

Bloxham Parish Council - Report for March 2021

Meetings

- Parish Council meetings were held on Zoom on 16 February 2021 and 1 March 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 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.
- Parish Council meetings would continue to be held on Zoom until Government guidance was changed to allow for physical meetings. 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.

Next Meetings

- 16 March, 29 March and 12 April 2021 at 7.30pm on Zoom.
- Bloxham Annual Parish Council meeting is being held on Thursday 22 April 2021 at 7.30pm on Zoom.

Planning

- 20/03341/LB, Cumberford Cottage, Cumberford, Bloxham – The Parish Council has no objection to an application for a woodburner stove within the existing open fireplace in the dining room.
- 21/00284/F, 1 Greenhills Park, Bloxham – The Parish Council has no objection to an application for a single storey rear extension, conversion of garage to office and the erection of new link room from proposed extension to proposed office.
- 21/00370/F & 21/00371/LB, Brook Cottage, Little Bridge Road, Bloxham – The Parish Council has no objection to a single storey timber conservatory.
- A defects report had been issued by Cherwell District Council to Miller Homes in respect of the outstanding issues at the Tadmerton Road site.
- The Parish Council will be reviewing its Section 106 Community Benefits list which will be submitted to Cherwell District Council in readiness for any future large developments.

Planning applications and comments could be viewed at

<https://www.cherwell.gov.uk/info/115/planning/443/see-or-comment-on-a-planning-application23as>

Environment/ Highways

- Walkers going over Hobb Hill will notice posts and string at the gates and on the footpath. The farmer is using these to guide users to the location of the Public Right of Way. The farmer will be making hay in the field this year. If the ground becomes compacted it becomes unusable. Walkers should try to keep to the right, close to the hedge on the way up from Courtington Lane and at the top, walk straight down to the kissing gate at the bottom on Ells Lane. Please keep to the paths and enjoy your walks up Hobb Hill...a good pair of wellies / boots always helps.
- 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 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. This is again a particular issue on the stretch of the A361 outside of The Loft.
- Please do not park on the grass verges as this destroys them and damages the appearance of the whole village.
- There are no allotments in Bloxham, however there are some in Milton which can be

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rented. More information can be obtained by contacting Harriet Featherstone at Carter Jonas. harriet.featherstone@carterjonas.co.uk

- Three new replacement benches would be purchased and be located on the corner of Milton Road/Barford Road, Cumberford and A316 opposite Warriner School.
- The bench in Jubilee Park would be repaired.
- New directional signs to Bloxham Bowls Club had been erected on the highway.
- A new three-way directional sign will be erected at the entrance to Jubilee Hall, directing drivers to Bloxham Bowls Club, Jubilee Hall and Dewey Hall.
- Resurfacing work will be taking place from 15 March 2021 for 10 weeks on the A361 from the junction of Chipperfield Park Road to Strawberry Terrace.
- Three areas of biodiversity will be progressed by the new Biodiversity Group, in grass verges in the village.
- The 'Poo Means Paint' campaign will be starting shortly. Volunteers will be spraying dog mess which has not been picked up by dog owners, so that it is clear how bad the problem is in the village. It will also alert people, especially children, not to step in it.
- If any residents would like to assist with litter picking in the village, please contact the Clerk.
- There are two vacancies on the Parish Council. Please contact the Clerk for more details if you are interested in the roles. bloxhamparishcouncil@gmail.com
- The 2021 Bloxham Annual Parish Meeting would be held on Zoom on 22 April 2021 at 730pm.
- If any residents would like to be involved with the Parish Council's Traffic Calming Working Group to address speeding and other traffic issues in the village, please email the Clerk.
- Chris Lilley had volunteered to be the lead Snow Warden for the village and he is thanked for assisting the Parish Council with this project.
- Supporting Communities Through Covid-19 - Funding Available 'Comf' Fund - In recognising the vital contribution that community and voluntary groups continue to make in the efforts to contain the spread of COVID-19, Supporting Communities Through COVID-19 is open to funding applications from small informal groups as well as established organisations to enable them to deliver activities that will help to reduce COVID-19 outbreaks and the spread of infection. Oxfordshire Community and Voluntary Action (OCVA) and Community First Oxfordshire (CFO) are managing this grant scheme on behalf of Oxfordshire County Council.

You can apply for a maximum of £10,000 for community action projects and a maximum of £50,000 for collaborative, broad reach projects.

If you would like to make an application, please follow this link.

<https://www.communityfirstoxon.org/supporting.../>

If you require any further guidance about completing the application form or wish to ask any questions about this grant scheme please contact communications@ocva.org.uk

Grant applications must be received by 10am, Friday 26 March 2021.

Community

Covid-19

- If any residents needed support during the Covid-19 Pandemic, they should contact the village support group by email at bloxhamcommunity@yahoo.com for advice.
- Residents were reminded that social distancing should be maintained at all times, staying two meters apart, but if this is not possible, it should be 1 meter with extra precautions, such as a face covering.
- The latest guidance on the Covid-19 lockdown restrictions can be found at <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/national-lockdown-stay-at-home>

Communication

- Follow Bloxham Parish Council on Facebook.
- The Parish Council's 'Drop-In and Chat' sessions are usually held from 10.30 am to 11.30 am on the second Saturday of every month at the Ex-Servicemen's Hall, however they are

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currently cancelled due to Covid-19 Pandemic.

- Contact the Clerk, Theresa Goss, on 01295 710965, **during normal office hours** or email [**bloxhamparishcouncil@gmail.com**](mailto:bloxhamparishcouncil@gmail.com)