

**THORNBOROUGH PARISH COUNCIL**

**MINUTES of MEETING**

**Monday 6th February 2017 at 7.00p.m.**

**Present:** Cllr Stuart Mitchell (Chair), Cllr Andy Spurr, Cllr Mary Taylor, Cllr Ray Goodger, Cllr Deborah Hosein, Maggie Beach (Clerk), BCC Cllr Warren Whyte.

**Public:** None

Item	Minute	Action
1.	<b>Apologies:</b> Cllr Melanie Staff, Cllr Charlotte Moore, AVDC Cllr Sir Billy Stanier.	
2	<b>Public Participation Session</b> – none	
3	<b>Declaration of interest in items on the agenda:</b> - none	
4	<b>Minutes of the meeting of 9th January 2017</b> –Agreed unanimously	
5	<p><b>Review of Action Points</b></p> <p><b>Item 6 Planning</b> –a) responses made</p> <p><b>Item 7 Playground</b> - on agenda</p> <p><b>Item 8 Sports Field – table tennis table</b> - on agenda</p> <p><b>Item 9. Winter preparedness and request for information from BCC</b>                      In response to the e-mail from Buckinghamshire County Council and letter from Andrew Percy (MP) concerning this issue, asking for information to understand how they can support us better and/or coordinate efforts in this area, the Clerk has asked other parishes what they do for emergency/winter situations. Replies from smaller councils indicate that they have informal arrangements and rely on mutual support. Thornborough community supports each other in such eventualities and informal arrangements are in place as with the smaller parishes that replied to the Clerk. TPC consider this is adequate. The Clerk will respond to BCC's request explaining this is what we have in place.</p> <p><b>Item 11 Road and Transport issues</b> – on agenda</p> <p><b>Item 12 Street Lighting</b> – on agenda</p> <p><b>Item 13 Finances,</b></p> <p><b>b) Request for funding support for Citizens Advice Buckingham, Winslow &amp; District</b> – on agenda</p> <p><b>c) E-on contract at Sports Pavilion – This is due for renewal in April. Agreed to renew contract.</b> – The Clerk has this in hand</p> <p><b>e) Payments:</b> Cheques all sent</p> <p><b>Item 14 A.O.B., other correspondence and any other Councillors' Issues</b></p> <p>iii Road Closed sign left at Bridge Street by contractors last autumn - the Clerk has informed the relevant people and the sign has been removed.</p> <p>iv Church Clock in need of repair. The Clerk is still researching the parish council's responsibility with regards to the clock. It was suggested that the PCC for St Mary's Church could approach Thornborough Fund Raisers for financial assistance.</p> <p>v The damp patch on the ceiling of the Pavilion. The plumber has looked at this and repaired a leak.</p>	<b>Clerk to action</b>
6	<p>Planning:</p> <p>a) <u>Ref. 17/00311/ATC</u> - Brevitts Farm Back Street Thornborough Buckinghamshire MK18 2DH - Leylandii Trees (T1 - T5) - fell 5 Leylandii trees forming part of the hedge on the boundary of Brevitts Farm to Palmers moor. The trees form part of a 'high hedge' where the tops of the trees had previously been cut back. They are causing excessive shading are blocking light to neighbouring houses. Felling these trees will allow light through to other existing deciduous trees and hornbeam hedge – Permission has already been given for this work - NOTED</p>	

	- Other current planning issues - VALP AVDC's more positive view in respect of made Neighbourhood Plans in the light of the Weston Road, Great Horwood Call-In Inquiry and the Ministerial written statement on housing land supply where there is a made Neighbourhood Plan was noted. This is now reflected in the updated overview report that is presented to the Strategic Development Committee alongside planning applications.	
7	<b>NBPPC Meeting 25<sup>th</sup> January 2017</b> - TPC noted with regret the death of Dave Norris, Chairman of Newton Longville PC, who tragically died in a plane accident on Sunday 15 <sup>th</sup> January. The minutes attached as Appendix 1	
8	<b>Playground and Sports Field</b> i. <b>Funding Application</b> - The funding application is currently being completed by Cllr MT as the Primary Lead, with Maggie Beach as the Secondary Lead and with help from Cllr SM. It needs to be completed by 22 <sup>nd</sup> February 2017. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <u>Authorised signatory</u> - Proposed Cllr AS Seconded Cllr RG that Cllr Stuart Mitchell be the signatory for the WREN finding application, agreed unanimously.</li> <li>• <u>Proof of ownership</u> – The Clerk has found the conveyance and will scan it in for the application</li> <li>• <u>Maintenance schedule</u>- the Playground Working Group has written a draft Maintenance Schedule. Proposed Cllr AS seconded Cllr SM that the Maintenance Schedule be accepted, agreed unanimously</li> <li>• <u>Funding confirmation letter</u>- TPC has previously agreed an amount of £12,000 over two years (2016-17 and 2017-18) to be earmarked for Playground improvements at the Thornborough Parish Council meeting of 14/12/15 Minute 7. TPC has also previously agreed that the £5,000 donation from Lark Energy on completion of the solar farm installation at Thornborough Grounds as a contribution to the community be used for leisure/play improvements at the Thornborough Parish Council meeting of 01/18/16 Minute 15 and 05/09/16 Minute 5. Proposed Cllr AS seconded Cllr RG that both these amounts be confirmed as the amount TPC will put towards the cost of the Playground improvements in a funding confirmation letter to accompany the current WREN application – agreed unanimously.</li> </ul> <p>Cllr MT, Cllr SM and the Clerk will continue to work on the WREN bid and complete and submit before 22<sup>nd</sup> February 2017</p> ii. <b>Old equipment</b> – one piece of the equipment previously bought with Section 106 money in 2013 will be used in the current re-configuration of the Playground. The other complete piece of equipment will be transferred to the Sports Field for a play area to be set up at a future date. This piece and the spares for the swing to be stored by Cllr RG. iii. <b>Table tennis table</b> - deferred to a future meeting	<b>Cllr MT, Cllr SM and Clerk to continue to complete the WREN funding application and submit.</b>
9	<b>Play Around the Parishes 2017</b> This continued to be very popular last year. It was noted that there had been a minor increase this year in the cost but Councillors believe it to be a benefit for the parish. Agreed to book one 3 hour session mid-August.	<b>Clerk to book PATP session</b>
10	<b>AVDC Summer Roadshow</b> Aylesbury Vale District Council has asked for events in the parish that they can bring their Summer Roadshow which is designed to allow AVDC to become more approachable to residents and to inform them of some of the new commercial approaches which are fundamentally changing the way AVDC operates. Agreed to suggest the PATP event once we have a firm date booked.	<b>Clerk to action</b>
11	<b>Road and Drainage issues</b> i. <b>Current Issues -Bridge Street (Spring Lane)</b> As yet there has been no resolution with regards to ditch maintenance responsibilities of the riparian land owner of the ditch on the east side in the lower part of Bridge Street. Drainage is still an issue, now coming from the newly cut drive.	<b>Clerk to continue to monitor and</b>



	<p>Next 4 payments made against copy invoices as original invoices sent to wrong address and lost</p> <table> <tr> <td>AVDC - Play Around the Parishes 2015</td> <td>£400.00</td> <td>Cheque No. 779</td> </tr> <tr> <td>AVDC - Parish Election charges 2015</td> <td>£125.00</td> <td>Cheque No. 780</td> </tr> <tr> <td>AVDC – Dog waste services 2015-16</td> <td>£305.10</td> <td>Cheque No. 781</td> </tr> <tr> <td>AVDC - Play Around the Parishes 2016</td> <td>£335.00</td> <td>Cheque No. 782</td> </tr> <tr> <td><b>Total</b></td> <td><b>£4,968.74</b></td> <td></td> </tr> </table> <p><b>e) Receipts - None</b> The Clerk has received a letter of thanks for the donation TPC recently made to Citizens Advice Buckingham, Winslow &amp; District</p>	AVDC - Play Around the Parishes 2015	£400.00	Cheque No. 779	AVDC - Parish Election charges 2015	£125.00	Cheque No. 780	AVDC – Dog waste services 2015-16	£305.10	Cheque No. 781	AVDC - Play Around the Parishes 2016	£335.00	Cheque No. 782	<b>Total</b>	<b>£4,968.74</b>		
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14	<p><b>A.O.B., other correspondence and any other Councillors' Issues.</b> <b>Councillors' Issues</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. Buckingham Canal Society AGM and Social - Saturday 18th March 2017 starting at 7.17pm at Buckingham Community Centre - noted</li> <li>ii. E-on energy storage webinar – noted</li> <li>iii. Owl boxes letter from Thornton about owl boxes – this can be forwarded to Thornborough and Coombs Woodlands Enterprise Trust, also to Thornborough Infant School who may also be interested, and a short piece put in the next TNews.</li> </ul>	<b>Clerk to action</b>															
15	<p><b>Date of next meeting; 6th March 2017</b> The meeting closed at 8.50 p.m.</p>																

## Appendix 1

### North Bucks Parishes Planning Consortium

#### Minutes of meeting held on Wednesday 25 January 2017 at Winslow Town Chamber commencing 7.30 pm

**Apologies for absence:** Maggie Beach (Thornborough PC), John Gilbey (Great Horwood PC), Paul Hirons (Buckingham TC), James O'Rourke (Calvert Green PC), John Riches (Middle Claydon PC).

**Present:** Llew Monger (Acting Chairman for tonight's meeting/Winslow TC), Trish Cawte (Winslow TC), Mark Cowdrey (Little Horwood PC), Geoff Culverhouse (NBPPC Secretary), Paul Firth (Steeple Claydon PC), Helen Harvey (Drayton Parslow PC), Chris Leech (Great Brickhill PC), Gill Morgan (Stewkley PC), Andrew Pryke (Stewkley PC), Ken Roberts (Padbury PC), Brian Robson (Bierton with Broughton PC), Mary Saunders (Great Horwood PC), Graham Stewart (Whaddon PC), Rob Symonds (North Marston PC), Roy Van de Poll (Winslow TC/NBPPC Treasurer), Simon West (Mursley PC)

**Declarations of Interest:** none

**Dave Norris:** Llew Monger asked for a minutes silence before the meeting started in memory of Dave Norris of Newton Longville Parish Council who tragically died in a plane accident on Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> January.

**Minutes of last meetings held on 19 October and matters arising:** The minutes were accepted as a true record of the last two meetings. There were no matters arising that are not covered within tonight's agenda.

**Treasurers Report:** Roy Van de Poll reported that our current bank balance is £4,122.06 and that we have two new members (Maids Moreton PC and Middle Claydon PC) which brings total membership up to 27 town and parish councils.

#### Update in respect of AVDC's position re Neighbourhood Plans

Llew Monger summarised the current position and was pleased to advise that AVDC's more positive view in respect of made Neighbourhood Plans in the light of the Weston Road, Great Horwood Call-In Inquiry and the Ministerial written statement on housing land supply where there is a made Neighbourhood Plan. The latter is now reflected in the updated overview report that is presented to the Strategic Development Committee alongside planning applications. In addition it seems that Officer reports are better reflecting the weight which should now be given to made Neighbourhood Plans. Roy Van de Poll pointed out that an example of AVDC's change of heart is the fact that paragraph 198 of the NPPF is now being mentioned in officer reports.

### **Vale of Aylesbury Local Plan (VALP) – outcome of 15 January 2017 full Council meeting**

The full Council meeting has been put back to March 2017 because of the Unitary Authority issue. Llew feels that this will affect the VALP timetable and although AVDC have not changed their expectation that the plan will be adopted by the end of this year, Roy Van de Poll feels that this is unrealistic given that, nationally, the shortest period between any plan publication and adoption has been 9 months and the VALP is only expected to go to Examination this Summer.

Please note AVDC's projected VALP timetable:-

<b>Vale of Aylesbury Local Plan (VALP) – AVDC's projected timetable</b>	
Wk. com 27 <sup>th</sup> February	Proposed submission plan documents expected on AVDC website
6 <sup>th</sup> March	Proposed submission plan goes to VALP Scrutiny Committee
7 <sup>th</sup> March	Proposed submission plan goes to Cabinet
29 <sup>th</sup> March	Proposed Submission plan goes to AVDC full Council for agreement
April / May	Six week public comment period on agreed Submission Plan
June	Plan submitted to Planning Inspectorate for examination
Summer	Examination in Public
Autumn	Inspectors report
End of 2017	Adoption

Llew Monger also explained that London and Luton have yet to indicate their housing needs which AVDC may need to take into account. It is likely that work on the next local plan will have to start almost immediately after the VALP is adopted with issues such as the proposed route of the MK/Oxford/Cambridge Expressway and the position re Verney Junction Garden Village & Winslow New Settlement being considered.

### **Possible creation of Unitary Authority**

Mary Saunders highlighted the letter which TC's and PC's have received from AVDC encouraging them to write to the Secretary of State and to their MP with their views on the new proposal for two unitary authorities, based on a north/south Bucks split. She feels there are many unanswered questions such as the nature of the relationship between parishes and the new authority and what will happen to LAF's? Brian Robson wonders whether work currently undertaken by District Councillors would have to be taken over by unpaid parish councillors. Roy van de Poll is appalled at the claim that a proper consultation on the subject with TC's and PC's has taken place as clearly it has not.

Llew re-iterated the need to write to the Secretary of State and to your MP to express TC/PC views. A decision on the way forward is expected by the end of March 2017 followed by a 2 year window when any new authority will be created. Elections to the new body would be in May 2019.

## Major Development Issues

- **South West Milton Keynes Development:** Graham Stewart and Llew Monger provided a brief update although they do not know when the AVDC aspect of the application is going to be considered by Strategic Development Committee (SDC). However, Llew feels it is likely to be recommended for approval given the fact that it is included in VALP figures. Subsequent to tonight's NBPPC meeting, Mike Galloway (Newton Longville PC Clerk) has advised that MK Council have scheduled for the highway aspects of the main application to be considered on their planning agenda on Thursday 2 February at 7.00 pm. Newton Longville PC and West Bletchley PC are due to speak at that meeting.

## Town/Parish updates

**Stewkley:** Andrew Pryke and Gill Morgan reported on the Soulbury Road planning application – the original application was for 85 homes but this has now been reduced to 67. The AVDC case officer is supporting the application but Stewkley residents are unhappy not least because the number of homes requested represents some 10% of existing housing stock. Andrew and Gill made the point that whilst Stewkley have not yet completed their Neighbourhood Plan, the application is not in line with what villagers have indicated would be acceptable via a number of smaller planning applications over a period of time, not just introduced via one large development. Stewkley intend to send one PC representative to speak at the SDC meeting when the case is heard.

**Great Brickhill:** Chris Leech spoke briefly concerning the 1800 homes Eaton Leys planning application part of which is in his parish and part in MK. He feels it will be difficult to get the application called in and further news is awaited.

**Mursley:** Simon West explained that in August 2016 a developer put forward a proposal to build 63 homes – an application has yet to be submitted. The VALP states Mursley's need is only for one more home and therefore the PC is looking to proceed with a Neighbourhood Plan (NP) – a meeting in this respect has been set for 1 February in the village hall at 8 pm. The meeting is to share information with local residents and gauge whether there is appetite to embark on a NP.

**Drayton Parslow:** Helen Harvey reported that her parish have commenced work on their Neighbourhood Plan.

## Bierton with Broughton

**Crematoria:** Brian Robson reported that a judicial review in respect of the Eastern (Watermead) Crematorium found in favour of the developers. The last legal objection in respect of the Bierton Crematorium has been cleared and as such it looks increasingly like there will now be two Crematoria established in the Bierton area! **Kingsbrook:** the first 40 homes of this 2,500 development are now occupied. Brian wonders whether this development, when completed, will be split away from his parish. **Eastern Link Road:** work has commenced on the first part of this road – under contractual arrangements this part of the road has to be open by March 2021. **Development on site opposite Holiday Inn:** 400 homes and associated buildings are proposed which will undoubtedly create traffic issues.

## Bierton with Broughton update (continued)

**Management of open spaces:** Brian highlighted that AVDC and BCC appear to have adopted a policy not to not to adopt open spaces and streets (including lighting) in future developments (including Kingsbrook). Instead these will become under the auspices of a management company.

**Winslow:** Llew Monger reported that an application has been submitted for change of use to four one bedrooled apartments at 28 High Street where Winslow Town Council (WTC) and Citizens Advice are currently located. This building is, of course, also used for meetings by NBPPC and other organisations. The applicant is Aylesbury Vale Estates, a 50:50 partnership between AVDC and Akeman Estates. WTC have submitted a strong objection not least because they consider there is a conflict of interest and do not see how AVDC can determine an application in respect of a property where they have a vested interest. Roy van de Poll has encouraged others to write letters of objection on the basis that 28 High Street is an important community building. The application reference is 16/04287/APP, objections can be sent to [DevCon@aylesburyvaledc.gov.uk](mailto:DevCon@aylesburyvaledc.gov.uk) or submitted directly onto the AVDC website by clicking on the 'Make a Comment' button and completing the online form.

**Steeple Claydon:** Paul Firth summarised the current position. Gladman development at North End Road (65 homes) has been approved, Manor Road (95 homes) Appeal is set for May 2017 and the PC is working with representatives of the owners on plans to develop a site known as 'Mollies Field'. In addition a draft Neighbourhood Plan resident consultation is due to take place in two weeks time.

**Milton Keynes Issues:** Graham Stewart explained that there was nothing further to report following his update contained in the NBPPC October meeting minutes. However, Llew Monger commented on the adjoining authority unmet needs situation. MKC planning officers have apparently advised AVDC officers that they expect future MKC housing need to be accommodated within their own boundaries.

**Any other business:**

A short debate took place with contributions from Brian Robson, Mary Saunders, Mark Cowdrey, Chris Leech and Graham Stewart who all expressed disappointment at the way planning applications were being assessed/processed/interpreted. In particular there were instances where applicant comments were inaccurate and not picked up by planning officers and claims that planning officers are not fully taking TC/PC comments into account. Furthermore it was claimed that officer comments sometimes contain inaccuracies.

Llew asked that TC's and PC's provide him with examples of issues (other than application related) which he could present to the SDC for discussion/comment.

**Date of Next Meeting:** Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> April 2017 at the usual venue (Winslow Town Chamber) commencing 7.30 pm.

**The meeting closed at 9.00 pm**