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Minutes of the Blackbird Leys Parish Council meeting  
Held on Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> November 2003

Present at meeting:

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

the meeting L Cole

Also Present: I Shayler (Clerk) and for part of the meeting Acting Insp. S Reading and 1 resident

- 1) Apologies for Absence—were received from L Booker
- 2) Co-option to fill vacancies: No one present at this meeting
- 3) Minutes of the meeting held on October 2003  
The minutes were signed as a true record
- 4) Matters Arising:

a) Garages on the estate — B Avery had spoken to V Smith, it would appear that very little can be done at present. A lot of the areas are becoming derelict and being use for fly tipping. To clear the areas is an expensive option. The time may be coming to consider them being removed.

b) No feed back has yet been received from Mr Lapage relating to the Area Committees. A document was submitted to the council from B Lester showing items raised at the area committee.

c) Office share — the clerk had received no response requesting further details of how much use the office would be getting from Blitz members. The clerk was asked to chase this up.

d) There had been a walk about with City Councillors around Spindleberry Park alleyway to ascertain the ways in which crime reduction could be achieved — it is very doubtful that this alleyway will be closed. Steve Hucking — crime prevention officer — has recommended better lighting and pruning of trees to stop the area from being a easy place to hide. Pollarding of trees should commence in Gillian's Park on 17 November. 14 other areas are being looked at for reduction of crime. All brooks are the responsibility of the landowner to which the water flows.

e) C Hatton reported that permission had been granted for trees to be cut in Spindleberry Park. He also has walked the park with the local Rangers and hopes to keep in touch with them for future works/improvements to the area.

f) B Lester informed the Parish Council that there was a 'technical' problem with the web site at present and the person who has been assisting with the site is currently out of the country. The clerk offered to pass on the telephone number of a web company who may be able to assist with resolving the problem.

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

6) Police Matters: S Reading informed the Parish Council that he was to be Acting Inspector for approximately the next 5 weeks. PC Kate Grint was currently working with the community beat officers.

It was reported that there had been an increase in car crime, but the situation is being addressed by the police who are working with City Council and the initial signs are that the crime levels are starting to drop.

The police are currently in liaison with City Councillors with regard to cutting crime in the Parks — Gillian's Park has many entrance points and there are many areas within the park which are causing problems.

There is an amount of anti-social behaviour currently only the estate, but again this is being carefully monitored.

C Martin commented about the volume of children now attending Peers School and the fact that the are walking down the roads in mass to get to the local school. He was informed that the street wardens are now starting at 8am. so it is hoped that they will be able to attend these areas, S Cole was asked to write to the Head Teacher raising the concerns to see if the school could assist.

7) Planning Matters and Decisions.

No objections were made to the following application;

APPLICATION	PROPOSAL	ADDRESS
03/02066/FUL	Two storey single storey side extension	12 Tern Walk, Blackbird Leys.
03/0762/FUL	Single Storey rear conservatory extension	4 Sandy Lane

The following notices of approval had been received:

APPLICATION	PROPOSAL	ADDRESS
03/01535/FUL	Telescope observatory dome	9 Appletree Close, Blackbird Leys
03/01749/ADV	Three illuminated fascia signs and neon strip	Bow Ozone Leisure park Grenoble Road

Financial Matters

The following payments were proposed by C Hatton, 2<sup>nd</sup> by C Martin and agreed with a unanimous vote a) Clerk Salary— £248.94 (b) AOL (B Lester) -£15.99 (c) Tel answering -£35.25.

In addition it was confirmed that a payment had been agreed for the Street Wardens Trax program for £60.00 and payment towards the sponsorship of the Community Conference that B Lester had attended during the past month to the value of £100.00 — it was commented that this conference was the beginning of an important liaison between organisations now that the government funding that had been available is now stopping.

A short discussion was held regarding the increase of the Clerks Salary, it was proposed by B Avery the an annual 4% increase should be made automatically from each April and that a back pay should be awarded from April 2003, this was 2<sup>nd</sup> by L Cole and carried with an unanimous vote.

An outline set of accounts had been received from the Leys News to support their request for a grant towards the continued running of the newsletter — After a short discussion the clerk was asked to obtain a full set of accounts from the organisation before a final decision was made.

9) Correspondence

No issues were raised from the information circulated.

10) Any other Business

It was asked how to obtain 'No Ball Game' signs, it was the Tenants & Residents association, but now applications go via the Area Committee — it was suggested that for initial enquires go to Housing office or City Works.

A comment was raised about trees/bushes being close to houses and in need of cutting back — Ian Shepard at City Council was the contact given.

11) Date and Venue of next Parish Council Meeting -

The next Parish Council meeting will be on 2<sup>nd</sup> December at the Leys Linx commencing at 7.30pm

There being no other business the meeting was closed at 9.10pm