

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 comment. One member of the public attended the meeting.

Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 10th January 2013 At 7.30pm in Launton Congregational Church

Present: Councillors: Mr Chris Fox, Mr Simon Turner, Ms Penny Stephens, Mrs Rachel Burn and Miss Wendy Foster

In attendance: The Clerk, Mr Keith Dixon

1. To receive and accept apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Cllr Hill and Cllr Stubbings.

2. To receive any Declarations of Interest in items on the agenda

- a. To resolve that the Council will grant a dispensation, as permitted by S.33 of the Localism Act 2011, to any Councillor who submits a written request, to allow him or her to participate in a discussion, or vote on, matters relating to the Council's financial management, and in particular, its budget and precept. Further, that the dispensations will remain in force until the 9th January 2017.

The Council makes this resolution since without the dispensations the number of persons prohibited from participating in the business would be so great a proportion of the Council as to impede the transaction of the business.

Proposed: Councillor Burn

Seconded: Councillor Turner

All in favour

Motion carried.

- b. Declarations and requests for dispensations received.

Written requests for dispensation had been received from all members of the Council, all stating their reason for dispensation as being, that without it, the number of persons prohibited by section 31(4) of the Localism Act 2011 from participating in the business at 2a above, would be so great a proportion of the Council as to impede the transaction of the business.

It was proposed that all the above dispensations be accepted.

Proposed: Councillor Fox

Seconded: Councillor Foster

All in favour

Motion carried.

3. To facilitate public participation with regard to items on the agenda

There was none

4. To confirm the minutes of previous meeting – Thursday 6th December 2012.

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

Proposed: Councillor Turner

Seconded: Councillor Fox

3 in favour 2 abstained

Motion carried.

5. Report from Cherwell District Councillor for Launton

There was none

6. Report from Oxfordshire County Councillor for Launton

There was none.

Signed



Date 7/2/13

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7. Finance and Governance

- a. To consider payment of costs incurred for village gate replacement.
Having ascertained that Oxfordshire Highways will, in due course, repair the gate it was proposed that the costs incurred by the Parish Council's contractor in collecting the posts and returning them be approved for payment.

Proposed: Councillor Turner

Seconded:

Councillor Fox

All in favour

Motion carried.

- b. To consider a request from St Mary's Parochial Church Council for a grant towards the upkeep of the churchyard.

It was proposed that the grant of £1200 be approved for payment.

Proposed: Councillor Turner

Seconded:

Councillor Foster

All in favour

Motion carried.

- c. To acknowledge scrutiny and acceptance of previously circulated bank statements.

Previously circulated bank statements were reviewed and accepted.

- d. To confirm and approve expenditure for January and review income during December.

Payments for approval

Cheque No	Payee	Amount
200293	Mr Jefferies – Bus Shelter	£80.30
200294	K Dixon	£321.40
200295	HMRC – K Dixon	£76.40
200296	Phil Bradford	£42.00
200297	T Jenkins CANCELLED	
200298	T L Jenkins Landscaping Services	£300.00
S/O	Launton Parish Hall	£110.00
S/O	Launton Lines	£42.00
Total Payments in January 2013		£972.10

All above cheques drawn on The Co-operative Bank

Income Received

Source	Reason	Amount
Co-operative Bank Current	Interest	£0.82
Bank of Ireland	Interest	£0.99
Total Receipts for December 2012		£1.81

Proposed: Councillor Fox

Seconded:

Councillor Stephens

All in favour

Motion carried.

- e. To review and accept year-to-date Cash Book transactions and bank reconciliation.

It was resolved that the previously circulated Cash Book transactions and bank reconciliation be accepted.

Proposed: Councillor Turner

Seconded:

Councillor Fox

All in favour

Motion carried.

The Chairman and Clerk signed the Bank Reconciliation.

- f. To review the year to date payments and receipts against the Council's annual budget.

The Clerk described the year-to-date financial situation after 9 months of data was available, and his outlook for the remainder of the year.

g. To determine the precept for 2013/14.

The Clerk described how the proposed budget for 2013/14 had been calculated, and the precept requirement that resulted from it.

The Council considered whether there was any amendment required to the proposal and whether any undertakings requiring funding in 2013/14 were warranted.

It was resolved that in the present circumstances the precept should be set, as in the current financial year, at £15,500.

Proposed: Councillor Turner

Seconded:

Councillor Fox

All in favour

Motion carried.

It was noted that as a result of changes made by government in the way council tax benefits are administered, and a subsequent re-evaluation by Cherwell DC of the equivalent number of band D households in the district, whilst the overall Parish precept remains unaltered, it will be shown in CDC's literature as a 6% increase per band D household over last year's amount.

8. Planning

a. To discuss and decide upon Planning Applications received.

i. Application No.12/01673/F

Applicant: Mr Justin Bucknell

Proposal Retrospective change of use of existing log cabin to form hairdressing salon

Location 26 Sycamore Rd, Launton, Bicester, OX26 5DY

The Council resolved to object to the application on the basis that it would lead to increased traffic at the Sycamore Rd / Station Rd junction which has extremely poor visibility. This presents a road safety issue especially in light of the planned increase in traffic that will arise from the Yew Tree Farm development immediately beyond the junction.

Further, according to CDC's Notice of Decision a recent application of a similar nature in West End Launton was approved, despite being in contravention of policy C28 of the adopted Cherwell Local Plan, only because of 'special circumstances and needs of the applicant'. Unless any such special needs exist in this case, it would be inconsistent to approve, against the policy of the local plan.

Further, should the planning authority be minded to grant permission, it is hoped that it will inure for the benefit of the current resident only.

Proposed: Councillor Turner

Seconded:

Councillor Fox

All in favour

Motion carried.

ii. Application No.12/01777/F

Applicant: Mr John Mackman

Proposal Part conversion of garage and single storey front extension to garage

Location 47 Sherwood Close, Launton, Bicester, OX26 5DR

The Council resolved to object to the application on the basis that the new garage, as shown, would not be fit for purpose due to the existing front wall remaining, leaving insufficient space to alight from a car, and the overall length being too short.

The effect of the development would be to reduce the off-street parking capacity of the property, thereby aggravating traffic and parking problems in the road.

Proposed: Councillor Turner

Seconded:

Councillor Stephens

All in favour

Motion carried.

b. Planning Decisions

Signed



Date

7/2/13

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| i. | Application | No. 12/01293/F* |
| | Applicant | Mr and Mrs Gerry and Kathleen Connors |
| | Proposal | Change of use of land to a private gypsy and traveller caravan site comprising 2 no. pitches, each pitch accommodating 1 no. mobile home, 1 no. touring caravan, 1 no day room and associated hard standing, retention of existing stable and septic tank- resubmission of 12/00287/F |
| | Location | OS Parcel 3431 Adjoining North East of Blackthorn Rd Launton, Bicester, OX26 5DX |
| | Decision | Refused |
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- | | | |
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| ii. | Application | No.12/01592/F |
| | Applicant: | Mr and Mrs Fowler |
| | Proposal | Rear Extension |
| | Location | 9 The Poplars, Launton, Bicester, OX26 5DW |
| | Decision | Granted |
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- | | | |
|------|-----------------|---|
| iii. | Application | No.12/01396/F |
| | Applicant: | Tara's Salon |
| | Proposal | Change of use of (part of) domestic ancillary building into hair salon. |
| | Location | 38 West End, Launton, OX26 5DG |
| | Decision | Granted |

9. Village Matters

There were none.

10. Correspondence

- a. Correspondence received for action
 - i. OCC - The Older People's Joint Commissioning Strategy. Consultation
The Council felt no response was necessary to this consultation.
- b. Correspondence received for information (sent by email)
 - i. Kevin Larnar CDC - Parish Updates - Cherwell Parish Liaison Meeting
 - ii. Tony Baldry MP – Parliamentary Questions regarding Neighbourhood Plans
 - iii. Lisa Gregory OCC - Healthwatch newsletter Nov 12
 - iv. ORCC News Bulletin Dec 2012
 - v. Catherine Blaxall AGEUK - 'Care Matters' Nov 2012
 - vi. Emma Faulkner CDC – Community Governance Review
 - vii. Jan Gossett OALC – Dispensations and Budget Setting Guidance
 - viii. Jan Gossett OALC – Briefing on Precept setting. Note on Council Tax. Dec 2012
 - ix. Karen Curtin CDC – Launton Parish Precept 2013/2014
 - x. Andy Taplin CDC – Response to questions raised by the Clerk concerning changes in council tax calculations described in Karen Curtin's letter.

11. Reports

- a. Chairman's Report
- b. Clerk's Report

12. Date of next meeting – 7th February 2013, in the Launton Parish Hall

The meeting closed at 8.49 p.m.

Signed



Date

7/2/13

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