

Minutes of the Blackbird Leys Parish Council meeting
Held on Tuesday 2 December 2003 at the
The Shop Front, Blackbird Leys Road, commencing at 7.30pm

Present at meeting:

Parish Councillors: C Martin, B Avery, L Cole, S Cole, C Hatton and B Lester
(Chair)

Also Present: H Shayler (Clerk) and R Humberstone. For part of the meeting PC
Morris and PC Pearce

1) Apologies for Absence — were received from G Roper and Sgt. Reading.

2) Co-option to fill vacancies: R Humberstone introduced himself to the parish council asking to be considered for co-option, he has been living on the estate for approx.13 years and is looking to become a local labour councillor and is wanting to get more involved with issues on the estate and its community.

B Lester stated that the Parish Council was a non-political body and in the past there had been some problems with City/County Council members being on the Parish Council due to conflicts of interest. C Martin Proposed that R Humberstone be co-opted, this was 2nd by C Hatton the final vote was 2 for and 3 against — it was suggested that Mr Humberstone spoke with Parish Council members over the next few weeks and there was no reason why he could not come back to a future meeting and stand again for co-option.

3) Minutes of the meeting held on 40 November 2003 The name Steve Hucking in 4d should be Hucking

The minutes were signed as a true record

4) Matters Arising

a) S Cole reported that she was awaiting a response from Peers School relating to the parking and children's approach to the school.

b) C Martin stated that he was disappointed on the non use of garages on the estate and the level of vehicles parking on verges and on roadways. It was commented that the Council had said that the maintenance costs were just too high to keep up and the usage of garages was low due to vandalism of vehicles whilst in the garages — people want their car to be in sight of their homes.

c) B Lester and B Avery had had a walk about with the Park Rangers in Spindleberry Park.

Some areas have already been cleaned from Graffiti other graffiti is to be removed in the next few days.

There is a scheme in place to clear the brook adjacent to the pond
Graffiti on the hairdressers should be removed in the next few days

d) B Lester reported that the technical issues with the web site have all been sorted and it is now updated and running well.

e) It was reported at the Area Committee that a proposal for the bridge in Spindleberry park be moved—the park rangers and residents are in favour of this, the planning and engineers are not.

5) Public Discussion — no issues were raised at this meeting

6) Police Matters

PC Morris introduced PC Pearce who is on attachment for the next 5 weeks at Blackbird Leys. The police now have new radios that will become 'live' next week allowing better communication between the beat officer and the main offices. There had recently been a stint on number plate scanning in Barns Road which

had led to many enquires and 6 arrests — other are to be other areas targeted in the coming months

It was commented that there were some Drug issues on the estate again at present — the police are aware of this and are tackling the problem.

It was stated that there had been some posters had been put on cars stating that clamping was being used on the estate — what legislation is there to this. For clamping to be legal the driver has to be notified before parking.

Concerns over parking around schools was again raised — it was stated that the street wardens were now involved with monitoring this situation.

8) Planning Matters and Decisions.

This application was objected to due to the building not being in keeping with the area and lack of landscaping. Concerns were raised on the entrance / exit from the car park and the fact that the new surgery will be difficult to get to for elderly people living on the older part of the estate

APPLICATION	PROPOSAL	ADDRESS
03/02236/RES	Primary Health Care resource centre. Single and two-storey building at front for use as nursery and pharmacy. Single storey building at rear for health centre and dental practice. Parking for 30 bays, new access to Dunnocks Way. 1.8m palisade fencing to rear (Reserved matters of approved application no. 03/00244/OUT)	City Farm Dunnocks Way Blackbird Leys

No objection was raised to the following application:

APPLICATION	PROPOSAL	ADDRESS
03/02201/FUL	Single storey front and rear extensions (amendments to permission 03/748/FUL)	154 Sandy Lane, Oxford

The following application has gone to appeal — the clerk was asked to file direct the original objection to the application: Main concerns originally raised traffic congestion and air pollution.

APPLICATION	PROPOSAL	ADDRESS
03/01 686/FUL	Demolish bungalow. Erection of three storey building containing 9 2 bed flats. 9 parking spaces, bicycle and bin store	Sandy Lane

12) Financial Matters

The following payments were proposed by B Avery, 2' by C Hatton and agreed with a unanimous vote

a) Clerk Salary —£338.58 (including back pay) (b) AOL (B Lester) - £15.99 (c)

Tel answering - £35.2:

(d) Oxford City Council — office rent £250.00 (e) expenses for Christmas 'nibbles' £24.03

Grants: The accounts received from the Leys News had been circulated and after a short discussion B Avery proposed that the amount of £500. be given this was 2nd by C Martin and all agreed.

A grant application had been received from the Neighbourhood Support Scheme. C Hatton declared an interest and took no part in the final decision made — the application had been circulated at it was proposed by C Martin that £1000. be given to support the scheme with them being allowed to apply for further funding each year with no commitment being given for future funding by the Parish Council, this was 2nd by B Avery and carried with a unanimous vote.

13) Correspondence

No issues were raised from the information circulated.

14) Any other Business

The clerk was asked to place pedestrian crossings on the next agenda

B Lester raised the issue of the Blackbird Leys Parish Council going for a council of excellence the clerk was asked to enquire for relevant details for application.

The clerk was asked to follow up BBONT for information

15) Date and Venue of next Parish Council Meeting -

The next Parish Council meeting will be on 6th January 2004 at the Leys Linx commencing at 730pm.

There being no there being no other business the meeting was closed at 9.20pm