Minutes of the Fifth Ordinary meeting of the Parish Council held on Monday 18th September 2017 at 7.30pm at Blunsdon Village Hall.

Present: Cllrs Jankinson, Boyd, Ainscow, Collingwood, Compton, Keates, Morris, Rogers, Selwood and

Tayler.

Apologies: None.

53.   DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

        Cllr Compton declared an interest in application S/HOU/17/1493 as neighbour of site.

The meeting was taken into Recess and Cllr Jankinson welcomed John Stooke.  Mr Stooke advised he was keen to secure the Heart in Hand as an Asset of Community Value which would mean several benefits to help protect it; the Landlord supported this; CAMRA could not apply to SBC for this but PC could; he would forward more information on application process for consideration at next main meeting.

54. MINUTES  OF  THE  FOURTH  ORDINARY  MEETING

     Proposed by Cllr Boyd, seconded by Cllr Compton, all agreed they be accepted as a true record.

55. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

1. Bus Stops in Sam’s Lane – email from Nigel Hale, SBC, confirmed need for remedial works; he

asked if PC would pay, he has since been advised that SBC were expected to pay.

1. Blunsdon Village Map – new road names being added.
2. Widhill Lane - Cllr Compton advised that times, dates and vehicle registrations had been passed to

Police who had attended meeting with residents.

1. Ermin Street/Turnpike Road - results of speed sensors were being reviewed; mitigation works for

Ermin Street to be discussed.

      f) Methodist Church - proposal sent for consideration and response expect mid October.  SBC had

           advised that potential car parking area opposite the Church was SBC owned but PC’s

          responsibility; consent would be required from SBC; no response to query on provision of car

          park at rear of Church hall with access from Berton Close.

      g)  Notification of applications going to SBC Planning Cttee would be emailed in future.

      h)  S/17/0863 - objections and reasons submitted.

      i)   Proposed meeting with SBCllr Toby Elliott -  no response to Cllr Jankinson’s or SBCllr

            Weisinger’s requests; reported to SBCllr Renard who disciplined SBCllr Elliott and email now

            received.

     j)    Tadpole Rise signs - still not removed and Cllr Jankinson to chase up.

     k)    Village Hall insulation - no grant available from SBC as not a residential building; advice

             sought from VAS.

      l)    RCC - it was understood there had been a further breach of confidentiality by St Andrew’s PC

            chair.

      m)  1 Kingsdown Lane - new soakaway installed.

      n)     Planning training - some PCllrs to attend; Code of Conduct training to be arranged.

56. FINANCE

a)   Cllr Compton proposed, all agreed, payments 66 - 83 totalling £23,532.95 and receipts 74 -84  totalling

£23,727,24 be approved.

b)    RFO reported on issues with Hall rent to Trustees of Former Church of England School;

annual invoices had been requested in future; Church treasurer had advised that payment of grant

towards Hall kitchen works should not have been made and refund may be requested.

c)    New tap installed by Centraheat and new parts for removed tap to be retained as spares.

d)    HMRC had imposed penalty of £100 for late submission of pay details; RFO had challenged as terms

had been met.

e)    Certificate of Burial in Perpetuity signed for David Cowling.

57. PLANNING  DECISIONS  ADVISED  BY  SWINDON

     S/HOU/17/1120:   Conversion of garage into habitable space

     At: 34 Loveridge Close, Upper Stratton, Swindon, SN2 7DU

     Planning Permission granted with conditions.

     S/HOU/17/1190: Erection of a summerhouse

     At:   The Old Rectory, Burytown Lane, Blunsdon

     Planning Permission granted with conditions.

     S/OUT/17/0228:  Outline application for one residential unit

     At: Fairview, Kingsdown Lane, Blunsdon

      Application withdrawn.

58.  PLANNING APPLICATIONS DEPOSITED FOR COMMENT

      S/HOU/17/1385:   Erection of a single storey rear extension

      At:                         4 The Ridge, Blunsdon.

      Cllr Compton declared an interest; remainder of PC supported as unaware of any planning reasons to

object.

      S/HOU/17/0528:  Erection of 54 dwellings, including access, car parking, landscaping, open space,

                                  children’s play area and associated works

      At:                       Land at Holdcroft, Broadbush,  Blunsdon.

      PC strongly opposed for several reasons, including high density of approx 27 DPH as opposed to 6

      in Beech Lea and 15-17 in Sutton Park; contrary to various Local Plan policies.

      S/AGRI/17/1442:   Prior approval notification for erection of an agricultural building

      At:                         Home Farm, 51 High Street, Blunsdon.

      PC agreed to raise no objections but comment that there had been no agricultural use of the site for

      decades and building may be for other uses.

      S/17/1482:     Erection of a concrete batching plant with associated aggregate storage area, HGV

                             parking spaces, office hut and welfare hut and new vehicular access - variation of

                             condition 3 of permission S/14/2100 regarding opening hours.

      At:                  Vehicle storage site, 21 Turnpike Road, Blunsdon

      PC agreed to object as original conditions were valid and made for good reasons; earlier starts

      would have negative impact on nearby residents; consent could lead to vehicles arriving prior to

      7am and queueing.

      S/HOU/17/1493: Erection of two storey rear extension and pitched roof to existing dormer window

      At:                   The Cedars, Widhill Lane, Blunsdon.

      PC agreed that comments of objection to previous application, which was refused on appeal, still

      applied; negative impact on neighbouring property due to significant loss of natural light.

      S/HOU/17/1516:  Erection of a two storey side and single storey rear extension

      At:                    32 Loveridge Close, Upper Stratton, Swindon.

     PC agreed to object as appeared to be no change to previous application; loss of garage and green

     space, change to street scene.

59.  PARISH  INFRASTRUCTURE

     PCllrs agreed requirements for village in view of major developments:

     a) major improvements to Cold Harbour junction (additional lane to A419 slip road);

     b) “Village access only” signs.

     c) Ermin Street – safe pedestrian crossings by Newlands and Hills developments.

     d) Ermin Street – improved drainage, particular by parking pull-in on eastern side.

     e) Resurfacing of pavements throughout village.

     f) Enlarged school.

     g) Improved public transport.

     These would be discussed at meetings with SBCllr Toby Elliot and Simon Ashford.

     Cllr Jankinson queried implementation of traffic order to narrow entrance at Hillside site.

60. NEIGHBOURHOOD  PLAN

      Cllr Jankinson reported that Village Design Guide and Landscape Value Impact Assessments were

       progressing; four local developers had offered sites for assessment and professional person

       appointed to carry out.

61.  FREQUENCY  OF   MEETINGS

      Cllrs agreed to hold additional meeting on first Monday of each month for planning applications

       and parish matters only, if required.  Cllrs to be informed if no meeting necessary, otherwise

       agenda to be issued in usual way.  PCllrs to ensure they read minutes prior to meeting to save time

       on matters arising.

62.   VILLAGE  MAGAZINE

      Cllr Boyd reported that the editor had indicated the Magazine would not be delivered to new

      housing in the village; there were financial constraints; the committee would be meeting on 19th

      September to discuss.  Cllrs agreed it should be distributed to all village households and Cllr

      Jankinson to attend meeting.  A total of 1,000 copies would be needed.  Information on community

      printing had been passed to committee for consideration.  Cllr Selwood offered to canvas potential

      advertisers if that would help.

63. CORRESPONDENCE

     Received:

     a) Local Council Update 210

     b)  Notice of “Flog It” to be filmed in Chippenham.

     c)  Hills - In Touch Magazine.

     d)   The Clerk, SLCC magazine

     e)  Local Council Review Autumn 2017.

     f)  Emails:   SBC Winter Service Review - Blunsdon Hill planned to be removed from gritting - PC

                                    objected in view of traffic use;

                         Rose Irwin, Widhill Lane, complaint re erection of motorcycle barriers, one on the

                             Lane, not on Hills site; Cllrs Jankinson and Compton to attend meeting with

                             Highways England rep on 19th September.

      Contact details for St Andrew’s PC to be circulated to all PCllrs.

64. COMMITTEE  REPORTS

1. Village Hall -  Chubb Fire inspection carried out and new equipment advised for office area in view of electrical items.  To be queried as two extinguishers were there.  Newly painted walls were marked already following Scouts Group use.  Cars from 26 High Street were being left in Hall car park and letter be sent, notes could be placed under car windscreens of other offending vehicles.
2. Recreation Areas - Cllrs discussed issue of transfer of open space on Hills site as “soakaway” located under it and this would be responsibility of SBC.  Cllrs agreed to transfer of whole site subject to there being no obligation to maintain any part of the “soakaway” or cover; a sum of £25,000 was due for ongoing maintenance of the open space.

           Play area inspection carried out and generally low risk, other than problem at top of monkey

            bars (Mark Jones asked to look at), and slide panels which were both medium risk.  Quote for

           new panels £2,200+; it was possible wooden panels could be made locally and enquiries to be

           made; price for new toddler slide awaited.

           Report of barbed wire in bushes at Recreation Ground being investigated.

     c)   Grounds maintenance -  Cllr Jankinson and the Clerk had met with contractor and several issues

            resolved; Arkwright Road, Groundwell had been added to route, agreed to accept quote of £50

           to add annual shrub maintenance to space adjacent to 41 Loveridge Close, Churchway areas

           added at £30 per cut.  Clerk to write to residents of Hillside Way reminding them of

           responsibility to maintain vegetation of verge opposite their homes, any overhanging bushes to be

cut back from roadside within 28 days.

65.   PARISH  MATTERS

     a) Cllr Compton reported there would be a WALC(SAC) meeting on 21st September; Cllr

          Jankinson also to attend.

     b)  Cllr Compton queried delays in completing car parking area on Ermin Street.

c)  Cllr Compton reported Stadium market stallholders were concerned that facility may not

           continue; it was rumoured that revised plans may have to be submitted for Stadium due to

           flooding issues.

d)  Cllr Ainscow reported parking on pavements, corners, verges etc by those attending Blunsdon

          FC matches.

     e)   Cllr Ainscow reported obscured sight lines at Sams Lane/Broadbush corner - Paul Schofield to

           be asked to cut back.

     f)    Cllr Ainscow reported works at 16 Sutton Park were now completed; no response from SBC

            Planning as to whether consent was required.

      g)  Cllr Ainscow gave his apologies for absence for meeting on 16th October.

      h)   Cllr Rogers had noted increased traffic from Highworth using Blunsdon Hill/Tadpole Garden

           Village route, thus slightly reducing flows on Cold Harbour junction.

1. Cllr Rogers reported flooding at bottom of Highworth hill.
2. Cllr Boyd requested removal of old table and dustbin from rear of Village Hall.
3. Cllr Jankinson reported on response from residents of 20 High Street regarding overgrown shrubs - they would be removed when possible.

      l)   Cllr Jankinson advised SBC’s consultation on consultation would be on agenda for meeting on

           16th October.

     m)   Cllr Jankinson reminded PCllrs of NALC conference on 30/31 October if anyone wished to attend.

     n)   Cllr Jankinson advised all Hall groups had been informed of access arrangements during

            Pre-School.

     o)  Cllr Jankinson reported that a letter had been sent to Highways England expressing concern that

          they had not objected to local developments even though increased vehicle numbers created

          impact on A419 junctions.  Cllr Rogers advised that BAG’s submission on A419 was not

          referred to in Local Plan hearing reports.

      p)  Cllrs considered request to name roads at Hillside to commemorate the late Mike Ockwell’s

           passion for vintage tractors (he owned land there); several names were suggested.  As road

           names had already been allocated Cllrs agreed to name open space “Titan Meadow” and sign to

           be erected once adoption completed.

66. SUMMONS TO ATTEND NEXT MEETING

Cllrs were summoned to attend the next meetings: Mondays 2nd October and 16th October at 7.30pm, at

Blunsdon Village Hall.

There being no further business the Chairman declared the meeting closed.

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                                                                                                                  Chairman, 16th October 2017