

Bloxham Parish Council - Report for June 2020

<p><u>Meetings</u></p>	<p>Virtual Parish Council meetings were held on Zoom on 20 May 2020 and 1 June 2020. Agendas and minutes are available on the PC web site. http://www.bloxhamparishcouncil.co.uk/</p> <p>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 either the third Tuesday or Wednesday. Both meetings include consideration of planning applications. These meetings are also forums for residents to raise issues of concern. There will only be one Parish Council meeting in August and December 2020.</p> <p>Agendas will be available on the PC web site as usual and the Clerk should be contacted for further details, including attendance at the meetings held on Zoom.</p> <p>Heather Westbury was welcomed to her first meeting as a Parish Councillor on 20 May 2020.</p>
<p><u>Next Meetings</u></p>	<p>Parish Council: 16 June 2020 & 6 July 2020.</p>
<p><u>Planning</u></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 20/01133/LB, Bursars Office, Bloxham School, Banbury Road, Bloxham – The Parish Council had no objections to an application for alterations to the existing school building, subject to comments from the Conservation Officer. • 20/01128/F, White Cottage, Banbury Road, Bloxham – The Parish Council had no objection to an application for a front lean to single storey extension to the side of the property and a conservatory extension to the rear with an enclosure of the gap between the outbuildings, subject to comments from the Conservation Officer. • 20/01154/LB, Ashwell Cottage, Stone Hill, Bloxham – The Parish Council had no objections to an application for replacement windows and window repairs, subject to comments from the Conservation Officer, however the Parish Council felt that the design of the windows should be more in-keeping of the design of the windows in Ashwell House. • 20/01037/F, Chequer Tree Farm, Ells Lane, Bloxham – The Parish Council had no objections to the application for the erection of an extension to existing polytunnel - (273sq m) to create a twin span structure. • 20/01232/DISC, Land to the Rear and North of 29 To 33, Quarry Close, Bloxham – The Parish Council objected to the discharging of condition 22 (Car Park Management Plan) of 13/00496/OUT because the car park surface should be made from a suitable material such as tarmac. • The Parish Council was still progressing the outstanding issues on the Miller Homes site, including the boundary fencing with The Slade to protect the nature reserve. The removal of trees which cross the boundary will be arranged by the Parish Council. If there is a Residents' Association for the residents of the Woodlands estate, please could a member of the Association contact the Clerk at bloxhamparishcouncil@gmail.com or ring 01295 710965. <p>Planning applications and comments could be viewed at https://www.cherwell.gov.uk/info/115/planning/443/see-or-comment-on-a-planning-application23as</p>
<p><u>Environment/ Highways</u></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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. • Please could drivers park their vehicles safely and considerately in all areas of the village

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	<p>and be aware that Thames Valley Police are continuing to carry out patrols and will issue parking fines to drivers who park their cars dangerously or cause an obstruction on the footpaths.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Residents are reminded that grit bins are not to be used for throwing away general rubbish and dog waste. • The Parish Council had installed a new dog waste bin inside the gateway to the Country Park on Tadmarton Road. Miller Homes is thanked for giving their permission for the installation. The PC would now meet the on-going costing of the emptying of the bin. A replacement dog waste bin had also been installed on Courtington Lane. • New signage would be installed at The Slade reminding dog owners to keep their pets on a short lead whilst in the Nature Reserve. • The track along The Ridgeway to the water tower and onto Milton had been closed by the land owner due to damage to his crops. Whilst not a Public Right of Way, residents feel there is plenty of evidence it has been used by the public for many years. The Council has advised interested residents to gather any evidence they have and submit it to the Parish Council. • A request for a new street light on Barford Road is continuing to be progressed with Oxfordshire County Council. • Oxfordshire County Council's Fix My Street Super Users was a new initiative, using volunteers, to try and improve the rate at which potholes are fixed. The volunteer would receive training and the role would involve measuring and spraying potholes and then reporting them straight to OCC's contractor. This will hopefully making the service more efficient. If any residents would like to volunteer for this role, please contact the Clerk. • Volunteers were required to assist the Parish Council with a new initiative to tackle the on-going problem with dog fouling in the village. The volunteers were required to remove any dog mess on the ground and then spray the area with a florescent paint to highlight the extent of the problem to residents. • 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 • Work would be undertaken to establish whether biodiversity can be encouraged in the village. A dead tree would be removed from Tadmarton Road by the County Council and the Parish Council hoped to plant a replacement. • Oxfordshire is to increase its recycling service to residents by extending the opening hours at all seven of its Household Waste Recycling Centres from Tuesday 26 May 2020. The centres at Alkerton, Ardley, Dix Pit, Drayton, Oakley Wood, Redbridge and Stanford in the Vale will now open at 8am and close at the later time of 5pm. This applies seven days a week. Please note that that late-night opening on Thursdays and the acceptance of trailers and hire vans remains suspended for the time being.
<p><u>Legal/Financial</u></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Section 106 funds from Cherwell District Council were continuing to be released for the project at Jubilee Hall. • Cherwell District Council is administering a new, discretionary grant scheme. It targets organisations that were not eligible for the previous grant schemes and which have ongoing property-related costs. The amount a business receives will be dependent on its specific circumstances, up to the maximum amount of £10,000. One focus of this scheme will be on businesses which pay inclusive rents and which do not have their own business rates accounts. <p>Applications will be accepted from Tuesday 2 June until Sunday 14 June. All applications will be reviewed and decided after the closing date.</p> <p>Eligibility details, the discretionary grants policy and the application form are available via this link: bit.ly/CDCDBG or by contacting Cherwell District Council.</p>

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<u>Community</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• If any residents needed support during the Covid-19 Pandemic, they should either contact the Parish Council or email bloxhamcommunity@yahoo.com for advice.•
<u>Communication</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Follow Bloxham Parish Council on Facebook.• Visit the Parish Councillors at the 'Drop-In and Chat' from 10.30 am to 11.30 am on the second Saturday of every month at the Ex-Servicemen's Hall. The sessions were cancelled until further notice due to the Covid-19 crisis.• Contact the Clerk, Theresa Goss, on 01295 710965, during normal office hours or email bloxhamparishcouncil@gmail.com