

# BLACKWELL PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Annual Parish Council Meeting of the Blackwell Parish Council held at Hilcote Community Centre, New Street, Hilcote on Monday 14 May 2007 at 7.00 p.m.

## **PRESENT**

Councillors D G B Bullock: I G Cox: D Hemingray: J Lomas: C R Moesby: I J A Newham: R J Sainsbury: A F Tomlinson: Mrs P R Wilkinson and N J B Willens.

## **22/2007 ALSO PRESENT**

PCSO Clare Pass, Derbyshire Constabulary and twenty four Parishioners.

In the absence of the outgoing Chairman former Councillor Mrs C Munks, Councillor A F Tomlinson opened the Meeting.

Councillor Tomlinson thanked outgoing Council Members for all their hard work and effort they had given in the last four years for the residents of the Parish of Blackwell.

He also thanked the outgoing Chairman, former Councillor Mrs C Munks, for her financial success regarding the complete rebuilding of the Hilcote Community Centre.

## **23/2007 ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN**

Proposed by Councillor I J A Newham and seconded by Councillor Mrs P R Wilkinson that Councillor D G B Bullock be elected Chairman of Blackwell Parish Council for the year 2007/2008.

Councillor D G B Bullock in the Chair and he signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office.

Councillor Bullock also thanked former Chairman Mrs Clare Munks and all outgoing Council Members for all their work on behalf of the residents of the Parish of Blackwell.

## **24/2007 ELECTION OF VICE-CHAIRMAN**

Proposed by Councillor Mrs P R Wilkinson and seconded by Councillor I G Cox that Councillor N J B Willens be elected Vice-Chairman of the Blackwell Parish Council for the year 2007/2008.

Councillor N J B Willens signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office.

## **25/2007 NEWTON/BLACKWELL ALLOTMENT AND LEISURE GARDENERS ASSOCIATION**

**RESOLVED** Councillor N J B Willens be the Councils representative on the Newton/Blackwell Allotment and Leisure Gardeners Association.

**26/2007 DECLARATION OF ACCEPTANCE OF OFFICE**

The Chairman of the Council, Councillor D G B Bullock welcomed all Members of the Council and invited them to sign their Declaration of Acceptance of Office.

**27/2007 OPEN FORUM**

**Mrs L Hounsell, Newton** asked Council Members if action could be taken to stop fly tipping on an area of land, thought to be owned by Derbyshire County Council, opposite St Werburghs Church, Old Blackwell.

It was agreed the Clerk contact the Highways Department, Derbyshire County Council to ascertain the ownership of the land concerned.

Mrs Housell further asked if there was any further information with regard to the proposed Children's Centre at Blackwell/Newton Community Centre.

She was advised by the Chairman there was an Agenda item for this matter to be discussed later in the Meeting.

**Mrs D Price, Hilcote** requested consideration be given to removing weeds etc. from the Council owned bus shelter at Hilcote Lane, Hilcote.

It was agreed this be dealt with as soon as possible.

**Mrs D Willens, Newton Community Association** thanked all outgoing Council Members for the support which they had given towards the establishment of the Association and of the financial assistance that had been given towards various projects within the village of Newton.

**Mrs C Bush, Blackwell** advised Council Members that the new shed which had been erected for the Blackwell Parent and Toddler Group adjacent to Blackwell Community Centre had been broken into and would the Council consider providing a security light.

Mrs Bush was informed by the Clerk that a security light was in place and in working order.

Following a suggestion from Councillor A F Tomlinson, it was agreed to request the Bolsover District Council Ranger Service and the Police to regularly patrol the area.

**Mr A Mumford, Newton** requested that additional speed restrictions be installed on Hall Lane (outside Newton Primary School) to slow down speeding motorists at that location.

Councillor C R Moesby, in his capacity as County Councillor, advised Mr Mumford he would speak with the Highways Engineer, Derbyshire County Council regarding Mr Mumford's concerns and advise him accordingly.

**Mr R Key, Newton**, advised Council Members that the as yet unopened Teversal Link to the Five Pits Trail at Newton was being used by motorists/motor cyclists etc.

Police Community Support Officer, Clare Pass, Derbyshire Constabulary, informed Mr Key the Police were aware of the situation and a joint operation to combat the problem was imminent involving the Police and the Ranger Service, Derbyshire County Council.

**28/2007 POLICE MATTERS**

Police Support Community Officer, Clare Pass, Derbyshire Constabulary, attended the Meeting and advised Council Members:

1. Crime Figures for the Parish of Blackwell to 30 April 2007.
2. An additional Police Community Support Officer, Liz Revill had also been appointed together with PC Amanda Clark who was Beat Manager for the area.

**RESOLVED** that PCSO Clare Pass be thanked for her attendance and report.

**29/2007 COUNTY COUNCILLOR C R MOESBY**

County Councillor Clive Moesby advised Council Members:

1. His non-attendance at any of the Public Consultation Meetings with regard to the proposed establishment of Children's Centre at either Blackwell or Newton Community Centre. This was in keeping with a Code of Recommended Practice issued by the Secretary of State in 2001 which said "that in attending such an event in an area for which the Councillor is a candidate that the resources of the County Council are being used for electioneering for the District and Parish Councils. In light of this it is recommended that participation in such events is declined for the Purdah period".
2. The provision of a pedestrian crossing at High Street, Tibshelf in connection with the Five Pits Trail.
3. Shipley Park Visitor Centre, events which had been organised for 2007, information could be obtained on 01773 719961.
4. Bolsover Food and Drink Festival, Bolsover Castle, 19/20 May 2007.
5. The Annual General Meeting of Derbyshire County Council was held on 25 April 2007 and Councillor Moesby had been appointed Cabinet Member for Community Safety.

**RESOLVED** County Councillor Clive Moesby be thanked for his report.

**30/2007 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Mrs S A Gray and E P Newell.

**31/2007 CODE OF CONDUCT OF REGISTER OF MEMBERS  
INTEREST/HOSPITALITY REGISTER**

The Chairman of the Council, Councillor D G Bullock, reminded Council Members of the principals of those holding public office which were selflessness, integrity, objectivity, accountability, openness, honesty, leadership and these principles form part of the new ethical framework guidance issued by the Standards Board for England. The Chairman also reminded Council Members that Members must, within twenty-eight days of receiving any gift or hospitality or materials, benefits or advantage over the value of £25.00 relating to or arising out of their position as a Member, provide written notification to the District of Bolsover Monitoring Officer of the existence and nature of that gift or hospitality, material, benefit or advantage.

**32/2007 MINUTES**

The Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 2 April 2007 were approved and signed as a correct record.

**33/2007 HILCOTE ENVIRONMENTAL AND LEISURE PROJECT (HELP)**

The Chairman welcomed to the Meeting Mr M Davis, who advised Council Members that a number of residents from the village of Hilcote had formed themselves in to the Hilcote Environmental and Leisure Project.

He further advised Council Members that a successful "Litter Pick" had been held and he thanked the District Council Members for their assistance in clearing away all the bagged rubbish.

The Chairman advised Mr Davis he would be invited to the September Meeting of the Council to give a progress report on the activities of the Leisure Project.

**34/2007 CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

1. The Chairman reported an invitation had been received to celebrate the official launch of Community Voluntary Partners at Langwith Bassett Community Hall, Upper Langwith on 16 May 2007.

**RESOLVED** that Councillor N J B Willens be authorized to attend the official launch of the Community Voluntary Partners.

2. The Clerk reported that the Community Voluntary Partners bus would be in the Car Park at Blackwell Community Centre on 15 May 2007 from 1.00 p.m. – 3.00 p.m.

Councillor A F Tomlinson expressed concern that no publicity material had been received from Community Voluntary Partners with regard to the bus being at Blackwell Community Centre.

Following a request from the Chairman of the Council the Clerk agreed to contact Community Voluntary Partners to ascertain the availability of the bus for the annual Newton Carnival.

**35/2007 ALLOTMENTS**

There were no reports with regard to Allotments.

**36/2007 HIGHWAYS**

The Clerk reported receipt of a letter from Severn Trent Water Limited and his subsequent telephone conversation with them regarding water leaks along Alfreton Road, Newton/Blackwell. Several Council Members commented that the said water leaks had all now been dealt with.

Following a request from Councillor Mrs P R Wilkinson

**RESOLVED** the Clerk write to the Highways Engineer, Derbyshire County Council, requesting a traffic census be carried out at Tibshelf Road/Alfreton Road, Westhouses.

Councillor I G Cox expressed concern with regard to the siting of the pedestrian crossing at the junction of Main Street/Littlemoor Lane, Newton.

**RESOLVED** the Clerk write to the Highways Engineer, Derbyshire County Council requesting his views with regard to the pedestrian crossing at the junction of Littlemoor Lane/Main Street, Newton.

**37/2007 PLAYING FIELDS**

The Clerk reported for information there was still some minor work to be carried out at the Bamford Street Play Area, Newton by the Contractors Groundwork Creswell but it was anticipated the Play Area would be open in time for the Spring Bank Holiday.

The Clerk also reported that following reports from local residents, and after consulting the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Council, arrangements had been made for the demolition of the vandalised Sports Pavilion at Tibshelf Road Playing Field, Westhouses by R B Allfree and Company Limited.

**RESOLVED** the Clerks action be approved.

**38/2007 FOOTPATHS**

The Clerk reported for information receipt of two letters from the Public Rights of Way Officer, Derbyshire County Council advising the Council:

1. Proposed temporary stopping up of Public Footpath Number 1 for a period of six months to enable Shires Developments Limited to extract minerals and carry out any necessary related works within the vicinity known as the Engine House Site, Westhouses.

2. The proposed permanent diversion of Public Footpath Number 9 to enable Shire Developments Limited to extract minerals and carry out any necessary related operations on the Engine House Site, Westhouses.

**RESOLVED** that both letters be noted.

Following a request from Councillor I G Cox

**RESOLVED** the Clerk contact the Footpaths Officer, Derbyshire County Council with regard to the possibility of barriers being erected on the Public Footpath 15 at its junction with Littlemoor Lane, Newton.

### **39/2007 ACCOUNTS**

The Clerk submitted a list of accounts for payment totaling £23,193.14 and it was agreed that these be paid.

The Clerk also furnished for Members information

1. Copy of the Councils reconciliation statement
2. Copy of the Councils Audit Form confirming the Councils current financial position.

The foregoing documents conform to the Accounts and Audit Regulations 2003 (SI No. 553).

### **40/2007 BOLSOVER LOCAL STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP**

The Clerk reported the next Bolsover Local Strategic Partnership and Parish Council Liaison Meeting would be held at Whaley Thorns Village Hall, Portland Road, Whaley Thorns on 15 May 2007.

**RESOLVED** Councillor N J B Willens be the Councils representative at the Bolsover Local Strategic Partnership and Parish Council Liaison Meeting to be held at Whaley Thorns Village Hall, Portland Road, Whaley Thorns on 15 May 2007.

### **41/2007 DERBYSHIRE ASSOCIATION OF LOCAL COUNCILS**

The Clerk reported receipt of the following Derbyshire Association of Local Councils Circulars:

1. 10/2007 – Model Contract of Employment.
2. 11/2007 – Training
3. 12/2007 –General Circular – Section 137 Monies.

### **42/2007 QUALITY PARISH AND TOWN COUNCIL SCHEME**

1. Councillor I J A Newham reported for information he was continuing to redesign the Councils Web Site and anticipated giving an up to date report at the next Meeting.
2. Following a report from the Clerk, it was agreed the Chairman of the Council produce the next Council Newsletter.

#### **43/2007 PLANS**

The following Plans were submitted and determined as indicated:

1. Mr B Mills, 37 Alfreton Road, Newton – replacement of flat roof with a pitched roof to dormer – **no objections.**
2. Briar Estates Limited, South Wingfield – erection of one 2-storey dwelling land to east side of 26 Alfreton Road, Newton – **no objections.**

#### **44/2007 BLACKWELL/NEWTON COMMUNITY CENTRES**

1. The Clerk reported receipt of a report from Derbyshire County Council following its Public Consultation with local residents regarding the possible establishment of a Children's Centre at either Blackwell or Newton Community Centre which conclusively indicated that Blackwell Community Centre was the resident's choice for the possible establishment of a Children's Centre.
2. The Clerk also reported a letter had been received from Mrs K Childs, Blackwell Parent and Toddler Group also supporting the siting of a Children's Centre at Blackwell Community Centre.
3. A letter was also received from Councillor Mrs S A Gray who indicated she had spoken with a number of residents within the Parish Blackwell, all of whom had indicated that the choice for the proposed Children's Centre should be Blackwell Community Centre.

Following additional comments from Councillor A F Tomlinson, it was unanimously **RESOLVED** that the proposed establishment of a Children's Centre by Derbyshire County Council should be at Blackwell Community Centre.

Councillor C R Moesby declared a personal interest in the foregoing item and left the room whilst the discussion and decision was taken thereon.

#### **45/2007 CORRESPONDENCE**

The Clerk reported receipt of a letter from the Solicitor to Bolsover District Council with regard to the new Code of Conduct which became effective on 3 May 2007.

**RESOLVED** the new Code of Conduct be discussed at the next Meeting of the Council to be held on 4 June 2007.

The Clerk also reported for information that notice had been received from the District Auditor that the annual Audit of the Council's accounts would take place on 31 July 2007.

**50/2007 PART TIME PARISH HANDY PERSON**

Following a report from Councillor A F Tomlinson and the Clerk

**RESOLVED**

1. Subject to satisfactory references and Criminal Records Bureau check, Mr Richard Walker, 66 New Street, South Normanton be appointed the Council's Part Time Parish Handy Person (the appointment to be subject to review after six months).
2. The number of hours to be worked weekly increased from 16 to 22.
3. An ex-gratia payment of £16.00 be made for each Saturday evening opening/closing of Newton Community Centre.

It was also agreed that Councillor A F Tomlinson, in his capacity as a District Councillor and the Clerk liaise with the Direct Services Manager, Bolsover District Council with regard to training etc. of Mr Walker.

It was also agreed the Clerk make enquiries of reputable commercial vehicle dealers with regard to the purchase/lease of a 3.5 ton vehicle to enable the part time Parish Council Handy Person to carry out his duties.

Councillor C R Moesby declared a personal interest in the foregoing item and left the room whilst the discussion and decision was taken thereon.

**51/2007 BANK MANDATE**

Following a report from the Clerk

**RESOLVED** that Councillors C R Moesby and A F Tomlinson remain the Councils signatories on the cheque book.

**52/2007 MEETING**

**RESOLVED** the next Meeting of the Blackwell Parish Council be held at Blackwell Community Centre, Woburn Close, Blackwell on Monday 4 June 2007 at 7.00 p.m.

The Meeting concluded at 8.45.p.m.

