



**MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING OF
BLIDWORTH PARISH COUNCIL
held at Blidworth Library, New Lane, Blidworth, Notts, NG21 0PW
on Thursday 18th September 2025 commencing at 7.00pm**

Present: Councillors: C Walsh (Chair) C Dear (Vice Chair), T Duffy, E Litchfield,
K Marlow, J Harvey, W Bates

Apologies: Cllr A Sykes, T Smith

Clerk: C Brettell

Members of the Public: 3

Abbreviations: NCC – Nottinghamshire County Council

NSDC – Newark and Sherwood District Council

The Chair asked if anyone was recording the meeting to make themselves known.

It was noted that no one was recording.

Action by

25/51 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 the Welfare Christmas lights 25/59.5

25/52 To receive - Apologies for absence given to the Clerk

Apologies were received and noted from Cllr Smith and Cllr Sykes.

25/53 To determine which items of the agenda, if any, should be taken with the public excluded. If the Council decides to exclude the public, it will be moved to 25/64 and a resolution passed in order to discuss the item.
None

25/54 To receive and approve – Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 17th July 2025 (Appendix 1) and Minutes of the Extra Ordinary Parish Council Meeting held on 24th July 2025 (Appendix 2)

It was **resolved** that the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on the 17th July 2025 and the Minutes of the Extra Ordinary Parish Council Meeting held on 24th July 2025 be accepted as an accurate record. These were signed by the Chair.

25/55 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 3)
All relevant items are on the agenda. The Action log was looked at and necessary actions updated.

25/56 To receive Representations (no more than 5 minutes)

56.1 Public Participation

A representative from the 'Sherwood Forest Trust' attended and discussed Blidworth being 'The Heart of Sherwood Forest'. There is an extraordinary amount of history behind Robin Hood and the area of Blidworth, including the 'Battle of Blidworth'.

It was suggested to take the strap line and have a plaque on the Village boundary signs, and one in the heart of the village.

Cllr Litchfield invited him and crew (The Sherwood Outlaws) to the Summer Gala next year with the possibility of a day dedicated to Robin Hood and a possible re-enactment.

56.2 Report from District Council Representatives on Matters of a direct relevance to Blidworth Parishioners
Although invited District Cllr Thompson and Cllr Smith was not in attendance.

56.3 Report from County Council Representative on Matters of a direct relevance to Blidworth Parishioners
Cllr Ward was not in attendance but had emailed in to say that the parking issues are being looked at in the village (Mansfield Road) and a request for a traffic warden had been made. The Clerk read out his full report.

56.4 Police Report
The Clerk had spoken to PCSO T Stokes and had informed her of the issues that had been made by residents. Residents are encouraged to report anything directly.
The Clerk noted the response from the Police and Crime Commissioner that had been circulated to Councillors.

56.5 Report from other Community Groups on matters relevant to the Blidworth Community
Cllr Duffy reported that the Southwell Food hub will be open on the 17th October.
Details to be circulated when received.
Cllr Bates stated that he was astounded in this day and age the continued need for food banks.

25/57 To Discuss/Update on Highway Issues in the Village (if not already covered in District and County Council reports)
Nothing to be addressed. Current issues still being looked into.

25/58 Financial Matters

To receive and approve accounts and financial information:

58.1 Analysis of Payments – July and August 2025 (Appendix 4)

58.2 Analysis of Receipts – July and August 2025 (Appendix 5)

58.3 Bank Reconciliation Statement as at 31st July and 31st August 2025 (Appendix 6)

The Chair checked the bank reconciliation figures with the bank statements, and signed each bank statement.

58.4 To authorise - schedule of payments for August (retrospectively) and September (Appendix 7)

It was **resolved** to accept and approve the financial information as per items 58.1 – 58.3 that had been submitted to members and to authorise the schedule of payments for July and August (58.4) for £13927.83.

58.5 To note – Local Government pay increase (effective from 1st April 2025)
Noted – this was now in effect (September) and back pay had been paid.

58.6 To note – Conclusion of external audit (emailed out to Councillors 18th August)
Noted – The Clerk had published the documentation.

25/59 Business

59.1 To agree – Co-option of new Parish Councillor/s (Appendix 8)

It was **resolved** to co-opt Ashley Devine as the new Parish Councillor for South Ward
A 5 minute break was taken while the paperwork was completed.
Cllr Devine then joined the meeting.

59.2 To adopt – Updated Standing Orders (emailed out to Councillors 8th September)
It was **resolved** to adopt the revised Standing Orders.

59.3 To update – Parish Council communication and Facebook
As Cllr Sykes had sent his apologies this was deferred to the next meeting.

59.4 To discuss – Arrangements for Remembrance (9th November)
The Clerk updated members with the arrangements for Remembrance. A PA system was still required, Cllrs to suggest options. Stewards are needed to support the road closure. Signage and letters to residents to be in place the week before the event. Councillor support is much needed at this event.

59.5 To update - Christmas lights, including additional lights at Blidworth Welfare
The Clerk, along with Cllr Dear provided an update regarding the requirements for the licence from VIA which the Clerk was looking into.
The Welfare would like to pay for lights for the tree next to the Welfare that are being reused along Mansfield Road. The Clerk to look into the costs etc, with the contractor as the licence and electricity consumption have already been applied for. **Clerk**

59.6 To update – Access to Water supply at the Dale Lane Allotment site
Cllr Dear provided an update regarding his meeting on the 31st August with the Allotment Committee and their proposal for a water supply. They had also discussed issues with overgrown trees on the boundary and would like to hold regular bonfires.
It was agreed for Cllr Bates and Duffy, along with the Clerk to meet on the 29th September to address these concerns. The Clerk to inform the FFAS. **Clerk/Cllrs Bates and Duffy**

59.7 To agree – Renewal of Parish Insurance (emailed out to Councillors 4th September)

It was **resolved** to renew the Parish Council insurance at a cost of £ 2549.57.
The Clerk requested that all Councillors respond to the email she had circulated, as a matter of urgency to ensure the policy was not compromised. **All Councillors**

59.8 To agree – Provision of Winter Grit and grit bins for 25/26 (emailed out to Parish Councillors 28th August)

It was **resolved** to have the 5 free bags and also 1 grit bin for the workshop, for grit storage at a cost of £155 (ready filled).

59.9 To discuss and agree – Assets of Community Value including Blidworth Library

It was **resolved** to add Blidworth Library on the Asset of Community Value register.

59.10 To note - outcome of application for the 'Little Lane Allotments' to be on the ACV held by NSDC (19th September)

The Clerk updated Councillors that she had received confirmation from Planning Policy at NSDC that the allotments off Little Lane, Blidworth are now registered as an Asset of Community Value (ACV).

59.11 To discuss – Wildflowering proposal from NSDC (emailed out 26th August)

Councillors discussed the proposals that had been circulated by the Clerk for wildflowering in areas around the village.

It was **resolved** to agree to this in principle, but as the Council have no funds available to contribute, financial help would be needed to support this. Limited funds are available in the Planting budget.

25/60 Updates from working party leads:

60.1 Events – Cllr Marlow had started organising the Christmas events and would arrange a meeting to start to bring this together. Expenditure had been provisionally agreed in the budget. This to be brought back to the next Parish Council meeting.

60.2 Village Planting – The baskets and tubs were coming to an end but would be emptied when necessary, at the end of November by the groundsman. Winter bedding at the Cutts Memorial planter and the War memorial would be carried out mid October.

60.3 Parks and Open Spaces – Nothing to report. Allotment Inspection arranged.

60.4 Finance – A meeting to be arranged to discuss the budget, and plans for 26/27

25/61 Planning Applications

To receive, and where appropriate comment on the following applications, including any that have come in since the agenda was published:

Proposal:	Resurfacing of existing field entrance, planting of five silver birch trees, and associated protection and maintenance works
Site Address:	Field Reference Number 9291 Ricket Lane Blidworth
Planning Application Ref:	25/01379/FUL

It was **resolved** to respond stating 'the Parish Council support this application'.

Planning Decisions

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

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

Application for:	Full Planning Permission
Application No:	25/00138/FUL
Applicant:	Mr P Cheesmond
Agent:	Ms Rachael Walton
Proposal:	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.
Site Address:	Providence Farm Cross Lane Blidworth NG21 0LY

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

Application for:	Full Planning Permission
Application No:	25/00892/FUL
Applicant:	Mr Philip Morley
Agent:	Mr Steve Iberle
Proposal:	Alterations to front boundary wall and drive to improve parking and access, and a proposed outbuilding to the rear.
Site Address:	Stonebank Main Street Blidworth NG21 0QL

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

25/62 To note – Correspondence received
All relevant correspondence sent out via email

To note - Consultation on Modifications to the Newark and Sherwood Amended Allocations & Development Management emailed out 16th September.

25/63 To note – The date of the next Parish Council Meeting – 16th October 2025
at Blidworth Library
To note – The date and Place of the next Parish Council Surgery – Saturday 27th September

A 10 minute comfort break was held

25/64 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 9.20pm

Signed as a true record: _____ Date:_____