

LAUNTON PARISH COUNCIL

Members of the Parish Council and the Parish Clerk had been available in Launton Parish 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. The formal meeting commenced at 7.30pm and 4 parishioners availed themselves of this opportunity.

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 3 APRIL 2008 AT 7.30PM IN LAUNTON PARISH HALL

Present: Councillors: Mr Simon Turner - Acting Chairman, Mrs Molly O'Connor, Mrs Audrey Tutt, Mr Howard Hill & Mr Roger Tomkins

In attendance: Mr Laurie Lee – Clerk

- 1 **To receive and accept apologies for absence** – Miss Beverley Byrne due to work commitments.
- 2 **Declaration of interest in items on the agenda** - None
- 3 **To confirm the minutes of the last meeting held on Thursday 6 March 2008.** The minutes were unanimously agreed as a true record and were signed by the Acting Chairman.

Proposed: Councillor Turner
All in favour

Seconded: Councillor Tutt
Motion carried

4 Finance

- a Expenditure for approval and payment in March 2008

101841	W Jeffries - Bus Shelter Clean	£80.30
101842	HMRC PAYE	£68.86
101843	L Lee	£259.94

Total Payments for March 2008 **£409.10**

All above cheques drawn on Barclays current account

Receipts

Bank of Ireland	Interest January	£ 79.84
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Total Receipts for February 2008 **£79.84**

Proposal to pay all expenditure -

Proposed: Councillor Turner
All in favour

Seconded: Councillor Hill
Motion carried

- b Current statements for bank accounts were circulated and accepted.

- c The Clerk proposed that Mr Ian Black conducted the Internal Audit this year.

Proposed: Councillor Turner
All in favour

Seconded: Councillor Hill
Motion carried

5

Planning

- a To discuss and decide on Planning Applications for consideration and confirmation

Application No: 08/00039/F – Amended Plans
Applicants Name: Mr J Connors
Proposal: Retrospective – Erection of double stable (with hard standing), new close-boarded fence & gate to existing field **and change of use of land for the keeping of horses** (as amended plans received 04/03/08)
Location: Land Adjoining & NE of Blackthorn Road, Launton
No objections & no observations
Proposed: Councillor Hill Seconded: Councillor Tomkins
All in favour Motion carried

b Planning Decisions

Application No: 08/00161/F
Applicants Name: K G Raynor
Proposal: Erection of smoking shelter- Retrospective
Location: The Black Bull, 52 West End, Launton
Result: Refused

Application No: 08/00111/F
Applicants Name: Mr & Mrs Ford-Langstaff
Proposal: Kitchen Extension & garage attic conversion
Location: Sherwood House, Bicester Road, Launton
Result: Approved subject to conditions.

Application No: 08/00074/F
Applicants Name: Mrs M Greuter
Proposal: Change of use from day nursery to residential.
Location: Toad Hall Day Nursery, 7 Chestnut Close, Launton
Result: Approved subject to conditions.

6 Cllr. Audrey Tutt

Cllr Tutt thanked the Council for granting her time to speak. She felt that there should be more opportunity to speak during meetings rather than in public participation before the meeting. She was also particularly concerned regarding the way planning applications are currently being handled. She felt that plans were sometimes passed despite objections or observations made by the PC. She was particularly concerned that applications had been granted for properties in obscure areas without due consideration being given to whether the drains could cope with the extra demands. In addition she was concerned that the use of some buildings was being changed without a 'Change of Use' application. She felt that the PC should make firmer statements to CDC to ensure our voice is heard. It was agreed that, in future, plans would be circulated before the PC meeting to give individual councillors time to give greater consideration

to the plans. It was also suggested a Planning Sub-Committee should be set up. A decision on this was deferred until after the forthcoming election. It was decided to invite Bob Duxbury (CDC Planning) to our June meeting. **Action Clerk**

7 Parish of Launton Elections -1 May 2008

7 Councillors are to be elected. Councillors were reminded an election will take place on 1 May if more than 7 valid nominations are received by 4 April. Nominations must be with Bodicote House by Noon tomorrow.

8 Annual Parish Meeting

The Annual Parish Meeting is now confirmed for Thursday 15 May at 7.30pm in the Parish Hall. A draft agenda was circulated for discussion. The finalised version will be sent out to the Parish societies together with an invitation to the meeting. Last Year's minutes were also circulated. **Action Clerk**

9 Village Issues

Allotments

CDC sent lease to Mr Deeley for his approval on 07 March.

Parish Hall

Cllrs Byrne & Turner attended a meeting with 3 members of the PCC on Friday 07 March. The meeting was constructive in that the PCC indicated they would be happy to consider granting a lease of 60 years (with option to renew) to a permanent organisation such as the PC. A rent in the region of £200 per annum was indicated. The PCC will not contribute to any legal costs incurred so these would all be paid for by the prospective Lessee. Cordelia Hall (Solicitor to the Diocese) estimated legal costs in the region of £3000.

Cllr Turner has established that CDC are able to provide grants of up to £10,000 subject to a maximum of 50% of costs, although this could rise to 75% where improvements are made to facilities for disabilities.

It has been established that Oxford County Council & OPFA may be jointly responsible for the driveway running past the Parish Hall to the playing field. This is to be confirmed.

The PCC have also advised that they will be carrying out some refurbishment & redecoration to the Hall in August. The question was raised as to what the Rateable status of the Hall would be?

Next meeting is 23 April, in the meantime Cllr. Turner is in touch with CDC & ORCC.

Affordable Housing

Nicola Ball is reconsidering options with CDC

10 Correspondence

To discuss and decide on response to correspondence for consideration: (Copies distributed)

- CDC – Local Development Framework Consultation (circulated separately last month) Comments by 7 April.
The Council wished to comment on the strip of land at Stratton Audley, near the airfield, where 14 Houses or a Hotel are

proposed. This is on the edge of a conservation area where priority has been given to keeping the vista of the flying field. It is complete conflict with RAF Bicester.

Proposed Cllr Tutt

Seconded Cllr O'Connor

All in favour.

Motion Passed **Action Clerk**

- Audit Commission – Appointment of BDO Stoy Hayward LLP as auditor
- TVP – Community Policing Awards deadline 18 April
Action Cllr Turner to put notices up
- CDC – Calendar of Meetings 2008/09
- Town & Parish Standard – Update
- Bomber Command Heritage – Plan circulated separately
Action Clerk to advise we will respond after May meeting.
- Tony Baldry MP – Letter re flooding
It was felt that whilst the Environment Agency & Highways had been contacted several times & indeed had been out to the sites in Station Road, they were not giving feedback to the PC on what action had been taken & what action they were still to take.
Action Clerk to write to EA & Highway requesting greater communication & feedback.
- Sacha Barnes Associates – Letter of Introduction
Action Clerk to invite to July meeting
- ORCC – Village of the Year Competition – 30 May 2008
Agreed to defer entering until next year.

To report correspondence received for information – Folder circulated

- CDC Standards Committee- Notice & Agenda
- Bucks. CC- Minerals & Waste Core Strategy Development Plan
- CDC- Local Development Framework Village Policy Workshop. Results of consultation event 29 January.
- CAG Oxfordshire- Newsletter
- Clerks & Councils Direct – March Newsletter
- Leadres Letter- Oxford County Council – **to be circulated.**

11 Reports

A Acting Chairman's Report

Cllr Turner gave feedback on the Environmental Strategy Consultation meeting he attended. He advised that they concentrated on tackling climate change & coping with it. There was also a presentation from Thames Valley Energy Centre.

b Clerk's Report

Flooding in Station Road – See above Re Tony Baldry.

Sherwood Close Grass Area – Should ball games be allowed bearing in mind the nearby playing fields, damage to plants & trespass on residents property. **Action Clerk to put on Agenda for next meeting.**

Road show Events- Communities Changing Places 19 April

OPFA Seminar 14 May – **Action Clerk to**

remind Launton Playing Fields Association

Mobile Library Service – New Timetables **Action Clerk to advise Launton Lines**

Cllr. O'Connor also requested we ask Launton Lines to put include another piece on increase in Dog poo in the parish.

Action Clerk

- c Report from Oxfordshire County Councillor for Launton - None
- d Report from Cherwell District Councillor for Launton - None

12 Next meeting (Annual Parish Council Meeting)
Thursday 08 May 2008 Launton Congregational Church

The meeting closed at 8.55pm