

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 **no** parishioners availed themselves of this opportunity.

Minutes of the Annual Parish Council meeting held on Thursday 8 May 2008 at 7.30pm In Launton Congregational Church

Present: Councillors: Mr Simon Turner - Acting Chairman, Mrs Audrey Tutt, Mrs Wendy Foster, Mr Howard Hill, Mr Roger Tompkins & Mr Ian Stubbings
In attendance: Mr Laurie Lee – Clerk

- 1 To receive and accept apologies for absence-** Mrs Molly O'Connor, due to illness
- 2 Election of Chairman** - Simon Turner was nominated
Proposed: Councillor Tompkins Seconded: Councillor Hill
All in favour Motion carried
- 3 Election of Vice-Chairman** – Audrey Tutt was nominated
Proposed: Councillor Tompkins Seconded: Councillor Turner
All in favour Motion carried
Acceptance of office declarations were signed by the Chairman, Vice-chairman & 4 members. Cllr. O'Connor to sign. **Action** Clerk
- 4 Register of Members Interests – to update.**
The register of interests was updated by those members re-elected excluding Cllr.O'Connor. There were no changes. The 2 newly elected members were given forms to complete & return. **Action** Clerk to ensure completed & forward to CDC.
- 5 To receive and accept any Declarations of Interest in items on the agenda-** None
- 6 To confirm the minutes from the meeting of Thursday 03 April 2008**
The minutes were unanimously agreed as a true record and were signed by the Chairman.
Proposed: Councillor Turner Seconded: Councillor Tutt
All in favour Motion carried
The minutes of Monday 21 April were unanimously agreed as a true record and were signed by the Chairman.
Proposed: Councillor Turner Seconded: Councillor Tompkins
All in favour Motion carried

7 Financial:
a Payments

101848	W Jeffries - Bus Shelter	£80.30
101849	HMRC PAYE	£11.20
101850	L Lee	£398.51
101851	Allianz Insurance PLC	£768.23
101852	M Dempsey- Grass cutting	£340.00

101853	OALC - Subscription	£206.75
Total Payments for May 2008		£1804.99

Receipts

Bank of Ireland	Interest April	£ 76.55
CDC	Precept 08 April	£6500.00

Total Receipts for April 2008 **£6576.55**
Proposed: Councillor Turner Seconded: Councillor Tutt
All in favour Motion carried

- b Bank Statements - unanimously approved.
c Draft accounts to 31 March 2008 for comments
The accounts were approved by the council & the Chairman signed the Statement of Accounts & the annual governance statement on the Annual return after noting that a risk assessment had not been carried out during the year. It was agreed to carry one out shortly. **Action** Clerk

Proposed: Councillor Turner Seconded: Councillor Hill
All in favour Motion carried

- d Renewal of Allianz Local Council Insurance Policy
Proposed: Councillor Tutt Seconded: Councillor
Stubblings
All in favour Motion carried

8 Planning

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

Application No: 08/00885/F
Applicants Name: Launton Settlement Trust
Proposal: Change of use of redundant agricultural building to house Biomass boiler & provide fuel storage. Infill block work & cladding to walls. New roller shutter doors & fire exit/personnel doors.
Location: Unit B10 Grange Farm, Station Road
The Parish Council raised no objections to the application but makes the following observations: The PC is concerned that there may be an excessive number of lorry deliveries which would effect the safety of local residents. Is it possible to restrict the number of delivery lorries?
Proposed: Councillor Foster Seconded: Councillor Turner
All in favour Motion carried

b Planning Decisions

Application No: 08/00305/F
Applicant: HERS Ltd
Proposal: Installation of 2000 litre above ground LPG tank
Location: Land NW of Launton House, West End, Launton
Result: Approved

Application No: 07/01518/OUT
Applicant: Mr & Mrs K Mitchell

Proposal: Outline – Detached three bedroom dwelling with detached double Garage / workshop (as amplified by additional plan received 30.08.08)

Location: Land between & to the rear of No.22 & No.26 West End, Launton

Appeal Reference: APP/C3105/A/07/2059976

Appeal Started: 26 November 2007

Result: Approved (Reasons circulated)

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

Result: Approved subject to conditions

- 9 **Annual Parish Meeting** - Thursday 15 May at 7.30pm in Parish Hall
The new Chairman would provide a Chairman's report. **Action ST**

10 **Village Issues**

Sherwood Close Grass Area – No Ball Games sign?

After discussion it was agreed that this area was too small for ball games, which also resulted in damage to plants. There is alternative playing space at Launton Playing Fields & the council would like to encourage them to publicise this. It was therefore proposed to put up a 'No ball games' sign but only after the public had been advised through Launton Lines. **Action Clerk**

Proposed: Councillor Tompkins Seconded: Councillor Foster
All in favour Motion carried

Allotments

Lease not approved by Mr Deeley. Unfortunately, Mr Deeley had not agreed to the terms of the lease. The Chairman & Vice-Chairman will contact Mr Deeley to progress matters. **Action ST & AT**

Parish Hall - New representative required.

Update from meeting of Wednesday 23 April

As Bev Byrne would no longer be a Parish Councillor the meeting with the PCC was postponed. Simon Turner had heard from ORCC who had confirmed that their Village Halls Officer would be happy to work with us & assist legally. They have a model agreement which they suggested we might use. This would cost us £10.00.

Proposed: Councillor Stubbings Seconded: Councillor Hill
All in favour Motion carried

We are aware that the PCC expect the Parish Council to pay all legal & profession fees & it was proposed that we set aside £3000 + Vat for this purpose. If this sum was insufficient the position would be reviewed at that time.

Proposed: Councillor Turner Seconded: Councillor Tompkins
All in favour Motion carried

Mains Gas - Is there demand in Launton?

Simon Turner had received a call from Dave Kellerher of British Gas to ask the PC's assistance in ascertaining demand for gas in Launton.

Action ST to go back to British Gas for more information before we ask the village.

Affordable Housing Nicola Ball is reconsidering options with CDC –
Action Clerk to chase

Drainage/ Flooding Station Road – Tony Baldry MP letter

This issue was partially covered in the Oxfordshire County Councillors Report (see below). The clerk advised he had written to The Environment Agency & Oxfordshire Highways but had not had a response. **Action Clerk** to chase.

It was pointed out that in parts of the village rainwater drains directly into the sewerage. **Action Clerk** to check with Thames Water that the sewer system has the capability to cope with this.

11 Correspondence

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

- Bomber Command Heritage – Plan circulated separately
The PC thought the plan was well thought out although would have been more professional if it had been proof read for errors. The PC will write to re-iterate its support. **Action Clerk**
- Neighbourhood Action Group (letter re speeding & graffiti)
This letter provoked much discussion & it was proposed to invite Lesley Thompson & WPC Brown to come to a meeting to discuss further. **Action Clerk**
- Thames & Chiltern in Bloom Association-Awards 2008
It was agreed not to proceed this year. **Action ST** to raise at APM
- OCC – Consultation on Bus Strategy –Circulated separately
Deadline 06 June 2008 **Action Clerk** Respond after next meeting

To report correspondence received for information – Folder circulated

- Volunteer Centre – 3 flyers
- OPFA- Spring 2008 Newsletter
- Caring Matters Spring Newsletter
- CDC- Recycling at events-New Neighbourhood phone numbers.
- SEERHB- Housing needs strategy 2008-2011
- The Leader of OCC – Letter
- CDC-Revised Calendar of meetings

12 Reports

a) Chairman's Report

ST thanked the Council for electing him as Chairman. He will attempt to ensure that our meetings are kept flowing. Clerk to write a note of thanks to Bev Byrne for all her work as Chairman & to write a note of thanks to Stan Archer for his

many years service to the Council. It was agreed to send Bev a bouquet of flowers. **Action Clerk**

b) Clerk's Report – None

c) Report from Oxfordshire County Councillor for Launton
This item was brought forward on the agenda & took place after item 6 on the agenda. Cllr. Fulljames was welcomed to the meeting. She gave her apologies for next week's APM, and spoke about The Leader of Oxfordshire County Council's letter, which contained 4 main points.

- Council Tax – Our increase was one of the lowest in SE England
- Post Office closures – The County is supporting the campaign to keep PO's open. We were advised that Essex was considering taking over those PO's in danger.
- County waste levels – These remain too high. A tender recently went out for installation of incinerators. There are possibly 2 sites in the county, Ardley & Sutton Courtenay. A decision on which one will be taken in autumn when a formal planning application will be submitted. Cllr. Fulljames asked for her thanks to be passed on to our Parishioners for their recycling efforts.
- Eco-town – Weston is included in the shortlist of 15 of which it is proposed that 10 will be built. This is for 15000 houses (35000 people) similar size to Bicester. CDC has rejected the idea of an eco-town

Cllr. Fulljames was thanked for attending & was advised that the major concern was that of drainage/flooding - this was a problem all over Launton & neither the Environment Agency nor the County Council seemed to be taking this seriously. Specific locations were advised - Station Road, Blackthorn Road, Skinner Road & Ancil Close. She promised to follow this up & was provided with copy correspondence from residents of Sharpes Cottages together with copies of the Clerks letters to OCC & EA **Action County Cllr & Clerk** to follow up.

The PC expressed concern over lorries using Blackthorn Road despite weight restrictions. Cllr. Fulljames would be happy to take phone calls (343247) giving full details of incidents, time of day, direction of travel, registration number, name of company, and pass to Trading Standards, alternatively contact Trading Standards direct.

Action ST to obtain Trading Standards details.

d) Report from Cherwell District Councillor for Launton –
None - Cllr. Hughes is currently ill.

13 Next meeting Thursday 05 June 2008 Launton Parish Hall

The meeting closed at 9.50pm.

