



MINUTES OF A MEETING OF BLEADON PARISH COUNCIL HELD IN THE CORONATION HALL AT 7.30pm ON MONDAY 11th DECEMBER 2023.

PRESENT: Councillors Mary Sheppard (Chairman), ID Clarke, Mark Howe (part) and Andy Scarisbrick (Vice-chairman).

IN ATTENDANCE: Craig Bolt (Parish Clerk)
WARD COUNCILLORS:
MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC: One

Before the meeting was convened, members of the public were invited to speak.

i) **Members of the public**

None

ii) **Beat Manager's Report**

The written report forming part of the agenda papers was noted.

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iii) **Ward Councillors' report**

No Ward Councillors report was available. It was requested that the Clerk remind Ward Councillors of the dates of future meetings.

Cllr Sheppard opened the meeting by welcoming everyone.

The meeting was convened.

372.1 To receive apologies for absence (LGA 1972 s85 (1))

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllrs Ann Davies and Jo Gower-Crane.

372.2 Declarations of Interest

None.

372.3 To approve and sign as a correct record the Minutes of the Parish Council meeting on Monday 13th November 2023.

Resolved: To approve the Parish Council minutes of 13th November 2023.

The resolution was correctly proposed and seconded (unanimous)

The minutes of the meeting were signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

372.4 To consider reports from Working Parties/Committees

There had been no meetings of Working Parties/Committees since the previous Parish Council meeting.

372.5 North Somerset Corporate Plan

It was noted that North Somerset Council Had issued a revised Corporate Plan for comment. Whilst there were a number of differences to the previously issued plan, there were no substantive changes in relation to the main issues previously raised by the Parish Council. It was suggested that the Parish Council's previous response be reviewed and that Councillors advise the Clerk of any changes or additions they might wish to make.

Resolved: That the Clerk be authorised to resubmit the Parish Council's previous submission, as amended by any additional comments Parish Councillors might wish to make.

The resolution was correctly proposed and seconded (unanimous)

372.6 Local Plan

The Clerk advised that the most likely date for a Parish Meeting would be the evening of Monday, 15th January. A useful meeting had taken place earlier in the day with representatives of the Local Plan team, which the Clerk and Cllr Gower-Crane had attended. Although the original purpose of this meeting had been to raise questions in relation to food security, it had provided the opportunity to clarify a number of other issues. One such issue was that it was confirmed that there were no substantive changes proposed in relation to the settlement boundary. Concern in this respect was raised as a consequence of wording in a recent planning application which suggested that changes were being proposed. This had now been confirmed as being incorrect.

The format of responding to the Local Plan consultation was highly structured in that comments would largely need to be submitted in relation to individual policies (of which there were a considerable number) rather than general comments upon the totality of the Local Plan. The Parish Council would have the opportunity to consider this issue in more detail at its meeting on 8th January 2024.

372.7 Training and Events

The availability of SCRIBE and NALC training was noted.

372.8 Financial/Staffing Matters

i) To authorise bills for payment for December.

It was noted that the cost of cleaning the toilets was £238.80 rather than £238.30 referenced in the agenda papers. The Unity Bank payment schedule had the correct figure.

Resolved: To authorise the payments for December of £16,967.76.

The resolution was correctly proposed and seconded (unanimous)

(Councillors ID Clarke and Andy Scarisbrick were duly authorised to action the online payments)

ii) To note the Parish Council's end of November budget position, bank balances and bank reconciliations.

The Parish Council's end of November position, bank balances and bank reconciliations were noted.

In response to a question, the Clerk confirmed that the online payments included the transfer of £40,000 between the current and deposit accounts to take advantage of better interest rates.

Resolved: That the Clerk be asked to explore other bank or savings accounts to ensure that the Council is maximising opportunities in relation to current rates of interest.

The resolution was correctly proposed and seconded (unanimous)

iii) To agree training of the Clerk in relation to Playground Safety inspections.

Resolved: That the Clerk be authorised to attend training to be provided by GB Sports at a cost of £396.

The resolution was correctly proposed and seconded (one abstention)

372.9 Budget Strategy and Funding Proposals 2023-27

Councillors considered a report setting out proposed priorities for the next three financial years and the means of funding those priorities.

Resolved:

That the Council:

- i) Formally adopts the Vision Statement.
- ii) Notes the expected substantial increase in the costs of externally contracted work and that this represents the single biggest risk to the Council in setting its budget for 2024/25.
- iii) Agrees to the principle of shifting resources away from 'internal' activity of the Council to activity which will more directly benefit parishioners.
- iv) Commits to the principle of capping any increase in the Parish Precept to below 5%.
- v) Commits to approving the budget for 2024/25 and Parish Precept at its meeting on 8th January 2024.
- vi) Instructs the Clerk to undertake further work to identify mechanisms for consulting with parishioners and other interested parties in relation to the delivery of priorities.

The resolutions were correctly proposed and seconded (unanimous)

(Cllr Howe left the meeting at this point)

372.10 Updates to Policies

- i) Revised CCTV Policy – the policy had been updated to reflect changes to system settings in relation to audio recordings.
- ii) Grants Policy – the policy has been updated to clarify the areas where the Council would be able to provide support.

Resolved:

- i) That the Clerk canvass the views of Councillors not present at the meeting.
- ii) That subject to i) above, the revised policies be adopted.

The resolutions were correctly proposed and seconded (unanimous)

372.11 Report of the Parish Clerk

1. Roles and responsibilities

Resolved:

- i. That Councillor Scarisbrick be appointed as the representative to Bleadon Youth Club.
- ii. That Councillor Gower-Crane be confirmed as the Council lead in relation to Food Security.
- iii. That Councillor Ann Davies be confirmed at the Council lead in relation to Finance, Halls Environs (Project) and Public Toilets (Project).
- iv. That Councillors ID Clarke and Mary Sheppard be appointed as Joint Chairs of the Open Spaces Working Group.

The resolutions were correctly proposed and seconded (unanimous)

2. Coronation Hall Environs

Resolved: That the actions taken by the Parish Clerk under delegated authority be endorsed.

The resolution was correctly proposed and seconded (unanimous)

3. Tree Safety Works

Resolved: That the actions taken by the Parish Clerk under delegated authority be endorsed.

The resolution was correctly proposed and seconded (unanimous)

4. Playground Safety

Resolved: That the position be noted and that no further action be taken.

The resolution was correctly proposed and seconded (unanimous)

372.12 Planning Applications

23/P/2547/FUH - Proposed erection of a single storey front extension to the existing porch and replacement of the existing asbestos corrugated sheet roofing with natural slates and 2no Heritage rooflights. Installation of new window to the first-floor bedroom on the East elevation and re-instatement of a previously existing internal partition. Purn Villa, Purn Way, Bleadon. BS24 0QE

Resolved:

That the application be supported.

The resolution was correctly proposed and seconded (unanimous)

23/P/2548/LBC - Listed building consent for the proposed erection of single storey front extension to the existing porch and replacement of the existing asbestos corrugated sheet roofing with natural slates and 2no Heritage rooflights. Installation of new window to the first-floor bedroom on the East elevation and re-instatement of a previously existing internal partition. Purn Villa, Purn Way, Bleadon. BS24 0QE

Resolved:

That the application be supported.

The resolution was correctly proposed and seconded (unanimous)

23/P/2558/FUH - Proposed erection of a single storey side extension. 1 The Sycamores, Celtic Way, Bleadon. BS24 0NF

Resolved:

That the application be supported.

The resolution was correctly proposed and seconded (unanimous)

370.12 Date of the next meeting

Parish Council Meeting Monday 8th January 2024, 7:30pm at Coronation Hall

The Chairman closed the meeting at 21:05

.....Chairman

.....Date