

Bloxham Parish Council - Report for September 2021

Meetings

- A Parish Council meeting was held at St Mary's Parish Rooms on Monday 6 September 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

- 21 September 2021, 4 & 19 October 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

- 21/02560/F - Clyston, Banbury Road, Bloxham – The Parish Council has no objections to an application for a single storey rear extension.
- 21/02588/LB, Joiners Arms, Old Bridge Road, Bloxham - The Parish Council has no objections to an application for alterations to the existing toilet area to create improved facilities, including disabled WC.
- 21/00958/ADV, Mid-Counties Co-operative, Co-Op, High Street, Bloxham - The Parish Council has no objections to an application for one internally illuminated fascia sign, one internally illuminated projecting sign, and three non-illuminated window graphics.
- 21/02587/F, 1 Aldous Drive, Bloxham - The Parish Council has no objections to an application for a single storey rear extension.
- 21/02784/F, The Old Dairy Workhouse Lane Bloxham - The Parish Council has no objections to an application for a single storey rear garden room extension.
- 21/02783/F, Beehive Cottage, Church Street, Bloxham - The Parish Council has no objections to a retrospective application for the installation of a driveway gate consisting of a central 6 bar field gate and two pedestrian access gates to the left and right of the central installation, because the applicant had met all of the requirements which had been suggested by the highways officer.
- 21/01505/F & 21/01476/LB, Stone Hill House, Stone Hill, Bloxham - The Parish Council has no objections to an application for an extension of the existing boarding house through the reinstatement of part of the existing ruined coach house, the demolition of outbuildings, the erection of an extension and link structure (with associated alterations to Stone Hill House), insertion of internal wall, and associated works, however if Cherwell District Council is minded to approve the application, a Traffic Management Plan should be in place to minimise the impact on residents.
- An Article 4 Directive to give more protection to development in the Conservation Area, would be progressed with Cherwell District Council.
- Oxfordshire 2050 – Councillors would make comments on the Plan by the deadline of 8 October 2021.

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.
- Trees would be cut back at The Gogs, following consultation with residents.
- Trees would be cut back at Walsingham Close.

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- The Parish Council would be responding to the County Council's consultation on bus services.
- 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.
- New Vehicle Activated Signs would be erected on the A361 by Warriner School and Bloxham Recreation Ground.
- 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 Parish Council would be supporting Bloxham Biodiversity Group with 'The Big Green Week' being held from 18 to 26 September 2021. <https://greatbiggreenweek.com/>
- The County Council would be reinstating the white lining on the A361, which had not been completed.
- The toddler slide at Jubilee Park play area would be replaced.
- The swings and rocking horse at Bloxham Recreation Ground would be repainted.
- 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 by invitation and provided outline information on the School's proposal for increased car parking and changes to the School entrance. The Parish Council would comment on the application when it is consulted by the Local Planning Authority.
- The Women's Cycling Tour 2021 will be passing through Bloxham, between 11am and 3pm on Monday 4 October 2021. There will be rolling road closures in place during this time and more details will follow. Please come out and show your support for the event! <https://www.womenstour.co.uk/>
- Preparations have started for the organisation of the Bloxham Christmas lights and village Christmas tree.

Community

- 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 9 October 2021.
- Contact the Clerk, Theresa Goss, on 01295 710965, **during normal office hours** or email bloxhamparishcouncil@gmail.com

Communication

Anti-Social Behaviour

There have been a number of instances of anti-social behaviour at Jubilee Park Play Area and at Bloxham Recreation Ground. Equipment has been vandalised and groups of young people are making the play areas a 'no-go zone' for parents with young children. If residents witness anti-social behaviour in the play areas, or anywhere in the village, please report this to Thames Valley Police on-line or by calling 101. Residents are not encouraged to approach anyone causing these issues, please leave that to the Police. If the Police are aware of the on-going issues, they will increase their presence in the village.

Parking Issues

The Parish Council has become increasingly concerned about the number of instances of dangerous and inconsiderate parking in the village. Drivers are reminded that they should not park on footpaths as this blocks the way for those with wheelchairs and pushchairs and parking on grass verges damages the surfacing. Parking on junctions is illegal and it blocks the view for other drivers and creates a dangerous situation. In addition, please be mindful of not double parking and blocking narrow streets because as well as being inconvenient to others, it can impede the access for bin lorries and also emergency vehicles, which can have devastating unintended consequences.