

Minutes of the Blackbird Leys Parish Council meeting
Held on Tuesday 7th June 2005 at
The Jack Argent Rooms, Community Centre
Blackbird Leys, commencing at 7.30pm

Present at meeting:

Parish Councillors: C Martin, B Avery, S Cole, C Pill, R Harris, C Hatton, and B Lester (Chair) and for part of the meeting R Humberstone
Also Present: H Shayler (Clerk), V Smith (County Councillor), M Wilkinson (Oxford Mail)
K Stratford (Project Co-ordinator Neighbourhood Working Group), R Brown and J Cark (Leys Kiddies Club) and for part of the meeting L Cole (City Councillor)

Before the meeting commenced, B Lester asked for a minute's silence in remembrance of M Florey (City Councillor) who had passed away during the weekend.

- 1) Apologies for Absence were received from G Roper and the Local Police
- 2) Co-option to fill Vacancies: No one present at this meeting
- 3) Minutes of the meeting held on May 3rd — were read, a few spelling mistakes were corrected and item 15 should have read Parish Council meeting. After these alterations the minutes were signed as a true record.

Public Discussion

R Brown and J Clark were welcomed to the meeting and invited to give details of the 'Kiddies club' that they had recently set up. A grant application had been submitted and further details had been requested before a final decision could be reached. The Parish Council were informed that the club worked as a 'drop in' allowing parents and children to call in when they wanted to meet other families, have some refreshments and allow the children to play with other toys. Both running the club are registered child minders, but they do not allow children to be left unsupervised. Currently around 15 families attend with up to 25 children being present, they are hoping this will increase. The type of assistance they are looking for includes such things as Farm animals allowing the children to learn along with items such as high chairs/ cots for young children.

B Lester thanked R Brown and J Clark for attending the meeting, and suggested that they re-submitted the application form and it would be discussed at the next meeting.

4) Police Matters:

B Lester had been invited to a meeting group with the police. It was commented that as G Roper is involved with the street wardens he may be the better candidate to liaise between the two groups and the Parish Council. It would appear that messages left regarding issues on the estate had not been picked up by the local police causing concern. It was commented that during a conversation, concerns were raised of the reliability of the answer machine and it would be looked into.

Current areas of concern on the estate include Drug dealing, 'Go peds', Speeding vehicles and general aggression towards others on the streets B Avery commented that the level of paper work needing to be done by the beat police kept them off the streets for an unacceptable length of time — this is obviously a problem that goes beyond the control of the local police

5) Matters arising from meeting on 3rd May 2005:

a) Community Web Page — Jo was present during the meeting to further discuss options on moving forward on this project. After the discussions, B Avery proposed that the Parish Council pay up to £100 per week toward the initial growth over a 3 month period for Jo to get the project up and running, 2nd by C Martin this was carried by an unanimous vote. It was agreed that after this period of time a report back to the Parish Council on progress would be required before funding of the next phase.

These would be discussed further once the site was up so that people could see what they were becoming involved with.

b) During the area committee 2 sets of plans had been submitted for the shop front area along Balfour Road. It would appear that these had yet to be received by the parish council the use of colour tarmac and not block pavements were shown, final decision yet to be made.

Graffiti kits had been advertised to the Parish Council for use by a member in order to remove graffiti from walls and other areas of the estate. C Martin proposed that the parish council purchased two of these kits, 2nd by R Humberstone this was carried by a majority vote. B Avery had been instructed on how to use the kits and was happy to use them around the estate.

c) Leys Fair — September 10 — B Lester asked who would be available to assist on the day. R Humberstone, S Cole, C Martin and B Avery all stated that they would be happy to help during the day. S Cole confirmed that the Rodeo had been booked. B Lester produced a shield which had been previously issued — suggestions where required for a competition to which it could be awarded this year.

d) Newsletter — concerns were raised over the level of information being put forward in order for S Cole to produce this newsletter. After a discussion it was agreed that articles should be collated over the next few months with the hope that the first issue could be produced and distributed at the Leys Fair in September.

6) Public Discussion Kate Stratford was introduced to the Parish Council. The council were informed that the purpose of this group was to work together with residents with the aim to improve the environment This is being achieved by running competitions for gardens/lawns / window boxes etc. along with schools getting involved with the largest sunflower which had been sponsored by the Oxford Mail providing the seeds to all school children in the area. The parish Councillors were invited to act as judges or be participants. Initial judging would commence late June with finals being held end of July early August.

It was suggested that maybe a category could be set up for the Parish Council shield to be awarded for. B Avery proposed a best 'group allotment' with the most progression, 2nd by R Humberstone this was put forward as a suggestion.

7) Planning Applications

No Objections were raised to the following application:

APPLICATION	PROPOSAL	ADDRESS
05/00817/FUL	Conservatory	8 Trefoil Place, Oxford

APPLICATION	PROPOSAL	ADDRESS
05/01072/FUL	Change of use from storage (Class B8) to mixes use of storage and light industrial (BI/B8)	Unit 3 Ashville Way

APPLICATION	PROPOSAL	ADDRESS
05/01073/FUL	Alteration & extensions to provide lift shafts to T & V Blocks	College of Further Education, Cuddesdon Way

The following applications were all objected to with the same concerns being raised. These concerns are – over development of properties, lack of parking forcing more vehicles parked on roads and grass verges, storage for rubbish. Request for City Council policy on multi occupancy has also been requested several times.

APPLICATION	PROPOSAL	ADDRESS
05/00963/FUL	Demolition of single storey extension. Erection of two storey extension for use as 1 bed house.	32 Kestrel Crescent

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APPLICATION	PROPOSAL	ADDRESS
05/00385/FUL	Demolish garage and store. Two storey side extension for use as 2 bed house. Provision of 1 parking space for proposed house and 2 parking spaces for existing house	53 Field Avenue

APPLICATION	PROPOSAL	ADDRESS
05/00849/FUL	Side extension to form 4 no.flats	42 Knights Road

APPLICATION	PROPOSAL	ADDRESS
05/00904/FUL	Single storey extension and conversion of existing 3 bed house to 1x1 bed and 1 x 2 bed flats	7 Ladenham Road

Notification of approval had been received for the following application:

APPLICATION	PROPOSAL	ADDRESS
05/00494/T56	Prior approval for siting and appearance of a mobile phone station comprising 11.7m high monopole, 3 antennae, equipment cabin and associated development (Amended plans).	Adjacent Buildbase, Watlington Road

(above has been refused)

APPLICATION	PROPOSAL	ADDRESS
Proposed Development by the County Council	Alterations to the existing car park area and part of adjacent hard play area. To provide a 25 space (including 2 disabled) car park, 40 covered cycle racks, new fence and landscaping, plus the erection of a new fence to replace existing on the Cuddesdon Way frontage.	Orchard Meadow School

8) Financial Matters

The following expenses were proposed by C Martin, by Humberstone and agreed with an Unanimous vote: a) Clerk Salary £258.90, (b) AOL — Internet £15.99 (c) Telephone Answering £35.25 (d) BBLeys CDI Grant £1000.00 (e) Hire of Room £20.00

It had been requested by Shepherds Hill Pre-School that the grant applied for should be deferred until September as no works would be carried out before the school holidays.

Documents were signed to transfer the bank accounts to Barclays.

B Lester commented that the City Council had been very slow over replying to the issue of installing lighting across the park which had put the scheme in jeopardy Further discussion were due to take place.

The Parish Council were informed that the funeral for M Floreys funeral was to be on Monday 13th at the Crematorium no flowers with donations to Sobell House. R Humberstone proposed a donation £100. to be sent from the Parish Council, 2nd by C Hatton this was carried with an unanimous agreement.

9) Correspondence

In addition to the correspondence circulated;

The next tenants & Residents meeting is to be held on 13th June
Community Safety Strategy for Oxford

10) Any other Business

a) It was commented that Mr Campbell, present at the meeting last month, had received some items for carrying out works but not all - K Stratford offered to take this on board and sort out the outstanding issues.

b) An issue relating to hazard on the highways in was raised and again K Stratford offered to look into this for the Parish Council.

14) Date and Venue of next Parish Council Meeting -

The next meeting would be held on Tuesday 5th July 2005 at Jack Argent Rooms in the Community Centre.

There being no other business the meeting was closed at 9.40pm.