

BLEADON PARISH COUNCIL

www.bleadonparishcouncil.co.uk



Interim Clerk to the Parish Council

Kevin Barrett

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Minutes of a Meeting of Bleadon Parish Council held in the Coronation Hall, Bleadon at 7.00 pm on Monday, 11th December, 2017 when the following business was transacted.

Present: Councillors Steven Hartree (Chairman), Mary Sheppard (Vice Chairman), Ray Bleazard, David Chinn, Richard Dobson and Kathy Strong.

Interim Clerk: Kevin Barrett

District Councillor: Terry Porter

10 members of the public were present.

303.1 To Receive any Apologies for Non-Attendance.

There were no apologies for non-attendance.

303.2 To Receive any Declarations of Interest on Agenda Items.

No declarations were received.

303.3 To Approve the Minutes of the Meeting held on 13th November 2017.

Agreed to approve the minutes. The minutes were signed by the Chairman as being a correct record of the meeting.

303.4 Public Participation.

Members of the Public

The following issues were raised –

- The issue of horse riding and signs would be placed on the next agenda.
- Light pollution from the spotlights in the quarry. Cllr Dobson would speak to Marshalls and the matter would be raised at the next liaison meeting.
- Concern was expressed about a planning decision elsewhere in North Somerset where a housing development had been allowed outside of the village fence. A discussion ensued on the merits and disadvantages of the village having a Neighbourhood Plan. The view of the Council was that an approved Plan would assist the planning authority to defend against undesirable planning applications. However, it was recognized that at the end of the day a Planning Inspector would have the final say on any development. It was noted that North Somerset Council had given authority for the Parish to start preparation of a Plan and the intention now was to consult on a preliminary outline of the Plan to gauge public support for it. It was stressed that the Parish Council would only proceed if there was local support.

Reference was made to the situation in Backwell where a Neighbourhood Plan was in place. A decision was imminent on a housing development which was in conflict with the Plan and the Inspector's decision was eagerly awaited as it would demonstrate what weight the Inspector gave to an approved Plan in that case. District Councillor Porter commented that an approved Neighbourhood Plan should strengthen the authority's position. He also understood that an

application for grant funding should be submitted by 18th January and this would be checked.

- Parish Clerk Advertisement – A parishioner queried the cost of advertising the post in the Mercury. The Chairman explained that the cost had risen and he had approved a wider publication than on the previous occasion.

District Councillor

District Councillor Porter outlined North Somerset's very difficult budget-setting process with an additional £10 million of savings being required in 2018/19. All of the Council's services were being reviewed and Council Tax would increase by 3% to meet adult and children's social care costs.

The bus service covering the parish would be going out to tender from April next year. However, First Bus had advised that they were planning to introduce a service in January in competition with Citistar, the current operators of the 4/4A route. It remained to be seen whether they would actually run the new service.

Police - No police report provided.

303.5 Clerk's Report.

The Clerk advised that the advert for the Parish Clerk post had now been published and he had already circulated a number of job packs.

303.6 Exchange of Information between Councillors.

Councillor Kathy Strong read out a letter tendering her resignation from the Parish Council. She then left the meeting. The Council asked the Clerk to write to her thanking her for her contribution to its work.

A member asked whether the Council would be erecting a Christmas tree this year. Councillor Chinn undertook to follow this up with the Ranger and the Clerk.

The Clerk was asked to chase North Somerset regarding prices for car park no entry signage.

It was noted that the wrong contact phone number had been put in the Bleadon News for queries about allotments.

303.7 To Note Planning Decisions.

17/P/1178/F - Land opposite junction of Chestnut Lane and Bleadon Road. Demolition of two existing agricultural barns and erection of one new agricultural barn. **GRANTED**

17/P/2189/F - Celtic Hide, Celtic Way, Bleadon. Raised roof height incorporating three dormers to front, rear dormer to create additional living space. Partial rear/side extension. Provision of canopy to front and raised terrace area to the rear, following the demolition of the existing garage and front boundary wall. **GRANTED**

17/P/2278/O - Land Adjacent to Rivermead, Purn Way, Bleadon. Outline application for the erection of a single dwelling house and garage, with matters of access and layout to be considered. Matters of appearance, landscaping and scale reserved for subsequent approval. **GRANTED**

303.8 To Review and Consider the Recommendations of the Finance and Personnel Committee of 24th November, 2017.

Agreed to accept the recommendations contained within the minutes of the Finance and Personnel Committee held on 24th November 2017 as follows –

- To increase the precept demand for 2018/19 to £44,401, an increase of 13.44%. (Based on a Band E property this is a £12 increase over the year or £1 a month.)
- To pay a £200 contribution to the Youth Club towards the car park lights.
- The Chairman to discuss at the next Coronation Hall Management Committee meeting, a proposal to ask Coronation Hall users to contribute towards the cost of the car park lighting.

- That the Council pursue the option of its payroll service being contracted out.
- The Chairman and another Councillor to visit the Nationwide branch before the next full Council meeting to pursue the closure of that account.
- To hold another meeting of the Committee as required in the New Year.

303.9 To Review and Consider the Medium Risks Highlighted in the Risk Assessment.

Agreed to consider this matter further at the January meeting.

303.10 To consider the Initial Arrangements for a Neighbourhood Plan.

Councillor Dobson referred to correspondence received from a parishioner on this issue, requesting that full consultation and engagement with the parish be undertaken to ensure that local people's wishes were fully taken into account. Councillor Dobson explained that good consultation and communication were an integral part of the Neighbourhood process and he and Councillor Chinn were suggesting that a Working Group of local people be set up initially to consult with local groups and arrange workshops. This would enable the Council to establish the facts and the likely costs and to bring an outline to a consultation meeting with the public to gauge the level of support in the parish.

He had also visited Wedmore to discuss how they had gone about preparing their Plan and reported that they had received a £5,000 grant and had used some £4,500 of their own funds. It was recommended that an allocation of £500 be made from reserves to cover any room hire, consultation or other setting up costs of the Working Group.

Agreed that a Working Group be established to carry out the work referred to above and that a ring-fenced allocation of £500 be made from reserves to meet any initial costs.

303.11 To Consider the Project Recommendations from the Management Working Group.

Agreed to defer consideration of this item until a permanent Clerk was appointed.

303.12 To Consider and Agree a Response to Falmouth Town Council's Business Rates and Public Conveniences Survey.

Agreed to support Falmouth Town Council's campaign for business rate relief to be payable in respect of public conveniences.

303.13 To Consider a Response to the Broadband Briefing Update from the West of England Rural Network.

Noted.

303.14 To Consider a Response to the Final Draft of the West of England Joint Spatial Plan.

It was agreed to respond to the document at the next Planning Committee.

303.15 To consider the Church Maintenance and Health and Safety Policy.

Agreed that Councillor Dobson respond on the Parish Council's behalf.

303.16 To Review and Approve Monthly Budget Report and Bank Reconciliation for November.

It was agreed to approve the November monthly budget report and bank reconciliation.

303.17 To Approve Items of Expenditure and Income.

Agreed that the following items of expenditure be approved -

Chq	Payee	Details	Net	VAT
300727	Faye Thomas	November Public toilet cleaning	£125.00	£0.00

300728	GB Sports	Playground inspection	£15.00	£3.00
300729	Bin-It	Dog bin emptying	£70.54	£14.11
300730	Alistair Gill	Village Ranger salary	£312.00	£0.00
300730	Alistair Gill	Village Ranger expenses: Mileage £28.40	£28.40	£0.00
300731	Maria Bird	Clerk salary including Pension Contribution and holiday	£1,080.79	£0.00
300731	Maria Bird	Clerk expenses: Mileage £17.10; Home Working Allowance £17.33; Mobile Phone £4.99; Print Cartridges £52.97; Stamps £15.60; Items purchased for public toilet cleaning on behalf of the contracted Toilet Cleaner £82.44;	£173.86	£16.57
300732	HMRC	PAYE and NI	£282.66	£0.00
300733	Mark Howe Gardening Services	Grass Cutting for 2016 /2017 season	£3,500.00	£0.00
300734	Webglu	Website Hosting and Mailboxes from January to March	£70.00	£14.00
300735	Taylor Thorne Print Ltd	Bleadon Village News Winter Edition Printing Costs	£540.00	£0.00
300736	Fountain Timber Products Ltd	5 x bags of Bark pus delivery	£199.40	£39.88
300737	Kevin Barrett	Expenses – Card Payment to Weston Mercury (Archant) – Clerk Job Advert	£567.30	£113.46

Income

Chq		Details	Net	VAT
Cheques	Various allotment holders	Allotment Rental for 7 half plots	£7.50	£0.00
Cheques	Various advertisers	Summer Edition of Bleadon News	£300.00	£0.00
Cheque	Advertiser	Winter Edition of Bleadon News	£65.00	£0.00

303.18 To Receive the Following Reports:

- (a) Allotments – Councillor Sheppard reported that a half plot had recently been let and an expression of interest had been received in the vacant full plot.
- (b) Churchyard – No report.
- (c) Footpaths & Bridleways – The Clerk was asked to follow up with NSC the previously reported

problem with the wooden steps and stile on Celtic Way.

- (d) Roads & Transport – Councillor Sheppard asked that a pothole adjacent to Bridge Garage be reported to NSC. It was also agreed to check the salt bins and Councillor Chinn would speak to the Village Ranger.
- (e) Marshalls Liaison – Dealt with under item 4 above.
- (f) Children’s Playground – The new bark had been delivered and spread under the relevant pieces of equipment. The former Clerk had asked the Ranger to look at one of the pieces of equipment.
- (g) Newsletter – Circulated and well received. There was some concern that late delivery of the newsletter to some households meant that events featured in it were not getting enough prior publicity. It was agreed to discuss better timing of publication/delivery with the editor.
- (h) Website – No report.
- (i) Neighbourhood Watch & Community Safety – No report.

303.19 To Receive the Following Brief Holders’ Reports:

- 1) Coronation Hall – The Chairman provided a report on the Coronation Hall Management Committee’s November meeting. Their current account balance was £18,870 and the Hall Improvement Account balance £5,000. It was intended to move some of the Parish Council’s older archive into the loft area to free up space. The Clerk was asked to thank Pete Williams for his many years of fund raising through selling books at the village market.
- 2) Youth Club – Councillor Chinn advised that there had been some parking problems at the May Fayre and he suggested the possible purchase of some further yellow police cones go on the agenda in the new year. The lease renewal was being discussed later on the agenda.
- 3) ALCA – No report.
- 4) Chairman – No report.

303.20 Date of Next Parish Council Meeting.

Monday 8th January at 7 p.m. in the Coronation Hall.

303.21 Exclusion of the Press and Public.

Agreed that members of the press and public be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the following agenda item by reason of the confidential nature of the item of business to be transacted, in accordance with section 1(2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960.

303.22 To Discuss the Lease Renewal for Bleadon Youth Club.

Copies of the current lease of the Youth Club had been circulated to the Council and it was noted that it was due for renewal in late 2018 and the Youth Club wished to renew for a further period of 20 years. They would need to make formal application for a lease renewal no less than six months before expiry. Councillor Chinn outlined preliminary discussions he had had with two of the trustees and certain issues that had arisen. He suggested that a joint meeting of the Youth Club trustees and the Hall Management Committee may be appropriate and the Clerk would pursue this. The Council noted the current position.

The meeting closed at 8.55 p.m.

Chairman