

Minutes of the Blackbird Leys Parish Council meeting
Held on Tuesday 2 September 2003 at the

Present at meeting:

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

Also Present: H Shayler (Clerk) and J Lacey. For part of the meeting PC K Barber and R Parveen (Oxford Mail)

1) Apologies for Absence were received from S Cole

2) Co-option to fill vacancies: L Booker proposed J Lacey to be co-opted back onto the Parish Council. This was 2nd by L Cole and carried with an unanimous vote. J Lacey was welcomed back to the Parish Council.

3) Election of Sub Committees: This item was on the agenda in error — all current items resolved

4) Minutes of the meeting held on 5th August 2003

Item 4a should have stated the name Wooldridge and not Wateridge.

The minutes were signed as a true record

7) Police Matters

It was reported that up until last recently, generally, things had been quite quiet. However, some disturbances leading to Burglaries and anti social behaviour had occurred in the past 10 days or so. The areas of concern were being dealt with extra police presence on the estate.

It was stated that crime figures for the area between 31.03 and 31.08 were overall down by 3%. L Cole raised a concern over the lack of response from a call made during the past month when a reasonably sized group of youths had gathered — it was commented that unfortunately calls have to be prioritised and decisions are made to which are the more urgent calls. It was then commented that if the police are unable to attend, or there is the possibility that it will be a while before anyone will be able to attend, then may be to be told that at the point of making the call would be beneficial as oppose to being told 'someone will be with you shortly'.

PC K Barber was thanked for attending the meeting.

5) Matters Arising:

a) C Martin reported that a good report in the Oxford Mail had supported the Brooks being cleared. The pipes by the Stadium had yet to be moved, but the City Council are trying to resolve this issue. The area along the brook running through the allotments was still having rubbish piled up on the banks — it was said that this rubbish should be burnt or composed, not left to rot in piles liable to fall into the brook. It was stated that R Curnock was involved with the allotment committee and maybe he should be contacted to discuss the concerns being raised. Several trees along the brook were also needing cutting back;

B Lester proposed to contact and arrange a meeting with Bob Staig to go over various issues, this was 2nd by B Avery and carried with an unanimous vote.

It was stated that a vehicle that had been parked in Sandy Lane, whilst visiting a resident in Tucker Road, had returned to their car to find a notice on Oxford City Council headed paper placed on the windscreen informing them that they should not be parked in this area and that new monitoring systems were to be enforced from 29th August . After a short discussion it was agreed that G Roper would take up this matter with the Police Street Wardens and also M Headicar. R Parveen asked to look into this and possibly run a report on the findings.

It was stated that the yellow lines that had been put along Grenoble Road had not been 'capped' did it mean that they were not legal? It was commented that it had been understood that the yellow lines agreed in the parking scheme were only going to be put down at junctions and areas where there were no residents would

he stopped from parking outside their own homes in Acacia Avenue all of the road has had yellow lines painted! It was stated that should there be any problems with parking then contact Peter Egawhary at the Oxfordshire County Council Environmental Services. L Booker commented that residents in Knights Road and Pegasus Road had received maps showing the yellow lines — the circumstances around the scheme and delaying the implementation of this lines until a local meeting after a chance for the residents parking scheme to take force were explained.

C Hatton commented that rubbish was gathering in Spindleberry Park — noticeable more during and after matches. The landscaping need to be put in place to stop people using it as a cut through. B Lester proposed that the next 'project' for the parish council should be Spindleberry Park, after the success of clearing the streams it had proved that by working together achievements could be made, this was 2nd by G Roper and agreed by all — B Lester would try to arrange a meeting with D Reeves to start moving things forward.

G Roper commented that he would be having a meeting in October to discuss options available to the Parish Council relating to speed monitoring on the estate. A short report was given by G Roper following his attendance at a meeting with the local Street Wardens, at which the police were also present. This meeting had been held in Rose Hill and many items that were discussed related to that area, but were still of interest. However, the meetings were to be held at different venues each time and therefore it would be assumed that the 'local' area on each occasion would probably get the majority input. The next meeting is to be on 21st October and it was to be held at the Clock Tower who were charging £60. for use of their room - G Roper had arranged for the meeting to be moved and held at the Bowls club for no charge. One topic of discussion was to offer financial assistance to work along side the Trax centre — after a short discussion it was agreed that this should not be agreed until at least further details were available — G Roper offered to contact John Holmes to possible be at the next meeting. B Avery has been in contact with Dave Walker and who is slowly getting graffiti removed from areas on the estate. It was commented that the old petrol station in Sandy Lane was being looked at to be tidied up and Garsington Road parking issues were still in need of addressing.

Leys Fair— Unfortunately with the changing over of officers being later this year, delays had stopped any concrete plans being in place for the parish council to be in attendance at the Leys Fair. It was agreed unanimously that if not firm plans were in place then it would be better to leave until next year. To ensure a good presence next year B Avery requested that the Leys Fair be placed onto next months agenda for early decisions to be made.

It was reported that goal posts have arrived — and being well used by the local children — the nets are still required — B Lester offered to chase up the nets.

6) Public Discussion: All issues had been raised in other areas of the meeting.

8) Planning Matters and Decisions.

No objections were made to the following application;

APPLICATION	PROPOSAL	ADDRESS
03/01535/FUL	Telescope observatory dome	9 Appletree Close, Blackbird Leys
03/01699/FU	Retention of amateur radio mast/antenna	36 Watlington Road, Cowley.

For the following applications was not objected to, but several concerns were raised:

APPLICATION	PROPOSAL	ADDRESS
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03/01533/VAR	change of use of leisure building to mixed D2 (leisure) and A3 (food and drink) use including 6 restaurants (2791sqm) (Variation of planning permission 00/1473/NR and 94/1754/NOY)	Site North Grenoble Road — adj. stadium Site Grenoble Road.
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Concerns: Opening hours of restaurants — late night noise and type of restaurants, seating or fast food. For the following applications was objected to:

APPLICATION	PROPOSAL	ADDRESS
03/01 686/FUL	Demolition of existing bungalow, erection of three storey building containing 9x2-bed flats, 9 parking spaces, bicycle & bin store	Sandy Lane

This area of the estate is already congested and causing pollution problems to the area.

Financial Matters

The following payments were proposed by J Lacey, 2nd L Booker and agreed with a unanimous vote a) Clerk Salary— £248.94 (b) AOL (B Lester) -£15.99 (c) Tel answering -£35.25. (d) Photographic Development - £7.98 (e) Photocopying - £38.99

It was commented that the clerk salary should be reviewed - it was asked that this be placed on next month's agenda.

13) Correspondence

No issues were raised from the information circulated.

14) Any other Business

Empty garages were raised — The clerk was asked to write to V Smith to try and get some statistics on how many garages were being used, how many are empty and are there any future plans for repairing and using garages that have stood empty for a period of time due to vandalism.

11) Date and Venue of next Parish Council Meeting The next Parish Council meeting will be on 7 October at the Leys Linx commencing at

7.30pm.