

BLOCKLEY PARISH COUNCIL– MEETING



Minutes of the Meeting of Blockley Parish Council held on Thursday 19th January 2023 in Little Village Hall, Blockley, 7pm

Present: Cllrs – C Turner (presiding), E Thorneycroft, S Neill, J Bryan, P Baines, District Cllr S Jepson

Members of the public: 3

Apologies for absence accepted from: T. Bradley & K. Derson

The Clerk/RFO: Voluntary locum

Meeting opened at 7.07pm

1. Apologies were accepted from: T. Bradley & K. Derson
2. Items for any other business: None
3. Declarations of Interest and Dispensations for items on the agenda – None
4. Public Participation: S. Weir thanked the council for all their efforts across the parish and raised concerns regarding the damaged hand-rail along the raised pavement on St Georges Terrace. It was reported that in poor weather conditions some pedestrians have to walk in the road. The Chair reported that the County Council are responsible and BPC are awaiting an update from the County Councillor who has acknowledged the matter.
5. The members of the public are to be removed from the apologies, on that basis, RESOLVED to approve minutes of the Parish Council Meeting of Thursday 17th November 2023 Proposed CT, seconded PB, abstention ET, approved by majority.
6. County and District Councillor updates:

S Jepson updated the council that she is pleased to hear that BPC requested a public consultation regarding the development at Haberdashers. There has been an enforcement notice issued to the land in Draycott. Cllr Jepson expects rises across all possible areas in the 2022-23 Cotswold District Council's budget. The scaffolding at the Churchill Pub in Paxford is a matter for the county council and the increase in planning department decisions has been due to a temporary member of staff.
7. Planning: Two new applications were circulated ahead of meeting, a biodiversity comment is to be added to the Mulberry Cottage application (22/04262/FUL), no comment to the Troopers Lodge application (22/04463/FUL).
8. Finance - Cllr Bryan
 - 8.1 Resolved to approve the Finance Report for 17.11.22 – 19.01.23 detailing all accounts held by the council, the income and expenditure and the 2022-23 budget and precept as agreed in December. The report also detailed the imminent review of the youth services contract and the grounds maintenance contract. JB proposed, PB seconded, agreed unanimously.
 - 8.2 Resolved to approve expenditure from 17.11.22 – 19.01.23 JB proposed, CT seconded, agreed unanimously
 - 8.3 To consider Grant Applications:

Cotswold Voice application for £500. Following discussion, on the agreement that the publication will be made freely available on the parish councils website, resolved to approve the grant, proposed JB, seconded CT, abstain PB, agreed by majority.
9. Recreation & Youth update:

Monthly attendance continues to be good at the Youth Club, the annual contract review is to be conducted.
10. Environmental Sustainability update:

Meetings are to run again regularly from the Spring.

 - 10.1 Update on parish EV charge points
Proposal received from Liberty Charge to consider bays and on street electric vehicle chargers. Councillors are reviewing all aspects of the proposal including the pricing model and inclusion of proactive and reactive maintenance service which is listed. Councillors will invite Liberty Charge to a Q&A session with Councillors and then consult the public. *ACTION: All councillors to submit questions to be raised directly to Liberty Charge, to be collated by the Clerk.*
11. Community: Cllr Turner
 - 11.1 To consider funding a membership of 'Timebanking UK'
Cllr Turner provided an explanation and the fees, the social benefits were discussed. Councillors are considering the possible options for the scheme to be run effectively within the parish.
 - 11.2 To agree community litter picking dates for Blockley, Paxford, Aston Magna & Draycott. To agree

purchase of any equipment necessary to undertake litter pick

It was agreed that the parish dates should correlate with the national dates; Draycott 25th March, Blockley 25th/26th March.

ACTION: Clerk to contact Aston Magna residents to notify them of parish plans and availability of equipment.

ACTION: Clerk to enquire about 'litter picking in progress' safety signs to increase safety measures with CDC

12. St George's Hall update:

A report was circulated in advance, it detailed the stability of bookings, accounts being submitted to the charity commission, completed maintenance works including carpark and pathway resurfacing, redecorating of loos and smaller rooms, new fire alarm fitted, security alarm upgraded, forthcoming works including redecoration of the main hall, stage, new curtains for all windows and rear stage, refurbishment of the flooring in the main hall and entrance and a new AV system.

13. Personnel update:

The Chair and Vice Chair have caught up to review the Clerk's temporary remote working arrangements.

14. Burials:

14.1 RESOLVED the installation of a Memorial headstone, further to discussion at the December meeting as accreditation has been confirmed, proposed JB, seconded CT, approved unanimously.

BPC and the PCC are reviewing the churchyard grounds in January.

15. Councillor recruitment strategies: Cllr Turner reported her training on methods of promoting the services and actions of the parish council to generate interest from potential councillors; they include virtual and in person surgeries, local print articles and the BPC website. The print cost for a leaflet distributed to all parish households is less than £250.

15.1 Resolved to purchase a leaflet that will notify parishioners of the works completed by the parish council and the need for additional councillors at a cost of £250, proposed CT, seconded JB, abstained SN, approved by majority.

16. Clerk's update & correspondence log circulated was circulated ahead of the meeting.

17. Any other business: None

Meeting closed: 09.04pm

NEXT MEETING: 7pm, 16th February 2023, Paxford Village Hall, Paxford

Approved by Blockley Parish Council:

Signed:

Print:

Date:

