

LAUNTON PARISH COUNCIL

Members of the Parish Council and the Parish Clerk had been available before the start of the formal meeting from 7.00pm to meet with the public. All plans and correspondence were available for viewing and comments. Approximately 60 members of the public attended the meeting.

Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 7th May 2015 at 7.30pm in Launton Chapel

Present: Councillors: Mr Chris Fox, Mr Ed Sanders, Mr Howard Hill, Mrs Lesley Thompson, Mrs Penny Stephens, Miss Wendy Foster, and Mr Simon Turner, Chairman. Councillor Stephens left the meeting at 9.07 pm before the start of item 10.

In attendance: The Clerk, Mr Niall Campbell

1) Election of Chairman

Councillor Turner agreed to stand again and he was duly elected.

Proposed: Councillor Fox
All in favour

Seconded: Councillor Thompson
Motion carried.

2) Election of Vice Chairman

Councillor Hill agreed to stand again and he was duly elected.

Proposed: Councillor Fox
All in favour

Seconded: Councillor Turner
Motion carried.

3) To receive and accept apologies for absence

There were none.

4) To receive any Declarations of Interest in items on the agenda

Councillor Turner declared an interest in item 11(a) (iii) and Councillor Foster in 11(a) (i) and both left the meeting when these respective items were considered.

5) To facilitate public participation with regard to items on the agenda

Lisa Thompson, Kim Nunes, Keith Dixon, Annabel Cox and Caroline Foster addressed the meeting. Lisa and Kim spoke on the subject of rumours about planning applications to build houses between Blackthorn Road and Station Road; the Chairman explained that no planning application has yet been submitted and the Parish Council has currently no more information than any resident of Launton.

Keith spoke on the possible heavy road traffic which could be created by construction work on East-West Rail.

Annabel spoke in favour of her planning application – item 11 (a) (i) and Caroline spoke in objection to the same item.

6) To confirm the minutes of the previous meeting on 2nd April, previously circulated

The above dated minutes were **unanimously agreed as a true record** and were signed by the Chairman.

Proposed: Councillor Turner
All in favour

Seconded: Councillor Hill
Motion carried.

7) Report from Cherwell District Councillor for Launton

There was none.

8) Report from Oxfordshire County Councillor for Launton

Councillor Fulljames sent her apologies.

9) Parish Biodiversity

Cynth Napper of Wild Oxfordshire gave an informative and thought-provoking talk about the existing variety of species in the parish of Launton and ways of encouraging and protecting this biodiversity. The topic will be considered in the council's contribution to future discussions of community-led plans.

10) Finance and Governance

- a. To acknowledge scrutiny and acceptance of previously circulated bank statement.
Previously circulated bank statement was reviewed and accepted.
- b. To confirm and approve expenditure for May and review income during April

Monthly Payment and Receipts Summary

Payments for approval

Cheque No	Payee	Amount
200444	Niall Campbell ¹	£286.56
200445	HMRC	£71.60
S/O	Launton Lines	£150.00
Total Payments in May-15		£508.16

All above cheques drawn on The Co-operative Bank

Income Received

Source	Reason	Amount
CDC	New Homes grant	£527.00
CDC	Precept Part One	£8,553.05
Co-operative Bank Current	Interest	£0.87
Co-operative Bank 14 days	Statement not received	£0.00
Bank of Ireland	Statement not received	£0.00
Total Receipts for Apr-15		£9,080.92

Expenditure and income were **approved**

Proposed: Councillor Turner
All in favour

Seconded: Councillor Fox
Motion carried.

- c. Insurance renewal

The Clerk reported that he had received quotes from Came and Co for renewal of a three-year agreement at £548.54 and from Zurich for the same cover at £485.57. It was proposed that the Zurich quote be accepted.

Proposed: Councillor Turner
All in favour

Seconded: Councillor Hill
Motion carried.

- d. Local Council Award Scheme

Councillor Foster and the Clerk reported on their investigations. The Council will have to create a few new documents but it is a manageable task. To be reconsidered at the June meeting.

11) Planning

a) Planning applications to consider

- i. Number: 15/00451/F
Applicant: Mr and Mrs A & T Cox
Proposal: Erection of three dwellings
Location: Old Coach Cottage, Station Road, Launton

Councillor Foster absented herself for this item because of her declared interest.

Decision: No objection **Comment:** The Council was greatly concerned about the proximity of the proposed storage sheds to the neighbour's garage and hoped they could be moved a little

way from there to permit maintenance. The proximity of the car parking so close to the boundary might cause a degree of nuisance.

Proposed: Councillor Turner
All in favour

Seconded: Councillor Hill
Motion carried.

- ii. Number: 15/00457/F
Applicant: Mr Paul Davis
Proposal: Erection of 2 three-bed dwellings (resubmission of 14/00092/F)
Location: Land adjacent to No 6 Blenheim Drive, Launton

Decision: Object, because of poor vision splay. **Comment:** Council has not seen an OCC Highways Department response to the assertion that the vision splay has been improved since the original, rejected, application. If Highways agree then the Council would withdraw its objection.

Proposed: Councillor Turner
Councillors Hill and Thompson abstained, others in favour

Seconded: Councillor Foster
Motion carried.

- iii. Number: 15/00488/F
Applicant: Mrs Helen Beard
Proposal: Garage conversion
Location: 17 Sherwood Close, Launton

Councillor Turner absented himself for this item because of his declared interest, and so Councillor Hill chaired the discussion.

Decision: No objection, no comment

Proposed: Councillor Hill
All in favour

Seconded: Councillor Thompson
Motion carried.

- iv. Number: 15/00523/F
Applicant: Bicester Heritage Ltd
Proposal: Change of use from *sui generis* MOD to B1(c) with alterations and landscaping
Location: Building 119 FFMT Shed, RAF Bicester

Decision: No objection, no comment

Proposed: Councillor Turner
All in favour

Seconded: Councillor Hill
Motion carried.

- v. Number: 15/00527/ADV
Applicant: Maria Malaband Care Group
Proposal: 5 non-illuminated signs
Location: Wydham Hall, Allotment Way, Launton, Bicester OX26 5DF

Decision: No objection, no comment

Proposed: Councillor Hill
All in favour

Seconded: Councillor Fox
Motion carried.

- vi. Number: 15/00595/F
Applicant: Mr John May
Proposal: Erection of one new detached dwelling (part retrospective)
Location: OS Parcel 5021 West End, Launton

Decision: No objection, no comment

Proposed: Councillor Hill
All in favour

Seconded: Councillor Fox
Motion carried.

b) Planning decisions noted

- (i) Number: 15/00261/F
Applicant: Carol Brady & Nigel Brooks
Proposal: Rear & side extension, loft conversion, front extension etc
Location: 21 Ancil Avenue, Launton OX26 5DL
Decision: Permitted
- (ii) Number: 15/00081/CTA
Applicant: GCK Treeworks
Proposal: Fell tree in conservation area
Location: RAF Bicester
Decision: Notice of Intent – CDC had no comment
- (iii) Number: 15/00388/F
Applicant: Mr B Walker
Proposal: Two-storey side and single storey rear extensions
Location: 2 Bicester Road, Launton OX26 5DP
Decision: Permitted

- b) East West Rail – discussions between Peter Cox and East-West Rail about footpath diversion plans. It was noted that the Council had previously supported Mr Cox's proposal; he undertook to keep the Council informed of progress in the discussions.
- c) Rumours about plans for new housing between Station Road and Blackthorn Road.
The Chairman noted that valid objections to planning applications need to relate to **material** planning considerations, and are more persuasive if supported by facts such as dated photographic evidence of flooding or systematic traffic surveys. Shared community concerns about proposed major housing developments should be fed into any community-led planning activities which Launton might launch.

12) Village Matters

a) Possible Parish Transport Representative

The Clerk reported that there had been one response to the piece in Launton Lines, from Magda Gould, and Magda was accordingly appointed.

b) Pavement and other works at the crossroads

Following discussion of the consequences and the fact that the Council had been neither consulted beforehand nor informed by OCC Highways after the work was done it was agreed that the Clerk should write to express our concern and asking for a report.

c) Yew Tree Farm – Councillor Thompson's letter about verge damage, previously circulated

The letter was noted. The council awaits the outcome.

d) Damaged Launton sign at entry to the village on Station Road and damaged crossroads sign

Clerk to write to OCC Highways requesting repairs.

e) Chairman and Clerk to report on Annual Parish Meeting

Carried forward to June meeting.

f) Council noticeboard near the war memorial

Clerk to explore costs of renovation or replacement and report at June meeting.

g) Traffic calming plans in Station Road

Carried forward to June meeting – should the council take any action at this stage to look for more funding?

h) West End Footpath

The Council agreed that it accepted the grant on the terms proposed and that the Clerk should contact both WREN and TOE to set the project in motion.

Proposed: Councillor Foster
All in favour

Seconded: Councillor Fox
Motion carried.

13) Council domain and website

The Clerk reported that a draft working version of the website is now live. He invited suggestions from councillors for additions and improvements.

14) Correspondence

- a) Correspondence received for action (sent by email)

All covered elsewhere in the agenda and minutes

- b) Correspondence received for information (sent by email)

i) Viridor Ardley Landfill and ERF Liaison Group Minutes

ii) Rural Services Network News, for info

iii) Rural Opportunities Bulletin for info

iv) Hinterland - Rural intelligence from behind the headlines - Friday, 10 April, 2015, for info

v) OALC March Members Update

vi) Viridor Ardley Liaison Group, agenda

All noted, particularly that the OALC update prompts consideration of pensions auto-enrolment and the model *New Councillors Welcome Pack*.

15) Reports

- a) Chairman's Report

There was none.

- b) Clerk's Report

There was none.

Date of next meeting – Thursday 4th June 2015, in Launton Parish Hall.

It was confirmed that the regular time, date and place of meetings of Launton Parish Council in the forthcoming year will normally be 7.30 pm on the first Thursday of each month, in the Parish Hall, preceded by an informal period from 7-7.30 for public viewing of plans and discussion with councillors.

The meeting closed at 10.03pm

Notes on declarations of interest.

Any Member arriving after the start of the meeting is asked to declare pecuniary interests, as necessary, as soon as practicable after their arrival, even if the item in question has been considered.

National rules about pecuniary interests are set out in Chapter 7 of the Localism Act 2011 and in secondary legislation made under the Act, in particular, The Relevant Authorities (Disclosable Pecuniary Interests) Regulations 2012