



**MINUTES OF THE BLIDWORTH PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
held at Blidworth Library, New Lane, Blidworth, Notts, NG21 0PW
on Thursday 21st July 2022 commencing at 7.00pm**

Present: Councillors: J Rea, E Litchfield, H O'Hare, H Catling, C Dabbs, C Walsh,
K Hickenbottom, W Bates

Apologies: None
Clerk: C Brettell
Members of the Public: 9 including County Councillor T Smith and District Councillor T
Thompson

Abbreviations: NCC – Nottinghamshire County Council
NSDC – Newark and Sherwood District Council

The Chair gave thanks to the fire service and farmers in dealing with the fire in the village earlier that week.

Action by

- 22/29 To receive - Declaration of interests both pecuniary and non-pecuniary and applications for dispensation on items listed on the agenda**
Cllr Litchfield expressed an interest in item 22/35.1 – related to J Litchfield
Cllr O' Hare expressed an interest in item 22/35.5 – Treasurer to Forest Folk Allotments and leader of the 1st Blidworth Guides.
Cllr Rea expressed an interest in RCAN should that be discussed.
- 22/30 To receive - Apologies for absence given to the Clerk**
None
- 22/31 To receive and approve – Minutes of the meeting held on 16th June 2022 (Appendix 1)**
It was **resolved** that the minutes of the meeting held on the 16th June 2022 be accepted as a true and accurate record.
- 22/32 To note – updates on matters arising from the minutes if not already on the Agenda**
(no decisions can be made)
None
- 22/33 To receive Representations (no more than 5 minutes)**
33.1 Public Participation
A resident gave an update on the Miners Memorial celebration which was to be held on Monday 15th August. The installation would be on the 13/14th August and would be fitted onto a concrete base.

33.2 Reports from District and County Council Representatives on Matters of a direct relevance to Blidworth Parishioners
District Cllr T Thompson reported that she'd had a meeting with NSDC and raised issues including overgrown shrubbery, weeds and benches.

County Councillor T Smith gave updates on progress with the 141 bus and his involvement with the New Lane Paddock Planning applications that had been refused. Other items were being discussed later on the agenda.

33.3 Police report

PCSO Tracey Stokes had contacted the Clerk to say she was unable to make the meeting but should be available for the September meeting. A 'Night of Action' in the village had been arranged.

22/34 **To Discuss/Update on Highway Issues in the Village** (if not already covered in District and County Council reports)

The Clerk raised an issue that had been discussed by a resident on Marriott Lane, a recent gathering at the Marriott Lane park had caused access to the road way to be blocked. The resident had asked if a bollard could be put up by residents. The Clerk had been in touch with the Rights of Way Officer at VIA to investigate as several options had been looked into over the years. The Clerk was working with NCC Cllr T Smith to see what options were available and if a meeting with representatives and residents could be held. The Clerk to forward previous correspondence to members.

Clerk/NCC Cllr Smith

The pedestrian crossing was also discussed on Dale Lane and the Tesco junction, which was not easy for pedestrians to use. Re-painting of the white lines had already been requested – Clerk to chase. Options to be considered included moving the crossing further down Dale Lane.

Clerk

22/35 **Business**

35.1 To agree - Co-option of Parish Councillor

It was **resolved** to co-opt Tom Smith as Parish Councillor.

The Declaration of acceptance of Office was signed and he took up a seat to continue with the meeting as a Parish Councillor.

35.2 To update – Works regarding Sherwood Avenue Recreational Ground including response from the Forestry Commission, CCTV, Electrical works, provision of new litter bins and seating, fencing off play equipment and tree cutting

The Clerk updated members as appropriate and the following noted:

No response had been received from the Forestry Commission.

Mike Manley at NSDC had asked VIA to assess the lighting columns to fit CCTV which they had said were unsuitable. The Clerk had requested quotations for the necessary work to put the timers into the lighting columns, replace the floodlights and certify as necessary. This should then make them suitable for CCTV.

It was **resolved** to use Overton Electrical services as per their quotation.

NCC T Smith and NSDC Cllr Thompson to chase the CCTV provision at NSDC and if necessary, have a site meeting.

Litter bins and new seating were referred to the Parks and Open Spaces working party for discussion.

Parks and Open Spaces working party

The fencing contractor had left the fencing panel (not fitted) for the gap on the boundary for the school field. It was agreed to leave this off and discuss reinstating it at a later date. Residents thanked the Parish Council for the work on the fencing which was improving the area.

The areas at the main Sherwood Avenue entrance were discussed as the contractor had stoned the area which was causing an issue to some residents and pushchair/wheelchair users.

As this issue need rectifying promptly, it was **resolved** to ask the contractor to obtain a price to tarmac this area approx..1 metre into the park entrance. If the cost was no more than £2000 then the Clerk to proceed with this and inform Councillors. **Clerk**

3 quotations had been sought for crown lifting the trees (8No.) near the boundary with the properties on Forest Road, and felling the trees (field maples) next to the skate park, both required to ensure that the area is safe.

It was **resolved** to engage the services of Forest Farm Tree Services at a cost of £1875 + VAT.

35.3 To discuss – Youth Bus at Sherwood Avenue and provision for activities at the Park (Appendix 2 – Power to provide this)

This was discussed and David Hamilton, one of the Youth workers from NCC was invited to speak. The Youth bus would not be at Sherwood Avenue over the summer and would return in September. He informed members that youth workers were needed. HAF funding may be available from NCC for the October half term – this was to be looked at further by the Parks and Open Spaces working party. **Parks and Open Spaces working party**

It was **resolved** for the 'Friends of Sherwood' including any Councillors to purchase equipment for use at the park to engage with the children. The money raised by Mr and Mrs Bullivant at the Jubilee Gala to be used for this purpose (£181).

35.4 To discuss – Dogs on lead zone at Sherwood Avenue Recreation Ground
No response had been received from NSDC. The Clerk to chase in order to move forward. **Clerk**

35.5 To consider - Grant applications (Appendix 3)

Cllr O'Hare declared an interest and left the meeting

The 3 grant applications were considered. The budget set aside for Parish Grants had been allocated.

It was **resolved** to give £200 to the 1st Blidworth St Mary's Guides.

Cllr O'Hare returned to the meeting

35.6 To discuss – Closure of 141 bus service by Trent Barton from September (Appendix 4 – draft letter to Trent Barton)

Cllr T Smith in his capacity as County Cllr was invited to update members. Trent Barton is a private Company and the 141 bus is running at a loss of £18,000 per month. NCC give £35000 per year to support the 141 bus service. Cllr Smith along with other representatives were meeting to discuss this further to see what could be done.

It was agreed for the Clerk to send the letter as per appendix 4.

35.7 To agree – remit/guidelines for Parish Council WhatsApp group

It was **resolved** to keep the original WhattApp group for group disscusion and information between Councillors. Cllrs to join/leave this group as they see fit. A further group called 'Admin' to be set up for all Councillors with information provided by the clerk.

35.8 To adopt – Social Media Policy (Appendix 5)

It was **resolved** to adopt the Social Media Policy

35.9 To adopt – Complaints Procedure (Appendix 6)

It was **resolved** to adopt the Complaints Procedure

35.10 To update - Cllr details and GDPR forms (to be circulated at the meeting)

The Councillor contact details list was circulated and signed by Councillors to agree what information is displayed on the notice board and Parish Council Website. GDPR forms were distributed and completed by all Councillors present.

35.11 To note – Parish Council Risk Assessments (emailed out to Councillors)

These were received and noted by Councillors.

35.12 To agree – change of Parks and Open Spaces committee and HR/Finance committee to working party (Appendix 7 - The Difference between Committees and Working Parties)

It was **resolved** to change the Parks and Open Spaces committee and HR/Finance committee to working parties

35.13 To note - Lengthsman scheme run through VIA

It was **resolved** to sign up to this scheme

35.14 To discuss – Christmas Lights

The Clerk discussed the Christmas lights, she had contacted AW Ward regarding additional lighting that might be required and it had been suggested to look at new lights in front of the leisure centre. The Clerk to bring this to the September meeting. The Clerk to apply for the Christmas lights licence from VIA.

35.15 To discuss – Meadow areas and seating for Marriott Lane

This was to be looked at further by the Parks and Open Spaces working party. Grant funding could also be explored.

Parks and Open Spaces working party

35.16 To agree – New Councillor training and other training courses

This to be deferred to the next meeting.

35.17 To agree – Village walks and information boards

It was agreed to go ahead with this and to be looked at further by the Parks and Open Spaces working party. Cllr O' Hare had started looking at options and Grant funding could also be explored for information boards.

Parks and Open Spaces working party

35.18 To discuss – Parish Councillor Surgery Feedback and future objectives

The Parish Councillor surgeries had been a great success. Cllr O'Hare to look at future dates and all Councillors to be given the opportunity to attend.

All Councillors

35.19 To agree – Delegation of powers for August and provision for finance items

It was **resolved** to delegate powers for an urgent matters to the Chair, Vice Chair and Clerk until the Parish Council meets again in September.

35.20 To discuss – Jubilee Mural board at Belle Vue Lane Park
 The Clerk updated members regarding the issues with the mural board – the paint work was now flaking off. The Clerk had tried to resolve the matter. ImageSkool had not experienced this before and required confirmation that the mural boards by Rainworth Fencing were fit for purpose. The Clerk and Cllr Catling to look into this in order to get it resolved. NSDC who had funded this project were also aware.
Clerk and Cllr Catling

22/36 Updates from working party leads:

- 36.1 Comms/Marketing/Events/Youth Forum – including Pit Wheel Celebration event and the Tour of Britain
- 36.2 Bloom/Planting
- 36.3 Parks and Open Spaces
- 36.4 Neighbourhood/Parish Plan
- 36.5 HR/Finance

Due to time this was deferred to the next Parish Council meeting. The Chair urged the party leads to ensure projects were progressing over the summer in order to feed back at the September meeting.
Working Party leads

The Clerk raised item 36.1 – The Tour of Britain on the 8th September. It was agreed to put out bunting and any yellow bikes prior to the start of the race.

22/37 Financial Matters

To receive and approve accounts and financial information:

- 37.1 Analysis of Payments – June 2022 (Appendix 8)
- 37.2 Analysis of Receipts – June 2022 (Appendix 9)
- 37.3 Bank Reconciliation Statement as at 30th June 2022 (Appendix 10)
- 37.4 To Authorise schedule of payments for July 2022 (Appendix 11)
- 37.5 To update – NATWest banking arrangements and reinstatement of Clerk as bank signatory

The Chair checked the bank reconciliation figures with the bank statements.
 It was **resolved** to accept and approve the financial information as per items 37.1 – 37.5 that had been submitted to members and to authorise the schedule of payments 37.4

Clerk

It was further **resolved** to reinstate the Clerk, Clare Brettell on to the NAT West Account, as an authorised signatory.

22/38 Planning Applications

To receive, and where appropriate comment on the following applications:

| | |
|----------------------------------|---|
| Proposal: | Change of use of agricultural land to an equestrian use, including perimeter fencing and hedgerow/tree planting |
| Site Address: | Land At Ricket Lane Blidworth |
| Planning Application Ref: | 22/01146/FULM |

It was **resolved** to respond stating ‘No Objections’ to this application

The Clerk asked if 22/00575/FULM (7909) Appeal of an enforcement Notice could be noted, as emailed out to Councillors on the 18th July.

Planning Decisions

The following Planning decisions have been made (full details emailed out to Councillors):

None

22/39 To note – Correspondence received
All relevant correspondence sent out via email

22/40 To note – The date of the next Parish Council Meeting – 15th September 2022

Residents had gathered to discuss a selection of Planning Application appeals on New Lane, Blidworth. The Chair now suspended Standing orders to allow residents to speak and to allow the remaining business to be completed as the time had now reached 9.20pm

Residents and field owners updated members regarding the situation. The Parish Council had previously commented on these applications stating 'No Objections'. It was agreed that should Parish Councillors wish to write in to NSDC they do so in their capacity as residents. The Parish Council are unable to be involved.

22/41 Exclusion of Public (Confidential Items)
In accordance with Public Bodies (admission to meetings) Act 1960 section 1(2) the Council exclude the public and press from the meeting by reason of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted.

Meeting closed 10.15pm