

Bloxham Parish Council

Bloxham Annual Parish Meeting.

To be held on ZOOM on Thursday 22nd April 2021

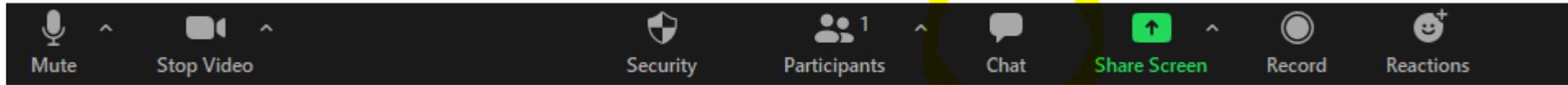
Reports and presentations will be available for online viewing following the meeting

A different type of Annual Parish Meeting

- ▶ This year is different to normal (!)
- ▶ Due to government restrictions this Annual Parish Meeting will be held online
- ▶ Presentations will be made by the Chairman followed by our District and Country Council representatives
- ▶ Any questions should be submitted through the ZOOM chat facility
 - ▶ See next slide to find out how to do this
- ▶ Questions will be answered live if possible, or otherwise will be referred back to the Parish Council for answering at a later date
- ▶ Questions can also be sent to the Parish Clerk via email for consideration at a later date
- ▶ Thanks for your understanding.

Using Zoom Chat to ask your questions

- ▶ Find the Zoom menu (usually at the top or bottom of your Zoom display)
- ▶ Click on the Chat symbol



- ▶ This will open a chat panel, usually on the right of the Zoom display
- ▶ Please select the Parish Clerk / Host in the To: menu and type your message below
- ▶ Then hit Send

Annual Parish Meeting Contents -

- ▶ Your Parish Councilors
- ▶ Chairman's summary (full report available)
- ▶ Budget and Funding
- ▶ Planning Matters
- ▶ Priorities for 2021/22
- ▶ District Councilor report
- ▶ County Councilor report
- ▶ Q&A (via Zoom chat facility)
- ▶ Additional materials available from the BPC website
 - ▶ Minutes of 2020 APM
 - ▶ County and District Councillors Reports for 2020/21
 - ▶ Chairman's report

Your Parish Councillors for 2021/22

- ▶ A number of Councillors have stepped down in the last year or will be leaving in the next few months
- ▶ A new Chairman and Vice-Chairman will be elected at the first Parish Council meeting in May
- ▶ Theresa Goss continues as Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer
- ▶ There are currently 4 vacancies for 2021/2022
 - ▶ If you care about the village and have some free time, please consider applying to join the Parish Council (Contact the Clerk)
- ▶ Your Councillors are:

- Joanna Barton
- David Bunn
- Sophie Floate
- Leonard Leigh

- Mike Morris
- Stephen Phipps
- Steve Craggs
- Nick Rayner

Chairman's Summary

- ▶ Ongoing issues with Miller Homes over Tadmarton Road Country Park
 - ▶ Resurfacing of carpark - Miller Homes wins appeal to do nothing more
 - ▶ Parish and District Councils continue to put pressure on Miller Homes to address various issues (balancing pond, fencing, planting)
- ▶ Footpath closures
 - ▶ Various footpaths over farmers' land closed due to vandalism and lack of adherence to the country code
 - ▶ Fences knocked down or cut, gates damaged, cycling through crops, lack of control of dogs around livestock, lambs taken by dogs, trespassing, not removing dog poo / bags
 - ▶ Parish council continues to work with farmers to find an acceptable solution
- ▶ S106 funded Jubilee Hall project
 - ▶ Project still ongoing. Completion hoped for summer
 - ▶ Contract with previous builders terminated and repair work now underway
 - ▶ A361 through Bloxham resurfaced
- ▶ ...and of course COVID
 - ▶ Support of COVID support groups through grants

Budget & Funding

High Level review of 2019/2020

- ▶ The annual Budget for 2020/2021 was £100,731
 - ▶ This is funded through the “Precept” which for 2020/2021 was £96,676
 - ▶ The balance is funded through a mixture of PC reserves and CDC & OCC allocations
 - ▶ Substantial contingency is held in the budget to mitigate the risks of further service reductions from Oxfordshire County Council, and possible Unitary Authority changes
 - ▶ Parish Councils must keep a minimum of 6 months of the precept as reserves.
- ▶ From within the budget, the Council provides a range of services including:
 - ▶ Maintenance of play areas, bus shelters, benches
 - ▶ Christmas lights and village event support
 - ▶ Grass cutting, arboreal works, tree survey, weed control and general maintenance
 - ▶ Maintenance / Emptying / Stocking of dog waste, litter, grit and salt bins
 - ▶ Support grants for local village groups and associations, including The St Mary’s Thursday Club, Scouts, all the village halls and the Cherry Tree Centre.
 - ▶ Maintenance and updates for the Parish Council web site

Budget & Funding

2021/2022 Budget and Funding

- ▶ Our annual Budget for 2021/22 is **£102,905**
 - ▶ The precept for 2021/2022 is **£96,676** (no change from 2020/21)
 - ▶ Precept charges within the rates for different bands may vary depending on the District's calculations of its overall tax base
 - ▶ **Most residents are likely to see a small decrease of around 0.2%**
 - ▶ The Parish Council continues to manage its reserves prudently to enable support for village services in the event that funding from County and District Councils is further reduced or cut

Budget & Funding

Opportunities & Threats

▶ Opportunities:

- ▶ Finish Jubilee Hall improvements
- ▶ Access to OCC S106 monies to support specific village projects and developments.(e.g. road safety by the Warriner, traffic calming, bus service etc.)
- ▶ Support for village organisations
- ▶ Scope for volunteers to get involved (eg Biodiversity group, The Slade, traffic calming workgroup)
- ▶ Bring Parish Council up to strength with new Councillors (currently four vacancies)

▶ Threats:

- ▶ Central Govt restrictions/ cuts to reclaim CV-19 costs
- ▶ Unitary Authority changes (delayed)
- ▶ OCC Transfer/withdrawal of other Services from CDC & OCC
 - ▶ E.g. removal of Grass Cutting Grant, Gritting, Drainage, Grips & Grills, Hedges & Tree maintenance etc.
- ▶ Capping of PC precepts by central government
- ▶ Need for volunteers
- ▶ Lack of Parish Councillors

Budget & Funding

Section 106 Monies

- Planning obligations under Section 106 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 (as amended) are widely known as Section 106 agreements.
- Oxfordshire County Council (OCC) holds funds to support the development of education, transport, and road safety.
- Cherwell District Council (CDC) holds funds to support the development of play, sport and recreation.
- During the last year, CDC agreed to release funds for the ongoing Jubilee Hall development
- Possible new S106 projects
 - Traffic calming
 - Recreation Ground improvements
 - Tadmarton Road Carpark resurfacing

Budget & Funding

Parish Grants and other parish funding

- ▶ Specific village projects which have been supported:
 - ▶ St Mary's Thursday Club
 - ▶ Cherry Tree Centre
 - ▶ Biodiversity project
 - ▶ Rural grass cutting
 - ▶ Christmas Lights
 - ▶ 3 replacement benches
 - ▶ Corner of Milton Road and Barford Road
 - ▶ Opposite the Warriner
 - ▶ On Cumberford / Tadmarton Road

Planning Matters

▶ Planning Applications

- ▶ Continuing to consider and respond to a wide range and number of applications.
- ▶ The Parish Council is a statutory consultee, but Cherwell District Council is the Planning Authority and decides planning applications.
- ▶ Bloxham Neighbourhood Development Plan review and update
 - ▶ Currently on hold awaiting major Cherwell Local Plan update
 - ▶ And the outcomes from OCC 2050 strategic planning
- ▶ Consultations with CDC and normal planning applications
- ▶ Conservation area update:
 - ▶ Consultation carried out with residents and Parish Council
 - ▶ In final stages of reviews prior to adoption

Environment Works

- ▶ Supported and funded further excellent work in The Slade Local Nature Reserve and the Parish Council will continue to improve this area.
- ▶ New process for the management of parish trees
 - ▶ Preferred company to carry out base survey
 - ▶ Annual 'check-up' surveys to monitor issues
- ▶ New winter volunteers leader appointed
 - ▶ Manual gritting of key footpaths
 - ▶ More volunteers are always welcome!
- ▶ Continued efforts to try to address the behaviour of a small minority of dog walkers using the village walks

Bloxham Parish Council

Priorities for 2021/2022

- ▶ Complete the developments and improvements at the Jubilee Hall
- ▶ Support the Bloxham Community Support Group assisting those in need due to the Covid-19 Pandemic
- ▶ Continue to develop/improve Play Areas for all children
- ▶ Support village groups by way of grants and community donations
- ▶ Continue to support services for the elderly and children
- ▶ Support the Cherry Tree Centre
- ▶ Build on the support of residents in keeping the village clean and tidy
- ▶ Focus on traffic calming
 - ▶ Secure S106 funding where possible
 - ▶ Engage with the community to drive traffic calming activities

District & County Councillors Reports

- ▶ Reports available online for review



Christine Heath
Cherwell District Councillor for
Bloxham, Adderbury and Bodicote



Mike Bishop
Cherwell District Councillor for
Bloxham, Adderbury and Bodicote



Andrew McHugh
Cherwell District Councillor for
Bloxham, Adderbury and Bodicote

Kieron Mallon
Oxfordshire County Councillor
Bloxham and Easington



Questions for Councillors



Please submit any questions through the Zoom chat facility or via the Bloxham Parish Council website or Facebook page