



**MINUTES OF THE BLIDWORTH PARISH COUNCIL MEETING**  
**held at Blidworth Library, New Lane, Blidworth, Notts, NG21 0PW**  
**on Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> November 2023 commencing at 7.00pm**

The Chairman asked those present that if anyone was recording the meeting to make themselves known.

Present: Councillors: H O'Hare (Chairman), E Litchfield, C Williams, G Fisher,  
C Walsh, T Smith, W Bates,

Apologies: H Catling, K Marlow, K Hickenbottom

Clerk: C Brettell

Members of the Public: 8 inc. District Cllr T Thompson

Abbreviations: NCC – Nottinghamshire County Council

NSDC – Newark and Sherwood District Council

**Action by**

**23/82 To receive - Declaration of interests both pecuniary and non-pecuniary and applications for dispensation on items listed on the agenda**

Cllr Litchfield declared a non-pecuniary interest in agenda item 23/95.2 (Blidworth Welfare)

**23/83 To receive - Apologies for absence given to the Clerk**

Apologies were received and noted from K Marlow, H Catling and K Hickenbottom.

The resignation of Cllr J Rea was also noted. The Chairman and Parish Councillors thanked J Rea for his service to Blidworth Parish council and residents, after joining the Parish Council in difficult times. The Clerk to express this in a 'Thank you' email to J Rea and notify NSDC.

**23/84 To receive and approve – Minutes of the meeting held on the 19<sup>th</sup> October 2023**  
(Appendix 1)

It was **resolved** that the minutes of the meeting held on the 19<sup>th</sup> October 2023 be accepted as a true and accurate record.

**23/85 To note – updates on matters arising from the minutes if not already on the Agenda**  
(no decisions can be made)  
None

**23/86 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 23/95 and a  
resolution passed in order to discuss the item.  
None

**23/87 To receive Representations (no more than 5 minutes per item)**  
87.1 Public Participation

A resident asked if the Parish Council could confirm if its 'BID' for the section 106 money represents the community. Should this go ahead then the community would like to see the costs and a feasibility study, expressing a lack of transparency and no consultation with what the public want.

The Chairman responded to this statement - The Parish Council has been transparent and that the resident had attended all meetings regarding the section 106 money.

Cllr Bates added that each BID will go through the set process at NSDC to demonstrate cost and long term gain. Involvement from residents is needed to move forward as the Parish Council represent the community.

A resident handed the Clerk a statement to be read out regarding a breach to the social media policy by a Parish Councillor.

The Chairman responded by stating that the Parish Council are aware and are dealing with the matter.

A resident thanked the Parish Council for involvement with the section 106 meeting held on Monday and asked if the Parish Council can consider parking and footpaths in relation to its 'BID' as they will have an effect on residents.

A resident also expressed that there had been no consultation with Forest Road residents to see if they would like a Pavilion area. As a disabled user of Sherwood Park, the basics need to be considered before the project is advanced.

Cllr Walsh thanked residents for their comments, which the Parish Council will take on board. Their involvement is appreciated.

A resident also enquired why there is no pathway from the Blidworth Lane development (Rainworth) through to Blidworth. This is especially dangerous at nighttime.

Cllr Smith to look into this.

#### 87.2 Reports from District and County Council Representatives on matters of a direct relevance to Blidworth Parishioners

Tina Thompson – helping residents with difficulties. Planning permission with trees.

NCC Cllr T Smith – A Christmas tree had been sourced and paid for by Cllr T Smith for the Christmas light switch on, Inspire are providing the external power socket.

Flooding – the attenuation basin on the New Lane development has been built to specification. Gleesons say it was an extraordinary amount of rain, but are prepared to build a 3ft barrier for added protection. The homes affected by the flooding are being looked at (2 properties were affected). NSDC are to put on flood doors. Gleesons have agreed to pay for the tenants' patio repairs and fence plinths that were damaged as a good will gesture.

It was suggested that there is a possible 'Design liability'. The Clerk confirmed that she has spoken to Laura Gardner (Planning Officer at NSDC) her suggestion was to take this up with NCC flooding team. Cllr Smith stated that this would also pass to Severn Trent.

*The Chairman invited a resident to speak at this point to update on the historical nature of the ground. He stated that Cooper Marl is present up to the Mill 500 ft above sea level. The well outside the mill is always full. 400 acres of pasture have been replaced with concrete, causing the flooding. With further rainfall it will flood again. The culvert in the 'meadows' has been removed and there is nothing present to take the water.*

Cllr Smith updated on the Planning application for the tree removal on Helens field, confirming that they are on Gleesons land not Helens field. Removal had been halted.

The section 106 meeting held by NSDC on Monday (13<sup>th</sup>) was very informative, and the clerk was thanked for arranging this. He reminded residents that a deadline of the 31<sup>st</sup> March had been set for applications.

Cllr Smith also informed the Parish Council and residents that 2 pots of funding are currently available – The Lyndhurst Windfarm and the NCC LIS grant.

#### 87.3 Police report

The Police had submitted a report that had been circulated to Parish Councillors.

### 23/88 Financial Matters

To receive and approve accounts and financial information:

88.1 Analysis of Payments – October 2023 (Appendix 2)

88.2 Analysis of Receipts – October 2023 (Appendix 3)

88.3 Bank Reconciliation Statement as at 31st October 2023 (Appendix 4)

88.4 To authorise the schedule of payments for November 2023 (Appendix 5)

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

It was **resolved** to accept and approve the financial information as per items 88.1 – 88.3 that had been submitted to members and to authorise the schedule of payments for November, including 3 additional payments – Forest Farm trees £348, K Marlow £143.00 (expenses for selection boxes) and the Groundsman £89.60 (expenses)

### 23/89 Planning Applications

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

<b>Proposal:</b>	Variation of conditions 5 and 8 attached to planning permission 21/01502/S73M to amend the landscaping plans to remove/replace several trees/hedges on the southern border due to engineering requirements.
<b>Site Address:</b>	Land At New Lane Blidworth
<b>Planning Application Ref:</b>	23/01813/S73M

Cllr Smith provided a further update regarding this application. One tree had been removed.

It was **resolved** that there were no objections, however, the Parish Council to request that NSDC institute a replacement for this boundary that is equivalent to or exceeds the quality of the previous boundary. This to consist of mature, native, sustainably sourced trees, shrubs, and hedges in accordance with the best practice recommendations of The UK Forestry Standard (Forestry Commission, 2017 (response to be drafted by Cllr Fisher).

<b>Proposal:</b>	Remove single storey front extension. Alterations, conversion and single storey front extension to garage.
<b>Site Address:</b>	Stokeley Cross Lane Blidworth NG21 0LZ
<b>Planning Application Ref:</b>	23/01515/FULM

It was **resolved** to respond to this application stating 'No Objections'

Cllr T Smith Abstained

**To update** – Planning Application at Dale Lane Ref. No. 22/01495/FULM

No update to be given despite chasing with NSDC.

## Planning Decisions and Appeals

The following Planning decisions/Appeals have been made:

*For the full list of conditions please see the Newark and Sherwood District Council Planning Portal*

### **Town and Country Planning Act 1990 The Town and Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) (England) Order 2015 (as amended)**

<b>Application for:</b>	Full Planning Permission
<b>Application No:</b>	23/01169/FUL
<b>Applicant:</b>	Miss Gemma Caddy
<b>Agent:</b>	Dominium Design Ltd - Mr Malcolm Caddy
<b>Proposal:</b>	Erection of a Proposed Agricultural Barn and accompanying hardstanding/driveway
<b>Site Address:</b>	Field Reference Number 6760 Blidworth Lane Blidworth

Newark and Sherwood District Council as Local Planning Authority in pursuance of their powers under the said legislation **Grant Full Planning Permission** for the development described in the above

### **Prior Approval Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) (England) Order 2015**

<b>Application for:</b>	Householder Prior Approvals
<b>Application No:</b>	23/01116/HPRIOR
<b>Applicant:</b>	Miss Liza Place
<b>Agent:</b>	Arco Design - Mr Martin Dennis
<b>Proposal:</b>	Householder prior approval for proposed single storey rear extension The length that the extension extends beyond the rear wall of the original house: 3.70 metres Eaves height of the extension: 2.97 metres Maximum height of the extension: 3.35 metres
<b>Site Address:</b>	38 Haywood Oaks Lane Blidworth NG21 0TP

Newark and Sherwood District Council as Local Planning Authority in pursuance of their powers under the above Act and order, hereby determine that **Prior Approval Is Not Required** for the development

**TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING ACT 1990 - SECTION 174 APPEAL  
NOTIFICATION OF APPEAL AGAINST ENFORCEMENT NOTICES**

Site Address: The Magnolias Ricket Lane Blidworth NG21 0PF  
Alleged Breach: Without planning permission, development consisting of the erection of a boundary treatment/means of enclosure (as shown within photographs 1 and 2)  
Application Ref: 22/00056/ENFB  
Appeal Ref No: APP/B3030/C/23/3328093  
All Noted

**23/90 Business**

90.1 To update – Christmas events: Christmas Light Switch on and Pensioners Christmas Party including purchase of lights for Christmas tree

Cllr Williams provided an update regarding these events. Numbers had been exceeded for the Pensioners Christmas party, and further names received were being added to a reserve list.

It was **resolved** to purchase the Christmas tree lights (2 sets) at a cost of £86

90.2 To update – ‘Friends of Sherwood’ and association with the Parish Council  
The Chairman confirmed that this group does not exist. The equipment purchased (not using Parish Council money) is available for use by anyone for activities on Sherwood Avenue Park. It was enquired what the funds raised at the Christmas event last year had been used for. NSDC Cllr T Thompson confirmed that she and Martin Atherton had manned the stall (not associated with the Parish Council) and had used this money for gazebos for use at the park.

90.3 To agree – Proposal for the Parish Councils BID for the section 106 money.

It was **resolved** to bring this back to the next meeting. The WP were currently looking at this.

90.4 To agree - Use of Parish Council Facebook page and WhatsApp group  
This was discussed.

It was **resolved** to look at both the Facebook page and WhatsApp group in conjunction with the Social Media Policy that will be reviewed. Cllr Walsh to look at this with the WP

**Cllr Walsh**

90.5 To agree - Location of benches at Sherwood Park  
Discussion took place regarding this and the Chairman invited members of the public to contribute.

It was **resolved** for the 2 picnic benches and 4 benches to be sited as per the plan given to the Clerk. These are to be delivered from Broxap next week and to be fitted by the groundsman and Parish Councillors.

Cllr Bates asked about the anti-social behavior issues at the park and possible solutions.

It was **resolved** for the Parks WP to look into this, getting ideas/costings for fencing, CCTV/tree removal.

**Parks WP**

90.6 Feedback on Remembrance service

The Chair provided feedback to Councillors. The event had been a great success and enjoyed by all who attended. Cllr Williams thanked the Clerk for organizing and Mr Wyke Smith to the PA system.

90.7 To discuss - Letters to Gleasons/NSDC regarding flooding issues  
Cllr Smith had updated members regarding the flooding situation in his report.  
It was agreed that no further action was needed by the Parish Council at present.

90.8 To discuss – Appointments in Parish Office and role of Clerk  
The Chairman reminded Parish Councillors to make appointments with the Clerk so as not to double book. The Clerk updated members with her current workload, with emphasis on the events taking place.

**23/91 To Discuss/Update on Highway Issues in the Village** (if not already covered in District and County Council reports)

The Chairman reported that we have been informed that a resident had slipped on an uneven surface under leaves on Mansfield Road. The Clerk had requested a Road and pavement sweep.

The Chairman had also received a report of an overhanging tree on Mansfield Road. Cllrs Smith and Fisher are aware of this issue. Cllr Smith had taken this up with VIA. The trees are overhanging but are currently within acceptable criteria.

The current state of the zebra crossing on Dale Lane was discussed. Cllr Walsh to chase this up with NCC – The Clerk to provide previous information. **Cllr Walsh**

**23/92 Updates from working party leads and clarification of WP groups and leads**

92.1 Communications/Marketing/Events (CW)

92.2 Village Planting (CW)

92.3 Parks and Open Spaces (KH)

92.4 Neighbourhood/Parish Plan

92.5 HR/Finance (HC)

It was **resolved** to relook at these WP's and the lead members at the next meeting and possibly make them advisory committees.

**23/93 To note – Correspondence received**

All relevant correspondence sent out via email

**23/94 To note – Future dates**

The date of the next Parish Council Meeting – 18<sup>th</sup> January 2023

Upcoming Parish Council Surgery - Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> November 2023 – Cllr Walsh to do this with help from other Parish Councillors

As it had been **resolved** to not hold a meeting in December, it was **resolved** to authorise December's payments retrospectively in January.

It was further **resolved** to give **delegated power** to the Planning WP to consider and respond to any planning applications where the deadline for comment cannot be extended.

Any Planning applications that the Clerk considers controversial shall be referred to a full council meeting where an extraordinary meeting will be called.

A 5 minute comfort break was held

**23/95      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 at 9.19pm