



**MINUTES OF THE BLIDWORTH PARISH COUNCIL MEETING  
held at Blidworth Library, New Lane, Blidworth, Notts, NG21 0PW  
on Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> February 2024 commencing at 7.00pm**

Present: Councillors: H O'Hare (Chairman), E Litchfield, H Catling, K Marlow,  
K Hickenbottom, C Williams, W Bates

Apologies: C Walsh, T Smith

Clerk: C Brettell

Members of the Public: 9 (inc. 2 Police)

Abbreviations: NCC – Nottinghamshire County Council

NSDC – Newark and Sherwood District Council

**Action by**

**24/111 To receive - Declaration of interests both pecuniary and non-pecuniary and applications for dispensation on items listed on the agenda**

Cllr Litchfield declared an interest in Agenda items 24/119.4

Cllr Marlow declared an interest in 24/119.1 and 24/124.1

Cllr O'Hare declared an interest in 24/119.11

**24/112 To receive - Apologies for absence given to the Clerk**

Apologies were received and noted from T Smith and C Walsh

**24/113 To receive and approve – Minutes of the meeting held on the 18<sup>th</sup> January 2024 (Appendix 1)**

It was **resolved** that the minutes of the meeting held on the 18<sup>th</sup> January 2024 be accepted as a true and accurate record

**24/114 To note – updates on matters arising from the minutes if not already on the Agenda (no decisions can be made) and to update on the Actions and Decisions log (Appendix 2)**

Nothing raised other than on the Action log

**24/115 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 23/124 and a resolution passed in order to discuss the item.**  
None

**24/116 To receive Representations (no more than 5 minutes per item)**

116.1 Public Participation

A resident asked why it was appropriate for a Parish Councillor to harass residents, and take photos of his property. Photo had been taken of his father and no permission had been given for him to be photographed. He will be taking this further. He also asked if the Parish Council had made a decision as to if he could be on some of the Parish Council Working parties. The Police added to this that an investigation had taken place. If this is to proceed then the investigation would become criminal. They addressed the Parish Council asking for this to behaviour to stop.

A resident asked for an update with the section 106 money and a progress update. He requested that this be put on the website for residents to see. They would like to see a breakdown of costs and a feasibility study. A resident had spoken to Sue Stott at NSDC and she had stated that the consultation should include all residents from the village.

A resident enquired about the Summer Gala being held. Cllr Litchfield provided an update that it was to be held on the 21<sup>st</sup> July 2024 at Blidworth Welfare.

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

No report received from T Thompson

Cllr T Smith had provided an update on the speed calming humps on Warsop Lane outside Joseph Whitaker School. This had been a long awaited project, which he had started and after a successful consultation period would now be coming to fruition.

Cllr Bates asked the Parish Council to write to NCC regarding the state of the roads in the village and what will be done to ensure they are maintained. **Clerk**

116.3 Police report

There had been many reports of 'Knock a door run' in Blidworth. The police were issuing 'Acceptable behaviour contracts' to anyone caught doing this. Intel is now being used. Police presence in both villages will increase by the summer (June). Cllr Bates asked how this will work. More information will come up on their system. This is part of the new Chief Constable's mission.

Cllr Bates stated concern with Fraud issues. Tracy is specialist for our area, and the Police are able to support and offer sessions with local groups.

The cars on Mansfield Road outside the garage are being moved on, they appear to belong to the flats and not the garage.

The Police Sergeant has been notified of the issues with a Parish Councillor and residents. They requested that this needs to stop and suggested a meeting to discuss in order to find a solution. They can attend if necessary.

Cllr Williams asked about scooter issues in Blidworth and Rainworth. The Police haven't seen them about for months although, these were cited by Cllr Williams this morning.

**24/117 Financial Matters**

To receive and approve accounts and financial information:

117.1 Analysis of Payments – January 2024 (Appendix 3)

117.2 Analysis of Receipts – January 2024 (Appendix 4)

117.3 Bank Reconciliation Statement as at 31<sup>st</sup> January 2024 (Appendix 5)

117.4 To authorise the schedule of payments for February 2024 (Appendix 6)

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

It was **resolved** to accept and approve the financial information as per items 117.1 – 117.3 that had been submitted to members and to authorise the schedule of payments for February, including 2 additional payments – NSDC £175.93 (recharge of elections costs) and Gallagher Insurance £125.14 (Mower Insurance)

117.5 To agree – Allocation of remaining covid grant money £707.38

Discussion took place about the ongoing covid issues and support needed for children in the village, supporting their mental health and wellbeing.

It was **resolved** to allocate Blidworth Oaks School and Blidworth Art Club £353.69 each to assist in tackling the long term effects of Covid, improving youth mental health by providing a donation to the reading lodge, and the local Art Club making a safe space for learning and creativity.

## 24/118 Planning Applications

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

None

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

No update given. The Clerk has chased this with NSDC Cllr T Thompson and Cllr T Smith for Any updates.

## 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 Major
<b>Application No:</b>	23/01967/FULM
<b>Applicant:</b>	Mrs Linda Dykes
<b>Agent:</b>	
<b>Proposal:</b>	Change of use of land from agricultural use to equestrian use
<b>Site Address:</b>	Field Reference 5850 Ricket Lane Blidworth

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

**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>	23/01996/FUL
<b>Applicant:</b>	Nottingham Fire And Rescue Service - Mr Terry Scott
<b>Agent:</b>	YMDBOON - James Goodall
<b>Proposal:</b>	Creation of new single storey extension to provide a private changing area
<b>Site Address:</b>	Nottinghamshire Fire And Rescue Service Blidworth Fire Station Mansfield Road Blidworth NG21 0LR

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  
Noted

**24/119 Business**

119.1 To Co-opt – Parish Councillor (Appendix 7 – Please treat as confidential)

It was **resolved** to co-opt Craig Dear who duly signed the acceptance of office form.  
Cllr Marlow abstained from this vote

119.2 To update - Parish Council Facebook page and WhatsApp group including confirmation moderators for these

In Cllr Walsh's absence the Clerk updated members that the new FB page and WhatsApp group were now fully functioning. Cllrs Walsh, Litchfield and Marlow were booked on the Social Media Training course, and were happy to be 'moderators'.

119.3 To update – Village trail and information board (use of grant funding)

The Chairman updated members regarding the meeting held on Friday, with Paul Fillingham to look at the audio trail, along with Jayne Williams from the Historical Society. A plan should be put together for distribution to Parish Councillors next week. The Clerk to make contact with Paul Fillingham to ask for suggestions as to where to purchase the lectern. **Clerk**

119.4 To discuss – Proposal for the Parish Councils BID for the section 106 money  
Cllr Bates raised the ongoing issue of car parking. This is to be looked at again with NCC to look at a 25 year lease.

Taking into consideration the comments from residents, it was suggested to hold a meeting with the public/residents on the 7<sup>th</sup> March to discuss the Parish Councils BID.

119.5 To update and confirm - PSPO order (deferred from previous meeting)

Cllr Hickenbottom updated members, he had discussed with residents and it is necessary to have a 'dogs on leads area' at Sherwood Park.

It was **resolved** to request a 'Dogs on leads' zone at Sherwood Park as previously agreed in April 2021.

The Clerk was requested to discuss with the Dog Warden as to monitoring dog mess at all parks. Cllr Catling to contact Forestry England to look into a dog walking/exercise area near to Sherwood Park. **Clerk/Cllr Catling**

119.6 To update - Park Inspections (emailed out to Councilors 5<sup>th</sup> February)  
These were noted. The groundsman was looking into the findings.  
The groundsman was thanked for his work on the parks.  
The Clerk suggested she contact Canvas Spaces regarding the Skate park for any suitable solutions.

119.7 To discuss – Benches on land at Boundary Crescent, Blidworth.  
The Clerk updated members regarding the request from a resident at the Parish Council meeting in January. The benches had been identified and the Clerk had asked District Cllrs T Smith and T Thompson for further help with this and to see what grant funding is available to assist with making the area into a garden.

119.8 To agree – Energy contract for utilities from March 2024  
It was **resolved** for the Clerk to select a utilities Company and enter into a 1 year contract

119.9 To adopt – Standing Orders (Appendix 8)  
It was **resolved** to adopt the Standing Orders

119.10 To adopt – Financial Regulations (Appendix 9)  
It was **resolved** to adopt the Financial Regulations

119.11 To note - Forest Folk Allotment agreement for 2024/25  
It was noted that in the new agreement no plot holders will be allowed to keep pigeons, only poultry will be allowed.

119.12 To discuss – Village poppies for Remembrance  
Cllr Williams asked Councillors to consider what could be done to enhance the village when it comes to Remembrance. The Clerk and Cllr Williams to look at this and bring some costs back to a future meeting.  
**Cllr Williams/Clerk**

119.13 To discuss – updating of Policies  
Cllr Catling updated members regarding Parish Council policies, and that several would be brought to full Council over the next few months for reviewing. HR policies also needed addressing.  
**Clerk/HR W P**

119.14 To discuss – grant funding for projects at Marriott Lane Park  
Cllr Lichfield updated members about grant funding available to look at remodeling the Marriott Lane Park. Cllr Catling suggested working with the residents at the New Lane Development to see what they would like to see. The Parks and Open spaces to look at this after the 106 bid.  
**Parks and Open Spaces WP**

**24/120 To Discuss/Update on Highway Issues in the Village** (if not already covered in District and County Council reports)

The Clerk updated members regarding a request from a resident to look at hedgehog/wildlife signage for the village. The Clerk to ask Cllr Fisher to look into this.  
**Cllr Fisher**

**24/121 Updates from working party leads**

121.1 Communications/Marketing/Events (EL)

Sherwood Park Event in May for a family day, Gala going ahead in July at Blidworth Welfare. Information and advertising for stalls to be sent out at a later date.

121.2 Village Planting (CWm)

121.3 Parks and Open Spaces (KH)

121.4 Neighbourhood/Parish Plan ( )

121.5 HR/Finance (HC) Cllr Catling confirmed that a Workplace Risk assessment had been carried out for the Clerk and that it was necessary to purchase equipment to support the Clerk. It was agreed for this to be done from the H&S budget.

**24/122 To note – Correspondence received**

All relevant correspondence sent out via email

**24/123 To note – Future dates**

The date of the next Parish Council Meeting – 21<sup>st</sup> March 2024

Upcoming Parish Council Surgery - Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> February 2024

Annual Parish Gathering – Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> April 2024 this to be held at Blidworth Welfare

A 10 minute comfort break was held

**24/124 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 9.43pm