

LAUNTON PARISH COUNCIL

Members of the Parish Council and the Parish Clerk had been available in Launton Village Hall before the start of the formal meeting (from 7.00pm until 7.30pm) to meet with the public. All plans and correspondence were available for viewing and comments. No parishioners availed themselves of this opportunity. The formal meeting commenced at 7.35pm.

Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 7th January 2010 at 7.35pm in Launton Village Hall

Present: Councillors: Mr Simon Turner- Chairman, Miss Wendy Foster – Vice Chairman, & Mr Howard Hill,

In attendance: Mr Keith Dixon- Clerk,

1. To receive and accept apologies for absence

Councillors: Mrs Molly O'Connor, Mrs Audrey Tutt, Mr Ian Stubbings, District Cllr Hughes and County Cllr Fulljames.

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

Members are asked to declare any personal interest and the nature of that interest which they may have in any of the items under consideration at this meeting. (Please refer to the notes at the end of agenda)

There were none.

3. To confirm the minutes of the last meeting - Thursday 3rd December 2009

The 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.

4. Report from Oxfordshire County Councillor for Launton

None was available

5. Report from Cherwell District Councillor for Launton

None was available

6. Financial:

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

Expenditure for approval and payment in January 2010

Cheque No	Payee	Amount
200072	Mr Jefferies – Bus Shelter	£ 80.30
200073	K Dixon	£ 310.53
200074	HMRC – K Dixon	£ 71.40
200075	Sue Ryder Care	£ 25.00
200076	Assisted Reading for Children in Oxfordshire	£ 25.00
200077	Oxfordshire Association for the Blind	£ 25.00
200078	Oxfordshire Woodland Project	£ 25.00
200079	Launton Congregational Church	£ 175.00
200080	Acreman's Arboriculture	£ 389.56
S/O	Launton Village Hall	£ 42.00
S/O	Launton Lines	£ 110.00

Total Payments for January 2010

£ 1278.79

All above cheques drawn on The Co-operative Bank

Income Received

Source	Reason	Amount
Co-operative Bank	Interest November	£ 0.55
NALC	Clerk's Training Bursary Scheme	£100.00
Bank of Ireland	Interest November	£ 0.01

Proposed: Councillor Turner

Seconded: Councillor Foster

All in favour.

Motion carried.

Total Receipts for December 2009

£100.56

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

The bank statements were accepted

7. Planning

- a. To discuss and decide upon Planning Applications received;

- i. Application No. 09/01719/F
Applicant: Mr Martin Whitford
Proposal Single Storey front extension to bungalow
Location 34 Sycamore Rd

The council objected to the application on the grounds that it comprised a very large extension to the front of the property where no other property has been extended to anything like the same extent. As such it was viewed as detrimental to the street scene and out of keeping with the area.

Proposed: Councillor Hill

Seconded: Councillor Turner

All in favour.

Motion carried.

- ii. Application No. 09/01687/F
Applicant: Town Centre Retail (Bicester) Ltd
Proposal Food store, non food retail, cinema, car park, servicing and other ancillary town centre uses (amendments relating to planning permission 07/00422/F dated 3rd September 2009)
Location Bicester Town Centre Development Manorsfield Rd. Bicester

After a review of the plans the Council felt it had no observation to make that would fall within the planning guidelines.

Proposed: Councillor Turner

Seconded: Councillor Foster

All in favour.

Motion carried.

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| iii. Application No. | 09/01659/REM |
| Applicant: | The Oxford Diocesan Board of Finance |
| Proposal | Reserved Matters (Ref: Outline/01563/OUT) B1
Office development with associated parking,
turning and landscaping areas. |
| Location | Land North West of Launton Rd roundabout
Adjoining Skimmingdish Lane Caversfield |

The Council objects to the application due to the height of the buildings being out of keeping with the local area. As planned, the buildings would be detrimental to the amenity of the RAF Bicester conservation area and would hamper the existing uninterrupted views over open countryside.

Proposed: Councillor Turner
All in favour.

Seconded: Councillor Foster
Motion carried.

- b. Planning Decisions
There were none.

- c. NW Bicester Eco town

To consider and discuss current understanding of the Eco town development and to decide on the Council's position regarding support or objection to the proposals.

Since, due to bad weather, only three councillors were able to attend the meeting and no members of the public, it was decided to postpone this item until the next council meeting.

8. Village Matters

- a. Calor 'Village of the Year' competition- to review progress.
Although the competition has been postponed this year, several initiatives have resulted from considering an application.
- i. After Cllrs. Foster and Turner's recent meeting with Launton Playing Fields Association (LPFA), the LPFA have reported to Cllr Foster that two quotes have been received for redevelopment of the tennis courts. The Council will continue to support this endeavour with efforts to identify grant funding.
 - ii. The Council have submitted an application to Oxfordshire Rural Community Council for a youth 'Sports Activators' programme which, if accepted, will provide a once a week, coach led activity, for ten weeks. LPFA have indicated that March would be the earliest time such a programme would be practical.
 - iii. Cllr Foster reported on discussions with Launton People who are planning their next public meeting in February.
- b. Speed recording devices – To review developments and consider a decision on funding.
Bicester Neighbourhood Action Group (NAG) continues to pursue the shared purchase of a speed recording device which the Council wants to deploy.

The Clerk read a letter from Thames Valley Police which reported very low levels of evidence regarding the issues of speeding, parking and anti-social behaviour which they have been monitoring in Launton.

Regarding speeding and parking, the Clerk was directed to reply to the letter asking for the dates and times of monitoring activity. **Action Clerk**

The Clerk was also directed to submit an article to Launton Lines advising residents that the police may terminate the monitoring activity after the next NAG meeting unless more reports are received. Further, to encourage residents to report specific details of infringements observed to the police. **Action Clerk**

- c. Better warning of the hazard when approaching the School from Bicester Rd railway bridge.

The Clerk reported he is still awaiting a response from OCC

- d. Weed clearance - Bicester Rd – To review status.

Planned clearance did not take place in December. Clerk to pursue clearance after present extreme weather has abated. **Action Clerk**

9. Correspondence

- a. To discuss and, where necessary, decide upon a response to correspondence for consideration:

- i. 30 MPH Wheelie Bin Stickers as Approved by Wiltshire Police

After discussion regarding the likely effectiveness and cost of these stickers, the Clerk was directed to establish from the suppliers whether the stickers are approved by Thames Valley Police and Oxfordshire Highways. **Action Clerk**

- ii. Colin Board Email Re: Jan 12th Meeting 7.30pm Middleton Stoney

Cllr Foster volunteered to attend the meeting on behalf of the Council

Action Cllr Foster

- iii. Oxfordshire Play Policy – OALC

The Council considered how best to support this policy and decided to liaise with LPFA with a view to considering how best to make use of it.

Action Cllrs Foster and Turner

- b. Correspondence received for information

- i. ORCC Review Autumn/Winter
- ii. Cherwell Parish Liaison Meeting 11/11/09 - K Larner memo
- iii. Rural housing Event 22/02/09 - CDC Memo
- iv. Parish Transport Representatives Handbook

10. Reports

- a. Chairman's Report

The Chairman stated he had a report to make on the Bicester Forum meeting but would defer doing so until the next meeting when better attendance was likely.

- b. Clerk's Report

A letter had been sent to Stagecoach regarding bus parking in Blenheim Drive and a reply was awaited.

The replacement tree had been planted in The Glades

Repairs to the kerbstone had been made in Sycamore Rd and West End by OCC.

Residents had reported drainage issues outside Rest Holme in Bicester Rd and ongoing issues in Station Rd, at the pond opposite Blenheim Drive, and at No1 Sharpes Cottage. All of these sites have been reported to OCC Northern Area. The Clerk had advised correspondents that any resident is entitled to notify Oxfordshire Highways of issues like these, by email to Northernarea@oxfordshire.gov.uk or by phone to 0845 3101111, and that more reports may hasten action.

The Clerk will continue to press the appropriate authorities for solutions to these issues once present exceptional weather conditions abate.

11. Date of next meeting - Thursday 4th February 2010
Launton Parish Hall

The meeting closed at 8.43 p.m.