

Minutes of 4th July 2006

Present at Meeting: Parish Councillors: G Roper, C Martin, L Cole and B Lester (Chair).

With this level of parish councillors present the meeting did not meet Quorum. Public Discussion was therefore held first and as R Humberstone joined the meeting so Quorum was met and the full meeting continued.

Also Present: H Shayler (Clerk), S Cole (Treasurer), V Smith (Councillor) and C Roberts and for part of the meeting J Wade (Ox City Council Parks Manager) J Parry, 2 PSCO's, PC Shepherd and 6 residents

1. Apologies for Absence were received from B Avery on holiday, C Hatton due to another meeting

6. Public Discussions; a) J Wade was introduced to those present. He gave a brief talk relating to the development of Blackbird Leys Park area. It is a current 'vision' that all communities should have access to parks and leisure, there is funding available, but it can not be used for any sports facilities. - examples currently around the city are Florence Park, Hinksey and Cutteslowe Parks. The idea being that local people will become involved as volunteers to look after the park with an employed person being overall responsible for the co-ordination of works and maintenance to be completed. A meeting is due to be held in the Blackbird Leys Park on 2 nd July 11am - 3pm for residents to attend and give suggestions of usage along with prospect of setting up a 'Friends of' Groups to move the project forward. Suggestions discussed were a fenced of area for mini mopeds to use, however, it was stated that insurance, price and supervision of such an area has caused issues with other proposed sites for such usage. C Roberts commented that a 'quite zone' would be good with maybe a teenager zone and Kids zone separated by landscaping. J Wade commented that local youth workers and schools would be brought into consultation as well. C Martin commented that if more people are going to be encouraged to the area then the parking facilities would need to be looked at. .

It was agreed that further ideas and suggestions should be brought to the next meeting to be passed back to J Wade before the middle of September.

b) Paying for Parking on the estate - there had been a slightly misleading article in the Oxford Mail stating that this was going to be discussed at the meeting. The item was listed under correspondence but as several members of the public were in attendance it was agreed to bring the item to public discussion.

There is much anger with residents with regard to having to pay for parking permits as these have only been issued to assist with residents being able to park outside their own homes when events are being held at the Kassam Stadium - the permits are not something that has been requested for general convenience or the stopping of people living off the estate parking and going to work in London or Oxford as is suffered in Headington, Cowley and other areas around the outskirts of the main city.

A heated discussion was held with residents showing frustration at the fact the Parish Council seemed unwilling to take a stand against the proposed charges. L Cole commented that the Parish Council are restricted in its powers and the parish councillors along with the local councillors are working very hard to stop the charges from being imposed on the estate. C Roberts commented that ultimately one person will make the decision and although the County Council are obliged to consult with residents the responses received do not have to be taken notice of.

2. Co-option to fill vacancies;

The Parish Council were informed that as S Cole would be taking over some of the clerks work whilst the clerk was on Maternity leave for which she would be paid, she would be unable to stand as a Parish Councillor but could remain as Treasurer. Once the clerk was back early next year then, if S Cole wanted to, she would be able to stand for Co-option. G Roper proposed that C Roberts be co-opted to the Parish Council, this was 2nd by R Humberstone and carried with one member for and two abstaining

4. Police Matters; Trainee PSCO E Fitzsimmonds was introduced to the parish council members - she is hoping to stay in this area but currently that is uncertain. Best wishes were passed on to Simone who had recently been injured in an incident. PC Shepherd informed the council that several drug dealers had recently been removed from the estate, 10 tickets had been issued for parking on the pavement and 5 bikes had been confiscated - all good news for the estate as a whole.

3. Minutes of the meeting held on June 6th had a few alterations made and were signed as a true record.

Matters Arising:

a) The clerk informed the Parish Council that a note from the County Council had been received confirming to the Parish Council that the letter regarding the Pedestrian Crossing outside Cuddesdon Corner had been received and a full response would soon be sent - the clerk was asked to chase this up. .

b) Cleansing - B Lester that the next cleansing meeting was due to be held on 4th Sept. The meeting held yesterday included enforcement of fly tipping laws and 'areas for deep cleaning'. One such area will be Brambling Way - any other areas for suggestion should be passed to B Lester for discussion at the next cleansing meeting. It was commented that Field Avenue should be looked at, B Lester offered to look around the area for comment.

7 Planning Applications & Decisions; No objections were raised to the following applications:

a) No. 06/0109/FUL; erection of 11x2 storey houses (1x4, 5x3, 5x2) in two terraces with provision for 14 parking spaces; 2 Butterworth Place; Catalyst Housing Group Ltd.

b) 06/01205/CT3; single storey front extension;72 Pegasus Road.

c) prior approval for siting and appearance for 12.5 metre high telecommunications monopole, shrouded antennas and equipment cabinet; junction Transport Way and Watlington Road for 02

d) 06/01160/FUL; removal of existing cash wash facility and erecting building to accommodate conveyor car wash; Tesco petrol station Unit 7 Oxford Retail Park

c) 06/01160/FUL; disabled access ramp to entrance; Llyods Pharmacy 100 Blackbird Leys Road.

8. Financial Matters:

The following expenses were proposed by C Roberts, 2nd by R Humberstone and carried with a unanimous vote: a) Clerk Salary-£258.90 (b) AOL-£15.99 (c) Telephone Answering Service-£35.25 (d) earphone Warehouse DD (e) British Telecom - office phone, £41.76 (f) Isis Office Stationery £13.82 (g) Blackbird Leys Community Association £10.00 (h) permission was given for B Lester to order further 'Cleaning Campaign' badges at a cost of £295.00

i) A short discussion was held regarding the increased costs of the lighting to be installed across Cuddesdon Park Both L Cole and R Humberstone declared an interest to this topic. It was suggested that as the Area Committee had held up this work they should be approached for the increase in cost that has occurred in time, However, it was proposed by C Martin to go ahead with the installation of 6 lights and get the job completed in one go, 2nd by G Roper this was carried with an unanimous vote. B Lester was asked to go ahead and place the order to allow the works to commence as soon as possible

9. Correspondence - no other correspondence was brought to this meeting

10. Any other Business;

a) It was commented that next year would be the 50th Anniversary of Blackbird Leys and the Parish Council should consider ways of celebrating. C Roberts commented that she was on the Leys Fair committee and would be happy to be the Parish Council representative as well. Ideas and suggestions to be discussed at future meetings.

b) It was commented that an event in aid of the Bobby Moore Bowel Cancer Charity was to be held at Blackbird Leys Football Club with the Area committee supporting the event by paying for the site fees

c) The clerk was wished best of luck with the safe arrival of the new baby and S Cole was thanked for taking on several of the responsibilities from the clerk during Helen's maternity leave.

11. Date next meeting: It was agreed not to have a meeting in August with the next meeting therefore being held on 5th September 2006

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.00pm