

BLEADON PARISH COUNCIL

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Clerk to the Parish Council

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Minutes of the meeting of Bleadon Parish Council held in the Coronation Hall, Bleadon, which commenced at 7.30pm on Monday 4th July 2016 when the following business was transacted.

Present: Councillors Claire Gutsell (Chair), I D Clarke (Vice Chair), David Chinn, Morag Edwards, Steve Hartree, Mary Sheppard and the clerk Tony Jay.

Eleven members of the public were present.

286.1 To receive any apologies for non-attendance

Apologies were received from Councillors Richard Dobson and Peter Gibbon.

286.2 To receive any declarations of interest in items on this agenda

Cllr Steve Hartree declared a non pecuniary interest in agenda item 286.15 (1).

Cllr I D Clarke asked for a dispensation to be granted to enable her to take part in the discussions regarding agenda item 286.15 (1). This was granted by the Chair.

286.3 To approve the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 6th June 2016.

It was resolved to approve the minutes with two minor amendments. (Unanimous).

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

286.4 To invite public participation (please note that no decisions can be made under this agenda item)

i) District Councillor

No District Councillor was present.

ii) The Police

PC Dave Eastham reported that 18 phone calls had been received from the Parish. 1 crime had been reported – Attempted Burglary. There continues to be a spate of vehicles being broken into at beauty spots in North Somerset, although there have been no incidents in Bleadon. PC Eastham explained his role, and the large area that he covers. There is now a severe lack of Police resources which results in a reduced service being provided. He will look into the speeding issues in the village, and will provide a dedicated phone number where he can be contacted.

PC Eastham said that he, or whoever was on duty to make a tour of the village, would put a mobile number on the door of the Church Rooms so that they can be contacted whilst in the village.

If police are unable to attend Parish Council meetings then a report will be provided by them.

ii) Members of the public

No comments were made by the members of the public present.

286.5

To comment on the following planning applications:

i) 16/P/1344/F. Application for removal of condition 10 attached to planning permission 09/P/0217/F (Erection of a two storey rear extension to provide 8 en-suite holiday bed and breakfast units to existing building (use class C1)

ii) 16/P/1346/LDE. Lawful development certificate for the existing use of ground floor and first floor rooms as self contained flats.

Cllr Dave Chinn gave a comprehensive summary of the details of these applications.

It was resolved not to support these applications. The Parish Council's previous reasons for not supporting the applications still apply.

Planning application 16/P/1053/O was discussed. The appeal in regard to this application will be heard at Bristol on 29th November 2016. Evidence needs to be submitted to the inquiry by 1st November 2016. It was decided to discuss with District Councillor Porter what North Somerset Council's approach will be to submitting evidence at the hearing.

286.6

To review the Parish Council's risk assessments and asset register.

The risk assessments will be referred to the relevant committees, who will report back to the full Council in September.

Cllr I D Clarke will liaise with the Clerk in regards to the asset register.

The Clerk will enquire with the PCC whether the Church clock is covered by their insurance.

286.7 To consider the arrangements for the cleaning of the public toilets whenever the Village Ranger is not available.

Cllr I D Clarke will forward the details of the person who previously provided this cover. In the meantime Patrick White will be asked if his offer to clean the toilets voluntarily during the Village Ranger's periods of unavailability is still valid. Cllr Steve Hartree advised that the Parish Council's insurance policy would cover a volunteer cleaning the toilets, provided that that person was officially appointed as reserve toilet cleaner.

286.8 To consider the payment for four troughs in the sum of £250.40 prior to them being delivered.

It was resolved to pay this sum prior to the troughs being delivered. (Unanimous)

The troughs should be delivered directly to the site.

286.9 To consider funding the shortfall of £36.68 incurred during the financing of the party to celebrate the Queen's birthday.

It was resolved to fund the shortfall, but to note that this should not set a precedent for similar shortfalls in events that the Parish Council support financially in the future. (Unanimous)

286.10 To consider the location and condition of the Parish Council notice boards.

The Chair said that she would find out from the Village Ranger whether the residents of Hillcote would welcome a notice board there, and if so to include this on a future agenda.

Cllr Steve Hartree said that the notice boards were provided for Parish Council business and non profit making organisations only.

286.11 To consider a request for a skate park to be installed in Bleadon.

It was resolved that this Parish Council cannot fund this at present.

The Clerk will reply to the person making the request informing him of this decision.

286.12 To consider requesting the Community payback team to assist with the clearance of footpaths in Bleadon.

If the Parish Council were to use the services of the Community payback team then the Council would need access to the Youth Club for refreshments and toilet facilities. The Parish Council would also need to provide public liability insurance and the tools required for the work.

Cllr David Chinn will take this forward. It was agreed that if a pilot goes ahead then the footpath next to the River Axe should be the chosen location.

286.13

Finance

To approve items of expenditure paid under delegated powers for the month of June and those items to be approved in June.

A discussion took place regarding the list of invoices to be paid not being included on the agenda this month. The Clerk explained that if the meetings are to be held on the first Monday of the month then many of the invoices will not have been received at the time the agenda is published. Cllr Steve Hartree said that he was concerned about this, as it should be the duty of the Parish Council to inform parishioners how their money is being spent.

It was agreed to refer this issue to the Finance and Personnel Committee.

In the meantime the Clerk will ask the Village Ranger to post the list of invoices on the notice boards.

It was resolved to pay the following invoices (Unanimous)

A. Jay	Clerk's Salary	£670.63
A. Jay	Clerk's Expenses	£30.20
I. Findlay	Village Ranger Salary	£464.00
I. Findlay	Village Ranger Expenses	£19.80
HMRC	PAYE and NI	£339.62
Bin – It	Dog bin emptying	£82.77
Microshade	Hosting Fees	£54.30
Webglu	Hosting Fees	£48.00
CPRE	Annual subscription	£36.00
Somerset Bespoke Works	to village hall	£22803.28
C Gutsell	Chair's expenses	£117.70
I. Findlay	Queens Birthday Party shortfall	£36.68

286.14

To receive the following Open Spaces Committee reports:

(a) Allotments

The Somerset Autistic Society has still not paid for their plot. The outstanding amount is £22.50. A laminated letter will be left at the plot asking them to pay. If this doesn't work then Cllrs David Chinn and Steve Hartree have offered to clear this debt between them, and the plot could then be repossessed.

(b) Churchyard

Standing Orders were suspended to enable members of the public to speak.

A section of one of the Cemetery walls, approximately 5 yards in length, collapsed at the weekend. This section of wall had not been previously identified as being unsafe. A terrific job has taken place clearing up the area and making it safe.

The Clerk was asked to check to see if the Parish Council's insurance policy covers the repairs to the wall.

Rector Erridge said that he felt that the Parish Council should have included the repairs to the wall in their insurance cover.

A loss adjustor will be attending when the question of insurance is clarified.

The vegetation on the walls is sucking the moisture out of the walls. This would need spraying by a qualified and licensed person as a matter of urgency. The residents whose properties back onto the churchyard need to be contacted to ask them to remove the vegetation from their side of the wall.

It was resolved to accept the quotation from Attwells for £15,453 plus VAT for the repairs to the already identified sections of walls which needs to be repaired. (Unanimous)

Attwells will be attending the Churchyard shortly to quote for the fresh damage to the wall.

The Chair and Vice Chair will liaise with the Church regarding the work to the walls.

Cllr Steve Hartree said that he believed that the Parish Council's insurance policy would cover the repair work to the collapsed wall.

It was resolved that the Parish Council will contribute up to £5,000 for the repair work to the collapsed wall if it can be shown that the Parish Council is responsible to finance the repair work.

The Chair said that she would arrange for three quotes to be provided for the spraying work to the walls.

Standing orders were reinstated

286.15

To receive the following brief holder's reports:

(1) Coronation Hall

The renovation work at the hall is going ahead successfully.

(2) Chairman

The Chair said that a complaint had been received from Jo Gower-Crane regarding the change of the name of the Parish Newsletter from Bleadon Village News to Bleadon News. Everyone present at the meeting agreed that the new name was more appropriate.

Cllr David Chinn referred to the RoSPA playground report which was excellent. The Chair will ask the Village Ranger to carry out the recommended medium risk items.

Cllr Steve Hartree formally congratulated the new Clerk on his appointment.

As there will not be a full meeting in August then the Chair asked that the committees meet during that month.

286.16

The date of the next Parish Council Meeting.

5th September 2016

