

OLD MILVERTON AND BLACKDOWN JOINT PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON MONDAY, 6TH. OCTOBER 2014 AT OLD MILVERTON VILLAGE HALL

PRESENT: Councillors J.M.Lander (in the Chair), J.Emmerson, Mrs. L.Keeling and Mrs.A.Kelsey; County Councillor W. Redford; and District Councillors J.Hammon and N.Pratt.

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE: None.

NOT IN ATTENDANCE: Councillor Ms. S. Hinton

1570. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

The minutes of the meeting held on 1st. September 2014 were approved, and were signed by the Chairman.

1571. MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

(a). The need to clear the ditches in Church Lane and Old Milverton Road was being monitored. The agents, Godfrey-Payton, had instructed a ditching contractor.

(d). The local Police (Warwick Rural East at Kenilworth) had indicated that training for the use of a speed gun, which could be in the evening or at a weekend and would last for some 2.5 hours, would be supplied by either the Camera Enforcement Team or one of the Police's authorised trainers at no cost. There must be a maximum of 6 trainees and while the camera is in use, at least 3 trained members of the team must be on duty. Reflective jackets could be purchased at most outlets to the required British Standard. Warning signs to a given specification, had to be displayed. The Police were unaware of any Parish Councils operating the scheme, apart from Kenilworth Town, in which Parish Councillors and local residents, security vetted by Warwickshire Police, could participate. Parish Councillors would attempt to draw up a list of those interested in making up a team.

(e). Cllr. Mrs. Keeling had made contact with the Old Leamingtonians Rugby Club, whose representative had indicated that its aspiration was to install a Bericote Road footpath from Stoneleigh Road roundabout to the Helen Lay area, initially along the highway, and thereafter along the inside of the boundaries of the various prosperities. She would provide the Clerk with the appropriate contact to enable him to make contact and to clarify how the matter might proceed.

(f). The Highways Engineer had reported that the clearing of the foot ways in Sandy Lane, Blackdown, had been partly completed and the remainder was to be undertaken soon.

(g). The grant application for the provision of replacement noticeboards had been forwarded to the Community Forum Grant Fund Rural East and was expected to be considered by the Eastern Area Team at its meeting on 16 October 2014 which would be attended by Cllr. Mrs. Kelsey and the Clerk.

1572. WARWICK DISTRICT LOCAL PLAN

Likely Gipsy and Traveller sites were being announced, but there appeared to be no progress on Park and Ride sites. The Inspector's Report on the Gateway Inquiry was expected from mid-January onwards, after which there would be an interval for its consideration by the Government. For the first time, it was indicated that a Review of the Green Belt was to be undertaken and the Clerk was asked to request details of this from Warwick District Council

1573. OLD MILVERTON AND BLACKDOWN NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

The Old Milverton and Blackdown Neighbourhood Plan awaited decisions on any boundary changes for Old Milverton Parish, now deferred to Warwick District Council's Licensing and Regulatory Committee on Tuesday, 21st. October 2014.

1574. PARISH COUNCIL WEBSITE

Following an earlier discussion, it was agreed to commission Sandra Robinson of 3 Pinewood Grove, Solihull B91 3HN (tel. 07090 522 125 (mobile) or 0121 603 2460) to install a Parish Council, website at £200-£300 for its development, ongoing support at £10 per hour, £10-£15 to register the domain name (thereafter incurring a bi-annual fee for its retention and £50-£80 per annum for hosting. No monthly retainer would be charged. A preferred list of contents was provided on the understanding that details would be forwarded as they became available.

1575. BROADBAND CONSULTATION

In response to an invitation by CSW Broadband, the Parish Council, had submitted its observations on Broadband in the area. Residents had reported very variable download speeds and loss of service, notably with streaming capability insufficient to reliably provide High Definition film downloads. As immediate neighbours to the parishes were receiving super fast broadband speeds in excess of 24Mbps, it was hoped that the autumn roll-out programme would extend to our parishes where provision had been made for fibre optic broadband cable and cabinets. Although the area was rural and not densely populated, it already supported at least 20 businesses plus sports complexes and an increasing number of residents working from home. This created a demand for high speed broadband which should be of material interest to Information Service Providers. News of progress in the area was requested, so that residents might be informed as to the precise circumstances our parishes face.

1576. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

The following planning applications, previously circulated, were noted:

W14/0577 Chesford Bridge House, Bericote Road, Blackdown

New highway access with secure gates and wing wall

WITHDRAWN.

W14/0609 Land off Bericote Road, Blackdown

Development of all weather hockey pitch and accessories including clubhouse

GRANTED (The Khalsa Hockey Club Secretary had contacted the Parish Council with assurances that the Club wished to meet the requirements it had set out and that it hoped to establish and maintain an amicable working relationship).

W14/1024 Quarry Cottage, Old Milverton Lane, Old Milverton

Side and rear single storey extensions and 2 new porches

WITHDRAWN (Parish Councillors had previously been on a site visit by invitation of the new freeholder to have the proposals described first hand).

W14/1327 Ramada Hotel, Blackdown

Change of use of land to extend car park and ancillary works.

OBSERVATIONS: No objection.

1577. CORRESPONDENCE AND ANNOUNCEMENTS.

(a). In response to an invitation from the Local Government Boundary Commission to submit views on its Electoral Review of Warwickshire the Parish Council had reiterated its previous views that it remained strongly in favour of the status quo, since local residents were broadly familiar with the existing arrangements, and it wished to maintain the rural nature of its

Cubbington division and did not want it to be subsumed within an adjoining urban ward. The Councillor for Cubbington should be aware of the need to protect the countryside and if the division included part of the area of the Royal Leamington Spa, this issue would almost certainly be diluted (ref. Parish Council meeting 19th. May 2014, minute 1537).

(b). Cllr. Mrs. Kelsey had followed up the possibility of siting the old “Man Traps” notice in the Village Hall and would continue to monitor the matter.

1578. APPROVAL OF ACCOUNTS

Specified accounts were approved for payment.

1579. ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING

Lamp posts in Old Milverton village had been painted to a poor standard, which the Clerk was asked to draw to the attention of the authorities.

1580. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

None

CHAIRMAN