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 7th July 2013
At 7.30pm in Launton Parish Hall

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

In attendance: The Clerk - Mr Keith Dixon

1. **To receive and accept apologies for absence**
   Apologies were received from Mrs Rachel Burn

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 were none.

4. **To confirm the minutes of previous meeting – Thursday 6th June 2013.**
   The above dated minutes were unanimously agreed as a true record and were signed by the Chairman.

   Proposed: Councillor Turner **Seconded:** Councillor Hill
   Five in favour, one abstained **Motion carried.**

5. **Report from Cherwell District Councillor for Launton**
   There was none.

6. **Report from Oxfordshire County Councillor for Launton**
   Cllr Mrs Fulljames described the changes affecting Oxfordshire CC in that the number of divisions had been reduced from 74 to 63. This meant that she now represented 22 villages. Following the election the composition of the council was 31 Conservative, 15 Labour, 11 Liberal Democrat, 4 independent and 2 Green and that 3 of the independents had allied themselves with the Conservatives.
   On village matters, she reported that repairs to the footpath in Sycamore Rd would be funded from the Stewardship fund and that the roadside gate in Station Rd would be repaired in due course. The Clerk thanked her for her representation in these matters.
   Cllr Hill made Cllr Mrs Fulljames aware of the appalling state of the road and footway in West End. It was agreed that the Clerk would write to Highways on this matter. **Action Clerk**
   Cllr Mrs Fulljames thanked the Launton Lines Committee for keeping her informed of village matters through the magazine.

7. **Finance and Governance**
   a. To confirm and approve expenditure for July and review income during June.
   Payments for approval

Cheque No	Payee	Amount
200326	K Dixon [1]	£315.08
200327	Mr Jefferies – Bus Shelter [2]	£72.11
200328	HMRC	£89.20
200329	Calber Facilities Management[3]	£532.80

S/O	Launton Lines	£110.00
Total Payments in	July 2013	**£1,119.19**

All above cheques drawn on The Co-operative Bank

Income Received

Source	**Reason**	**Amount**
Co-operative Bank Current	Interest	£1.56
Bank of Ireland	Interest	£0.96
Total Receipts for June 2013		**£2.52**

Proposed: Councillor Hill **Seconded:** Councillor Stephens
All in favour **Motion carried.**

b. To acknowledge scrutiny and acceptance of previously circulated bank statements.
Previously circulated bank statements were reviewed and accepted.

c. To consider what actions are needed regarding maintenance of physical assets.
Councillors with designated responsibilities reported their findings regarding the state of the council's assets. Cllr Foster noted the need for weed treatment in the footpaths in The Glades and The Clerk reported minor repairs needed to the notices cabinet in Bicester Rd. It was agreed that the Clerk should engage a contractor to deal with the weeds and he offered to deal with the cabinet. **Action Clerk**

d. To review the year to date Cash Book transactions and bank reconciliation.
The first quarter bank reconciliation and Cash Book which had been previously circulated were reviewed. It was proposed that the Bank reconciliation be approved.
Proposed: Councillor Stephens **Seconded:** Councillor Fox
All in favour **Motion carried.**

e. To review the Internal Auditors report for 2012/13.
The auditor's report which had been previously circulated to all members was considered and it was noted that no recommendations for action.
The Chairman initialled Appx 4 of the Parish Council's audit plan to signify acceptance.

8. Planning

a. To discuss and decide upon Planning Applications received.
   i. Application No. 13/00839/F.
      Applicant Mr Robert Furneaux
      Proposal Two storey rear extension
      Location The elms, Station Rd, Launton
      It was proposed that the Council offered no objection or comment on this application.
      Proposed: Councillor Turner **Seconded:** Councillor Stubbings
      All in favour **Motion carried.**

b. Planning Decisions
   i. Application No.13/00372/OUT
      Applicant Montpelier Estates
      Proposal Construction of 61 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.
Decision	**Granted subject to conditions**

ii.

Application	No.13/00604/F
Applicant	Mr Bill Taunton
Proposal	Proposed front canopy and pitched roof over existing garage.
Location	6 Skinner Rd, Launton, Bicester, OX26 5DX
Decision	**Granted subject to conditions**

9. Village Matters

a. To consider the level of funding to Launton Lines in light of a request made by the Launton Lines committee.
The Chairman reported that he had been advised that the Launton Lines Committee that they were reviewing their advertising rates and would consider any further requests for funding once the effects of these changes had been understood, possibly by November.

b. Ken Atack CDC - New Homes Progress Report
To consider what use could be made of the parish share of the government's New Homes Bonus grant.
After discussion it was agreed that the village should be asked through an article in Launton Lines, if there were any specific projects that could profit from funding, in the order of £1000. Cllr Stephens was prepared to submit an article for publication.
Action Cllr Stephens
It was also proposed that if no appropriate use was identified, the sum should be put towards the Council's reserve for asset maintenance, which had not been increased last year in order to keep the precept to an acceptable level.

10. Correspondence

a. Correspondence received for action
None

b. Correspondence received for information (sent by email)

i. Nick Boles MP – Funding for Neighbourhood Planning
The Chairman suggested that the Council should consider again, its position regarding Neighbourhood Planning and asked the Clerk to include the matter in next month's agenda. He also asked Councillors to familiarise themselves with the subject in readiness for the discussion. **Action All**

11. Reports

a. Chairman's Report
The Chairman reported that he and Cllr Hill had attended an interesting Parish Liaison Meeting, where he had been able to talk to planning officers about the changes proposed by CDC to the green buffer (area protected from development) in their proposed Local Plan.
Subsequently, he and the Clerk had had a meeting with Cllr David Hughes and the Leader of CDC, Cllr Barry Wood. During this meeting the district councillors were shown the effects of the changes that were being proposed, by walking round the affected areas of the village, and the objections Launton PC had raised were discussed. Both district councillors agreed that the proposed changes were inappropriate and that they would support the Parish Council's objections when the matters were presented to the CDC Executive and Council. The Chairman and Clerk would work to provide a concise synopsis of the problem for the district councillors to present.

b. Clerk's Report
There was none.

12. **Date of next meeting** - Thursday 1st August 2013 In the Launton Parish Hall

The meeting closed at 8.21p.m.