

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. Four members of the public attended the meeting.

Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 4th April 2013 At 7.30pm in Launton Parish Hall

Present: Councillors: Mr Simon Turner, Ms Penny Stephens, Miss Wendy Foster, Mr Howard Hill, and Mr Chris Fox

In attendance: The Clerk - Mr Keith Dixon

1. To receive and accept apologies for absence

Apologies were received and accepted from Councillor Rachel Burn and Councillor Ian Stubbings.

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

There were none.

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

There was none.

4. To confirm the minutes of previous meeting – Thursday 7th March 2012.

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.

5. Report from Cherwell District Councillor for Launton

There was none.

6. Report from Oxfordshire County Councillor for Launton

With particular reference to Highways issues.

There was none.

7. Finance and Governance

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

Previously circulated bank statements were reviewed and accepted.

- b. To confirm and approve expenditure for April and review income during March.

Payments for approval

Cheque No	Payee	Amount
200308	Mr Jefferies – Bus Shelter	£103.31
200309	K Dixon	£314.88
200310	HMRC – K Dixon	£78.80
200311	Cherwell DC Dog Bin Emptying	£435.86
200312	Barstows Stationery	£61.78
S/O	Launton Lines	£110.00
Total Payments in	April 2013	£1,104.62

Signed



Date

2/5/2013

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All above cheques drawn on The Co-operative Bank

Income Received

Source	Reason	Amount
Co-operative Bank Current	Interest	£0.39
Bank of Ireland	Interest	£0.92
HMRC	VAT Refund	£945.73
Total Receipts for March 2013		£947.04

Proposed: Councillor Turner
All in favour

Seconded: Councillor Stephens
Motion carried.

- c. To review the full year bank reconciliation and, if acceptable, approve it.

The full-year bank reconciliation and Cash Book which had been previously circulated were reviewed. It was proposed that the Bank reconciliation be approved.

Proposed: Councillor Fox
All in favour

Seconded: Councillor Stephens
Motion carried.

- d. To review the full year accounts for the Parish Council and, if acceptable, approve them.

The Clerk briefly reviewed the Accounts which had been previously circulated to members. It was proposed that the accounts be accepted.

Proposed: Councillor Fox
All in favour

Seconded: Councillor Hill
Motion carried.

- e. To consider the continuation of the contract with Mr P Bradford for the maintenance of Sherwood Close and The Glades open spaces and the continuation of the contract with Mr T Jenkins for maintenance of Station Rd pedestrian refuge.

It was proposed that both contracts be extended for a further year.

Action Clerk

Proposed: Councillor Turner
All in favour

Seconded: Councillor Hill
Motion carried.

- f. To provide a back-up disc of the Council's files held electronically, for off-site storage.

The Clerk made arrangements to supply a CD containing the Council's files to the Chairman for safe keeping.

8. Planning

- a. To discuss and decide upon resolutions to the Planning Authority, on Planning Applications received.

- i. Application No.13/00279/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.

Location OS Parcel 3431 Adjoining North East of Blackthorn Rd Launton, Bicester, OX26 5DX

After discussion of the application and the associated reports it was proposed that the Council object to the application on the same grounds as stated in its responses to the previous applications on the site (12/01293/F and 12/00287/F) and with particular regard to on-going concerns over road safety and flooding.

Signed



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Proposed: Councillor Hill

Seconded:

Councillor Foster

All in favour

Motion carried.

The Clerk was also directed to make the Planning Authority aware of its concerns regarding observations made in the Access Report, which accompanied the application, questioning the Parish Council's consistency of approach when considering access issues for this application and an earlier one for stables on the same site.

Action Clerk

- ii. Application No.13/00001/SCOP
Applicant David Lock Associates
Proposal Scoping Option Residential Development
Location Land between Birmingham London railway line and Gavray Drive

It was resolved that the council had no objection or comment to make regarding this application.

Proposed: Councillor Turner

Seconded:

Councillor Stephens

All in favour

Motion carried.

- iii. Application No.13/00299/F
Applicant Mr and Mrs D Mahoney
Proposal Erection of dwelling and garage
Location Land Adj to The Willows and East of No2 Sycamore Rd

After consideration of the application it was resolved that the Council would object to this application for the following reasons;

The development would result in the loss of the pond which is believed to be an integral part of the surrounding drainage system. Further, members of the public had reported that the pond was home to Great Crested Newts.

Egress from Sycamore Rd is subject to restricted visibility and it was felt that with the additional traffic in Station Rd, resulting from the Yew Tree Farm development, it would be inappropriate to aggravate the situation with further vehicle movements from this development.

Proposed: Councillor Foster

Seconded:

Councillor Stephens

All in favour

Motion carried.

- iv. Application No.13/00372/OUT
Applicant Montpelier Estates
Proposal Construction of 75 bed care home (Use Class C2) together with ancillary accommodation including café, hair salon and shop and associated development including car parking and service arrangements.
Location Land North East of Junction of Launton Rd Skimmingdish Lane Launton Oxfordshire.

After consideration it was resolved to object to the application in its current form due to the colour scheme proposed. The Council felt the development would have a detrimental impact on the visual amenity of RAF Bicester conservation area.

In red and white (as illustrated on the plans) the buildings would be at odds with the otherwise wholly natural vista. The suggestion in the application that there is a minimal visual link between the buildings and RAF Bicester does not hold good given that the buildings height will exceed that of the trees in the vicinity

Proposed: Councillor Turner

Seconded:

Councillor Stephens

All in favour

Motion carried.

b. Planning Decisions

There were none.

Signed



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9. Village Matters

- a. To consider the level of funding to Launton Lines in light of a request made by the Launton Lines committee.

It was suggested and agreed that this item be deferred to the next meeting when more data may be available.

10. Correspondence

- a. Correspondence received for action

- i. ORCC – Launton Affordable Housing Progress Report

The Clerk advised the Council that a letter had been hand delivered to the landowner but no response had been received. He was directed to advise ORCC that all efforts had failed and that it was unrealistic to continue further consideration of this option.

Action Clerk

- ii. Maria Garcia Dopazo, Planning Policy, CDC - Focused consultation on Changes to the Cherwell Local Plan Proposed Submission

The Chairman urged members to give this matter consideration in advance of next meeting and if they had any input they could forward it to him for consolidation into a formal response.

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

- i. Tony Baldry MP – Budget debate extract
 - ii. Aron Wisdom OCC Highways – Bicester access improvements

11.

- a. Chairman's Report

- b. Clerk's Report

The Clerk reminded members that May's Meeting would be in the Chapel, Station Rd, due to elections in the Parish Hall.

12. Date of next meeting – 2nd May 2013, in the Launton Congregational Chapel

The meeting Closed at 8.41p.m.