

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. Three parishioners availed themselves of this opportunity.

Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 1st December 2011 at 7.30pm in Launton Parish Hall

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

In attendance: Mr Keith Dixon – Clerk

1. To receive and accept apologies for absence

There were none.

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

At this point the Chairman proposed that item 9a ii be deleted from the agenda since the planning application concerned had not been submitted at this time.

Cllr Burn declared a personal and prejudicial interest in item 10a.

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

There was none.

4. To receive a presentation from Mr Oliver Taylor of Frampton's regarding Planning Proposals for land north west of Launton Road Roundabout adjoining the Skimmingdish Lane, Bicester site. Frampton's have been instructed to prepare proposals for a care home facility on part of this site.

Mr Taylor was not available to make the presentation.

5. To confirm the minutes of previous meeting – Thursday 3rd November 2011

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

Proposed: Councillor Turner
All in favour,

Seconded: Councillor Foster
Motion carried.

6. Report from Cherwell District Councillor for Launton

None was available.

7. Report from Oxfordshire County Councillor for Launton

None was available.

8. Finance and Governance

a. To consider requests for donations under S137 of the Local Govt Act 1972.

The Clerk reminded the Council of its policy on donations and advised that only one request had been directed to the Council since its creation, that of the Oxfordshire Association for the Blind.

Cllr Hill proposed a donation of £25 be made to the association.

Proposed: Councillor Hill
All in favour.

Seconded: Councillor Stubbings
Motion carried.

b. To consider training opportunity for Roles and responsibilities course run by OALC and to decide on funding.

Cllrs Turner, Stubbings and Stephens expressed a wish to attend the training on the 27th February and it was proposed that the Council accept the cost of this training.

Proposed: Councillor Fox

Seconded: Councillor Burn

All in favour.

Motion carried.

- c. To confirm and approve expenditure for December and review income during November.

Payments for approval

Cheque No	Payee	Amount
200207	Mr Jefferies – Bus Shelter	£80.30
200208	K Dixon	£1,089.00
200209	HMRC – K Dixon	£76.60
200210	Cartridge World	£40.49
200211	Oxfordshire County Council	£100.00
200212	Oxfordshire County Council	£300.00
200213	CA Traffic Management	£360.00
200214	Launton Congregational Church	£210.00
200215	OALC - Finance Training	£132.00
S/O	Launton Lines	£110.00
Total Payments in	December 2011	£2,498.39

All above cheques drawn on The Co-operative Bank

Income Received

Source	Reason	Amount
Co-operative Bank Current	Interest	£0.94
Bank of Ireland	Interest	£1.09
Total Receipts for	November 2011	£2.03

Proposed: Councillor Turner

Seconded: Councillor Stubbings

All in favour.

Motion carried.

- d. To acknowledge scrutiny and acceptance of previously circulated bank statements.
The previously circulated banks statements were reviewed and unanimously accepted.
- e. To consider what actions are needed regarding maintenance of physical assets.
The Clerk described the outstanding actions required from the Assets Maintenance Plan. He had discussed the replanting of Sherwood Close and the Glades with Mr Phil Bradford and this would be undertaken within the next two weeks. He had also had a meeting with Diane Major from Thames Valley Probation Service concerning making use of Community Payback resources. An arrangement had been made for work to be carried out on 22nd December to repaint the bus shelters and notice boards and to clean the benches around the village. Cllr Turner described his findings regarding ownership of land at Yew Tree Walk and The Poplars resulting from the information supplied by Cherwell DC Legal Dept. Land registry title ON68332 shows the proprietorship of the pathway between the churchyard and Manor Farm, known as Yew Tree Walk, resides with The Oxford Diocesan Board of Finance. It was noted that the Parish Council is currently providing grass cutting service to this pathway. Land at the The Poplars was covered by five titles. However, the majority of the open space falls under title ON150676 where the registered owner is Launton Parish Council. The title search had still not made clear the ownership of land to

the east of title ON150676 where the damaged wall is situated and further research is needed to try and clarify this. **Action Clerk to pursue with Cherwell DC**

It was proposed that a new lid be purchased for the dog bin at the corner of The Glades
Proposed: Councillor Fox **Seconded:** Councillor Turner
All in favour. **Motion carried.**

9. Planning

a. To discuss and decide upon Planning Applications received.

- i. Application No.11/01626/F
Applicant Mr Simon Curtis
Proposal Single storey rear extension
Location 42 Sycamore Rd, Launton

It was proposed that the Council made no objection and raised no comment regarding this application.

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

- ii. Application No.SRF/12.6.272
Applicant Mr Stephen Fitzgerald Highways and Transport OCC
Proposal Zebra Crossing
Location Bicester Rd Launton
The Chairman read out a letter of objection from the residents of Belfield and described objections raised by Mr T Oliver.
There followed a discussion on the merits and shortcomings of the crossing and its location, the main concerns being the width of the pavement, urbanisation and the negative effects on nearby residents.
It was proposed that at a meeting on 2nd December the Chairman should ask Oxfordshire CC to extend the period of consultation until the end of January and if the extension was not accepted to object on the grounds stated above.
Proposed: Councillor Turner **Seconded:** Councillor Fox
4 in favour 3 abstentions. **Motion carried.**

b. Planning Decisions

- i. Application No.11/01378/F
Applicant Launton Settlement Trust
Proposal Installation of Photovoltaic Cells to roof of Building
Location Unit B2 Grange Farm, station Rd, Launton
Decision Granted subject to conditions
The Council noted the decision
- ii. Application No.11/01242/F
Applicant Dr Daniel West, Julia West, Martin Evans & Celia Evans
Proposal Demolition of concrete barn, change of use of land and change of use and conversion of agricultural timber frame barns to a four bedroom dwelling.
Location The Old Barn Hareleys Farm, Launton
Decision Granted subject to conditions
The Council noted the decision

10. Village Matters

- a. To formally accept the questionnaire used for the Yew Tree Farm proposed development.

At this point Cllr Burn left the meeting room.

The Chairman noted that it had not been possible to complete the proposed questionnaire as the planning application has not yet been submitted. Further work would be undertaken as soon as it was available. Cllr Foster had put forward suggestions for inclusion as had Cllr Burn.

It was noted that an extraordinary meeting may be required to consider the application when it was available.

At this point Cllr Burn re-joined the meeting.

- b. To consider whether the Council agrees with the proposed boundary changes.

The Chairman described conversations he had had with members of Chesterton and Ambrosden Parish Councils where both parties had expressed the view that the fortunes of all three villages were tied to those of Bicester.

It was proposed that Launton PC object to the removal of Launton from the Banbury constituency given that Bicester remains within that constituency, and with the future development of Bicester having enormous effect on Launton, which is only a field away. It feels it would be catastrophic for Launton not to be represented by the same MP as Bicester.

Action Clerk

Proposed: Councillor Turner
All in favour.

Seconded: Councillor Foster
Motion carried.

- c. To receive feedback from Cllr Stubbings regarding his attendance at the CDC Emergency Operations meeting.

Cllr Stubbings reported he had done some more work on this topic and was about to talk to the vicar on the subject. The Chairman asked Cllr Stubbings if he would prepare a list of things the Council needed to consider before February's meeting.

Action Cllr Stubbings

11. Correspondence

- a. Correspondence received for action

The Parish of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Launton – Letter requesting annual grant.

Some concern was expressed that the Parochial Church Council had not, it appeared, sought other quotes for the mowing. The Parish Council had been able to make significant savings last year by going to tender and would be happy to pass on its contractors details to the PCC.

It was proposed that the Parish Council advise the PCC that, at present, it is only able to support the existing level of grant which would be paid in June 2012. However, the Parish Council would consider its position as part of its budget setting round in January 2012.

Proposed: Councillor Hill
All in favour.

Seconded: Councillor Stubbings
Motion carried.

- b. Correspondence received for Information

There was none this month.

12. Reports

- a. Chairman's Report

The Chairman gave feedback on the Parish Liaison Meeting held by Cherwell DC which, once again, had been interesting and informative.

b. Clerk's Report

The Clerk noted that Oxfordshire County Council had installed the new road salt bin on the bridge at Bicester Rd and that the vegetation on both sides of the bridge had been cleared. Further that the drainage grips in the roadside verge beyond the bus shelter in Station Rd had been cleared.

He also passed a CD containing the Launton Parish council electronic files to the Chairman for safe keeping.

13. Date of next meeting - Thursday 5th January 2012 In the Launton Parish Hall

The Meeting Closed at 9.19p.m.