



**MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
OF BLIDWORTH PARISH COUNCIL
held at Blidworth Welfare (function room), Mansfield Road,
Blidworth, Notts, NG21 0LR
on Thursday 18th May 2023 commencing at 7.00pm**

Present: Councillors: J Rea, E Litchfield, H O'Hare, C Walsh, K Hickenbottom, C Williams,
T Smith, G Fisher, W Bates, H Catling

Apologies: None
Clerk: C Brettell
Members of the Public: 2

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

Action by

Cllr Rea thanked the Vice Chair and Clerk along with other members for their support this year.

23/01 To Elect a Chair for the ensuing year. Chair to sign declaration of acceptance of office

Cllr O'Hare was elected as Chair and duly signed the acceptance of office.

23/02 To Elect a Vice Chair for the ensuing year. Vice Chair to sign declaration of acceptance of office

Cllr Hickenbottom was elected as Vice- Chair and duly signed the acceptance of office.

23/03 To receive - Declaration of interests both pecuniary and non-pecuniary and applications for dispensation on items listed on the agenda

None

23/04 To receive - Apologies for absence given to the Clerk

None

23/05 To determine which items of the agenda, if any, should be taken with the public excluded. If the Council decides to exclude the public the item will be moved to 23/19 and a resolution passed in order to discuss the item.

It was **resolved** to move Agenda item 23/14.3 to exclude the public.

23/06 To receive and approve – Minutes of the meeting held on 20th April 2023

It was **resolved** that the minutes of the meeting held on the 20th April 2023 be accepted as a true and accurate record.

23/07 To note – updates on matters arising from the minutes if not already on the Agenda
(no decisions can be made)

The Clerk updated that the rubble at Sherwood Park was being collected tomorrow by NSDC. No response from NCC/VIA had been received regarding the reasoning behind the pedestrian crossing not being repainted. The Clerk to chase. No CCTV footage had been retrieved from Sherwood Park regarding the incident with the concrete post. If the PCSO's are able to attend the next meeting, further information regarding CCTV could be obtained.

23/08 To Agree – Working parties, Committees and appointment of Representatives, including Terms of Reference

Cllr Bates asked for a 'Thank you' letter to be sent to C Dabbs for her work over the past year and her continuing service to Blidworth, and work at the War Memorial.

The following Working Parties were agreed:

Working Party	Members
Communications/Marketing/Events/Engagement Youth Forum - Working Party	Lead – E Litchfield G Fisher C Hickenbottom C Williams None PC Members: K Marlow J Litchfield
Bloom/Summer Planting/War Memorial Planting - Working Party	Lead - C Williams K Hickenbottom E Litchfield G Fisher
Parks and Open Spaces – Working Party (including footpaths, Conservation Allotments, Workshop, War Memorial and Emergency Action Group)	Lead - K Hickenbottom C Walsh B Bates H O'Hare
Neighbourhood Plan/Parish Plan – Working Party	Lead - C Walsh H O'Hare J Rea B Bates
HR/Finance – Committee/Working Party	Lead – H Catling C Walsh E Litchfield H O'Hare
Planning – Working Party	Lead - C Williams H O'Hare K Hickenbottom G Fisher

23/09 To Agree – Meeting dates, Parish Events and Councillor Surgeries for the upcoming year 2023/24

The following dates and venues were agreed:

Parish Council Meetings to be held at Blidworth Library, New Lane, Blidworth, Notts, NG21 0PW commencing at 7pm

Thursday 18th May – Annual Parish Council Meeting (held at Blidworth Welfare)

Thursday 15th June

Thursday 20th July

No meeting in August

Thursday 21st September

Thursday 19th October

Thursday 16th November

Thursday 21st December – if required

Thursday 18th January

Thursday 15th February

Thursday 21st March

Thursday 18th April

Annual Parish Gathering – Saturday 20th April

Parish Council Events 2023

Summer Gala – Sunday 23rd July – Blidworth Welfare

Remembrance – Sunday 12th November – Blidworth War Memorial

Christmas Light Switch on Event – Saturday 25th November – Blidworth Welfare

Pensioners Christmas Party – Tuesday 5th December at the SFCC

Parish Councillor Surgery Sessions

Saturday 10am – 12 noon on the 3rd Saturday of the month, following the Parish Council meeting, to be held at Blidworth Library. The September session to be held on the 23rd September. This to be confirmed each month and advertised on the Parish Council FB page.

23/10 To Agree – Blidworth Parish Council adopts the General Power of Competence for the term of the Council (Localism Act 2011)

It was **resolved** to adopt the General Power of Competence for the term of the Council.

23/11 To receive Representations (no more than 5 minutes)

11.1 Public Participation

A resident suggested that Parish Council events be held at various locations in the village other than at the Welfare. Parish Councillors to give this some thought.

A resident mentioned that Sherwood Park become a 'Green Flag' location. Cllr Williams to look into this.

Cllr Hickenbottom informed members that 'Friends of Sherwood' are setting up a committee, that will be separate from the Parish Council and will update Parish Councillors at each Parish Council meeting.

11.2 Reports from District and County Council Representatives on Matters of a direct relevance to Blidworth Parishioners

No report from Cllr Thompson

Cllr Smith reported that NSDC have not yet formed a Council, due to a hung parliament. This would form in due course.

Cllr Smith (NCC) informed members that the Library has reopened. The NCC funding pot has also re-opened up (Local communities fund).

He informed members that the District Highways Manager is making a visit to the Village, any questions/issues to be put to Cllr Smith to ensure they are mentioned.

It was noted that the junction at Dale Lane with Mansfield Road and the quality of Haywood Oaks Lane is poor.

23/12 To Discuss/Update on Highway Issues in the Village (if not already covered in District and County Council reports)

Cllr Catling brought up the issue with the land near Marriott Lane park, the 'meadows track' is unsuitable for walkers/cars. The Play park is not being used as difficult to access if you have a car. It was agreed for this to be discussed in more detail at a future meeting and addressed by the working party.

23/13 Financial Matters

13.1 To Approve - Internal Audit

It was **resolved** to approve the Internal Audit.

13.2 To Agree – Inventory/Asset Register as at 31st March 2023

It was **resolved** to agree the content of the Asset Register at a value of £ 410641.

13.3 To Consider, approve and sign the Annual Governance Statement – Section 1
Consideration was given to the Annual Governance statement which was completed.

It was **resolved** to approve this and it was then signed by the Chair.

13.4 To consider, approve and sign the Accounting Statement – Section 2

It was **resolved** to approve the Accounting statement which was then signed by the Chair.

To receive and approve accounts and financial information:

13.5 Analysis of Payments – April 2023

13.6 Analysis of Receipts – April 2023

13.7 Bank Reconciliation Statement as at 30th April 2023

13.8 To Authorise schedule of payments for May

The Chair checked the bank reconciliation figures with the bank statements.

It was **resolved** to accept and approve the financial information as per items 13.5 – 13.7 that had been submitted to members and to authorise the schedule of payments (13.8)

13.9 To Remove and add bank signatories on Parish Council accounts

It was **resolved** to remove M Atherton and C Dabbs as bank signatories on all bank accounts and to add Cllrs K Hickenbottom, C Williams and C Walsh.

23/14 Business

14.1 To discuss – Casual Vacancy

Discussion took place regarding the vacancy. The Parish Council would like to promote this with a view to filling the vacancy in September. The Clerk suggested writing a co-option policy, which was agreed to be brought back to the July meeting. **Clerk**

14.2 To discuss – Blidworth on the Move Parish Grant Application

It was **resolved** to pay the amount of £195.00 to Blidworth on the Move towards the Chair based exercise training course. **Clerk**

14.4 To update – Park equipment at Sherwood Park
Cllr Catling and the Clerk updated members that a site visit had been made by Kompan, who had met with our Groundsman Paul. The Clerk had received an email to say that the post would be repaired under warranty.

14.5 To agree – methods of communication and documentation for Parish Councillors, along with publication of contact details.

The Clerk circulated the Parish Councillor contact details and these were checked and agreed for publication on the website and notice board.

It was agreed that all documents would be circulated via email including the meeting summons and papers, this would be scanned and in pdf format. **Clerk**

14.6 To agree – planning for this years Christmas Lights

Discussion took place regarding the Christmas lights along with getting local shops involved in contributing to the village display.

The Clerk to look into any insurance implications with having artificial trees installed on brackets above the shops. **Clerk**

Discussion took place regarding having a large Christmas tree at the War Memorial, and the permissions/utilities available to do this. It was agreed that further consultation would need to be undertaken to gauge the view from residents.

It was suggested that a Christmas tree be put at the Library. Cllr Smith to look at this and if Inspire could provide and fund this. **Cllr Smith**

It was agreed for Cllrs Litchfield, Hickenbottom and Williams to look into options for the Christmas lights and bring back to the next meeting.

Cllrs Hickenbottom/Williams/Litchfield

14.7 To update – Street naming with suggestions from Blidworth Oaks school

It was **resolved** for Cllrs Rea and Williams to choose 5 names from the list provided by school and to donate several prizes from the money gifted by funds from the Dog show up to £50. **Cllr Williams/Rea**

23/15 Updates from working party leads:

15.1 Comms/Marketing/Events/Youth Forum - Cllr Litchfield updated on the Summer Gala including the purchase of pop up banners and the suggestion of a 'Silver Arrow' prize for the Archery competition. Costs and a full plan to be brought back to the June meeting for approval.

15.2 Bloom/Planting – Cllr Williams provided an update on the groups and clubs that are involved in the village planting. The aim is for the planting to begin w/c the 5th June.

15.3 Parks and Open Spaces – No update

15.4 Neighbourhood/Parish Plan – No update

15.5 HR/Finance – No update

23/16 Planning Applications

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

None received

Planning Decisions

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

None received

23/17 To note – Correspondence received

All relevant correspondence sent out via email

The Clerk drew members attention to the ‘Code of Conduct’ sessions to be run by NSDC on the 8th and 15th June. All Parish Councillors are required to attend if possible.

23/18 To note – The date of the next Parish Council Meeting – 15th June 2023 at Blidworth Library.

An Extra-ordinary meeting to be held as required to discuss the planning on Dale Lane – the Chair to advise.

23/19 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.

A 20 minute comfort break was held

Meeting closed 9.48pm