



MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING OF BLIDWORTH PARISH COUNCIL **held at Blidworth Library, New Lane, Blidworth, Notts, NG21 0PW** **on Thursday 20 March 2025 commencing at 7.00pm**

Councillor present: E Litchfield (chair), K Marlow, C Dear, T Duffy, C Walsh, J Havey
Councillors absent: G Fisher, W Bates, T Smith, Sykes
Also present: B. Boyer, Locum Clerk, and several members of the public.

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

Item	Business Transacted	Action
24/147	To receive declarations of interest, both pecuniary and non-pecuniary and applications for dispensation on items listed on the agenda Cllr Litchfield declared a non-pecuniary interest in item 160h.	
24/148	To receive apologies for absence as given to the Locum Clerk Cllrs Bates, Smith and Sykes had given their apologies. Cllr Catling had resigned.	
24/149	To determine which items of the agenda, if any, require the exclusion of public and press in accordance with the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 1 (2) because publicity would be prejudicial to the public interest by reason of the confidential business to be transacted and resolve to exclude public and press for these items.	
24/150	To receive and resolve to sign the minutes of the meeting 20 February 2025 as a true record of that meeting. The council resolved to sign the minutes of the meeting 20 February 2025 as a true record of that meeting.	Clerk to publish.
24/151	To receive and note updates on matters arising from the minutes. There were none not dealt with elsewhere on this agenda.	
24/152	To note the minutes of the HR Employment Committee Meeting 04 March 2025 (Cllr Catlin) Following the resignation of Cllr Catling, Cllr Walsh gave a brief update. Noting of minutes deferred to a future meeting.	
24/153	To consider the recommendations of the HR committee and approve the employment of the new clerk and the relevant terms and conditions and agree any interim arrangements. There were none.	
24/154	To receive representations from 1. Members of the public in respect of the business on the agenda (limited to a maximum of 5 minutes per speaker). A member of the public asked if the Council were still considering CCTV to be installed on the state park in order to combat anti-social behaviour. The chair requested for this item to be added to the next agenda. A member of the public asked whether he could attach privacy screening to the fence surrounding the Sherwood play park to stop people oversteering his property from the park. He was asked to put his request to the council in writing for consideration at a future meeting.	

	2. District and County Council Representatives on Matters of a direct relevance to Blidworth residents. Cllr Smith had sent his apologies. 3. Local Police The PCSO had sent her apologies. 4. Community Groups Cllr Duffy reported on the "Best of Years" hub. She would sent the clerk documentation to add to the website.																																											
24/155	To receive and note updates on the Actions and Decisions log. Cllr Duffy updated the council on the allotments fence in as much as there was no further update and no clear ownership. The council's legal team had promised to put this in writing. Cllrs Dear and Harvey agreed to progress looking into a graffiti wall.																																											
24/156	To receive updates on Highway Issues in the Village if not already covered elsewhere. Cllr Walsh reported that he had written to VIA, but not yet received a reply.																																											
24/157	Financial Matters: a) To receive and note the payments and receipts for 28 February 25. The council noted the payments and receipts for February 25. b) To receive and note the Bank reconciliation to 28 February 25. (if statements to all accounts available) and note bank balances where available. The council noted the bank reconciliation to 28 February 2025 and the following bank balances: <table border="1"> <tr> <td>Current Account NatWest</td><td>30/01/2025</td><td>£500.00</td></tr> <tr> <td>Business Reserve Account A</td><td>30/12/2024 No statement yet</td><td>£48,664.73</td></tr> <tr> <td>Unity Trust Bank current account</td><td>28/02/2025</td><td>£10,709.08</td></tr> <tr> <td>Unity Trust Bank instant access account</td><td>28/02/2025</td><td>£30,106.75</td></tr> <tr> <td>Total at Bank</td><td></td><td>£89,980.56</td></tr> </table> c) To approve the payments schedules for March 2025. The council approved the following payments <table border="1"> <tr> <td>Unity Trust</td><td>Account Fee Jan 25</td><td>7.20</td></tr> <tr> <td>Gallagher Insurance</td><td>Toro Agricultural Vehicle Insurance</td><td>130.88</td></tr> <tr> <td>B Boyer - Amazon for council</td><td>Grounds consumables</td><td>17.97</td></tr> <tr> <td>Notts ALC</td><td>A Sykes Councillor Training Invoice #: INV 3673</td><td>45.00</td></tr> <tr> <td>Notts ALC</td><td>C Dear Employment essentials Invoice #: INV 3671</td><td>45.00</td></tr> <tr> <td>Payroll Costs</td><td>Salary, Pension, HMRC incl Mileage and Vehicle allowance</td><td>2,566.46</td></tr> <tr> <td>Unity Trust</td><td>Account Fee February</td><td>7.95</td></tr> <tr> <td>NSDC - Trade Waste</td><td>Waste uplifts from Community Centre site</td><td>664.30</td></tr> <tr> <td>YuEnergy</td><td>Energy charge Sports Ground February</td><td>10.31</td></tr> </table>	Current Account NatWest	30/01/2025	£500.00	Business Reserve Account A	30/12/2024 No statement yet	£48,664.73	Unity Trust Bank current account	28/02/2025	£10,709.08	Unity Trust Bank instant access account	28/02/2025	£30,106.75	Total at Bank		£89,980.56	Unity Trust	Account Fee Jan 25	7.20	Gallagher Insurance	Toro Agricultural Vehicle Insurance	130.88	B Boyer - Amazon for council	Grounds consumables	17.97	Notts ALC	A Sykes Councillor Training Invoice #: INV 3673	45.00	Notts ALC	C Dear Employment essentials Invoice #: INV 3671	45.00	Payroll Costs	Salary, Pension, HMRC incl Mileage and Vehicle allowance	2,566.46	Unity Trust	Account Fee February	7.95	NSDC - Trade Waste	Waste uplifts from Community Centre site	664.30	YuEnergy	Energy charge Sports Ground February	10.31	Clerk to set up payments for approval Clerk to move relevant amount to EMR.
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24/158	To consider quotes received for electricity supply and resolve approve an electricity supplier and length of term of contract. The council resolved to renew the contract with the current provider on a 3 year contract.	Clerk to sign relevant contracts and paperwork																		
24/159	To receive an update from the council's groundsman. No report available. Deferred to next meeting.																			
24/160	To consider and decide the following business: a) To consider a request to move the council's notice board to the opposite side of the road. Deferred to June meeting. b) To note the February play inspection reports and consider any action to be taken and quotations received for repairs. The council received the reports and approved the expenditure to repair the climbing frame at Belle Vue Lane. c) To review the dog waste contract and authorise the clerk to sign the required documents to continue with the service. The council resolved to continue the dog waste contract. d) To consider joining the Lengthsman Scheme from April 2025. (Deferred from January meeting). The council unanimously resolved to join the Lengthsman Scheme from April 2025. At 19.54 the council agreed to a brief comfort break before re-convening at 20.00.	Clerk to sign appropriate contracts and paperwork.																		

	e) To consider quotations received for a Gator vehicle and authorise the expenditure to purchase the vehicle and insure it from reserves up to an agreed upper spending limit. (Cllr Dear) The council received photos and prices for all terrain vehicles with a cab. Cllr Dear gave a verbal report on his research to date. He explained that such a vehicle would not require road tax or MOT. The council resolved to approve a capital expenditure of up to £17,000 excluding VAT to be taken from reserves for the purchase of an all-terrain vehicle and insurance in the first year. The vehicle was to be used within the parish of Blidworth only and parked in the locked council compound over night and at weekends. f) To discuss and finalise the format of the Annual Parish Assembly 26 April 2025 at the Miners Welfare 10.00 to 12.00 noon. The clerk explained the requirements of an Annual Assembly of the Parish meeting and pointed out that the Annual Assembly 26 April 2025 at the Miners Welfare 10.00 to 12.00 noon would not meet the requirements. The council agreed that representatives of local groups would be invited to give a brief presentation of their work. There would be no formal agenda. Refreshments would be served. g) To consider quotations for a community CPR & defibrillator training session (Cllr Dear) The council unanimously approved the expenditure for a 24 candidate Level 2 Certificate in Basic Life Saving and use of an AED course at the cost of £600. Candidates would be charged £5 in advance to secure attendance and receive the certificate. h) To re-consider the venue for the Christmas lights switch on in light of new information. Cllr Litchfield abstained from voting having declared a non-pecuniary interest. Following discussions of the events working group, it transpired that the library would not be suitable as a venue for the planned activities. It would be open as normal in the morning, thus leaving not enough time to set up stalls. It also does not allow food and drink on the indoor premises, which would make admission difficult if people tried to enter with foods bought from vendors outside. The council resolved to change the venue of the Christmas lights switch on to the Miners Welfare. i) To receive an update on the allotment fencing and decide how to move forward. See item 24/155 above.	Cllr Dear to present a full report and suitable options to the next meeting so a decision can be made at the meeting. Cllr Dear to research level of interest within the community and find a suitable venue. Cllr Litchfield to add to Welfare diary.
24/161	To receive updates from working parties. (for notification only) a) Communications/Marketing/Events - Working Party Plans were being finalised for the Summer Gala 20 July 2025. A dog show and ice cream van had already been confirmed. Further attractions planned were candy floss and doughnuts, a stall by NSDC, the police and the fire brigade. Food vendors would be asked for a donation from their takings rather than being charged higher stall a fee. b) Summer Planting/War Memorial Planting- Working Party	

	The working group was due to meet up and finalise planting plans with the £2,000 budget for 2025-26. A display for VE day was planned. c) Parks and Open Spaces – Working Party No report. d) Finance Working Party No report. e) Planning Working Party Cllr Dear reported that he had looked at the planning items on the agenda and recommended not to comment. .	
24/162	To consider commenting on the following planning applications: • <u>Demolition of single-storey side extension and outbuilding, Proposed single-storey extension to front, side and rear</u>  Norwood Hill Farm New Lane Blidworth NG21 0PW Ref. No: 24/02202/HOUSE Received: Thu 19 Dec 2024 Validated: Thu 06 Feb 2025 Status: Registered • <u>Refurbishment of existing dwelling, two storey link extension to barns, conversion of barns and outbuildings to form part of dwelling and conversion of garage to ancillary accommodation.</u>  Providence Farm Cross Lane Blidworth NG21 0LY Ref. No: 25/00138/FUL Received: Mon 27 Jan 2025 Validated: Thu 20 Feb 2025 Status: Registered • <u>Householder prior approval for single storey rear extension. The length that the extension extends beyond the rear wall of the original house: 4.46 metres Eaves height of the extension: 2.95 metres Maximum height of the extension: 2.95 metres</u>  19 The Crescent Blidworth NG21 0SE Ref. No: 25/00254/HPRIOR Received: Thu 13 Feb 2025 Validated: Thu 27 Feb 2025 Status: Registered • <u>New multi-use garden room</u>  Forest Barn Dale Lane Blidworth NG21 0SU Ref. No: 25/00175/HOUSE Received: Fri 31 Jan 2025 Validated: Mon 03 Mar 2025 Status: Registered • <u>Extension of existing driveway to create an additional car parking space</u>  Forest Barn Dale Lane Blidworth NG21 0SU Ref. No: 25/00174/HOUSE Received: Fri 31 Jan 2025 Validated: Mon 03 Mar 2025 Status: Registered The council resolved to not comment on any of the above planning applications.	Clerk to submit to NSDC
24/163	To note the following planning decisions made by Newark and Sherwood District Council: None at time of publication of agenda.	
24/164	To note correspondence received and circulated by email. The council had received correspondence from NSDC requesting to vacate the council's office at the leisure centre. The council would like to retain the office as a working group and committee meeting space. It also houses vital	Cllr Litchfield liaising with leisure centre.

	council documents which would either need to be sent to County Archives or moved to the library. The council noted the correspondence circulated by email.	
24/165	To confirm the date and place of the next Parish Councillor surgery. The next Parish Councillor Surgery would be 29 March at Mission Hall. Cllrs Dear and Duffy would be in attendance. There would be no surgery in April due to the Annual Parish Assembly 26 April 10.00-12.00 at the Miners' Welfare.	
24/166	To note the date of the next Blidworth Parish Council Meeting as 17 April 2025 to be held at Blidworth Library, New Lane, Blidworth, Notts, NG21 0PW The council noted that the next scheduled meeting would be 17 April 2025 to be held at Blidworth Library, New Lane, Blidworth, Notts, NG21 0PW.	

Signed by the presiding Chair of approving meeting

Date