

BLOXHAM PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON ZOOM ON MONDAY 1 MARCH 2021 AT 7.30PM

PRESENT: Chairman, Councillor Steve Craggs: Councillors David Bunn, Sophie Floate, Leonard Leigh, Gloria Lester-Stevens, Mike Morris, Stephen Phipps, Nick Rayner and Heather Westbury.

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE: County Councillor Kieron Mallon and District Councillor Christine Heath.

APOLOGIES: Parish Councillor Joanna Barton submitted her apologies because she was at work, the apologies were accepted and the absence authorised.

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting and requested Councillors to advise the Parish Council if they were recording the meeting, to enable this to be facilitated.

206/20 Declarations of Interest – There were no declarations of interest.

207/20 Minutes – Prior to the meeting, the minutes of the meeting held on 16 February 2021 had been circulated to the Parish Council and were taken as read.

Resolved that the minutes of the meeting held on 16 February 2021 be approved and signed by the Chairman.
Action TG

208/20 Matters Arising

Minute Number 198/20, Village/Environment Matters, New Benches for the Village – The Clerk confirmed that the family who were connected to the memorial bench on Cumberford had been consulted with regard to the replacement and that the order for the three new benches would be placed shortly.

209/20 Chairman's Announcements

- Miller Homes, Tadmarton Road – A defects report had been sent from Cherwell District Council to Millers Homes.
- Protocol for Marking the Death of a Senior Figure – Changes had been made to the guidance to reflect the Covid-19 pandemic and Councillors had been provided with a copy of the new guidance.
- Local Transport and Connectivity Plan Vision Consultation – The Chairman and Councillor Nick Rayner would collate comments and the deadline for submission was 29 March 2021.

210/20 Open Forum – There were no residents present.

(For information, following guidance from the National Association of Local Councils, the Parish Council did not specifically name individual residents within its minutes, unless they were speaking in an official capacity)

211/20 Reports from County and District Councillors – County Councillor Kieron Mallon reported that road re-surfacing works between Chipperfield Park Road and Strawberry Terrace would be starting on 15 March 2021 and would last 10 weeks. Councillor Mallon had also been liaising with Councillor Stephen Phipps on a number of matters on Barford Road.

Councillor Mallon also reported that trees had been removed by Crouch Hill in readiness for the installation of a new road layout for the A361, including a new roundabout. The work would be ongoing for a number of months and possibly cause serious disruptions on the A361.

In addition, a motion had been passed at Cherwell District Council with regard to flood management, which suggested that local people could set up flooding response groups. Councillor Mallon felt this initiative might be helpful around the Tadmarton Road area of the village.

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Councillor Christine Heath reported that the resident from Penny Meadow, 2 The Ridgeway, Bloxham had been in touch with her regarding a recently refused planning application at his property. Councillor Heath would look into this further.

212/20 Planning

i) Planning Applications

- 21/00370/F & 21/00371/LB, Brook Cottage, Little Bridge Road, Bloxham – The Parish Council considered an application for a single storey timber conservatory.

Resolved that the Parish Council has no objection to applications 21/00370/F & 21/00371/LB. **Action TG**

ii) Cherwell Local Plan Review 2040 - Planning for Cherwell to 2040 – Prior to the meeting, Councillors Sophie Floate and Stephen Phipps had drafted the response regarding the village services questionnaire for submission to Cherwell District Council.

Resolved that any further comments from Councillors be sent to Councillors Sophie Floate and Stephen Phipps by Friday 12 March 2021. **Action ALL**

213/20 Environment/Village Matters

i) Biodiversity Group – The Parish Council received an update on the work of the Biodiversity Group.

Resolved that:

- 1) the report be noted;
- 2) the first area of biodiversity will be located at the bottom of Winters Way onto Tadmerton Road;
- 3) this will be followed by two further areas in Painters Close and at the junction of Hawke Lane and Unicorn Street;
- 4) it be noted that the Biodiversity Group is willing to take responsibility for the village planters on the A361 and the Parish Council's thanks be passed to the Group; and
- 5) it be noted that funds have been allocated in the Village Works budget from April 2021 to support the work of the Biodiversity Group.

ii) Bloxham Annual Parish Meeting – The Parish Council discussed the Annual Parish Meeting being held on Thursday 22 April 2021 at 7.30pm on Zoom.

Resolved that the Annual Parish Meeting be organised as a Webinar on Zoom and the County and District Councillors also be invited to attend and present their reports. **Action SC/TG**

iii) Bowls Club Sign – The Parish Council discussed a request for a new sign at the entrance road to the Bowls Club. Since the publication of the report, Councillor Stephen Phipps had met with the Bowls Club and it had been agreed to change the location and erect a three-way sign to Dewey Hall, Jubilee Hall and Bloxham Bowls Club.

Resolved that a three-way directional sign to Dewey Hall, Jubilee Hall and Bloxham Bowls Club be approved. **Action SP**

214/20 Finance

i) Accounts for Payment & Bank Reconciliation - The Clerk submitted to the Parish Council, the accounts for payment and the bank reconciliation as at 1 March 2021.

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Resolved that the bank reconciliation as at 1 March 2021 be approved and following accounts for payment be approved:

Theresa Goss – Salary and expenses for March 2021	
HMRC – Payment for March 2021	
Oxfordshire County Council – Clerks Pension for March 2021	
Bloxham Nursery – Christmas Tree	£120.00
Theresa Goss – Drop Box Annual Subscription	£95.88
Oxfordshire Playing Fields Association – Annual Subscription	£53.00

- ii) Section 106 Funds – The Parish Council considered the response from Oxfordshire County Council regarding the Section 106 funds allocated to Bloxham. This was following an email from the Chairman highlighting the Parish Council’s concerns about not being consulted before funds were agreed with developers and subsequently allocated to projects.

Resolved that:

- 1) the Section 106 Community Benefit list be reviewed and discussed at a future meeting; and **Action TG**
- 2) a response be sent to Oxfordshire County Council requesting clarification on a number of the points contained in their reply to the Chairman. **Action SC**

215/20 Parish Council Matters

- i) Vacancies – The Clerk reported that there had not been any applications for cooption.

Resolved that the two vacancies continue to the advertised. **Action TG**

- ii) Parish Council Representatives – Councillor Leonard Leigh reported that the Oxfordshire Neighbourhood Plan Alliance (ONPA) were providing webinars in a variety of subjects.

Resolved that the report be noted.

- iii) Parish Council Responsibilities – The Chairman reported that the two remaining roles (below) had now been filled.

Resolved that:

- Snow Warden – Resident of Bloxham, Chris Lilley, has agreed to be the lead Snow Warden and thanks be passed to him.
- Financial Monitoring – Councillor Joanna Barton

- iv) Training Policy – Prior to the meeting, the Clerk had circulated a draft Parish Council training policy.

Resolved that the training policy be approved.

216/20 Correspondence – The Clerk reported that three new directional signs to the Bloxham Bowls Club had been erected on the highway by Oxfordshire County Council.

217/20 Exclusion of the Public and Press

Resolved that in accordance with the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, the public and press be excluded from the meeting for the minute numbered 218/20 on the grounds that it could involve the likely disclosure of private and confidential information which was not in the public domain.

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218/20 Jubilee Hall Project – The Chairman and Councillor Stephen Phipps gave an update on the project at the Hall.

Resolved that the report be noted.

(The public and press were invited back into the meeting at the conclusion of this item)

219/20 Meeting Dates – The Chairman reported that until further notice, Parish Council meetings would be held on Zoom. Residents are reminded that if they wish to attend, they should contact the Parish Clerk for the meeting details. The meetings would all commence at 7.30pm.

Resolved that it be noted that, future meeting dates for Bloxham Parish Council are as stated below.

- Tuesday 16 March 2021
- Monday 29 March 2021
- Monday 12 April 2021
- Thursday 22 April 2021 (Bloxham Annual Parish Meeting)
- Wednesday 5 May 2021

220/20 Items for Future Agendas

- Goggs Tree works for Monday 6/9/2021
- Members' Allowances 2021/2022
- Cherwell Local Plan Review 2040 - Planning for Cherwell to 2040
- Community Benefit Section 106 List

(The meeting ended at 9.05pm)

Chairman – 16 March 2021