

Bloxham Parish Council - Report for November 2021

Meetings

- Parish Council meetings were held at St Mary's Parish Rooms on Tuesday 19 October 2021 and Monday 1 November 2021. Agendas and minutes are available on the PC web site. <http://www.bloxhamparishcouncil.co.uk/>
- All Parish Council meetings are open to the public and are held on the first Monday (unless it is a bank holiday, then it is the Monday of the following week). Meetings include consideration of planning applications and forums for residents to raise issues of concern. Due to a lack of support from the community, there are five vacancies on the Parish Council and meetings were now monthly, instead of being held twice monthly and the Drop-In and Chat sessions have been cancelled.

Next Meetings

- 6 December 2021 at 7.30pm at St Mary's Parish Rooms. Members of the public are asked to wear face masks when attending the meetings and if possible, take a Covid-19 lateral flow test prior to the meeting.

Planning

- 21/03196/F, The Warriner School, Banbury Road, Bloxham – The Parish Council had no objections to an application for a new build classroom block.
- 21/03295/F & 21/0396/LB, Humber House, Humber Street, Bloxham – The Parish Council had no objections to applications for various internal alterations, replacing the existing rooflights, installing a new rooflight, removing a window, a section of wall & high level glazing and installing a section of Crittall Windows glazing system and refurbishing six windows.
- 21/02789/F, 3 Hyde Grove, Bloxham – The Parish Council had no objections to an application for a first floor rear and single storey side extensions (Resubmission of 20/03617/F).
- 21/02355/LB, Rectory Farm, Church Street, Bloxham – The Parish Council had no objections to an application for a pod charger to outside of barn wall.
- 21/02962/LB, Little Bennetts, Rose Bank, Bloxham – The Parish Council had no objections to an application for the installation of a standard SGN gas meter unibox at ground level on the outside wall of the garage.
- The Parish Council's comments on Cherwell District Council's Local plan are available on the PC web site. <https://www.bloxhamparishcouncil.co.uk/news-story.php?newsid=91> Residents have until 10 November 2021 to submit their comments.

Planning applications and the Parish Council's comments could be viewed at <https://www.cherwell.gov.uk/info/115/planning/443/see-or-comment-on-a-planning-application23as>

Environment/ Highways

- Potholes, overhanging trees or hedges and street lighting issues can be reported by residents at <https://fixmystreet.oxfordshire.gov.uk/> When reporting on this site, photographs are useful.
- There are no allotments in Bloxham, however there are some in Milton which can be rented. More information can be obtained by contacting Harriet Featherstone at Carter Jonas. harriet.featherstone@carterjonas.co.uk
- DOGS MUST BE KEPT ON A LEAD IN THE JUBILEE PARK PLAY AREA, AS PER THE SIGNAGE
- Residents were kindly requested not to leave wheelie bins at the front of their properties, if there was rear access. Bins should be put out and put away again on the day they were emptied. Bins should be stored within the curtilage of their properties and please could residents ensure that footpaths are not blocked by bins, at any time.
- The Community Speedwatch Scheme would be commencing soon to address speeding in the village with support from Thames Valley Police. If any residents would like to volunteer to support the Scheme, please contact the Clerk.
- There will be some maintenance work to the play equipment at Bloxham Recreation

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Ground and the swings will also be replaced, probably in the spring.

- A new dog waste bin would be replacing one of the old rusty bins located in the Recreation Ground.
- The bus shelter on the A361 (near to the Strawberry Terrace junction) will be replaced with a new shelter, in the same style as the current one.
- Miller Homes would be contacted to discuss whether their land next to Bloxham Mill could be leased by the Parish Council.
- A meeting with residents will be held on 10 November 2021 to discuss tree works at The Gogs.
- The Parish Council is liaising with the County Council with regard to their new initiative for more 20mph speed limit zones in the County.
- There will be a road closure through the village on 14 November 2021, Remembrance Sunday, from 10am to 1pm. If any residents would like to volunteer to marshal the event, please contact the Clerk to the Parish Council for more details.
- The rope swing at Jubilee Park had been vandalised and will be replaced in due course.

Community

- A Christmas tree would be planted on the green by the War Memorial at the end of November 2021. The Christmas lights would be erected around this time too.
- A defibrillator is held internally at Warriner School, in the admin block outside the general office, it is in an unlocked cabinet and can be accessed during school hours. The second unit is in a climate-controlled cabinet, fixed externally on the sports hall, to the right of the main entrance. This one is locked, but there are clear instructions on the cabinet about how to get the required code. The defibrillators will be checked/maintained regularly by the school and should a defibrillator be used, the school must be notified immediately as the shock pads are single-use.
- Phase 1 of the work at Jubilee Hall will be concluding shortly. Phase 2 of the project, which is works to the roof, will be starting in December 2021, subject to materials being available.

Communication

- Follow Bloxham Parish Council on Facebook.
- The Parish Council's 'Drop-In and Chat' sessions have been cancelled until further notice.
- Contact the Clerk, Theresa Goss, on 01295 710965, **during normal office hours** or email bloxhamparishcouncil@gmail.com

Parking Issues

The Parish Council has become increasingly concerned for some time about the number of instances of dangerous and inconsiderate parking in the village and the lack of an improvement in the situation. Therefore, it was pleasing to learn that Civil Parking Enforcement will commence in Cherwell District from 1 November 2021. The Parish Council has been consulted on the hot spots in the village for parking offences and these areas will be patrolled by the Civil Enforcement Officers.

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Graffiti

There have been repeated spates of graffiti along Bloxham Road from Banbury and into the village. This has appeared on street signs, traffic bollards, communication cabinets, retaining walls and the ironstone wall adjoining the road by the new Bloxham Vale development. The cost of removal on repeated occasions, at the tax payers' expense, is now considerable and the Parish Council and Thames Valley Police are anxious for this criminal damage to cease.

If residents are aware of who the perpetrators are, the Parish Council would encourage you to contact Thames Valley Police and pass on the relevant information. This type of anti-social behaviour gives a very poor impression of the village and the surrounding areas, as well as being unsightly and the Parish Council would be very grateful of support from the community to prevent it from re-occurring.