

Items relating to the agenda

Item 3 – minutes –circulated by email

Item 4 – matters arising

Item 5 – Public open session

Item 6 – Update regarding Grant Palmer bus service

(you will recall the complaint circulated to the parish council from a local resident regarding an out of service bus speeding down Coplowe Lane)

Item 7 – to receive a report from the NDP group

Item 8– Planning

Report attached - 1 new application

15/01972/FUL North End Barns, North End, Bletsoe

Formation of 40 x 30m horse exercise area with surrounding post and rail fence for private use, including change of use – **deadline 6th October**

I will bring the plans with me to the meeting.

Item 9 – Financial Matters

- (i) approve accounts for payment – written report circulated
- (ii) annual spend against budget – written report circulated
- (iii) annual return 2014-15 – all signed off no recommendations (scan of page emailed) – just needs to be formally minuted

Village Hall - funding application is not on the September agenda as they do not have more than 1 quote for the works. Any application to the rural grants committee would require a minimum of 2 quotes but ideally 3 - so I have said we will consider this in November providing the quotes are available. For information although the parish council have the village hall on its asset register we do not insure the building - this is the responsibility of the village hall trust. I will be attending the SLCC course on charitable trusts in October. I did circulate a message to all Bedfordshire Clerks and the resounding reply was that **we could not** pay for works to the village hall in order to reclaim the VAT back - the village hall trust insure and pay for all running costs and it is run as a separate entity.

Item 10 – Clerk's reports

The Post Office have been in touch and there is a good chance Bletsoe will be able to get 1 visit per week. This will mean reducing a service elsewhere either in Upper Dean (which has 2 visits per week) or Thurleigh (which has 3 visits per week). It is unlikely they will be able to attend on a Tuesday (Tuesday tea shop) but I did request this. Most likely it will be on a Monday or a Thursday. They need to consult with the other parishes and will come back to me with a view to starting the service prior to Christmas. **Where do you think the best place would be for the mobile van to park – perhaps you can let me know at the meeting?**

Tree Warden – Bletsoe currently doesn't have one and Ann has asked if anyone wants to volunteer for the role?

Grass cutting on the village field – Chris Horne met with Ann and has agreed to cut the top section of the field where the trees are – the two cuts will cost £100 + VAT as a one off cost. If we add this to the grass cutting schedule he would be prepared to do this for less in future (more likely to be £50 + VAT for both cuts). Please let me

know if you wish to add this to the yearly schedule. In addition you may wish to review the grass cutting agreement in place with Chris Horne:

At the moment you have 10 cuts for the churchyard @ £43.00 + VAT per cut
10 cuts for the play area @ 29.00 + VAT per cut

8 cuts for the village and verges @£83.00 + VAT per cut

8 cuts and also the plantation £13.00 + VAT per cut

Hedge cutting round the orchard (3 sides) 1 x per year £180 + VAT

It might be worth considering increasing the number of cuts to the village and verges and the plantation to 10 cuts?

Once you have agreed on a schedule I can ask Chris what his rates will be for 2016.

VAT has been reclaimed – total amount refunded £754.67.

The second instalment of the precept (£6540) has now been received from Beds BC.

There are no other items for consideration which are not included elsewhere within the agenda as part of the Clerk's report

Item 11 – Parish Concerns

Item 12 – Date of next meeting

Annual Meeting of Parish Council **Monday 30th November at 7:30pm**

A Southern

25th September 2015