

**CLIFTON REYNES & NEWTON BLOSSOMVILLE
JOINT PARISH COUNCIL - DRAFT**

Minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 11th February 2015 in the Reading Room at 7.30pm. Cllrs. Kent, Sibbald, Watson, Swanston, Finn-Kelcey and MK Cllrs. Geary and Hosking attended together with 6 members of the public. Apologies were received from MKCllr. Maclean

- 1. Minutes of last meeting:** Mr Foll requested a word change from grant to fund in the paragraph referring to the Solar Farm. This was agreed and as the minutes could not be signed as correct this will be done at the next meeting.

- 2. Matters arising:**

Update on Bridleway repairs – CR to Olney – (Request Mr Foll) Mr Finn Kelcey stated there was no more information on the date for the work. He has details of what exactly will be done. These were given to him early in 2014 by Mr Burton.

Parking around Green Hill NB – Mrs Watson had further contact with Mr Carden but is still awaiting more details and will contact him again.

Minerals Plan response – the clerk read out the letter sent on this subject.

SID Training- Mr Swanston – installation of SIDs. Data had been downloaded from Newton Blossomville and will be completed for Clifton Reynes so that both sets can be discussed at the May meeting. Mr Swanston wished to thank Andy Walker, Mark Pountney and Simon Rees for their assistance in erecting, managing, recording and dismantling the equipment.

Solar Farm money – Mrs Kent (Request Mr Foll)

Mr Foll had previously asked to speak at the meeting regarding the non disclosure of interest in the project by Cllr. Geary. He believed a conflict of interest had not been declared by Cllr.Geary since the application had been made. Mr Foll offered to provide the Council with a copy of his statement which will be attached as an appendix to these minutes upon receipt.

Mr Geary rejected Mr Foll's claim saying he had no interest to declare as he is not a member of either council and is not signed up to their Codes of Conduct. At the public exhibition no money was on offer to either council. He had advised an approach to the contractor. In his opinion the amount suggested by Mr Foll was never going to be offered and it would be far better to work with the developer, (as there was no planning reason to reject the development) in order to achieve a positive outcome.

He expressed his disappointment that Mr Foll had felt the need to make this statement without discussing with him prior to the meeting.

3. Milton Keynes Correspondence

Weekly News 21/11/2014 to 6/2/2015

Invitation to Civic Reception for Chair and Clerk - refused

4. Planning

14/02806 The Poplars, NB – Rear Extension – no objections

14/02787 Arden House. NB – extension – no objections

The Poultry Shed, Costerpits Farm, NB – change of use to residential – no objections

The Clerk pointed out that the paperwork had shown the property to be situated in Clifton Reynes not Newton Blossomville but this had been pointed this out to the planning department

13/02561 The Croft, NB – rear extension – approved

14/02896 1 Spring Lane, CR – 2 storey and single storey rear extensions - no objections

5. Financial

Retrospective approval dog bins November £77.47, December £96.84,

January £77.47 Proposed Mrs Kent seconded Mr Finn-Kelcey

Retrospective approval Anglian water £26.88 Proposed Mrs Watson seconded Mrs Kent

Web site Expenses £86.16 Proposed Mrs Watson seconded Mrs Kent

Retrospective approval Marquee Trailer repair £48 Proposed Mrs Watson seconded Mr Swanston

Precept 2015/6 - requested £6750

Donation to CR PCC (£225 from 2012) Proposed Mrs Kent seconded Mr Sibbald

Clerks Salary 6.4.2014 to 5.4.2015 (£1000 from 2012) The clerk left the room. Mrs Kent reported that the role of the clerk had been increasing significantly in recent years and that she had therefore asked for a breakdown of hours worked since September 2014. This did not include meetings and had averaged out at 22 hours per month (£4 per hour). The new salary scales published for 2015/6 show the lowest recommended rates are £8.6 to £12.3 per hour. She stated she felt the clerk's salary should at least reflect the minimum rate and proposed the figure should be raised to £2170.47 pa. backdated to 1st January 2015. All councillors voted in favour.

Current Account : £8495.24 Deposit account: £2262.23

6. Miscellaneous:

Wind Farm money- Mr Swanston reported that Milton Keynes Council had identified a problem with their allocation of funds. Cllr. Geary offered to look into the matter and report back to the Joint Parish Council.

Advice given to Joint Parish Council in February 2014 on the subject of wind/solar Farms(Request Mr Foll). This matter was dealt with under matters arising.

Minute taking and recording of debates and discussions at Joint Parish Council meetings(Request Mr Foll).

Mr Foll stated that in his opinion the minutes of meetings are not fully representative of events when compared to the very detailed minutes made by Emberton Parish Council.

Cllr. Geary said that minute taking should be brief and a record of actions and decisions taken. Their recording were a matter for the Clerk and council.

Councillors agreed that the present style of minute taking is acceptable.

Gravel Extraction: Cllr Geary reported that the figures for the next 10/13 years were being reviewed. Together with the fact that several additional sites had been put forward for extraction including a very local one, the subsequent Land Registry searches were going to delay the publication of the plan for an unknown period.

Newton Blossomville Bridge: Cllr. Geary reported that the £600,000 required for Work on Newton Blossomville/Cold Brayfield bridge had been ring fenced and brought forward to 2015/6 for commencement.

He suggested that Mr Swanston, who has been involved in the project for the Joint Parish Council should make further contact regarding the details.

MK Council 2015/6 Budget implications: Cllr Geary informed the meeting that 12% savings had to be made and that many services were to be reduced or even withdrawn. Those under discussion included the villages taxi service – as he has a family interest in this service it will be dealt with by Cllr. Hosking.

There is to be a 25% cut to library services with the mobile library under review.

The Citizens Advice Bureau in Milton Keynes may close.

The planned pay and display parking in Olney is likely to be shelved.

There is a proposed cut to the homeless budget of £100,000

The budget has to be agreed by 11/3/2015 to avoid being taken over by Central Government.

Ousedale School: Cllr Hosking expressed his concerns over the proposal that Ousedale School is planning to prioritise 10% of places to children with musical aptitude from outside its catchment area. As a consequence it is possible that from September 2018 some local children will be unable to attend Ousedale.

There is a public meeting at the end of the month and he strongly suggested the council should ask to attend this and send a letter giving its view on the subject. His offer to assist with the content of the letter was accepted. Mr Sibbald will attend the meeting as a parent and representative of the Joint Parish Council.

Pothole opposite entrance to farm track to Shepherds Hovel – this has been reported since the meeting. Blocked drain outside Sherwood Cottage, CR and gullies on Church Lane also reported

Standing Orders: These are under review and will be available by the Annual General Meeting.

Annual waiver of need for declaration of interest by Councillors. This will be looked into prior to the Annual General Meeting.

Seat opposite Robin Hood Public House Clifton Reynes:

Mr Berrill reported that the publican has expressed a wish to install a seat on the grass opposite the Robin Hood. Mrs Kent pointed out that there are long standing plans to widen the road in that area, that permission would need to be obtained from Milton Keynes Council as they owned the land, and that it would be likely to cause grass cutting problems in the future. The clerk confirmed that she had also spoken with the landlord on this issue. Mr Berrill offered to speak to him again.

Mrs Kent expressed thanks to Cllr. Geary for his advice and assistance with the many and varied issues the Joint Parish Council has had to address over the years on behalf of all the Parish Councillors.

- 7. Date of Next Meeting :** Annual General Meeting 20th May 2015 in Reading Room at 7.30pm