



MINUTES OF A MEETING OF BLEADON PARISH COUNCIL HELD IN THE CORONATION HALL AT 7.30pm ON MONDAY 11th MARCH 2024.

PRESENT: Councillors Mary Sheppard (Chairman), ID Clarke, Ann Davies, Jo Gower-Crane, Andy Scarisbrick (Vice-chairman) and Steve Sugg.

IN ATTENDANCE: Craig Bolt (Parish Clerk)

WARD COUNCILLORS:

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC: Two

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

i) **Members of the public**

A resident sought a position statement regarding funds raised for the re-gilding of the Parish Clock. It was noted that the funds remained in an earmarked reserve. The Parochial Church Council were working through the process of obtaining architectural services. Once this was complete, the timescale for the project would be re-established.

ii) **Beat Manager's Report**

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

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iii) **Ward Councillors' report**

None.

Cllr Sheppard opened the meeting by welcoming everyone.

The meeting was convened.

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

None.

375.2 Declarations of Interest

Cllr Sheppard declared a non-pecuniary interest in respect of agenda item number 375.8 (application number 24/P/0379/AOC)

375.3 To approve and sign as a correct record the Minutes of the Parish Council meeting on Monday 19th February 2024.

Resolved: To approve the Parish Council minutes of 19th February 2024.

The resolution was correctly proposed and seconded (unanimous)

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

375.4 To consider reports from Working Parties/Committees

None.

375.5 Training and Events

The availability of SCRIBE and NALC training was noted.

375.6 Financial/Staffing Matters

i) To authorise bills for payment for February.

The bills for payment schedule included reference to an expected payment in relation to the purchase of new laptops, which would be in addition to the presented schedule once the amount and ordering process had been confirmed.

Resolved: To authorise the payments for February of £2,648.95.

The resolution was correctly proposed and seconded (unanimous)

(Councillors Ann Davies and Andy Scarisbrick were duly authorised to action the online payments)

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

The Clerk apologised for the fact that the incorrect reconciliation document had been provided in the published agenda. A corrected reconciliation was circulated and councillors noted that the end of February reconciliation figure was £128,417.45. The Parish Council's end of February position, bank balances and bank reconciliations were noted.

375.7 Report of the Parish Clerk

1. Allotments

Councillors noted feedback from allotment tenants. Some concerns were raised regarding the ongoing viability of proposed composting schemes and use of the polytunnel if initial interest from tenants waned. As a consequence, it was considered that the viability of the composting scheme in particular should be reviewed annually.

Resolved:

- i) That the Council supports the principle of establishing a community compost scheme and that the detail of arrangements be discussed and agreed with the (Joint) Chairs of the Open Spaces Working Group and the lead Councillor for Allotments. Such arrangements to include an annual review of the scheme.

- ii) That the polytunnel is designated as a community resource for use by allotment tenants and others specifically designated by the Council, subject to users signing a 'Fair Use' Policy – the detail of which will be agreed with the lead Councillor for Allotments.
- iii) That the Clerk be authorised to purchase weed control membrane and associated items aimed at preventing weed growth in relation to vacant plots and timber and ancillary items to facilitate the construction of staging and compost bins.

The resolution was correctly proposed and seconded (majority with one abstention)

2. Planting Schemes Across the Parish

A healthy debate ensued regarding the merits of continuing with an expansive planting scheme in light of dwindling volunteer support. It was, however, noted that there were still a number of volunteers who were prepared to support planting schemes, particularly if barriers relating to the watering of planters could be overcome.

Resolved:

- i) That Councillor Scarisbrick be appointed as the Lead Councillor for Planting Schemes across the Parish and the Council's roles and responsibilities register be updated accordingly.
- ii) That the actions of the Clerk, in consultation with the Chairman and Vice-chairman of the Council, to secure sufficient plants in readiness for the planting season be endorsed.
- iii) That the Clerk, in consultation with the Lead Councillor for Planting Schemes, be authorised to make arrangements for the watering of pots, provided that such arrangements are contained within the agreed budget for 2024/25.

The resolution was correctly proposed and seconded (unanimous)

3. Open Spaces Working Group

Councillors noted that the terms of reference of the Open Spaces Working Group included a core membership of councillors and sufficient flexibility to enable other councillors and interested parties to attend.

Resolved: That Councillor Sugg be appointed to the Open Spaces Working Group to fill the position vacated by former Councillor Howe.

The resolution was correctly proposed and seconded (unanimous)

4. Somerset Grant Foundation

Councillors noted that the funding application to the Grant Foundation had not been successful and expressed the need to raise concerns relating to the condition of the layby on Roman Road with the Mendip Hills AONB.

Resolved: That the outcome of the funding application be noted.

The resolution was correctly proposed and seconded (unanimous)

5. Multi-Year Service Contracts

Councillors noted the need for potential interim arrangements to ensure that grass cutting and bin emptying were in place in the period between the existing contracts ending and the new contracts commencing.

Resolved: That the Clerk, in consultation with the Chairman and Vice-chairman of the Council be authorised to put in place interim arrangements in relation to grounds maintenance and litter picking/street cleaning activities for the month of April 2024, subject to a financial cap of £1,000.

The resolution was correctly proposed and seconded (unanimous)

6. Calendar of Future Meetings

Resolved: That this matter be deferred.

The resolutions were correctly proposed and seconded (unanimous)

7. North Somerset Council – Mental Health and Wellbeing Strategy

Resolved: That Councillors submit responses as individuals if they have comments to make upon the strategy.

The resolution was correctly proposed and seconded (unanimous)

8. Legacy Funding Requests

It was noted that the funding request submitted by the Church of St Peter and St Paul had been withdrawn and that the request submitted in relation to the Coronation Halls had been for one-off support, reflecting the view of the Halls Committee that this was a transitional issue.

Resolved:

- i) That a grant of £1,000 is made to the Coronation Halls to reflect increased insurance costs.
- ii) That a payment of £177 is made to the Youth Hall Committee to reflect the (partial) costs of installing exterior lights and the supply of electricity.
- iii) That the Youth Hall Committee be asked to give consideration to extending the operation of the lights until 11pm.

The resolutions were correctly proposed and seconded (unanimous)

The Council agreed to suspend Standing Orders to allow the meeting to continue beyond the 2 hour allotted time for Council meetings.

The resolution was correctly proposed and seconded (unanimous)

9. Halls Environs – Phase 2

This matter is presented in the minutes at this point to reflect its position in relation to the published agenda, but was considered at the end of the meeting following the adoption of the following resolution:

Exclusion of the press and public. (The Committee is recommended to resolve that members of the press and public be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the following 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).

Resolved: That members of the press and public be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the Halls Environs – Phase 2.

The resolution was correctly proposed and seconded (unanimous)

Councillors considered a report relating to a number of proposed contract awards for works in and around the car park and village halls.

Resolved:

- i) That the quote received from PT Services in the sum of £2,050 (net of VAT) be accepted and a contract awarded in relation to A1 – Jubilee Garden and associated works.
- ii) That the Clerk be requested to seek alternative pricing in relation to the stripping back and painting of car parking barriers (A2).
- iii) That the Clerk be authorised to award contracts to the recommended contractor in the sum of £3,075 (net of VAT) in relation to A3 – Fire escape and A4 – Rear of halls, subject to the receipt of satisfactory references and the Council's minimum requirements in relation to insurance cover being met.
- iv) That the Council receive a further report in relation to A5 – Access by toilets, once greater price certainty is established in relation to other works.
- v) That the Clerk – in consultation with the Joint Chairs of the Open Spaces Working Group and Project Lead – be authorised:
 - a. to agree contract variations up to a maximum value of 20% of the contract costs for A1 and A3/A4 (£1,025)
 - b. Remedial works to walls – up to a maximum value of £1,000
 - c. Refilling the planting area with soil – up to a maximum value of £500
- vi) That Councillor Sugg's offer to provide technical support and advice in respect of the above be accepted.
- vii) That the Open Spaces Working Group be authorised to commission a planting scheme in respect of Jubilee Gardens up to a maximum value of £1000.

The resolutions were correctly proposed and seconded (unanimous)

375.8 Planning Applications

[Request to discharge condition number 10 \(Management Plan\) and 36 \(Water Storage\) on application 19/P/0835/OUT](#)

Bleadon Quarry Bridge Road Bleadon Weston-Super-Mare BS24 0AU

Resolved: That the application be noted.

The resolution was correctly proposed and seconded (unanimous).

Ref. No: **24/P/0382/AOC** | Received: Fri 23 Feb 2024 | Validated: Fri 23 Feb 2024 | Status: Registered

Proposed erection of a single storey rear extension with terrace above. Loft conversion and roofing alterations including the removal of existing dormers and creation of flat-roof dormers to the front and rear elevations. Extension of existing raised rear patio and creation of external stairs to the rear and side elevations. Fenestration alteration including the removal of existing South bay-window with subsequent installation of 1no. external door and window, alongside the removal of existing North window and installation of 1no. new window.

Rosewood Hillcote Weston-super-Mare BS24 9JS

Ref. No: **24/P/0380/FUH** | Received: Wed 21 Feb 2024 | Validated: Wed 21 Feb 2024 | Status: Registered

Concern was expressed at the potential for overlooking and that the site visit had revealed that notices did not appear to have been posted in the locality.

Resolved: That the application be supported, with an explanatory note regarding concerns in relation to the overlooking of neighbouring properties.

The resolution was correctly proposed and seconded (majority with two abstentions).

Use of caravan and camping park from time restricted use to year round use, to include clubhouse buildings, swimming pool, 191 static caravan pitches, 61 touring pitches and amenity land

Riverside Holiday Village Bridgwater Road Bleadon BS24 0AN

Ref. No: **24/P/0173/FUL** | Received: Mon 29 Jan 2024 | Validated: Thu 29 Feb 2024 | Status: Registered

Concern was expressed that the proposed site plan provided with the application appeared to extend the existing boundary of the site.

Resolved: That the Council objects to the application.

The resolution was correctly proposed and seconded (majority).

[Request to discharge conditions 8 \(Aboricultural Method Statement\) and 13 \(Post Construction Review Report\) from Plot 4 only under application 12/P/1856/F](#)

Field O/S 9978 Off Bleadon Road Bleadon BS24 0PG

Ref. No: **24/P/0379/AOC** | Received: Wed 21 Feb 2024 | Validated: Wed 21 Feb 2024 | Status: Registered

Resolved: That the application be noted.

The resolution was correctly proposed and seconded (unanimous).

375.9 Date of the next meeting

Parish Council Meeting Wednesday **20th March 2024**, 6:30pm (To be determined)

The Chairman closed the meeting at 22:29

.....Chairman

.....Date