

Minutes of the Blackbird Leys Parish Council meeting
Held on Tuesday 7th December 2004 at the
The Shop Front, Blackbird Leys Road, commencing at 7.30pm

Present at meeting:

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

Also Present: H Shayler (Clerk), R Harris, C Pill and for most of the meeting L Cole (City Councillor) and for part of the meeting C Gabbiban (Dads' Posse)

1) Apologies for Absence were received from R Humberstone, C Hatton, G Roper, Local Police and Street Wardens.

2) Co-option to fill Vacancies: Two residents were present at the meeting who stood for Co option. Both gave a short history of their involvement and time on the Blackbird Leys Estate. C Martin proposed Mr Chris Pill to be co-opted to the Parish Council, 2nd by S Cole this was carried with a unanimous vote. B Avery proposed Mr Ron Harris to be co-opted to the Parish Council, 2nd by C Martin this was carried with a unanimous vote.

3) Minutes of the meeting held on 2nd November 2004 were signed a true record.

4) Police Matters: Concerns were raised over the usage of 'mini' motorbikes around the Balfour Road Shop area. There are also current problems with children gathering after school, evenings and weekends on the corner of Tucker Road / Balfour Road causing a nuisance of themselves by intimidating and insulting shop owners and members of the public. It was suggested that the street wardens could be contacted to 'visit' the area at relevant times to see if this could help the situation.

5) Matters arising from 2nd November meeting:

a) B Lester is awaiting a response from both City and or County Council relating to various parking issues / painting of yellow lines on the estate.

b) Further details relating to the lighting of Blackbird Leys Park were still to arrive.

c) It was stated that an enforcement notice of 28 days to clear an area had been issued. B Avery would contact local housing officer to ensure notice is completed — or at least followed up.

d) B Avery provided a report submitted to the City Council relating to the Local Air Quality along Watlington Road

e) S Cole stated that she was starting to design and put together ideas for a Parish Council newsletter

6) Public Discussion

A discussion was held relating to the possibly of the Parish Council taking over the responsibility or running / co-ordinating a community web site supporting a document circulated to Parish Councillors prior to the meeting. Discussions included the employment of some-one part time to deal with the project, charges for usage of web space, how sponsorship for continually running the site could be achieved. After the discussion B Avery proposed the following: In principal the Parish Council should take on the title role to enable the estate as a whole to benefit from the usage of a community web site. But, before any commitment is made the clerk must clarify the financial position of such a venture and ensure that the Parish Council can, and are able to, correctly administer this project, this was 2nd by S Cole and carried by a unanimous vote.

The clerk was asked to contact the OALC and discussion options available for this project and report

7) Planning Applications

No Objections were raised to the following applications:

APPLICATION	PROPOSAL	ADDRESS
04/02091/VAR	Increase floor area to 1204m ² by insertion of mezzanine floor	Unit 6 Oxford Retail Park

APPLICATION	PROPOSAL	ADDRESS
04/02036/FUL	Two storey side extension	5 Acacia Ave

APPLICATION	PROPOSAL	ADDRESS
04/02016/FUL	Single Storey extension and conversion of property as extended to 2 two bed flats	7 Ladenham Road

APPLICATION	PROPOSAL	ADDRESS
04/02015/FUL	Single Storey rear extension and conversion of property as extended to 2 two bed flats	66 Blackbird Leys Road

APPLICATION	PROPOSAL	ADDRESS
04/02222/FUL	Single Storey Rear Extension	90 Pegasus Rd

APPLICATION	PROPOSAL	ADDRESS
04/02230/FUL	Single Storey Front Extension	56 Pegasus Rd

APPLICATION	PROPOSAL	ADDRESS
04/02271/FUL	Demolish Single Storey side extension. Erection of two storey side extension	10 Merlin Road

8) Financial Matters

The following expenses were proposed by C Martin, 2nd by R Harris and agreed with an unanimous vote: a) Clerk Salary -£258.90 (b) AOL -£15.99 (e) Telephone Answering -£35.25, (d) B Lester — tel Calls £39.45 (e) Grant for Blackbird Leys Pre-school. £1500.00 (f) L Cole for office shelving £450.00

The Parish Council were informed of a VAT repayment received for £968.81

B Lester commented about the cost of using his home phone for Parish Council matters — S Cole proposed that the clerk look into costs of a mobile phone for future usage in comparison with the current home costs incurred, 2nd by B Avery this was carried with a unanimous vote.

GRANTS

a) Blackbird Leys Neighbourhood Support Scheme Ltd had submitted a grant application as a further request for assistance with their projects. After a short discussion B Avery proposed a further £1000 payment to be granted but released

in April towards their 2005 / 6 funding year, 2nd by C Martin this was carried by a unanimous vote

b) A grant application received from Ealing Family Association was discussed and it was proposed by B Avery to reject this application, 2nd by C Martin this was carried as a unanimous vote.

It was commented that the grant for Blackbird Leys Pre-school was to be paid from the Community Safety fund which now has a balance of for spending. B Lester asked for a donation towards the local scout group to be raised as a thank you for the help they provided in moving the office papers and photocopier from the vestry office to the new office in the Community Ctr. B Avery proposed £50.00 as a donation, this was 2nd by R Harris and carried with a unanimous vote.

9) Correspondence

In addition to the correspondence circulated

a) A letter was received from A Bond requesting the opportunity to speak to the Parish Council in order to discuss options on running the Community Web site — the clerk was asked to reply informing him that at present, no firm decision has been made regarding this project.

b) Invitation to the Kingfisher Green Grand Opening on December 11th

c) Oxford City Council — Meeting between Oxford City Council and Parish Councillors December 8th

d) 'nada' magazine

e) Report from the City Council standards committee

10) Any other Business

a) The clerk was asked to invite FDP Savills to the February meeting to discuss proposals for the land south of Grenoble Road.

b) The clerk was asked to invite the Chief Executive from the City Council to a meeting in the New Year.

c) C Pill commented on the requirement of dropped kerbs (allowing for disabled access) and the widening of parking lay-by at the Balfour Road shops - it was requested that a copy of a shop lease be obtained to agree responsibilities before any letters from the Parish Council were sent.

14) Date and Venue of next Parish Council Meeting -

It was agreed that as the 4 January was the first working day back after the Festive Season the next meeting would be held on Tuesday 11 January 2004 at The Leys Linx, Blackbird Leys Road

There being no other business the meeting was closed at 09.10pm. Light refreshments and drinks were available for all to enjoy after the meeting and the chair wished everyone a Merry Christmas and hoped that 2005 would be a busy one for the Parish Council!