

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 to meet with the public. All plans and correspondence were available for viewing and comments. Six parishioners availed themselves of this opportunity.

Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 4th March 2010 at 7.40pm in Launton Village Hall

Present: Councillors: Mr Simon Turner – Chairman, Miss Wendy Foster – Vice Chairman, Mrs Audrey Tutt, Mrs M O'Connor, Mr Ian Stubbings & Mr Howard Hill

In attendance: Mr Keith Dixon - Clerk, WPC Caroline Brown

1. To receive and accept apologies for absence

Apologies were received from County Councillor Fuljames

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

There were none

3. To confirm the minutes of the last meeting - Thursday 4th February 2010

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

Proposed: Councillor Hill
All in favour.

Seconded: Councillor Tutt
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 March and review income during February.

Expenditure for approval and payment in March 2010

Cheque No	Payee	Amount
200085	Mr Jefferies – Bus Shelter	£ 80.30
200086	K Dixon	£ 379.46
200087	HMRC – K Dixon	£ 76.60
S/O	Launton Lines	£ 110.00

Total Payments for March 2010

£646.36

All above cheques drawn on The Co-operative Bank

Income Received

Source	Reason	Amount
Co-operative Bank	Interest February	£ 0.50
Bank of Ireland	Interest February	£ 0.01

Total Receipts for February 2010

£ 0.51

Proposed: Councillor Turner
All in favour.

Seconded: Councillor Foster
Motion carried.

- b. To acknowledge scrutiny and acceptance of previously circulated bank statements.
Banks statements were reviewed and unanimously accepted.

- c. To consider purchase of recently amended model Standing Orders with explanatory notes in hard copy format.
Expenditure was authorised.

Action Clerk

Proposed: Councillor Stubbings
All in favour.

Seconded: Councillor Turner
Motion carried.

- d. To consider a request from 'Communities Opposing Ardley Incinerator' for a financial donation towards representation at the forthcoming Public Planning Enquiry.
The Clerk explained that there were precedents for such expenditure under S 137 of the Local Govt Act 1972.
After consideration of the likely impact on the village, the Council concluded that a gesture of support was appropriate, but bearing in mind that the outcome of the enquiry could still be reversed, the donation should be limited to £200.

Proposed: Councillor Tutt
5 in favour, 1 opposed

Seconded: Councillor Turner
Motion carried.

- e. To consider engagement of a new internal auditor and acceptance of his terms.
The Council accepted the auditor's terms and the Chairman signed the letter of engagement.

Proposed: Councillor Stubbings
All in favour.

Seconded: Councillor Tutt
Motion carried.

7. Planning

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

- i. Application No. 09/01814/CLUE
Applicant: William Burrows
Proposal: Retention of mobile home
Location: Timber House Blackthorn Rd.

Notification of this application from Cherwell DC had asked for any knowledge of the history of the site, not observations on the planning merits of the development. During the public consultation members of the public had reported that the hedge separating

the Caravan from the road had been significantly reduced and expressed hopes that the site would be screened.

There was a discussion regarding what else was known and the Clerk was directed to relay the information to Cherwell DC.

Action Clerk

Proposed: Councillor Turner
All in favour.

Seconded: Councillor Foster
Motion carried.

- ii. Application No. 10/00064/F
Applicant: Mr & Mrs Orme
Proposal: First floor rear extension, two storey side extension. Proposed garden shed. Garden boundary wall replaced
Location: Squires House Station Rd.

The Council raised no objections to this application but observed that the development will be extremely close to the adjacent property.

Proposed: Councillor Turner
All in favour.

Seconded: Councillor Stubbings
Motion carried.

- iii. Application No. 09/01815/LB
Applicant: Mr William Deeley
Proposal: (Retrospective) Demolition of rear WC and erection of single storey garden room with boot store to side
Location: Launton House, West End, Launton

The Council raised no objections and had no comment to make.

Proposed: Councillor Stubbings
All in favour.

Seconded: Councillor Hill
Motion carried.

- iv. Application No. 10/00021/F
Applicant: Mr Richard Howson
Proposal: Erection of Store/Workshop on existing hard standing
Location: Jacks Field OS Parcel 5021 West End, Launton

The Council raised no objections and had no comment to make.

Proposed: Councillor
All in favour.

Seconded: Councillor
Motion carried.

b. Planning Decisions

None had been received

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.

The Council observed that, on the positive side, the development would be under Cherwell DC's control and by definition, be built to high eco standards. Further, the housing provisions required by the South East Plan would be satisfied by the proposal. However, it also felt that further understanding of the implications was needed, and to that end Cllr. Foster would continue to attend the Joint Parish Council's meetings and Cllr. Turner would attend the meeting with Tony Baldry MP in March. The Council determined to keep an open mind at this point and to consider the issue again at its next meeting, in conjunction with its deliberations over Cherwell DC's Draft Core Strategy, of which it forms a part.

8. Village Matters

- a. Calor 'Village of the Year' competition- to review progress.

As previously recorded The Village of the Year competition will not run in 2010.

However consideration of it has led to discussions with LPFA concerning refurbishment of the Tennis Courts. Cllr Foster reported LPFA now have all the quotes required for the work and she will continue to support their efforts to attract funding.

- b. Speed recording devices – To review developments and consider a decision on funding.

The Council continues to await the outcome of the work done by the Neighbourhood Action Group (NAG) regarding the joint purchase of a device.

WPC Caroline Brown gave a detailed report on the results of Police activity, initiated by NAG, into the problems of parking and speeding in the village. She supported the Council's efforts to acquire, or gain access to, a Speed Recording Device.

Concerning parking, the Police had received 2 phone calls reporting issues over 9 months. In a 3 month period they had made 34 visits but observed no incidents.

Following a discussion about parking outside the Church, the Clerk was directed to enquire of Oxfordshire Highways if a section of highway could have a yellow line painted on it to create a passing place amidst the line of cars parked there at busy times.

Action Clerk

- c. Better warning of the hazard when approaching the School from Bicester Rd railway bridge. - To review feedback and propose action

WPC Brown gave a detailed report of speed monitoring operations. Amongst much other data, she pointed out that covert monitoring of speeds had identified that in Bicester Rd, between 7.30 and 8.45, only one vehicle was exceeding the speed limit whereas, in Blackthorn Rd, between 8.50 and 9.35, 21 of the vehicles leaving the village were travelling between 36 and 44 mph.

The culmination of all the data gathered had led her to the opinion that the problem in Bicester Rd was more perceived than actual, whereas a definite problem existed in Blackthorn Rd during rush hours.

After further discussion the Clerk was directed to request Oxfordshire Highways to consider moving the School warning sign further away from the 30mph indicator, to a location nearer the school.

Action Clerk

- d. ORCC Affordable Housing Survey – to review progress

The Clerk reported that Tom McCulloch of ORCC would make surveys available this month and provide an article for Launton Lines. Launton Lines Chairman has agreed to distribute the surveys.

9. Correspondence

- a. To discuss and, where necessary, decide upon a response to correspondence for consideration:
- i. ORCC – Contribution to 90th anniversary Book and questionnaire.
The Clerk offered to draft an article for ORCC and draft responses for the questionnaire. The Council authorised him to respond to ORCC on its behalf.
Action Clerk
 - ii. CDC – The Local Authorities (Members Allowance (England) Regulations 2003 (as amended) – Parish Allowances Scheme.
As in previous years, the council considered the report on the above scheme and decided not to pay the basic or enhanced allowances.
It did however, reserve the right to pay travel and subsistence allowances up to the amounts defined in the report
- Proposed:** Councillor Turner
All in favour.
- Seconded:** Councillor Stubbings
Motion carried.
- iii. CDC – Draft Core Strategy – A Public Consultation. The Cherwell Local Development Framework 22 February to 19 April 2010
The document is in circulation amongst Councillors and will be considered at its next meeting.
 - iv. CDC – Recycle with Spring Clean
The date for this year's Spring Clean Day was set as the 24th April commencing 2.00pm.
The Clerk to submit a request for supplies to CDC.
Action Clerk
- b. Correspondence received for information
- i. Energy Savings Trust – “Green Communities – helping you succeed with your community energy project.”
 - ii. CDC – timetable of meetings

10. Reports

- a. Chairman's Report
The Chairman reported, with regret, that he had been advised by Cllr Tutt of her intention to retire from office in the near future. He also reiterated earlier expressions of good wishes at Cllr O'Connor's return to service.
- b. Clerk's Report
The Clerk confirmed that in future, he would circulate his report to Councillors with their agenda copies and make copies available for the public at meetings.

11. Date of next meeting - Thursday 1st April 2010 Launton Parish Hall

The Meeting closed at 9.25pm.