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**Minutes of the Bluntisham Parish Council Meeting
Monday 5th January 2015 at 8pm in The Village Hall, Mill Lane,
Bluntisham**

Present: Chair: Mrs Joan Gutteridge, Mrs Margaret Lumb, Mrs Kathy Searle, Mrs Cynthia Curtis, Mr Frank Hudson, Mrs Tracey Davidson (Clerk),

Also present: Cllr Robin Carter, Cllr Mike Francis & 16 members of the Public

Open Forum – Mr V Haines discussed his planning application for a replacement 5 bedroom dwelling. Had further discussions with HDC and Highways following previous comments, and further design options discussed with HDC new proposed dwelling lower than those surrounding and more in keeping with neighbours. Windows moved which could be overlooking and obscured glass on others. Tree survey also submitted. Also invited neighbours to meet and take feedback on board to address all issues. HDC do not object in principal to a replacement dwelling.

Mr A Foreman – 49 Wood End, accept that a property will be built but still feel that the new application is too large for a back land development.

M Court - 47 Wood End, footprint of current application provides the same volume of property as previous application this makes the Southerly end of the property is closer to the boundary to 47,49 & 51 than previous application. Also concerned that the log cabin will cease to be a dwelling, surely it has to be removed to make the application a replacement? Mr V Haines advised that it is a legal requirement to remove the residential status of the cabin, which will be done at the time of any planning permission granted. It will be used as storage or a summer house.

The Chairman asked about the terrace overlooking old farm court, Mr Haines confirmed that obscured glass will be used.

Mr N Everall – 51 Wood End, Mr Haines has removed a lot of trees from the site and now the log cabin can be seen and is very overpowering to the surrounding properties. Concerned with trees in garden being lost due to the size of the dwelling. Mr V Haines responded with no trees are to be removed from the boundary, further trees will be planted and a tree survey will confirm that damage to roots, etc will be carried out as part of the development. Some trees have been removed which were in poor condition and too close together and therefore removed.

Mr D Heal - Horseshoe cottage, advised that the planning application has been submitted following a robust informal discussion with HDC and all points raised have been addressed.

Mr D Gedye has left new village history notices for all to view and comment on.

Mrs S Everest – Concerned with the proposed Pharmacy application. Having read the application she asked if Colne had been consulted? She raised concern with further knock on effects in the future.

	Mrs J King – used to work for a pharmacy and it closed due to Tesco opening a pharmacy nearby. However conditions were put on that they had to collect prescriptions and deliver to those who couldn't collect in person. It worked well.	
1954	Dispensation Forms received and decisions given – Nothing to report	
1955	Declarations of interest for items on the agenda – None	
1956	Apologies for absence – Cllr Steve Criswell & Mr Gary James & Miss Emily Godfrey.	
1957	County Council & District Council Reports – Cllr Robin Carter advised that HDC are seeking to hold Council Tax until 2019. Lots of work being done to improve level of service and reduce waste as HDC don't want to reduce any services delivered. In the local area, the lights which were out in Wood End have now been repaired. He has heard from CCC regarding Hollidays Road lighting who have no objection to moving the lighting column. He is now seeking a price from Balfour Beatty and then will discuss further with the parish council. Local plan 2036 – consultation with public councils. All comments are to be passed onto Cllr Carter to feed back to HDC. The Chairman asked if there is any news on the old Minaar Site in Earith. Cllr Carter confirmed that there are no updates. Cllr Mike Francis discussed the finance situation at HDC. HDC have recognised that funding from central government is going to reduce over the years and HDC are planning on operating without any funding from central government. Freezing council tax is a good idea however this will mean that more responsibilities will fall onto the parish.	
1958	Minutes of the Parish Council meeting dated 8th December & 16th December 2014 to be approved and signed – Minutes approved and signed by the Chairman. (<i>Proposed Mrs Kathy Searle, Seconded Mr Frank Hudson. All agreed</i>)	
1959	Matters arising from previous minutes – Mrs Margaret Lumb confirmed that item 1941 Tree Planting Scheme – following discussions with the school they have confirmed they do not require any trees.	
1960	FY2014/15 Accounts – to end November 2014 No concerns raised with the accounts. Total receipts £4002.28 & total expenditure £37528.34. (<i>Proposed Mrs Kathy Searle, Seconded Mr Frank Hudson. All agreed.</i>) <i>Annex 1</i>	
1961	Accounts for payment and December income summary – No concerns raised with the accounts for payment and income summary. Mrs Kathy Searle and Mr Frank Hudson signed cheques. (<i>Proposed Mrs Kathy Searle, seconded Mr Frank Hudson. All agreed</i>)	
1962	Chairman to sign paper copy of the 2015/16 budget – The chairman confirmed the figures of the paper copy with the electronic copy and signed the budget. This was formally approved at the December meeting under reference: 1929	
1963	Committee updates: a) Allotments Committee – Mr Frank Hudson advised that 3 allotment holders had been written to as their allotments are not being kept as per the agreement. Further action will be taken if it doesn't improve over the next month. b) Hall Management Committee – meeting on Monday 12 th January 2015 c) Finance Committee – meeting on Monday 19 th January 2015	

1964	<p>Sumerling Way – Hedge Quotes – The clerk confirmed that following discussions with all companies no gaps will be cut in the hedge in order to cut. It was agreed that John Talbot Tree Services would be awarded the tender for the works. The quotes are as follows: Upwood Tree Services - £600 John Talbot Tree Services - £400 + VAT Fergussons - £780 + VAT It was agreed that one gap in the middle would be acceptable, if needed. The clerk is to arrange for the work to be carried out as soon as possible. <i>(Proposed Mrs Margaret Lumb, Seconded Mrs Kathy Searle. All agreed.)</i></p>	Clerk
1965	<p>Parish Council 5 year plan & Annual Action Plan– The clerk is to update the 5 year plan as the footpath is starting soon. The Annual action plan was reviewed and all agreed it was a great reminder of tasks in hand or to be completed. The Clerk is to update it to make the following changes: Dog Walk – bring forward to Feb 15 to discuss. Cricket nets – meeting to submit planning application postponed, awaiting further information from the cricket club. Man hole cover in St Marys Road has been repaired. <i>(Proposed Mr Frank Hudson, seconded Mrs Cynthia Curtis. All agreed.)</i></p>	Clerk
1966	<p>Crime, Road Safety & Highway Warden Update (to include HCV, ENVAR & Hanson reports as appropriate) Crime: Mrs Margaret Lumb reported there have been 23 burglaries since 8 Dec – 5 January. Laptops and electrical items have been taken, along with jewellery and money. Highways: No walkabout but will do before next meeting. Road Safety: It was reported that the van is back parking outside the Reading Rooms, Mrs Margaret Lumb is to report again. HCV: No meeting to report.</p>	
1967	<p>Barograph – Mrs Margaret Lumb thanked Mr Peter Searle for the photos of the refurbished equipment which will be replaced Tuesday 6 January. All agreed that the finished site looks very good. The Feoffees would like to fund a seat on the Island and it is hoped to put some planters on the site too. It was agreed to wait for these things to be completed before having an official opening of the site. Mrs Margaret Lumb is to write to Gavin Wiseman to thank his team for their work. Mr Peter Searle confirmed that the Feoffees have instructed an architect to draw up plans for the bus shelter and will share with the PC in due course. All agreed that the Christmas Lights looked very nice and look forward to future decorations around the Barograph.</p>	MLumb
1968	<p>Station Road Footpath – Phase 1 – The Chairman confirmed that the Phase 1 of the new footpath would be starting soon. All residents will be written to by CCC advising of the works taking place. Four lighting columns are to be moved as part of the improvements and hedges and trees will be cut back to accommodate the footpath. The clerk has a plan if anyone wishes to view this.</p>	
1969	<p>Doctors Lease – 2015-17 - the Chairman and Vice Chair signed the lease, which has already been signed by the doctors. <i>(Proposed Mrs Kathy Searle, Seconded Mr Frank Hudson. All agreed.)</i></p>	
1970	<p>Planning:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Application offering unforeseen benefits in the vicinity of Bluntisham Service Station by Temi-Pharm Ltd – Proposed 	

Pharmacy. Mrs Kathy Searle has discussed the location of this application with Mr Highland who confirmed the location would be either inside of the garage or to go in the Barbers. It was discussed the Barbers would not be acceptable due to the narrow footpath and with the increase in traffic using the rear car park and the car wash it would be dangerous. Mr Highland did confirm that both buildings were alarmed and the garage had only had 2 attempted break ins since it opened. He also confirmed that the pharmacy doesn't keep large amounts of stock and the controlled drugs are kept to a minimum. The Parish Council **Reject** this application. (Proposed Mr Frank Hudson, Seconded Mrs Cynthia Curtis. All agreed.)

- **Application offering unforeseen benefits within the village of Bluntisham PE28 and within the perimeter outlined by Key Pharmaceuticals Ltd** – Proposed pharmacy. The Parish Council **Reject** this application (*Proposed Mrs Margaret Lumb, Seconded Mrs Kathy Searle. All agreed.*)

It was agreed the Clerk is to write to Serco with the Parish Councils comments.

- **1402063FUL** – Replacement of covering of South Aisle roof following partial theft of lead covering St Marys Church, Rectory Road, Bluntisham. As English Heritage are happy for stainless steel to be used as a replacement to the lead, the Parish Council **Approve** this application. (*Proposed Mrs Kathy Searle, Seconded Mr Frank Hudson. All agreed.*)
- **1401932LBC** – Single storey rear extension and alterations following part demolition of store 7 Colne Road, Bluntisham. The Parish Council agreed to **Approve** the application following discussions with HDC Conservation, who are in favour of the application. (*Proposed Mrs Kathy Searle, Seconded Mrs Margaret Lumb. All agreed.*)
- **1401931FUL** – single storey rear extension and alterations following part demolition of store 7 Colne Road, Bluntisham The Parish Council agreed to **Approve** the application. (*Proposed Mr Frank Hudson, Seconded Mrs Cynthia Curtis. All agreed.*)
- **1402056FUL** – Construction of a replacement 5 bedroom detached dwelling and garage block on land rear of 45 Wood End, Bluntisham
The Parish Council **Reject** this application for the following reasons: The scale of the development is too large for the site. The loss of 16 trees is unacceptable and the roof terrace overlooks the neighbours swimming pool. The Parish Council feel the property could be sited better if the log cabin were demolished. (*Proposed Mr Frank Hudson, Seconded Mrs Cynthia Curtis. All agreed.*)

Clerk

	Cllr Robin Carter asked if the PC would consider deferring their decision until they had read the tree report. It was agreed due to the timescale this wasn't an option.	
1971	Affordable Housing - The Chairman advised that there was a closed meeting prior to Christmas with Accent Nene and HDC to discuss the affordable housing options in Bluntisham. They have agreed on a site in Mill Lane, Bluntisham and the PC are pleased that an arrangement with the land owner has been reached. Although not formalised yet it is work in progress and the PC look forward to seeing plans in the future. The site will only have affordable housing and shared ownership and will not have any private dwellings.	
1972	70th Anniversary of the end of World War II – Key dates are 8 May VE Day & 15 August VJ Day with the 2 nd September marking the official end of WW2. Ideas were shared around the table and it was agreed to try and organise “village games on the green” (recreation ground) involving the cricket clubs, football clubs, scouts? Perhaps having a BBQ or bring your own picnic? It was suggested either 15/16 August or 8/9 August. The clerk is to raise this at the HMC meeting and will contact the relevant groups to ask for support. Mr Frank Hudson suggested contact the RBL who will provide flags for the event.	Clerk
1973	Village Maintenance: a) Update on H&S maintenance – Mr Joe Parker advised that he is having problems with the replacement seat for the rocket. The wood for the benches has arrived and all works should be completed within the next 3 weeks. The clerk asked if Joe could look at the bin in the school car park as it isn't fixed down.	
1974	Public Notice – filming and use of social media. The clerk shared a public notice regarding filming and use of social media for PC meetings. It was agreed that this would be displayed on the door prior to all PC meetings. <i>(Proposed Mrs Kathy Searle, Seconded Mr Frank Hudson. All agreed.)</i>	
1975	Correspondence Received Mrs Margaret Lumb has received an email from a horse rider who objected to the article in the newsletter regarding riding on land without the landowners permission. She has responded to the person directly. The clerk has received one volunteer for both the time bank and village planting scheme following the article in the newsletter.	
1976	Various Magazines & mail shots for general interest – nothing to share.	
1977	Items for consideration (for information only) Mrs Kathy Searle advised that another planning application was received today and is to be discussed on Monday 12 January at 8pm before the HMC meeting. The clerk is to send the agenda round. Mrs Margaret Lumb sends her apologies. Mrs Cynthia Curtis sends her apologies for the PC meetings on 9 Feb and 2 March. The clerk is to add the Annual Parish Meeting onto the next agenda. The Chairman asked Mrs Kathy Searle if the school car park chain could be replaced with posts and a metal bar.	

Meeting closed 9:50pm

Next meeting: 9th February 2015

Dates of Future Parish Council Meetings –2015

February	Monday 9 th February
March	Monday 2 nd March
April	Monday 13 th April

May	Monday 11 th May
June	Monday 1 st June
July	Monday 6 th July
August	Monday 3 rd August
September	Monday 7 th September
October	Monday 5 th October
November	Monday 2 nd November
December	Monday 7 th December

Annex 1 – FY 2014/15 accounts to end November 2014