

BLOCKLEY PARISH COUNCIL– EXTRAORDINARY DECEMBER MEETING



Minutes of the Meeting of Blockley Parish Council held on Thursday 15th December 2022 in Little Village Hall, Blockley 7pm

Present: Cllrs C Turner (chair), J Bryan, K Derson, E Thorneycroft, P Baines, S Neill and Rev Dana Delap
Apologies for absence accepted from: T Bradley

Minutes: P Baines

1. Welcome from Chair to all and in particular to Rev'd Delap and potential new councillor Mr S Neill
2. Items for Any Other Business: To consider an exception to the BPC's memorial stone policy, Revd Delap & JB
3. Declarations of Interest and Dispensations for items on the agenda - NONE
4. To decide co-option of new Councillor Mr Steve Neill. Proposed by Cllr Bryan Seconded Cllr Thorneycroft, passed unanimously. **ACTION: Clerk to look at GAPTC training JB to organize electronic access and comms with Cloudy IT**
5. To approve Budget for 2023/24.

Following a detailed discussion at the November meeting revised financial documents were circulated to all cllrs. Extensive modelling and adjustments to budget were made in order to accommodate escalating costs some far in excess of the November CPI figure of 9.3% as published by the Office for National Statistics.

The majority of council felt that 5% was a conservative increase considering the escalating financial headwinds since 3% was added at previous budget review.

As well as this, council was mindful of future capital expenditure on critical maintenance projects such as graveyard memorials (heritage at risk), the remainder of the graveyard dry stone wall, Churchill Close wall and the need to secure a new cemetery plot (amongst others).

It is acknowledged BPC will continue to work diligently to mitigate financial impacts to the parish budget while maintaining the standards of services and maintenance the council strives to set for Parish residents.

By majority BPC resolved to increase the precept for '23-'24 by 5% totalling £118,965.00. Proposed JB, seconded CT.

6. To consider new BPC grant applications. No new applications.
7. Any other business.

Rev'd Delap was invited to share her feedback on an issue regarding a headstone and councillors discussed the context of the request and the existing precedents. There was general agreement that the case could justify an exception and that some further checks should be done to check the accreditation of the installers. Action JB

Meeting Closed :8pm

Next Meeting Thursday 19th January 7pm Little Village Hall, Blockley

