

# BLEADON PARISH COUNCIL

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Clerk to the Parish  
**Hazel Brinton**  
BA (Hons)

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**Minutes of a Meeting of Bleadon Parish Council's Open Spaces Committee** that was held in the **Coronation Hall Coronation Road Bleadon** on **Monday 4<sup>th</sup> January 2016** that commenced at **6.30pm** when the following business was transacted.

**PRESENT** Councillors Mrs I D Clarke (Chairman) Mr I Gibson; Mr S Hartree; Mrs C Findlay; Mrs M Sheppard; Mrs C Gutsell and the clerk Miss Hazel Brinton

**OS13.1 To receive any apologies for non attendance**

None

**OS13.2 To receive any declarations of interest**

Cllr Findlay in respect of the Village Ranger and his work

Cllr Sheppard in respect of OS12.7.4

**OS13.3 To receive and approve the Minutes of a Meeting of Bleadon Parish Council's Open Spaces Committee held on Monday 14<sup>th</sup> December 2015.**

**Resolved that the Minutes of a Meeting of Bleadon Parish Council's Open Spaces Committee held on Monday 14<sup>th</sup> December 2015 that had been previously circulated be taken as read approved as being a correct record.**

Matters arising from those minutes:

12.5.1 The contractor will do the work regarding the loose wall stones after Christmas weather permitting

12.5.2 Revd Tim Erridge will discuss the timing of the meeting with the parish council after a faculty meeting. They are mindful of disturbing of graves and it was reported that there were some twenty graves in poor condition. Cllr Sheppard felt that the work needed to be done in stages. Cllr Gibson agreed weather permitting. Cllr Hartree explained that the PCC needs to identify the relatives of the graves and serve notice for them to tidy up if they are able to. If not, the parish council will have to pay. Cllr Hartree explained that the Faculty was the ecclesiastical version of planning and that the council needed to write to the PCC, the Diocesan Advisory Committee, asking them to do research on the relatives of the graves. In the meantime Cllr Findlay felt that only remedial work could be done.

12.5.4 The current clerk is to contact the previous clerk to ascertain what had been done regarding the remedial work on the car park lines

12.6.1 This project had not been carried forward as the councillor concerned is no longer on the council

12.6.2 Mark Howe, Gardening Contractor is to be contacted in respect of felling the cypress tree.

12.6.3 The clerk and OS Chair is to contact the church architect again and Rev Tim Erridge from the PCC.

12.6.4 Keith Pyke has suggested a place in Taunton may be able to supply replacement stones. Cllr Gibson commented that there may be a chance of them being stolen again so should something else such as boulders not be used? Cllr Sheppard suggested a chain and wooden posts. Cllr Gutsell suggested planters. The was proposed by Cllr Findaly, seconded by Cllr Gutsell and so moved.

12.6.5 Cllr Gibson commented that NSC have very few second hand bus shelters so perhaps the council should buy one itself? £1200 was claimed from insurance for the old one. Cllr Sheppard suggested that nothing elaborate was needed. Cllr Clarke is to contact Andy Harper and ask him to make contact with the clerk with a proposed cost to construct a wooden shelter.

12.6.6 It was commented that the Veale belongs to NSC and not the council so the tree could not be planted there. Cllr Hartree moved that permission to plant a tree was granted by the council subject to the final position being agreed and the type of tree that is to be planted. Cllr Sheppard seconded the proposal, so moved. The clerk is to write to the Chair of Bleadon Horticultural Society to ask what tree they wish to plant and where.

12.7.1 Cllr Sheppard has had a call from Mr Demetrious regarding rubbish dumped in the layby on Roman Road – two bags of bones have been removed by the ranger. The clerk is to be asked to write to NSC to ask that cameras be put up in the layby to monitor the culprits – fruit and vegetables and car parts have also been found dumped in the second layby.

19.07 Meeting suspended to allow a member of the public to speak

19.09 Meeting reconvened

12.7.4 A discussion was held regarding the council items, dog bin, noticeboard and bus shelter, that would potentially need to be relocated once the landowner relocates the fence bordering onto these items or to which the items are attached. Cllr Sheppard suggested a budget will be required in 2016/17 for these items.

12.7.5 This item is outstanding

12.7.6 This item is outstanding for the clerk to action. Cllr Sheppard proposed a way leave be imposed on the householder if it is council land. Cllr Gibson seconded, resolution was so moved.

**OS13.4 It was resolved to defer the discussion of the Open Spaces Committee remit to the next committee meeting**

**OS13.5 To discuss requirements for the 2016/17 budget**

(1) 12.7.2 Cllr Gutsell has had a look at some ideas – Wicksteed has been suggested and they can supply and fit a frame structure for climbing for use by the over 8s for £11,362. Cllr Findlay enquired about the size; Cllr Gutsell said it was 2.5m x 3m.

Cllr Findlay asked where this structure could be put so as to leave space for ball games and to not encroach too much on this space?

Cllr Gutsell responded that the bark area could be enlarged to accommodate. She said that she had a brochure for other ideas.

Cllr Sheppard pointed out that council needed to be aware of the Mayday Fair activities for example, where would the bouncy castle be located?

Cllr Hartree commented on the cost of the item which also had to include the cost of installation and the safety surface. This totalled a third of the current precept. He added that whilst it was right to spend on young people, the majority of the parishioners are pensioners. The precept for this year is £38k and this would raise the precept for 2016/17 by a considerable amount and it was out of proportion with what is being spent on the rest of the community. Is the council prepared to include this amount in the budget?

Cllr Gibson commented that Cllr Gutsell had mentioned the age group. Cllr Gibson is concerned with 16 years and downward and the possibility of damage due to vandalism.

Cllr Sheppard commented that she would not support a spend of £11k on this item. She proposed £8k maximum but this found no seconder.

Cllr Hartree proposed that not to include any expenditure on new equipment in 2016/17. No seconder was found.

In respect of ratification of committee decisions by full council (12.8), the clerk is to check standing orders.

Cllr Findlay suggested that the bouncy toy can be put back and a new smaller sand pit created. A costs of £700 for sand and £500 for bark was proposed for inclusion in the budget by Cllr Findlay and seconded by Cllr Gutsell. **Moved and carried that £1200 be put before full council from the OS committee for next year's budget for sand and bark for the children's play area.**

Cllr Gutsell further commented that any new equipment for older children could be bought via grants and asked that this be an agenda item for future Open Spaces Committees.

- (2) 12.7.3 Cllr Gibson has investigated hand dryers and soap dispensers and it would be very costly to install due to the wall – in the region of £1600 as water and power were needed. Cllr Gutsell asked that just a soap dispenser be installed then
- (3) 12.7.4 Cllr Hartree suggested that due to the uncertainty of whether the fence will be moved, no action on these items and therefore no budget could be taken or proposed. Cllr Findlay suggested an emergency fund for the items. Cllr Hartree said they could be taken from reserves. **Cllr Gibson proposed £1500 for the moved be put aside from reserves; Cllr Findlay seconded and motion carried.**
- (4) Cllr Hartree commented that an amount needed to be proposed in the budget for repairs to the church wall in spite of the church architect not coming back with proposed costs. Also an amount for the replacement of the staddle stones and bus shelter. **Cllr Gibson proposed £1200 for the bus shelter being the insurance amount received; Cllr Findlay seconded, motion carried.**
- (5) **Cllr Hartree proposed £5k be put in the budget for the church wall; Cllr Gibson seconded and motion carried**
- (6) **In respect of the staddle stones, Cllr Findlay proposed that planters be put there instead – large ones should cost approximately £600. Cllr Hartree seconded the proposal; motion carried.** It was further suggested that Marshall's Quarry be contacted to ask them to sponsor the planters.
- (7) Cllr Clarke commented on the planting of wild flowers in Purn Quarry. This had been done before but the plants had died. The village ranger is to be asked to scatter wild flower seeds in the summer as a cheaper option.
- (8) Cllr Clarke asked if anyone knew anything about the proposal to upgrade the lighting in the car park? Cllr Hartree suggested that £8k had previously been proposed for this work but there was no support for the suggestion.
- (9) Cllr Findlay suggested that the corner opposite the junction of Bridge Road was very bare and would benefit from some flower tubs. Cllr Gibson proposed sponsorship for this item and suggested David Plaister and the Café may be approached to buy the tubs.
- (10) Cllrs mentioned marking the occasion of the Queen's 90<sup>th</sup> birthday. It was queried whether this is an item for the Open Spaces Committee. Cllr Sheppard suggested collaboration with the Rector with whatever the PCC were planning. Cllr Findlay agreed and suggested that there should be a joint approach with the Church, WI, Hall and parish council. Cllr Hartree asked what sum was being proposed for the budget. Cllr Gibson commented that it would be remiss not to acknowledge the event – maybe with a street party? Cllr Hartree noted that the tea for the VJ celebration only cost about £200 because of volunteers. **Cllr Findlay said that maybe a contingency fund was needed but hopefully volunteers would mean that this would not be required. She proposed £200, Cllr Gibson seconded, motion carried.**

**OS13.6 Other business referred to the clerk**

**None**

**OS13.7 Date of next meeting – 11<sup>th</sup> April 2016**