

BLOXHAM PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD AT JUBILEE HALL, BARLEY CLOSE, BLOXHAM ON MONDAY 1 AUGUST 2022 AT 7.30PM

PRESENT: Chairman, Councillor Leonard Leigh; Councillors Russell Avens, Joanna Barton, Richard Boyce and David Bunn.

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE: Theresa Goss (Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer), District Councillor David Hingley and three members of the public.

51/22 Apologies – There were no apologies.

Parish Councillor Mike Fenner was not present.

52/22 Declarations of Interest – There were no declarations of interest.

53/22 Minutes – Prior to the meeting, the minutes of the meeting held on 4 July 2022 had been circulated to the Parish Council and were taken as read.

Resolved that the minutes of the meeting held on 4 July 2022 be approved and signed by the Chairman.

54/22 Matters Arising – There were no matters arising.

55/22 Chairman's Announcements

- Update from the Traffic Calming Working Group – A meeting had been held on 26 July 2022 and the minutes had been circulated to the Parish Council, County Councillor Kieron Mallon and District Councillor Adam Nell.
- Location of Wheelie Bins – The Chairman advised that residents had been contacted and the offending wheelies bin could not be located at the side of a neighbouring property because it would be contrary to their tenancy agreement.
- Bench in Gascoigne Way – A resident contacted the Parish Council with regard to the request for a bench in Gascoigne Way. He advised that this had been discussed a number of years ago and the majority of residents in that area objected to it. The Clerk advised that this recent request for a bench had been come from a resident of Gascoigne Way back in May 2021, however she had heard nothing further on the matter. Therefore, it was agreed that it be removed from the 'Items for Future Agendas'. **Action TG**
- Footpath in Queens Street/Greenhills Park – Nigel Prickett would be cutting back the ivy during the coming week.
- Parish Council Grants 2023/2024 – An advert inviting grant applications for 2023/2024 had been published and the deadline was Friday 21 October 2022.
- Christmas Lights – A quote had been requested from Field and Lawn for the Christmas lights for 2023.
- Grass Cutting – The grass had not been cut in July because it had not grown due to the very high temperatures and lack of rainfall.
- Hedge at The Cottage – The Clerk had been in contact with the owner and she was engaging a contractor to remove the hedge.
- Bus Shelter – The new wooden shelter on the A361 would be installed on 16 August 2022. The Parish Council would make good the neighbours' fence.
- Burial Ground Meeting – A further meeting would be held on 3 August 2022 at 2pm to discuss a new burial ground.
- Graffiti at Jubilee Park – Graffiti had been drawn on the playground equipment and Cherwell District Council had not been able to remove. The matter had been reported to the Head Teacher at Warriner School because there had been a suggestion it was their pupils who had drawn on the equipment. Councillor David Bunn would be discussing with the JPMC that the swing be removed and a cargo net swing be installed to replace it. **Action DB**
- Works to Trees – The Chairman and Councillor David Bunn had met with John Wyatt and a quote had been received and accepted from Cotefield Treecare Ltd to complete the necessary works.

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- 56/22 Open Forum** – Two representatives from Bloxham Biodiversity Group attended the meeting and advised that the request for a grant for ‘The Great Big Green Week’ was for £300 and would be specifically to run activities during the week, publicity and room hire. Unfortunately their grant application to the Climate Coalition had not been successful.

(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)

- 56/22** ‘The Great Big Green Week’ – The Parish Council discussed an application for a grant for Bloxham Biodiversity for the initiative being held from 24 September 2022 to 2 October 2022. <https://greatbiggreenweek.com/>

Resolved that the application for a £300 grant for ‘The Great Big Green Week’ be approved. **Action TG**

- 57/22 Reports from County and District Councillors** – District Councillor David Hingley reported that there was an ongoing consultation process at Cherwell DC relating to the Community Governance Review in Bodicote.

Cherwell District Council had opened a new pop-up space in Castle Quay for voluntary and community groups to use during normal business hours. Citizens Advice, Trading Standards and Age UK would have an ongoing presence in the space, and all other voluntary and community groups had the opportunity to ask to use the space to showcase the work they do for the community.

A new app had been launched called ‘Go Jauntly’ which advised on walking routes around the District and walks around Bloxham could be included.

The Chairman thanked District Councillor David Hingley for his report.

Resolved that the reports be noted.

58/22 Environment/Village Matters

- i) EV Charging Points - Councillor David Bunn advised that the Jubilee Park Management Committee had not yet met to discuss this matter, however he had gathered information on the project and would be discussing this at the next meeting.

Resolved that the report be noted and the Parish Council is supportive of the installation of EV Charging points at Jubilee Park. **Action DB**

- ii) Memorial for the Smith Family – The Parish Council discussed erecting a Memorial to members of the Smith family for all their work in the village over many years.

Resolved that:

- 1) a memorial be agreed in principle subject to permission from the appropriate land owner; **Action TG**
- 2) Cherwell District Council be consulted, at the appropriate time, with regard to whether planning permission is required; and **Action TG**
- 3) it be noted that the Smith Family will cover the cost of the memorial.

- iii) Remembrance Sunday Parade – The Parish Council was advised that the arrangements for the Remembrance Sunday Parade had been reviewed with the Royal British Legion.

Resolved that the report be noted.

59/22 Planning

- i) Planning Applications/Works to Trees – Prior to the meeting, the details of the planning applications/works to trees which had been considered by the Parish Council, since the last meeting, had been circulated.

Resolved that, it be noted and approved that, no objections had been made by the Parish Council in respect of the following planning applications/works to trees:

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22/01947/TCA Beauchamp House, Chapel Street, Bloxham,
Tree work

22/01480/LB Damson Cottage, 8 Merrivales Lane, Bloxham,
Secondary double-glazing to 9 windows to improve thermal insulation and noise reduction

Resolved that, it be noted and approved that, objections had been made by the Parish Council in respect of the following planning applications/works to trees: None

Resolved that, it be noted that the Parish Council is considering the following planning applications/works to trees:

22/01872/F Firs Hill, Tadmarton Road, Bloxham
Two storey rear extension

22/02088/F Mr David Farmer
66 Tadmarton Road, Bloxham
Single storey extensions to front and rear. New porch canopy to side

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

Resolved that the report be noted.

60/22 Parish Council Matters

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

Resolved that the six vacancies continue to be advertised. **Action TG**

- ii) Drop-In and Chat – The Chairman reported that he attended the Drop-In and Chat session on 9 July 2022 with District Councillor Adam Nell and one member of the public had also attended. Their main concern had been with regard to parking, which the Chairman advised was a County Council matter. The matter of the fallen wall on Cumberford was also discussed and the Clerk advised that she had contacted Tony Brummell at Cherwell District Council that day for an update.

Resolved that the report be noted.

61/22 Finance

- i) Accounts for Payment/Uncashed Payments and Income - The Clerk submitted to the Parish Council, the accounts for payment, uncashed payments and the income since that last meeting.

Resolved that the income since the last meeting and the uncashed payments be noted and the following accounts for payments be approved:

Eco Web Hosting - Email Hosting	£5.99
Theresa Goss – Salary for August 2022	
HMRC – Payment for August 2022	
Oxfordshire County Council – Clerks Pension for August 2022	
Jubilee Park Management Committee – Room Hire	£24.00
Reformed Plastics Ltd – Bench at Jubilee Park	£300.00
Engineering Ingenuity Ltd – Professional fees for Jubilee Park project	£583.01
Green Scythe Ltd – Grass Cutting Jubilee Park	£384.00

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Cherwell District Council – Fees for Elections in May 2022	£100.00
Adderbury Parish Council – SLCC Membership fees (one quarter)	£53.00
Ellen Hinde Hall – Parish Council Grant	£500.00
Bloxham Biodiversity – Grant for 'The Great Big Green Week'	£300.00

- ii) Bank Reconciliation – The Parish Council considered the bank reconciliation for the Unity Trust Bank accounts as at 1 August 2022.

Resolved that the bank reconciliation as at 1 August 2022 be noted.

- iii) Budget Monitoring – The Parish Council considered the budget monitoring report from April to August 2022.

Resolved that the budget monitoring report from April to August 2022 be noted.

- iv) Cherry Tree Centre – The Parish Council discussed the Community Donation to the Cherry Tree Centre from 2024/2025 onwards.

Resolved that the Parish Council agrees in principle to continue to support the Cherry Tree Centre with funding after 2023/2024, however more information from the Centre is required before funds can be committed. **Action TG**

62/22 Correspondence – There was no further correspondence.

63/22 Jubilee Hall Project – Councillor David Bunn advised that he had arranged a meeting with Tony Brummell from Cherwell District Council to look at the drainage issues at Jubilee Park and he would report back at the next meeting.

Resolved that the report be noted.

64/22 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 65/22 & 66/22 the grounds that it could involve the likely disclosure of private and confidential information which was not in the public domain.

65/22 Pension Policy – The Clerk reported that advice from the County Council on the Pensions Policy was still awaited and requested that this item be deferred to the next meeting.

Resolved that this item be deferred to the next meeting of the Parish Council. **Action TG**

66/22 Bloxham Recreation Ground Pavilion – The Clerk reported that revised quotes had been received over the weekend, however they had not yet been reviewed and the Parish Council would be updated in due course.

Resolved that:

- 1) the report be noted; and
- 2) quotes from the two companies who submitted the lowest prices be asked to submit further costs for a new roof and also a refurbishment. **Action TG**

67/22 Meeting Dates – The Chairman reported that the next Parish Council meeting would be held at Jubilee Hall, Barley Close, Bloxham. The meeting would commence at 7.30pm.

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

- Monday 5 September 2022

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- Monday 3 October 2022
- Monday 7 November 2022
- Monday 5 December 2022

68/22 Items for Future Agendas/Items of Information

- Bench in Gascoigne Way
- Condition of the footpath next to Warriner School
- 'Good Neighbour' Leaflet
- Litter Bin on Stone Hill
- Parish Council Pension Policy
- EV Charging Points
- Access to Jubilee Park
- Traffic Calming Working Group
- Queen Street Land
- Cherry Tree Centre

(The meeting ended at 8.55pm)

Chairman – 5 September 2022