence for Information: Members noted the correspondence report circulated with the agenda.

21. Councillor's Reports and items for future agendas: Cllr Mrs Fowler advised she had not heard back from John Baggott concerning the Gladstone Place property boundaries. Cllr Long asked for this item to be added to the agenda for the next meeting. Cllr Long has received complaints from residents regarding the bus service and will be making enquiries regarding the continuity of the provision of the service.

22. Date of Next Meeting: 20th January 2016 at 7.30 p.m. in the Pavilion, Blakedown Sports Centre, Birmingham Road, Blakedown.

The meeting closed at 10.00 p.m.

Dated this 20th January 2016

.....

Chairman to Churchill and Blakedown Parish Council

Notes of Public Question Time

Seven members of the public were in attendance; the following issue was raised.

1. Latest Planning Application for Station Yard - Serious overlook and loss of amenity for resident in Swan Close. Noted that the second application has been timed to coincide with the appeal on the first application which is confusing to some residents. Confirmed with Planning Officer Paul Round that these applications are running parallel and objections need to be made on both of them. Same concerns reiterated by another resident.

2. Station Parking – situation has got worse since last meeting. Vehicles are now being parked in Lynwood Drive itself where previously they would have been parked around the entrance to Lynwood Drive and Roxall Close. The parking situation is now worse than it was a year ago when RCA did their traffic assessment.

Residents will make their objections to this second planning application citing the same reasons as the first application, nothing has changed except the traffic issues around Station Drive have increased.