

Minutes of the Blackbird Leys Parish Council meeting
Held on Tuesday 2nd November 2004 at the
The Shop Front, Blackbird Leys Road, commencing at 7.30pm

Present at meeting:

Parish Councillors: C Hatton, C Martin, B Avery, G Roper, B Lester (Chair) and for part of the meeting R Humberstone

Also Present: H Shayler (Clerk), L Cole (City Councillor) Maddi Bidduiph (Oxford Mail), John Holmes (Street Warden Manager) and 1 resident and for part of the meeting Local Police.

- 1) Apologies for Absence were received from S Cole
- 2) Co-option to fill Vacancies: No one was present at this meeting.
- 3) Minutes of the meeting held on 5th October 2004 were signed as a true record
- 4) Police Matters; A short discussion was held on general issues relating to the estate. Awareness of drug usage still being of high priority.

6) Public Discussion

b) John Holmes was introduced to the Parish Council and gave details of the current position of the work of the Street Wardens. It was commented that the Wardens are now working until 10pm during the week, but currently there are no plans for Sunday work. The working areas are divided as follows:

A1 & A2 Blackbird Leys, B1 & B2 — Northbrook, C1 & C2 Rose Hill and D1 & D2 are Littlemore.

After a short discussion, J Holmes was thanked for attending the meeting and thanked for all the work that the Street Wardens are currently doing on and around the estate.

5) Matters arising from 5th October meeting:

a) G Roper commented that the tree along Pegasus Road was still overhanging — it was reported that the tree was not considered dangerous which is why it had not been re However, it was also commented that children are now climbing the tree which will cause more problems soon.

b) It was stated that due to cars parking on the corner of Blackbird Leys Road around the shops this area has become dangerous for pedestrians crossing the road as well as leaving very little room for other vehicles to manoeuvre. It was suggested that Yellow Lines being placed around the corner may deter some drivers from parking there — B Lester offered to follow this issue up. It was commented that even if the yellow lines were put in place, some-one would still have to patrol the areas in order to enforce the parking restrictions. The clerk was asked to find out the information previously received relating to the options of putting pedestrian crossings in place, this would possibly assist with the stopping of vehicles parking in this area, and put on to the January agenda for discussion.

c) The clerk informed the Parish Council that spraying of vehicles can occur, providing it is not for business usage. With reference to the concerns raised last month the cleric had spoken to the County Council and had been asked for an address. C Hatton commented that the activities of last month appear to have quietened down. The clerk would pass on the address to the County Council and the contact would be passed back for notification of any future activities.

7) Planning Applications

APPLICATION	PROPOSAL	ADDRESS
04/01 905/FUL	Two storey side Extension, porch and conversion of extended property to 2 x 2 bed flats.	47 Ashmole Place

The above application was objected to on the grounds of parking and traffic to the property. It was commented that it is inevitable people will want to develop properties, but the local environment must be considered at all times

APPLICATION	PROPOSAL	ADDRESS
04/01971 /FUL	Two storey building with A1 or A3 use on ground floor and 2 bed flat on upper floor	Land adjacent to Leys Spar Ltd at Dunnock Way

A comment was put to the above application asking that the flat was to be used for security or managerial for the shop only and not allowed to become a separate commercial property.

APPLICATION	PROPOSAL	ADDRESS
04/0194I/FUL	Demolish outhouse. Erection of single storey extension with pitched roof over garage	21 Kestrel Crescent

A comment was put to the above application regarding the retaining of garage and parking areas

No objection was raised to the following applications.

APPLICATION	PROPOSAL	ADDRESS
04/01 979/FUL	Porch extension	23 Whitethorn Way

APPLICATION	PROPOSAL	ADDRESS
04/01 888/CT3	Extension to Leisure Centre	Pegasus Road

Notification of a 12 months licence has been given for the Oxford Auto Market as a trial period

Notification of approval had been received for the following applications:

APPLICATION	PROPOSAL	ADDRESS
04/01 699/FUL	Two storey side and rear and part single storey rear extension	12 Merlin Road

APPLICATION	PROPOSAL	ADDRESS
04/01 596/FUL	Erection of temporary portable building for use as office for a period of 2 years.	96 Blackbird Leys Road

APPLICATION	PROPOSAL	ADDRESS
04/01 627/ADV	Internally illuminated high level fascia sign	Unit 6 Oxford Retail Park

8) Financial Mailers

The following expenses were proposed by G Roper, 2nd by C Hatton and agreed with an unanimous vote: a) Clerk Salary - £258.90 (b) AOL - £15.99 (c) Telephone Answering - £35.25, (d) HLB Audit Fees - £141.00 (e) Mr Weaver – Tent purchase - £150.00 (f) Postage £25.50 (g) Oxford City Council – office rental - £250.00 (h) Photocopying - £45.45 (i) Dictation Machines £48.65
A grant application had been received from the Pathway Workshop and was discussed. It was commented that this is a very good scheme running on the estate and should be supported. B Avery proposed a grant of £3840 which was to be issued against running costs, this was 2nd by G Roper and carried with an unanimous vote.

A grant had also been received from the Blackbird Leys Pre-school at Moorbank requesting funds of £1500.00 towards a CCTV following recent break-ins. After a short discussion B Avery proposed the grant be given, 2nd by C Hatton this was carried with a unanimous vote. It was stated that this should be taken from the Community Safety Fund.

A grant received from the Leys Residents Assoc. was discussed. R Humberstone declared an interest in this item. The grant had been for distribution of notices to allow residents to know when meetings are to be etc. It was commented that groups on the estate should try and work together in order to improve communications with the City and County councils in order to get matters resolved for the residents of the estate.

9) Correspondence

In addition to the correspondence circulated the chair tabled letters that had been received and sent by members of the Parish Council

10) Any other Business

a) Chief Executive had met with councillors to walk around Blackbird Leys, B Lester also attended this. All first impressions were good including the work that the Parish Council are doing for the estate.

b) C Martin reported on a meeting that he had attended on 8th October held by the environmental agency.

c) A short discussion was held on the possibility of extra lighting in the Blackbird Leys Park. The cost was being estimated at £9500.00. Discussions are continuing.

14) Date and Venue of next Parish Council Meeting -

Tuesday 7th December at The Leys Linx, Blackbird Leys Road

There being no other business the meeting was closed at 09.20pm