



Blockley Parish Council

Minutes – Thursday 17th March 2022, 7.00pm, Little village Hall, Blockley.

Present: Cllrs – P Baines, K Derson, E Thorneycroft and C Turner (presiding councillor), S Jepson (District Councillor)
Members of the public: 3
Apologies for absence accepted from: J Bryan, B Cowles and T Bradley
The Clerk/RFO: Sarah Longbottom
Meeting opened at 7:00pm

In the absence of Cllr Bradley (Chair) and Cllr Bryan (Vice-Chair) Cllr Turner was proposed by KD to preside the meeting, seconded by PB.

1. Apologies were accepted from T Bradley, J Bryan and C. Cowles.
2. Items for Any Other Business: Blockley and District Allotment Association
3. Declarations of Interest and Dispensations for items on the agenda - None
4. Public Participation – The meeting was suspended to hear representations by two members of the public.

A resident raised the appropriateness and consultation of the plans for the replacement play equipment at Churchill Close. They expressed their concerns over the height and length of the agility trail, and that they believe that a further public consultation should have taken place once the parish council had selected the equipment. They requested that installation of the agility trail is halted, and the equipment goes elsewhere.

A resident suggested that the parish council compile an email contact list for residents wishing to receive information directly, they requested a road name sign for Draycott Road and informed the councillors of the banner that the Heritage Society has which may be of use for Platinum Jubilee events or parades. The Clerk is to explore distribution opt-in with the IT supplier and to raise the road sign with CDC.

Council business resumed.

5. RESOLVED to approve the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting of 17th February 2022, proposed PB, seconded ET, agreed unanimously.
 1. Matters arising:
 - 20.01.22:9.2 – Memorial plaque and tree guards are to be researched for the Platinum Jubilee trees (Clerk)
Complete, agenda item
 - 17.02.22:9.1 An extraordinary meeting is to be held to discuss the objectives and timeline of the Children and Young People Strategy including youth services provision. Complete
 - 17.02.22:10.1 *Spring Clean* - Clerk to discuss with The Great Western Arms about providing a location for waste bags and refreshments. Complete
 - 17.02.22:14.1 GCC Build Back Better grant application requesting £1,000 to support the Strength and Balance classes into 2022-23 is to be made. Complete, agenda item
6. RESOLVED to approve the minutes of the Extraordinary Parish Council Meeting of 1st March 2022, proposed CT, seconded KD, agreed unanimously.
 1. Matters arising
 - 01.03.22:2.1 ET is to speak to facilitators of weekly sport opportunities. Ongoing
 - 01.03.22:2.2 The community contact list is to be emailed by JB inviting societies to speak at meetings giving an update of their activities. Complete
 - 01.03.22:2.3 A community calendar of events held on BCP website is to be researched by the Clerk with Cloudy IT. Ongoing

01.03.22:2.4 JB is to review with the Heritage Society the lease of the Heritage Centre. Ongoing
01.03.22:3.1 Clerk to arrange a meeting between Inspire to Aspire and councillors. Complete
01.03.22:3.2 Clerk and JB to review the current facility hiring agreement and future possibilities with BSSC and Blockley Utilities. Ongoing
01.03.22:3.3 Research into possible activities for the summer months is to be conducted by councillors and the Clerk. Ongoing

7. County and District Councillors' updates

Cllr S Jepson informed councillors that at the District Council's latest full council meeting, sewage discharge in rivers was discussed with Blockley experiencing a high proportion of visits by Severn Trent. Parliamentary constituency boundaries are being reviewed, a consultation has been requested.

8. Planning: The latest planning applications were circulated ahead of the meeting, some biodiversity matters are to be commented on:

22/00804/FUL, enhancement opportunity - bat boxes into gable end,
22/00697/FUL, bat survey requested (proximity to foraging habitat), request loss of habitat is compensated
22/00495/LBC, bat survey requirement.

9. Finance:

1. Finance Report for 12th February 2022 – 11th March 2022 detailing all accounts held by the council and notification of the NALC national salary award for clerks applicable from the 1st April 2022 was circulated ahead of the meeting

2. RESOLVED to approve expenditure from 12th February 2022 – 11th March 2022 proposed CT, seconded PB, unanimous.

3. RESOLVED to approve internal auditors Gloucestershire Association Parish and Town Councils, proposed CT, seconded PB, unanimous.

10. Recreation and Youth update by Cllr Derson:

A meeting has been held with Inspire to Aspire, bi-monthly meetings with the youth strategy KPIs will take place. The Service Level Agreement will continue for a further 12 months as agreed at the procurement stage.

Installation of replacement play equipment at Churchill Close and Springfield is underway, the intention is to have the inspection completed for the areas to open at the beginning of April.

1. Discuss the Build Back Better grant application

The application has been revised to reflect Cllr Stowe supporting £500. RESOLVED for the further £512 to fund 22 Strength and Balance sessions to be funded from the Recreation budget, proposed CT, seconded KD, unanimous.

11. Environmental Sustainability working group update including ecologist review of Churchill Close by Cllr Turner:

Community litter picks have been arranged; Blockley 26th March, Paxford 21st and 22nd May, Draycott 1st April.

The working group reviewed the Climate and Ecological Action Plan for all climate actions, ecological actions are to be reviewed on the 31st March.

Ecologists have reviewed Churchill Close; a full report will be provided. The species of memorial tree will not have a biodiversity impact. Clerk is to inform the organisers of the memorial tree that they are to choose species and location of tree and advise the council for final approval.

1.RESOLVED to approve the working group becomes a council committee, proposed CT, seconded KD, unanimous. Terms of reference to be proposed at the next council meeting.

12. Local Plan consultation update by Cllr Turner:
CT and KD attended the CDC forum in Moreton in Marsh. Councillors are to submit personal responses. KD attended the youth club to facilitate young parishioners to complete the teens survey.

13. Speed watch update – Cllr Turner
2 volunteers from Paxford and 4 volunteers from Blockley have completed the online form. Further promotion of the scheme is to be added to the noticeboards.

14. Propose listing ways to support Ukraine refugees - Cllr Turner
The council website is to list charities and direct residents to the CDC website.

15. Paxford and Aston Magna maintenance
1.RESOLVED to approve the purchase of Platinum Jubilee bench at £1,813.50 to be installed on the Paxford verge, proposed PB, seconded CT, unanimous.
2. RESOLVED to approve small tree markers at @15 each and Steel Weld Mesh Tree Guard – Small Diameter, 1.8m x 300mm at £27.12 each, proposed CT, seconded KD, unanimous. Councillors are to arrange a planting group. *ACTION: 17.03.22:15*

16. Queen’s Platinum Jubilee working group update by Cllr Thorneycroft
The Women’s Institute (WI) are leading a picnic event in Blockley, BADCO are developing 15 minute performances, the toddler group running are running a family event, Winterway, Draycott and Paxford are organising individual events. The WI are leading recycled bunting creation sessions for frontages and community areas. A further meeting is being scheduled, community groups are to be advised of the meeting. Promotional posters are being designed by a volunteer of the parish.
1.RESOLVED to approve the terms of reference for the Queen’s Platinum Jubilee Working Group, proposed ET, seconded CT, unanimous.
2.RESOLVED to approve a budget of £2,500 to be shared across the parish events to enable hall hire, porta-loos and licences in accordance with 1972 Section 145, proposed ET, seconded CT, unanimous.

17. Burials:
1. DEFFERRED to consider the condition of the gate at the top of the cemetery
2. DEFFERRED to review the revised costings for the cemetery noticeboard

18. Personnel update by Cllr Baines
The resignation of the Clerk and Responsible Finance Officer has been received. A job description and recruitment strategy is to be written by the Clerk and Cllr Baines. *ACTION: 17.03.22:18*

19. Clerk’s update and correspondence log: There are no outstanding correspondence matters.

20. Any other business
A 999-year lease has been signed by the Blockley and District Allotment Association on the new site, the old site has been cleared.

Date of Next Meeting: Thursday 21st April 2022, Paxford Village Hall

Meeting closed at 21:22.

Approved by Blockley Parish Council:

Signed.....Print.....Date.....

Action points:

01.03.22:2.1 ET is to speak to facilitators of weekly sport opportunities.

01.03.22:2.3 A community calendar of events held on BPC website is to be researched by the Clerk with Cloudy IT.

01.03.22:2.4 JB is to review with the Heritage Society the lease of the Heritage Centre.

01.03.22:3.2 Clerk and JB to review the current facility hiring agreement and future possibilities with BSSC and Blockley Utilities.

01.03.22:3.3 Research into possible activities for the summer months is to be conducted by councillors and the Clerk.

17.03.22:15 Councillors are to arrange a tree planting group.

17.03.22:18 A job description and recruitment strategy is to be written by the Clerk and Cllr Baines.