

# Bloxham Parish Council

## Bloxham Annual Parish Meeting

Warriner School, Bloxham.

19:30 - 21:00

Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> April 2018

# Annual Parish Meeting

## Agenda

- ▶ Welcome, Introductions and Apologies
- ▶ To approve the 'Minutes of the Meeting' held on 27<sup>th</sup> April 2017
- ▶ Matters arising from the 2017 Minutes
- ▶ Presentations from:
  - ▶ Ahmed Farah; Skanska UK/Oxfordshire County Council (volunteering)
  - ▶ Representatives from the S106 Project Groups
- ▶ Chairman's Report and Achievements over the last 12 months
- ▶ Bloxham Parish Council:- Budget and Funding
- ▶ Planning Matters
- ▶ Environment Matters
- ▶ Bloxham Parish Council - Priorities for 2018
- ▶ County and District Councillors Reports for 2017/18
- ▶ Questions from the floor
- ▶ The meeting closes at 9.00pm

# Welcome & Introductions

## Jenny Yates, Chairman, Bloxham Parish Council

- ▶ We have 9 Councillors currently on Bloxham Parish Council (BPC)
- ▶ There were Parish Council elections scheduled on 3 May 2018
- ▶ 10 residents put their names forward, so the Parish Council still has 2 vacancies for the period from May 2018
- ▶ Your Councillors are:

- Jenny Yates - Council Chair and Chair of Resources Committee
- Sue Slater - Council Vice-Chair and Chair of the Planning & Strategy, and Staffing Committees
- Nick Rayner - Chair of the Environment Committee
- Theresa Goss - Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer

- Steve Craggs
- Mary Groves
- Mike Hawtin
- Leonard Leigh
- Stephen Phipps
- Gloria Lester-Stevens

# 2016/2017 APM Minutes & 2017/2018 Chairman's report Jenny Yates, Chairman

- ▶ Minutes of the last years Annual Parish Meeting
- ▶ Chairman's report Highlights:
  - ▶ Residents Issues
  - ▶ Old Bridge Road is fully open
  - ▶ Parking
  - ▶ Air Quality
  - ▶ Ditches and Drains
  - ▶ Implementation of Section 106 funds
  - ▶ Queen Street

# Resources Committee - Budget & Funding

## High Level review of 2017/2018

- ▶ The annual Budget for 2017/2018 was £110,148
  - ▶ This is funded through the “Precept” and from the Parish Council’s “reserves”
  - ▶ The precept for 2017/2018 was £87,342
  - ▶ Uncertainty around ongoing services from Oxfordshire County Council as well as possible Unitary Authority changes means that BPC has increased its contingency fund.
  - ▶ Parish Councils must keep a **minimum of 6 months** of the precept as reserves.
- ▶ From within the budget, the Council provides the following services:
  - ▶ Maintenance of play areas, bus shelters, benches
  - ▶ Grass cutting, arboreal works, tree survey, weed control and general maintenance
  - ▶ Emptying/maintenance including replacement of dog waste, litter, grit and salt bins
  - ▶ Support for local village groups and associations with grants, including The Thursday Club and the Cherry Tree Centre.
  - ▶ Support the development of a web site

# Budget & Funding

## 2018/2019 Budget and Funding

- ▶ Our annual Budget for 2018/19 is **£141,079**
  - ▶ The precept for 2018/2019 is **£89,962** ( 2017/2018 **£87,342**)
  - ▶ This will result in a Band D property paying £61.14 a **reduction from the 2017/18 charge.**
    - ▶ This equates to an annual decrease of **£0.42p pa** for Band D properties
  - ▶ The Parish Council continues to manage its reserves prudently to enable support for village services in the event that funding from County and District Councils is reduced or cut.

# Budget & Funding

## Opportunities & Threats

### ▶ Opportunities:

- ▶ Secure and manage S106 funds to support indoor and outdoor sports provision
- ▶ Support for village organisations
- ▶ Scope for volunteers to undertake some tasks

### ▶ Threats:

- ▶ Unitary Authority changes
- ▶ Transfer/withdrawal of other Services from CDC & OCC
  - ▶ E.g. removal of Grass Cutting Grant, Gritting, Drainage, Grips & Grills, Hedges & Tree maintenance etc.
- ▶ Capping of PC precepts by central government
- ▶ Need for volunteers
- ▶ Lack of Parish Councillors

# Budget & Funding

## Section 106 Monies

- Planning obligations under Section 106 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 (as amended) are widely known as Section 106 agreements.
- Oxfordshire County Council (OCC) holds funds to support the development of education, transport, and road safety.
- Cherwell District Council (CDC) holds funds to support the development of play, sport and recreation. During the last year, CDC agreed to release funds for the following projects:

- ▶ Provision for recreation equipment storage at both the Ellen Hinde Memorial Hall and Ex-Serviceman's Hall
- ▶ Provision for improvements and additions to the Jubilee Park and Recreation Ground Play Areas.
- ▶ New changing rooms for the Jubilee Park
- ▶ Support improvements to the MUGA based at the Warriner School



## Budget & Funding

### Section 106 Monies

- During 2018/2019, it is hoped that the following projects will progress using Section 106 funds:

- ▶ Jubilee Park - funding has been allocated to expand the Hall to encompass new changing rooms, create a meeting room and further car parking spaces.
- ▶ Play Equipment - Phase two of the play equipment project for Jubilee Park and Bloxham Recreation Ground

- ▶ Bloxham Recreation Ground - funds to improve drainage was not viable and a new project may be coming forward this year
- ▶ Ex-Serviceman's Hall - funds allocated to extend the space in the Hall.

# Budget & Funding

## New Homes Bonus

- ▶ This is money which Cherwell District Council apportions to Parish Councils to mitigate the impact of village developments.
- ▶ Specific applications for projects have to be submitted to CDC for approval.
  - ▶ St Mary's Thursday Club
  - ▶ Cherry Tree Centre
  - ▶ First Aid Courses
  - ▶ Rural grass cutting
  - ▶ Fitness/recreation equipment
  - ▶ Works at Walsingham Close amenity area
- ▶ From 2018/2019, the Parish Council will not receive any further New Homes Bonus from CDC.

# Planning Committee

- ▶ Planning Applications
  - ▶ Continuing to consider and respond to a wide range and number of applications.
  - ▶ The Parish Council as a statutory consultee.
  - ▶ Bloxham Neighbourhood Development Plan
  - ▶ The new developments continue to be built out; what next?
  - ▶ Consultations

# Environment Committee

- ▶ Supported and funded further excellent work in the Slade Nature Reserve as we continue to improve this area.
  - ▶ Processing the registration of The Slade as a 'registered' Local nature Reserve
- ▶ Coordinated and funded further works on the Bloxham Circular Walk.
- ▶ A new Tree Survey has been completed, and a proactive management plan from this is being developed.
  - ▶ Undertaken urgent tree works around the village.
- ▶ Implementing a new management plan for the benches we have around Bloxham
- ▶ Agreed to take on further OCC grass cutting responsibilities from April 2018.
- ▶ Investigating new Christmas lights for the village
- ▶ Co-ordinated the winter volunteers for manual gritting of the footpaths - more volunteers are always welcome!
- ▶ Continue to try to address the issue of dog fouling on the Jubilee, Recreation ground and around the village

# Bloxham Parish Council

## Priorities for 2018/2019 are to:

- ▶ ensure that the Air Quality in the village is monitored with continued liaison with Cherwell District Council to ensure positive preventative actions are undertaken.
- ▶ use the BNDP and Local Plans to ensure that any development within the built limit of the village is in line with the Policies contained within them.
- ▶ support services for the young and elderly of the village.
- ▶ improve the environment and fabric of the village with the help of volunteers.
- ▶ continue to build on the recreational improvements for the residents of Bloxham.
- ▶ continue to seek a secure location for the library facility in Bloxham.
- ▶ continue to work with OCC to provide a safe cycle route into Banbury.
- ▶ ensure that OCC provide funds to improve the surface and safety of the A361 through the village.

# District & County Councillors Reports

- ▶ Reports available tonight for review



Christine Heath  
Cherwell District Councillor for  
Bloxham, Adderbury and Bodicote



Mike Bishop  
Cherwell District Councillor for  
Bloxham, Adderbury and Bodicote



Andrew McHugh  
Cherwell District Councillor for  
Bloxham, Adderbury and Bodicote

Kieron Mallon  
Oxfordshire County Councillor  
Bloxham and Easington



# Questions for Councillors



**Please note: You must be registered to vote in Bloxham to ask questions.**