

Bloxham Parish Council - Report for October 2021

Meetings

- A Parish Council meeting was held at St Mary's Parish Rooms on Tuesday 21 September 2021 and Monday 4 October 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 twice a month; the first Monday (unless it is a bank holiday, then it is the Monday of the following week) and the third Tuesday. Both meetings include consideration of planning applications. These meetings are also forums for residents to raise issues of concern.
- Councillors have agreed to wear masks at Parish Council meetings and will take a lateral flow test prior to the meeting.

Next Meetings

- 19 October 2021 (8.30pm start) & 1 November 2021 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

- 21/02859/F, 6 Greenhills Park Bloxham – The Parish Council has no objections to an application for a single storey side and rear extension, conversion of part of the garage to habitable accommodation and to raise the flat roof of the garage building.
- 21/02766/F & 21/02767/F, The Warriner School, Banbury Road, Bloxham – The Parish Council has no objection to the removal of two temporary buildings and installation of new car park and a new build classroom block, subject to a condition requiring a Design Statement and Landscaping Plan, which is to the satisfaction of the Local Planning Authority, in accordance with the Bloxham Neighbourhood Development Plan.
- 21/02994/F & 21/02995/LB, Bloxham School, Banbury Road Bloxham – The Parish Council objects to alterations to the main access and associated alterations to pavement, removal of a section of boundary wall, provision of new car parking and drop off/pick up area, alterations to existing car park, landscaping and associated works because a Traffic Management Plan and a Landscaping Plan are not in place to support the applications.
- 21/03258/F, Formerly The Bungalow, Cumberford Hill, Bloxham – The Parish Council has no objection to variation of condition 2 (plans), but objects to the variation of condition 24 (car parking) of 15/01090/F driveway to be gravel instead of block paving because it is contrary to Bloxham Neighbourhood Plan Policy BL9, due to the noise and impact on the neighbours of the gravel surface.
- Oxfordshire 2050/Oxfordshire-Cambridge ARC – A response to the Oxfordshire 2050 consultation was approved for submission to Oxfordshire County Council. A copy would also be sent to Cherwell District Council and the Oxfordshire Neighbourhood Plan Alliance, for their information. A response to the Oxfordshire-Cambridge ARC would also be submitted in due course.

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.

Bloxham Parish Council - Report for October 2021

- 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.
- The County Council was in discussions with Miller Homes because the street lights on Milton Road are not working and they fall within their responsibility, as part of the Section 278 agreement relating to their Weavers Field development.
- Charlie Little, Bursar at Bloxham School, attended the meeting on 21 September 2021 by invitation and provided outline information on the School's proposal for a Community Forum to engage with stakeholders in the village. Councillor David Bunn would be the Parish Council representative on the Group.
- Preparations have started for the organisation of the Bloxham Christmas lights and village Christmas tree.
- Bloxham Biodiversity Group attended the meeting on 21 September 2021 and advised on the events which had been arranged for the 'Big Green Week', which the Parish Council was supporting. More volunteers were needed to support the work of the group and anyone interested in joining should email: biodiversitybloxham@gmail.com

Community

Communication

- Follow Bloxham Parish Council on Facebook.
- The Parish Council's 'Drop-In and Chat' sessions are held from 10.30 am to 11.30 am on the second Saturday of every month at the Ex-Servicemen's Hall. Please come along and meet your Councillors on Saturday 13 November 2021.
- 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.

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.