



29 Greenfields
Earith
Cambridgeshire
PE28 3QH

Tel: 01487 843983
Mob: 07719 475 071

Email: parishclerk@bluntisham.com

**Minutes of the Bluntisham Parish Council Meeting
Monday 4 November 2013 at 7.30pm at Bluntisham Village Hall**

Present: Chair: Mr Tim Ellis, Vice Chair: Mrs Elinor McNeill, Mrs Margaret Lumb, Mr Frank Hudson, Mrs Joan Gutteridge, Mr Gary James, Mrs Kathy Searle, Mr Robin Carter, Mrs Mandy Pink (Clerk).

Also present: CC Mr Steve Criswell

		Action
	<p>Open Forum. Eleven members of the public were present. Mr Whymant and Partner raised objections to planning application regarding Bluntisham Service Station. Written comments have been received. Mrs King raised objections to the planning application regarding the Bluntisham Service Station. Two different written comments have been received. Mrs Everest raised objections to the planning application regarding the Bluntisham Service Station. Written comments have been received. Mrs Margaret Lumb pointed out that a full fire safety audit was being carried out on the premises. Mrs Welton raised comments regarding the planning application for tree work at 15 Glebe Close. Mr Mike Francis gave an overview to the Council concerning developments for the permissive footpath proposed for Station Road following receipt of written correspondence from the Rose family. The Clerk is to write to Mrs Rose to thank her for her letter and to acknowledge her comments.</p>	Clerk
1504	Declarations of interest for items on the agenda. Mrs Margaret Lumb declared a personal interest in Item 1515 – Application 1301360FUL.	
1505	Apologies for Absence. DC Mr Terry Rogers	
1506	Minutes of the meeting dated 7 October 13. The minutes were approved and signed (Proposed Mrs Joan Gutteridge, seconded Mr Frank Hudson, all agreed).	
1507	Matters arising from the previous minutes. None.	
1508	FY2013/14 Accounts – to end-October 2013. Noted and agreed. <i>Annex 1.</i> (Proposed Mr Frank Hudson, seconded Mrs Margaret Lumb, all agreed).	
1509	Accounts for payment and October Income summary. Expenditure: £6,266.50; Income: £4,487.26. Approved. (Proposed Mr Frank Hudson, seconded Mrs Margaret Lumb, all agreed).	
1510	<p>Council and District Reports. Mr Steve Criswell had no changes to report but he will chase up Mrs Joan Gutteridge’s concerns regarding the Broadband progress as there are many residents experiencing problems with their internet and broadband services.</p> <p>Mr Robin Carter reported that savings will need to be made at Huntingdon District Council and services are currently being looked at and assessed for viability.</p>	

1511	<p>Committee Updates.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Allotments Committee. All plots have now been rented out and payments have been collected. The Allotment Association have requested that the Council carry out some improvements to the area as a new dip tank is needed at a cost of £268 and new wiring for the CCTV cameras is also needed at a cost of £40.74. The Council will consider this at the Finance Meeting on 20th November. 2. Planning Committee: Wood Farm Developments – The Clerk has received a reply from Robin Hobbs to say that he no longer has access to the original planning documents for this development as it dates back to 2001. He has offered to carry out a site visit if the Council request it. The Clerk is to arrange this. 3. HMC Meeting – 16 Sept 13 – matters arising – The minutes of the meeting were not signed as other items needed to be discussed – deferred until next meeting 18 November 13. 	Clerk
1512	<p>Parish Council 5-Year Plan. No Changes to report</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Progress concerning permissive footpath discussed during Open Forum 2. TPO – updates needed – Clerk to check and carry forward 	Clerk
1513	<p>Crime and Road Safety and Highway Warden Update (to include HCV, ENVAR and Hanson reports as appropriate)</p> <p><i>Crime:</i> Mrs Margaret Lumb reported that a car had been stolen from the Poplars. There is also a telephone scam in operation at present whereby a telephone call is received during the night allegedly from the police to inform you that a criminal has been arrested with a lot of cash and a list of names and addresses on them (yours included). The caller urges you to call your bank to report this as your bank card will need to be checked out. The line then remains open while you call your bank and the information that you give goes directly to the scammers. The next day a smartly dressed man is sent to your home to collect your card and pin number and your bank account is then emptied of cash. The Police urge you to be aware of this as it could happen within your area.</p> <p>Mrs Joan Gutteridge also spotted an unknown couple walking around the area taking down addresses and making notes regarding the houses. Please be aware of any strangers within the village and report anything to the Police that you regard as unusual and suspicious. Please use the contact number of 101 unless it is an emergency.</p> <p><i>Road Safety:</i> no report at present</p> <p><i>HCV:</i> no report at present</p> <p><i>Hansons:</i> no report at present</p> <p><i>Envar:</i> no report at present</p> <p><i>Highways:</i> Mrs Margaret Lumb carried out a village walkabout with the Highway Officer and confirmed that a grit bin is to be installed in The Poplars shortly. White lining is to be refreshed and sharks teeth markings are to be implemented on the approach into Wood End from The Heath. This work will be carried out when the road surface is dry. Pooling issues at the junction with Wood End/Short Lane/High Street will be addressed to ascertain if a broken pipe is the only issue. However, the Highways Officer reported that the budget for resurfacing works has been exhausted this year although areas in need of repair have been noted and these will be revisited in the 2014/15 financial year.</p>	
1514	<p>Health and Safety:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) <i>Removal of Wood End bench (plaque to be kept)</i> – A quote was tabled for £30.00 (plaque to be preserved) for Bench removal. (Proposed Mrs Joan 	

	<p>Gutteridge, seconded Mr Frank Hudson, all agreed).</p> <p>b) Notice Board Refurbishment. A quote was tabled for £75.00 to include rubbing down and re-staining outside of Board and putting in new back fixing board for notices and looking at the locks to hopefully improve weather proofing. (Proposed Mrs Joan Gutteridge, seconded Mrs Kathy Searle, all agreed). The Clerk is to inform the home owner that works will be carried out.</p>	Clerk
1515	<p>Planning – New Applications.</p> <p>1301444TREE: Work to trees 15 Glebe Close, Bluntisham. HDC Tree Officer, Brian Ogden, made a site visit and determined that no work should be carried out. As the householder has concerns about dead branches they were advised to liaise directly with the Tree Officer and arrange a further site visit. (Proposed Mrs Joan Gutteridge, seconded Mrs Margaret Lumb, all agreed)</p> <p>1301360FUL: Change of use of first floor above service station from residential to health and beauty suite (retrospective) and additional associated staff parking. Rejected – but request that it is moved to be discussed at the next available Management Planning Meeting. Concerns have been raised regarding fire safety at the site and a full fire audit is to be carried out. The Council also decided that the Car Park should be treated as a separate application as this is not retrospective but current. The Car Park would be built on green space land and would increase the run off in the area and would lead to increased drainage needs. The Council also want to support the many comments raised by the homeowners of the Village. (Proposed Mrs Joan Gutteridge, seconded Mr Frank Hudson, all agreed except Mrs Margaret Lumb who abstained from voting).</p> <p>1301468FUL: Extension to rear of property and raising roof height to incorporate bedrooms at first floor level at 6 Wood End, Bluntisham – Accepted – Although this application is in a conservation area the work is all at the rear of the property so it would stay within keeping in the area. However it was requested that a comment was placed on the application stating that there must not be any vehicles on the road whilst the development is going ahead. (Proposed Mr Robin Carter, seconded Mrs Joan Gutteridge, all agreed).</p>	
1516	<p>Travellers Site. This item is to be removed from the Agenda but will be followed up by Mrs Margaret Lumb if any issues arise.</p>	
1517	<p>Enforcement Issues. Road Signs for Chilli Farm have been moved and Mr Siwicki is to be contacted if these signs get reinstated or become illuminated. The Clerk is to check with the planning department to find out if this site is registered for retail rights.</p>	Clerk
1518	<p>Affordable Housing – options following housing needs survey. Frank Mastrandrea is looking into the area highlighted on Station Road and he is hopeful that the proposals for social housing on this site could go through</p>	
1519	<p>Recreation Field Dog Exclusion Order. The Chairman and Mr Robin Carter are to continue with the fencing now that the final pegs have arrived. Suitable mowing access is still needed. The visibility and structure of the fence were discussed and the Council remains happy with the work that has been carried out. This fencing is temporary for 12 months so that the feasibility of a permanent fenced Dog Walk Area can be monitored.</p>	RC/TE
1520	<p>Village Maintenance:</p> <p>a) Fire Hooks. – Quote to be obtained. The Clerk is to liaise with Mr Robin Carter. Brackets are available</p>	Clerk and RC
1521	<p>Reported Problems.</p> <p>a) 19, 30 and 31 St Mary’s Road – Overhanging trees. New quotes are to be</p>	

	obtained and Mr Frank Hudson is to liaise with Contractors on this issue. Decision to be made at the December meeting.	FH
1522	Community Orchard a) New Tree Planting/Orchard Development. Mrs Margaret Lumb has contacted the Rowell Family and they have informed Mrs Lumb to make the arrangements for the commemoration and let them know the date. Mrs Lumb is to progress this matter.	ML
1523	Proposal to refurbish area around The Barograph. Mrs Margaret Lumb is to arrange with the Highways Department for this refurbishment to go ahead.	ML
1524	Siting of seats donated by Feoffees – Update and discussion of suitable areas – The Clerk has received a request for a possible bench to be sited on Station Road near to the Bus Shelter. Mrs Margaret Lumb is to talk to David Morris regarding this. Feoffees would also like to have a bench sited behind the boulder facing the pitch in-between the Birch Trees. Mr Frank Hudson is to liaise with the Clerk to arrange for a quote to be obtained to move the picnic bench that is currently in this area and move it to an area near to the Trim Trail.	ML FH
1525	Code of Conduct Training – Woodhurst Village Hall 19th November – The Clerk has received an invitation from Woodhurst Parish Council for Councillors to attend a Code of Conduct Training session – Mrs Margaret Lumb and Mrs Joan Gutteridge are to attend. The Clerk is to liaise with Woodhurst Council and let them know	ML/JG Clerk
1526	Parish Planting Scheme 2013 – Update – Mrs Elinor McNeill confirmed that Bluntisham will not be participating in this Scheme. The Clerk is to update Bridget Halford HDC	Clerk
1527	Resident request to use the Recreation Field for the use of flying remote control planes – consideration to be discussed – This item was discussed at length and the Clerk is to look into the local byelaws and check the insurance to see if this is acceptable. More information concerning the weight of the planes is needed. Decision to be deferred until December.	Clerk
1528	Application from the Cricket Club for a donation by the Council for the purchase of new Cricket Nets – consideration to be discussed – The Council do not have provision in the budget for a donation at this time.	
1529	Councillor resignations and proposals for a flyer for recruitment of new Council members – The Chairman wished to thank Mr Mike Francis and Mr Robin Carter for all of their time and effort that they have put into being a Councillor and for the good works that they have achieved during their period of office. A recruitment flyer for replacement members was tabled by the Chairman and the Clerk had obtained a quote of £59.36 from HDC for printing. (Proposed Mrs Joan Gutteridge, seconded Mr Frank Hudson, all agreed). The Clerk is to action this immediately and arrange for the collection and distribution of the flyers by Mrs Joan Gutteridge.	Clerk/JG
1530	Woodland Trust contribution to path maintenance at Meridian Wood – review of charge for next cutting season 2014 – It was proposed to increase the cost by 3% to cover inflation (Proposed Mr Gary James, seconded Mrs Elinor McNeill, all agreed).	
1531	Polling District Review 2013 – Discussion and comments to make – The makeup of the Polling District was discussed and the Councillors agreed that they are happy with the way that voting is carried out within the Parish. (Proposed Mrs Joan Gutteridge, seconded Mr Frank Hudson, all agreed).	
1532	Communication and Social Events. Nothing to report	

1533	<p>Correspondence Received.</p> <p>a) Housing Related Support Tender – Information for Council members – noted</p> <p>b) Email from Mr Gedye concerning Public Liability Insurance – The Council agreed that it is standard policy for all contractors carrying out work within the Village on behalf of the Council to hold Public Liability Insurance. There will be no exceptions to this rule. When the Council organises events, such as Village Litter Picking, the volunteers that take part in this organised event will be covered by the Councils Insurance. The Clerk is to write to Mr Gedye to inform him of this decision.</p> <p>c) Thank you card from Mrs Sue Morgan – retired Clerk – This was viewed by the Councillors and noted.</p>	Clerk
1534	Various magazines and mail shots for general interest. None.	
1535	<p>Items for consideration (for information only).</p> <p>Key Holders for BacStage hire of Village Hall – The Clerk was asked to send an email to the key holders to ask them to be mindful of the Village Hall security and to lock the Hall correctly as a call out charge was incurred last year when the Hall was not secured properly.</p> <p>Remembrance Sunday service will be at 2.45pm to meet for a 3pm service in the Church (10th November)</p> <p>A14 public meeting with Shailesh Vara has been confirmed for Friday 22nd November at 8pm at the Village Hall. Notices are to be put on the boards and an email sent to Needingworth, Earith, Colne and Somersham to inform them</p> <p>Mrs Elinor McNeill informed the Council that she had attended a Village charities meeting and in 1996 the purpose of the Charity was changed. This is to be looked into further and added as an agenda item in December</p> <p>Mr Gary James wanted the Council to consider the possibility of doing something to mark the WWI 100th commemoration next year. This is to be looked into further and added as an agenda item in December</p>	<p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p> <p>EM</p> <p>All Cllrs</p>

Meeting closed 9.45 pm

Next meeting: 2 December 2013

Dates of Future Parish Council Meetings - 2014

January	Monday 6 th January
February	Monday 3 rd February
March	Monday 3 rd March
April	Monday 7 th April
May	Monday 5 th May
June	Monday 2 nd June
July	Monday 7 th July
August	Monday 4 th August
September	Monday 1 st September
October	Monday 6 th October
November	Monday 3 rd November
December	Monday 1 st December

Annex 1- FY2013/14 Accounts – to end-October 2013