

# BLOXHAM PARISH COUNCIL

## MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING (ADVISORY) HELD ON ZOOM ON TUESDAY 20 JULY 2021 AT 7.30PM

**PRESENT:** Chairman, Councillor Leonard Leigh: Councillors Agnes Balassa, David Bunn, Mike Fenner, Sophie Floate, Daniel Goodwin, Stephen Phipps and Nick Rayner.

**ALSO IN ATTENDANCE:** Theresa Goss (Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer) and one member of the public.

**APOLOGIES:** Parish Councillor Joanna Barton submitted her apologies because she was at work, the apologies were accepted and the absence authorised.

### 79/21 Declarations of Interest

Minute Number 88/21 (i) – Finance – Councillor Nick Rayner declared an interest in this item because his wife was organising the St Mary's Christmas Tree Festival 2021.

**80/21 Minutes** – Prior to the meeting, the minutes of the meeting held on 5 July 2021 had been circulated to the Parish Council and were taken as read.

It was proposed and seconded that resolutions 2 and 3 be removed from Minute Number 71/21 (iii) 'The Queen's Green Canopy'

**Recommended** that the minutes of the meeting held on 5 July 2021 be approved and signed by the Chairman, with the above amendment. **Action LL/TG**

**81/21 Matters Arising** – There were no matters arising.

### 82/21 Chairman's Announcements

- The entrance to the PRoW which runs from Barford Road to Milton Road has been widened by Miller Homes.
- A Parish Council representative on St Mary's Thursday Club was required.
- Traffic Calming Working Group – A new lead was required for the Group, however Councillors Nick Rayner and David Bunn agreed to join the Group with Stephen Phipps and Joanna Barton.
- Community Forum - Bloxham School had agreed to hold a public forum and discussions would be held with regard to a date and a venue.

**83/21 Open Forum** – A resident addressed the Parish Council with regard to parking issues in the village. There were numerous examples around the village of inconsiderate parking, which were also dangerous and impeded the access for emergency vehicles and the bin lorries.

The resident also advised on the anti-social behaviour which was occurring in the play area in Jubilee Park. This behaviour made it unusable for young children at certain times of the day and reports had already been made to Warriner School and the Head Teacher was aware.

The Chairman thanked the resident for her reports.

*(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)*

**84/21 Reports from County and District Councillors** – There were no reports from the County and District Councillors.

### 85/21 Planning

- i) Results of Planning Applications – The Parish Council noted decisions made by Cherwell District Council since the last meeting of the Parish Council.

**Recommended** that the report be noted.

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### ii) Planning Applications

- 21/02187/F & 21/02188/LB, The Coach House, Cumberford, Bloxham – The Parish Council considered an application for the removal of unsafe existing stone boundary retaining wall and replacement with a new wall comprising reinforced blockwork below ground level and re-use of the existing stone to face the blockwork and to form the wall above ground level.

**Recommended** that the Parish Council has no objections to applications 21/02187/F & 21/02188/LB.  
**Action TG**

- 21/02209/F, Lynton, Banbury Road, Bloxham – The Parish Council considered an application for a single storey rear extension to form kitchen, diner and snug; single storey side extension to create gym; first floor to be extended to enlarge bedroom and create dressing area and en-suite.

**Recommended** that the Parish Council objects to application 21/02209/F on the following grounds:

1. Bloxham Neighbourhood Development Plan Policy BL9 – The application is contrary to this policy because it will materially harm the living conditions of neighbouring residents.
2. Bloxham Neighbourhood Development Plan Policy BL11 – The application is contrary to this policy because this development does not respect the local character and the historic and natural assets of the area. The design and materials chosen do not preserve or enhance the rural heritage, landscape and sense of place.

This application does not relate in scale and massing to neighbouring properties and the density of proposal is not consistent and compatible with the existing and prevailing density. It is also not in keeping with local distinctiveness and characteristics of the historic form of the village.

If Cherwell District Council is minded to approve the application, then Bloxham Neighbourhood Development Plan Policy BL14 should to be taken into account. The applicant should demonstrate that if these are proposals for a new live-work development combining living and small-scale employment space, that it does not adversely affect the living conditions of neighbouring occupiers.

### iii) Cherwell District Council Local Plan and Oxfordshire 2050 – The Parish Council discussed the Local Plan and Oxfordshire 2050 and the forthcoming consultations.

**Recommended** that:

- 1) the approach being taken to the Oxfordshire 2050 and CDC Local Plans be noted;
- 2) the Parish Council fully engages in relevant consultations, consider proposed options and highlight any omissions, and provide written responses by the due deadlines;
- 3) the Planning Policy Team Leader at Cherwell District Council, Ms Eleanor Gingell, be invited to meet with the Parish Council in order to inform our understanding and responses; and **Action TG/DG**
- 4) the Parish Council will consider the opportunities and risks the Plans present for Bloxham and develop a written draft policy on them for publication and engagement with residents, relevant County Council and District Council elected members and planning officers, pending the Parish Council's formal responses.

### 86/21 Environment/Village Matters

- i) Memorial Tree – The Chairman reported that this item had been removed from the agenda.

**Recommended** that the report be noted.

- ii) 'The Queen's Green Canopy' –. The Parish Council considered a report with regard to the proposal for trees to be planted in the village to mark HM The Queen's Platinum Jubilee in 2022.

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**Recommended** that:

- 1) the report be noted;
- 2) it be noted that the order with The Woodland Trust for the trees has been cancelled as there are no suitable locations in Jubilee Park for new trees; and
- 3) a meeting be convened with the Queen Street residents to discuss whether trees could be planted in any suitable locations. **Action LL**

### 87/21 Parish Council Matters

- i) Vacancies – The Chairman reported that there were no applications for co-option onto the Parish Council.

**Recommended** that the vacancies continue to be advertised. **Action TG**

- ii) Drop-In and Chat – Prior to the meeting, a report had been submitted with regard to the matters raised by residents at the session on 10 July 2021.

**Recommended** that:

- 1) the report be noted;
- 2) it be suggested to the Bloxham Funday Committee that the Funday for 2022 be linked with the platinum jubilee celebrations for HM The Queen; **Action TG**
- 3) The Cottage, Cumberford, Bloxham be contacted about cutting back their hedge as it is obstructing the footpath and the smoke alarm which is going off intermittently; **Action TG**
- 4) a letter be sent to Cherwell District Council raising concerns about The Cottage, Cumberford and its dilapidated state; and **Action LL**
- 5) the owner of White Cottage, Banbury Road, Bloxham be requested to cut back their hedge as it is obstructing the footpath. **Action TG**

### 88/21 Finance

- i) Income and Accounts for Payment - The Clerk submitted to the Parish Council, the income which had been received since the last meeting and the accounts for payment.

**Recommended** that the income received since the last meeting be noted and following accounts for payment be approved:

Theresa Goss – Hedgehog Signs	£109.70
Engineering Ingenuity – Professional Services for remedial works to the roof	£3720.00
Advance Pest Control Ltd – Pest control on Queen Street Land	£163.20
A.C.S. Bower Ltd – Installation of three new benches	£1867.18
Green Scythe Ltd – Grass cutting Jubilee Park in June 2021	£338.19
The Friends of St Mary's – Christmas Tree Festival	£40.00

**89/21 Correspondence** – There was no further correspondence.

### 90/21 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 minute numbered 91/21 on the grounds that it could involve the likely disclosure of private and confidential information which was not in the public domain.

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**91/21 Jubilee Hall Project** – The Parish Council considered a report with regard to funding of the Jubilee Hall Project, in respect of the roof and plumbing.

**Recommended** that:

- 1) the report be noted;
  - 2) it be noted that an extra circa £38,000 in Section 106 fund has been allocated to the project by Cherwell District Council; and
  - 3) thanks be sent to the Jubilee Park Management Committee for its offer of a £5000 contribution to the project, also advising that it is no longer required now the extra Section 106 funds have been awarded to the project.
- Action TG**

*(The public and press were invited back into the meeting at the conclusion of this item)*

**92/21 Meeting Dates** – The Chairman reported that the next Parish Council meeting on 2 August 2021 would be held at Jubilee Hall, Bloxham. The meeting would commence at 7.30pm.

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

- Monday 2 August 2021
- Monday 6 September 201
- Tuesday 21 September 2021
- Monday 4 October 2021
- Tuesday 19 October 2021

### **93/21 Items for Future Agendas**

- Goggs Tree works for Monday 6/9/2021
- Co-option Procedure (Sept 2021)
- Vehicle Activated Sign (VAS) A361
- Parish Council Responsibilities/Appointments to Other Bodies
- Bench in Gascoigne Way
- Condition of the footpath next to Warriner School
- Toddler Slide at Jubilee Park
- Community Speedwatch Scheme
- 'Good Neighbour' Leaflet
- Representative on St Mary's Thursday Club Committee
- Oxfordshire 2050 / CDC Local Plan Presentation from Ms Gringall
- Swings at Bloxham Recreation Ground
- Traffic Calming Working Group

(Note: In accordance with Parish Council minute number 262/20 (ii), 'the Parish Council agrees to grant the Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer, delegated authority to make decisions on behalf of the Parish Council, where such decision cannot reasonably be deferred and must be made in order to comply with a commercial or statutory deadline' the Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer, confirms all of the decisions made during the advisory Parish Council meeting held on 5 July 2021).

(The meeting ended at 8.50pm)

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Chairman – 20 July 2021