

BLOXHAM PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD AT BLOXHAM PRIMARY SCHOOL, TADMARTON ROAD, BLOXHAM ON WEDNESDAY 15 JANUARY 2020 AT 7.30PM

PRESENT: Chairman, Councillor Steve Craggs; Councillors Amanda Baxter, David Bunn, Sophie Floate, Mary Groves, Gloria Lester-Stevens, Leonard Leigh, Mike Morris, Stephen Phipps and Kirsty Rose.

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE: Theresa Goss (Clerk & Responsible Financial Officer) and two members of the public.

APOLOGIES: Councillor Joanna Barton submitted her apologies because there had been a bereavement in her family, the apologies were accepted and the absence authorised.

Councillor Nick Rayner submitted his apologies because he was on holiday, the apologies were accepted and the absence authorised.

County Councillor Kieron Mallon and District Councillors Christine Heath and Mike Bishop also submitted their apologies.

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting and also reminded the Councillors and the public that recording of the meeting was permitted. However, he asked that should anyone wish to record the proceedings, could they please advise the Parish Council so that this could be facilitated.

222/19 Declarations of Interest

Minute Number 228/19 – 19/02889/F, Randles Cottage, Humber Street, Bloxham - Councillor Amanda Baxter declared an interest because the applicants were friends of hers.

Minute Number 228/19 – 19/02826/F, Bloxham School, Dewey Sports Centre, Barley Close, Bloxham – Councillors Mike Morris and Kirsty Rose declared an interest because they were employed by Bloxham School. Councillor Sophie Floate declared an interest because her husband was employed by Bloxham School.

Resolved that the interests be noted.

223/19 Minutes – Prior to the meeting, the minutes of the meeting held on 6 January 2020 had been circulated to the Parish Council and were taken as read.

Resolved that the minutes of the meeting held on 6 January 2020 be approved and signed by the Chairman.

224/19 Matters Arising

Minute Number 209/19 Matters Arising, Bloxham School – Councillor Stephen Phipps advised that the street light in the middle of the access to Dewey Hall and Jubilee Hall was still not working. The Clerk reported that she had made contact with Bloxham School and lights within the Dewey car park and the unit at the gateway have been switched off for approximately 12 months due to a planning issue. This is in the issue of being resolved with a new planning permission application.

Minute Number 209/19 Matters Arising, Highways Issues – The Clerk confirmed that the list of highways issues along the A361 had been sent to County Councillor Kieron Mallon and to the County Council's highways officers.

Minute Number 210/19 – Chairman's Announcements, Christmas Tree – Councillor Stephen Phipps suggested that rather than putting baubles on the Christmas tree next Christmas, which would be time consuming and they risked being stolen, the lights stayed switched on all day and night. The Chairman agreed this would be considered later in the year.

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225/19 Chairman's Announcements

- Christmas Tree – The Chairman advised that the tree needed to be removed and he asked for volunteers to help him. Councillor David Bunn offered to help and the tree would be removed shortly. **Action SC/DB**
- Bloxham Mill – The Chairman and Councillor Mary Groves had attended the Christmas get-together at Bloxham Mill. The Chairman advised that the café would no longer be open to the public and would only be for the use of the businesses at the Mill and their clients.
- Declaring a Climate Emergency – Some Town and Parish Councils were now declaring a climate emergency and the Chairman asked Councillors to consider this matter further. If the Parish Council did declare a climate emergency it could provide some benefits to the Parish Council and the village. It would be discussed again at a future meeting. **Action ALL**

226/19 Open Forum – A resident addressed the Parish Council in objection to planning application 19/02831/F, Hornton House, Chapel Street, Bloxham. There were a number of areas of objection including the height of the roof, the type of materials, the type of windows, visitor parking and removal of trees and shrubs.

Another resident asked the Parish Council if it had received any details with regard to the annual Spring Clean. The Clerk advised that Cherwell District Council had not yet advised of the dates for this year's event. The resident agreed to send her contact details to the Clerk in readiness.

The resident also asked if there could be a link between The Slade and the new Country Park on the Miller Homes site. They were advised that the planning application did not accommodate a link between the two sites.

Councillor David Bunn reported that two hockey balls had come over from Bloxham School today. The Clerk was asked to report this to Bloxham School. **Action TG**

(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)

227/19 Reports from County and District Councillors – There were no reports from County and District Councillors.

228/19 Planning

i) Planning Applications:

- 19/02831/F, Hornton House, Chapel Street, Bloxham – The Parish Council considered an application for the demolition of an existing greenhouse, carport, garage and porch, the extension and alterations of Hornton House, the erection of 3 bed dwelling house and adjoining new ironstone boundary wall and the creation of 2 driveways to enable 4 cars to park off Chapel Street.

Resolved that the Parish Council objects to application 19/02831/F because it is contrary to the following Bloxham Neighbourhood Development Plan policies:

BL4 – Visitor parking is not provided in a location convenient to the dwelling; Chapel Street is very narrow and parking is extremely limited.

BL9(a) – The proposal does not ensure that the living conditions of neighbouring residents are not materially harmed because there will be overlooking into neighbouring properties and gardens. The bedrooms of the property will also have a straight sight line into Ellen Hinde Hall which raises a safeguarding issue when the hall is hired out for activities, in particular children and vulnerable people.

BL9 (c) – The addition of another residence on Chapel Street creates additional usage that it can ill afford given the current difficulties for traffic using it.

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BL10 – The proposal does not preserve or enhance the character/appearance of the conservation area and the Conservation Officers needs to comment on this fully. It makes the plot congested and some materials do not seem appropriate for the area (eg limestone render)

BL11 – The proposal 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 our rural heritage, landscape and sense of place. In particular

BL11 (a) – The proposal makes the plot very congested

BL11 (b) – Two pairs of cars nose to tail coming down to the pavement is visually intrusive in that area

BL11 (e) – Removal of trees is to the detriment of the area

BL11 (f) – The proposal fills in the open space on the plot

BL11 (i) - The local wildlife and biodiversity, including swifts will be disturbed, causing irreversible damage.

BL12 (a) – This proposed development is within, and near, the key views identified in the Conservation Area Appraisal 2007 and it does not ensure that these key features of the view can continue to be enjoyed.

BL12 (b) - The development has an unacceptable impact in relation to the visual qualities of those views.

BL12 (c) - Developments in residential gardens will not usually be permitted

- 19/02826/F, Bloxham School, Dewey Sports Centre, Barley Close, Bloxham – The Parish Council considered an application for car park lighting and security lighting

Resolved that the Parish Council has no objection to application 19/02826/F, however there should be a condition which states that the car park lighting and security lighting both be switched off at 10.30pm.

Action TG

- 19/02889/F, Randles Cottage, Humber Street, Bloxham – The Parish Council considered an application for a partial demolition of existing extension and create enlargement of existing extension

Resolved that the Parish Council has no objection to 19/02889/F, subject to comments from the Conservation Officer. **Action TG**

229/19 Environment/Village Matters

- i) Dog Waste Bin – The Chairman reported that the dog waste bin which had been located in Tadmerton Road had been removed and the Parish Council was asked to consider replacing it.

Resolved that a new dog waste bin be purchased and replaced on Tadmerton Road. **Action TG**

230/19 Parish Council Matters

- i) Reports from Parish Council Representatives – Prior to the meeting, the Chairman had circulated a report on the Oxfordshire Neighbourhood Plan Alliance meeting which he had attended.

Resolved that the report be noted.

- ii) Drop-In and Chat – Prior to the meeting, a report from the Drop-In and Chat held on 11 January 2020 had been circulated to the Parish Council and included issues with the Miller Homes site on Tadmerton Road.

Resolved that:

- 1) the report be noted; and

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- 2) the Chairman be authorised to make contact with Tim Screen at Cherwell District Council, with a view to rectifying the many outstanding issues on the Miller Homes site on Tadmarton Road. **Action SC**
- ii) Councillors Training Courses – Prior to the meeting, training courses which were available to Councillors had been circulated.

Resolved that the report be noted.

231/19 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	Cheque No.
Cotswold Kindling – Christmas Tree	£75.00	1662
Haymarket Media Group Ltd – Planning Resource	£450.00	1663
W Page – Ex-Servicemen’s Hall Project	£2,672.16	1664

232/19 Correspondence – There was no further correspondence.

233/19 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 234/19 on the grounds that it could involve the likely disclosure of private and confidential information which was not in the public domain.

234/19 Section 106 Project, Jubilee Hall – The Chairman and Councillor Stephen Phipps gave an update on the project at Jubilee Hall and the issues which were still outstanding.

Resolved that:

- 1) the report be noted;
- 2) the Chairman be authorised to arrange a meeting with SCM to discuss the outstanding issues and agree a way forward;
- 3) further payments to SCM not be made until the Parish Council has agreed at its meeting on 3 February 2020, that there has been a satisfactory outcome from the discussions with the Chairman; and
- 4) this matter be discussed further at the meeting on 3 February 2020. **Action TG**

235/19 Meeting Dates

Resolved that it be noted that, future meeting dates for Bloxham Parish Council are as stated below. They would all commence at 7.30pm (unless stated otherwise) in St Mary’s Parish Rooms, Bloxham, and reference should be made to the agenda prior to the meeting:

- Monday 3 February 2020
- Tuesday 18 February 2020
- Monday 2 March 2020
- Tuesday 17 March 2020
- Monday 6 April 2020 (Only one meeting in April 2020)
- Thursday 16 April 2020 (Annual Parish Meeting at Warriner School Hall)
- Monday 4 May 2020
- Wednesday 20 May 2020 (At Bloxham Primary School)
- Monday 1 June 2020

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- Tuesday 16 June 2020
- Monday 6 July 2020
- Tuesday 14 July 2020
- Monday 3 August 2020 (Only one meeting in August 2020)
- Monday 7 September 2020
- Wednesday 16 September 2020 (At Bloxham Primary School)
- 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)

236/19 Items for Future Agendas

- Highway Officer to attend the future meeting
- Dog Friendly Stiles
- Queen Street legal advice
- Kissing gates
- Marie Jones, Warden at The Slade
- Jennifer Ballinger, Senior Conservation Officer
- Declaring a Climate Emergency

(The meeting ended at 8.55pm)

Chairman – 3 February 2020