

BLOXHAM PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON ZOOM ON WEDNESDAY 16 SEPTEMBER 2020 AT 7.30PM

PRESENT: Chairman, Councillor Steve Craggs; Councillors Joanna Barton, Amanda Baxter, David Bunn, Sophie Floate, Gloria Lester-Stevens, Leonard Leigh, Stephen Phipps and Heather Westbury.

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE: One member of the public was present.

APOLOGIES: Councillor Kirsty Rose submitted her apologies because she had another appointment, the apologies were accepted and the absence was authorised.

Councillor Mike Morris submitted his apologies because he was at work, the apologies were accepted and the absence was authorised.

Councillor Nick Rayner submitted his apologies because he had a family issue, the apologies were accepted and the absence was authorised.

District Councillors Mike Bishop, Christine Heath and Andrew McHugh also submitted their apologies.

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting and advised Councillors that for security reasons, the facility to record the meeting on Zoom had been switched off.

53/20 **Declarations of Interest**

Minute Number 60/20, Environment/Village Matters, Bloxham Service Station - Councillors Joanna Barton and Amanda Baxter declared an interest in this item because they were neighbours to the site.

54/20 Minutes – Prior to the meeting, the minutes of the meetings held on 7 September 2020 had been circulated to the Parish Council and were taken as read.

Resolved that the minutes of the meeting held on 7 September 2020 be approved and signed by the Chairman.

55/20 Matters Arising – There were no matters arising.

56/20 **Chairman's Announcements**

- Keith Mitchell CBE, former County Councillor for Bloxham, had passed away on 26 August 2020. A letter of condolence would be sent to his wife and family. **Action TG**
- Councillors were asked to consider whether they would take over the responsibility of attending the ONPA meetings from Councillor Nick Rayner. This would be discussed at the next meeting. **Action SC/TG**
- Councillors were asked to consider whether they would take over the responsibility of managing the maintenance of the trees in the village. This would be discussed at the next meeting. **Action TG**
- Electric fence signage needed to be erected at either end of the Hobb Hill footpath. Councillor David Bunn would check whether or not the signs would fit on the kissing gates which were already in place. **Action DB**

57/20 Open Forum – The resident did not wish to address the Parish Council.

Councillor David Bunn asked whether any residents had volunteered to be an Oxfordshire County Council's 'Fix My Street Super User'. The Clerk advised that no one had come forward so far. It was agreed that the role would be advertised again, however, if no one was forthcoming Councillor David Bunn agreed to undertake the role. **Action TG/DB**

The Chairman reported that there was a parking issue around the area of Courtington Lane near to The Pound. The Clerk advised that this matter had been reported to the Parish Council by a resident and was in hand. The Councillors agreed to monitor this area to establish whether or not it had improved. **Action TG**

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(For information, following guidance from the National Association of Local Councils, the Parish Council did not specifically name individual residents within its minutes, unless they were speaking in an official capacity)

58/20 Reports from County and District Councillors – No reports from the County and District Councillors.

59/20 Planning

i) Planning Applications:

- 20/02384/AGD, Land North of Bloxham Road, Milcombe – The Parish Council considered an application for the erection of a new agricultural building for machinery and hay/silage storage. For this type of application, the Parish Council can only provide comments.

Resolved that the Parish Council has no objection to application 20/02384/AGD but comments that the proposed building will be visible from the public footpath, despite the application form stating the contrary.

Also, Cherwell District Council will be asked to provide six figure grid references for this type of application in future, so it is clear exactly where the development is located. **Action TG**

ii) Cherwell Local Plan Review 2040 - Planning for Cherwell to 2040: A Community Involvement Paper – The Parish Council considered the consultation document on the Cherwell Local Plan Review 2040.

Resolved that:

- 1) Cherwell District Council be requested to extend the deadline for comments on the Cherwell Local Plan Review 2040; and **Action TG**
- 2) if the deadline for comments can be extended, the Chairman and Councillor Leonard Leigh will meet to formulate a response and any other Councillors are invited to join them. **Action SC/LL**

iii) Changes to the Current Planning System, Planning for the Future White Paper and Transparency and Competition: Data and Land Control – The Parish Council considered the consultation documents on the Changes to the Current Planning System, Planning for the Future, White Paper and Transparency and Competition: Data and Land Control.

Resolved that:

- 1) the response on Changes to the Current Planning System, drafted by Councillor Leonard Leigh be submitted to NALC as the Parish Council's response; **Action SC/TG**
- 2) the Chairman and Councillor Leonard Leigh will meet to formulate a response and any other Councillors are invited to join them, with regard to Planning for the Future White Paper and Transparency and Competition: Data and Land Control. **Action SC/LL**

iv) Miller Homes Site, Tadmarton Road, Bloxham – Councillor Stephen Phipps and the Chairman gave an update on the issues with the Miller Homes site. A response to the letter from Jason Russell, Corporate Director Communities at Cherwell District Council would be discussed later in the meeting.

Resolved that the report be noted.

60/20 Environment/Village Matters

i) Bloxham Service Station – The Parish Council discussed the issues at Bloxham Service Station, South Newington Road, Bloxham and Councillors Joanna Barton and Amanda Baxter gave an update on the incidents of anti-social behaviour at the site.

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Resolved that investigations be made into submitting a stage 1 complaint to Cherwell District Council over its handling of the issues at Bloxham Service Station. **Action TG**

- ii) Biodiversity Project – Prior to the meeting, the Parish Council considered a progress report on the Parish Council's Biodiversity project.

Resolved that the report be noted.

- iii) Trees in Gascoigne Way – The Chairman reported that a site meeting had been held that day between Councillor Stephen Phipps and Cotefield Treecare and a quote would be forwarded to the Clerk with regard to further tree works (in addition to the silver birches) in Gascoigne Way.

Resolved that the report be noted.

61/20 Finance

- i) Accounts for Payment - The Clerk submitted to the Parish Council, the accounts for payment.

Resolved that the following accounts for payment be approved:

Payments	Amount
Wicksteed Leisure Ltd – Bloxham Recreation Ground Play Equipment Repairs	£2477.52

(Councillor David Bunn left the meeting at the conclusion of this item)

62/20 Parish Council Matters

- i) Correspondence with Cherwell District Council – The Chairman reported on the response he had received from Jason Russell, Corporate Director Communities at Cherwell District Council relating to a number of village matters, including a planning application, Bloxham Service Station and the Miller Homes site in Tadmarton Road.

Resolved that the outstanding/unanswered matters highlighted by the Chairman, be included within a response to Jason Russell at Cherwell District Council. **Action SC/TG**

- ii) Parish Council Representatives – No reports had been circulated for consideration.

63/20 Correspondence – None

64/20 Exclusion of the Public and Press

Resolved that in accordance with the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, the public and press be excluded from the meeting for the minutes numbered 65/20 & 66/20 on the grounds that it could involve the likely disclosure of private and confidential information which was not in the public domain.

65/20 Section 106 Project, Jubilee Hall – The Chairman and Councillor Phipps gave an update on the project at Jubilee Hall.

Resolved that the quote for £1250, plus VAT, from Greenways Buildings Services Consultants for an assessment of the ventilation system in the new toilet block at Jubilee Hall to make it a more robust and compliant system for the building use, be approved. **Action SC/TG**

66/20 Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer – The Clerk advised the Parish Council that the salary scales had been amended to reflect the 2.75% pay award, from 1 April 2020.

Resolved that the report be noted.

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67/20 Meeting Dates – The Chairman reported that until further notice, Parish Council meetings would be virtual meetings held on Zoom. Residents are reminded that if they wish to attend, they should contact the Parish Clerk for the meeting details. The meetings would all commence at 7.30pm.

Resolved that it be noted that, future meeting dates for Bloxham Parish Council are as stated below.

- Monday 5 October 2020
- Tuesday 20 October 2020
- Monday 2 November 2020
- Tuesday 17 November 2020
- Monday 7 December 2020 (Only one meeting in December 2020)

68/20 Items for Future Agendas

- Dog Friendly Stiles
- Bus Stop Infrastructure
- Maintenance and ownership of The Goggs
- Traffic Calming Working Group Update
- Management of Trees
- OMPA Membership
- Planning for the Future White Paper and Transparency and Competition: Data and Land Control
- Cherwell Local Plan Review 2040 - Planning for Cherwell to 2040: A Community Involvement Paper

(The meeting ended at 9.05pm)

Chairman – 5 October 2020