## **Bleadon Parish News**



Spring 2025 Issue 132

#### **Ways to Contact Bleadon Parish Council (BPC)**

Personally Contact Councillors				
Cllr Mary Sheppard (Chairman)	marysheppard@bleadonparishcouncil.co.uk			
Cllr Andy Scarisbrick (Vice-chairman)	andyscarisbrick@bleadonparishcouncil.co.uk			
Cllr ID Clarke	idclarke@bleadonparishcouncil.co.uk			
Cllr Ann Davies	anndavies@bleadonparishcouncil.co.uk			
Cllr Jo Gower-Crane	jogc@bleadonparishcouncil.co.uk			
Cllr Steve Sugg	stevesugg@bleadonparishcouncil.co.uk			
Cllr Becci Wild	becciwild@bleadonparishcouncil.co.uk			
Co-option Vacancy				
Co-option Vacancy				
Contact the Clerk				
Craig Bolt	parishclerk@bleadonparishcouncil.co.uk Tel: 07453 358 318 (Mon, Tues & Thurs am) C/O Coronation Halls, Bleadon. BS24 0PG			

#### **Weekly Opportunities to Visit the Clerk**

Bleadon Café every Tuesday, 9am-12pm

#### Monthly Opportunities to Raise Questions and Listen to Discussions

Full council meetings <u>every second Monday</u> of the month at the Coronation Hall at 7pm. Residents have 3 minutes each to speak with the council.

#### Extra-ordinary Meetings – ad hoc dependent on issues raised

Can be called by residents or BPC. <u>Dates</u> will be displayed in advance on noticeboards and BPC website

#### **Residents Annual Parish Meeting 2025 (APM)**

**28<sup>th</sup> April 2025, 7:30pm at Coronation Hall** - A meeting held for residents to openly discuss any parish issues and concerns, likes and dislikes. (This is NOT a council meeting) Key issues raised can be fed into the council's AMPC in May.

#### Bleadon Parish Council's Annual Meeting 2024 (AMPC)

May 2025, 7pm Similar format to the monthly meetings.

#### Parish Council Chairman's Address

# BLEADON PARISH COUNCIL

#### Dear Parishioners,

As some of you may know, I broke my leg a few weeks ago, so I have not been able to be quite as active as usual. I have, though, been keeping in touch with other councillors and the Clerk and hope to fully catch up with all of my paperwork over the next few weeks.

I expect it to be a busy Spring and Summer. You will see from some of the articles in this edition that we are pressing North Somerset Council on a number of issues, including installing traffic lights at the junction of Bleadon Road and Bridgwater Road and releasing money for the Parish Council to be able to improve the play area.

As the weather improves we will be having some work done to a number of trees and hedgerows. This will include some work in the churchyard which will then allow the Parish Council to look at the condition of the churchyard walls. We will also see if there are other things we can do jointly with the church, particularly in and around the churchyard.

I hope to see you at the May Day Fayre on the 4th May.

#### Cllr Mary Sheppard (Chairman)

**Deadline** for mid-June 2025 to end of Sept 2025 edition is **16 May 25.** 

Please contact: jogc@bleadonparishcouncil.co.uk

Views published are those of the contributor or editor and may not be those of the Parish Council.

This newsletter can be found in colour with links, on the BPC website at <a href="https://www.bleadonparishcouncil.co.uk/news-and-events/newsletters">www.bleadonparishcouncil.co.uk/news-and-events/newsletters</a>, with editions from Issue 1 onwards on Bleadon BOB at <a href="https://www.bleadon.org.uk/villagenews">www.bleadon.org.uk/villagenews</a>

#### **Bleadon Farm Shop**

Spring has sprung at the shop! We enjoyed celebrating pancake day this week in glorious sunshine. The lovely weather has brought out lots of customers to the cafe, including those enjoying coffee outside!



With Mother's Day and Easter approaching we have all the right treats and gifts in our new range - come and browse.

Other developments include a refurbished kitchen, increased seating in the cafe and updated Post Office system - all hopefully improving the offer. We've been busy with staff training in the cafe and Post Office and have accommodated 2 x work experience placements so we're feeling fully updated!

Recently we held a Wine Tasting evening which was sold out and thoroughly enjoyed by all. We also hosted a Psychic Tea which was also very well attended. Keep an eye out for our Spring menu additions and events coming up in the summer.

Thank you for your continued custom!

#### Charlotte & Alistair House

#### **Mobile Library**

The mobile library will be outside Bleadon Church every second Tuesday Bleadon from 10.20-11.20am. NSC continues to operate a Click and Collect service. Customers can collect reservations from the mobile library team, at the times and locations shown on the timetable; Return items to the mobile library team; and Collect Click and Collect bundles they have requested in advance of the visit.

For more information about the Click and Collect Mobile Library Service, please call 01275 888 864 or email <a href="mailto:mobile.library@n-somerset.gov.uk">mobile.library@n-somerset.gov.uk</a>

## Market Organiser Needed - OR this years' Christmas Market will be the Last One!



Bleadon's monthly market continues to be a popular social event which also raises much needed funds for our Village Halls. It is run with the help of a cheerful band of volunteers (The Marketeers).

Jo the Organiser/Coordinator, who started the market 23 years ago, now feels it is time to hand over to another community minded person. It's a great job for the right person and well worth doing. Good fun and the hardworking Marketeers are amazing.

Jo is going to continue up to the Christmas Market 2025 and will be on hand to give support. If interested please contact Jo on 07813681775.

#### **Allotments for Rent**

We have two allotment plots which are about to become vacant at our site in Bleadon.

If you are interested, please contact the Parish Clerk by email at <u>parishclerk@bleadonparishcouncil.co.uk</u>.

Priority will be given to residents of Bleadon Parish.

Craig Bolt (Parish Clerk & RFO)

#### MARKET or VILLAGE CROSS?



To be honest, I'm not sure either. However, there are some things we do know. One thing we know is that it isn't a cenotaph or war memorial. It is used as part of Remembrance Day but it is much, much older than any cenotaph. The base of the cross is late medieval so has been around for some 600 years. The fluted column was probably erected at some point in the 17th or 18th Century and looks to have been constructed from a single slab of stone.

Given its size and weight, this

would have been a significant undertaking and very expensive. The finial at the top was a later addition and was itself replaced at some point in the mid-20th Century. Given its history, it's no surprise that the cross has been deemed to be of national importance and was given Grade 2 Listed status in the early 1960's.

The keen eyed amongst you may have noticed that the cross is looking a little different. This is because it has had a Spring clean using a specialist steam cleaning system. We needed to do this as there was a bit of concern that there might be some damage to the stonework. However, we couldn't be sure without cleaning away the years of accumulated dirt.

The good news is that there doesn't appear to be any major structural problems requiring immediate works but there will be some things to think about in the longer term to make sure it can continue to stand for many more centuries.

Craig Bolt (Parish Clerk & RFO)

#### **Bleadon Players**



#### Bleadon's New Residents



We are thrilled to announce that the first residents of Eden's Green will soon be moving into their new family homes on Limestone Way, off Bridge Road.

This marks an important milestone and we look forward to welcoming our new neighbours to Bleadon.

Clare Price (Marketing Manager – Edenstone Group)

#### **Planting Schemes**

With the support of Bleadon Horticultural Society, the Jubilee Garden planting area will be planted up at the end of March. The scheme will generally involve low level plants as people have told us that they like the openness of the area since the trees and large shrubs were removed. One of the features of the new planting scheme will be the introduction of some herbs in the hope that, once they are fully established, parishioners will use them in their culinary adventures!

We aren't looking at making major changes to the smaller tubs and planters across the Parish as part of the arrangements for the Summer. Watering of planters remains a bit of a challenge and we are always on the look out for volunteers who might be able to help in this respect.

One of the things we have done is installed some staging and shading in the Council polytunnel so that we can hopefully bring on plug plants at a cheaper cost than buying established plants.

Andy Scarisbrick (Lead Councillor for Planting Schemes)

# Musical Tapas ....

.... a Spanish selection

# The Mendip Consort of Recorders

directed by Joyce Rudall



Church of St Peter & St Paul Bleadon BS24 OPF Sunday 11th May 3.00pm

Free entry, but retiring collection in aid of the Church with refreshments to follow

#### **Grants**

As part of next year's budget, the Parish Council has set aside a sum of £2,500 to support organisations across the Parish. If you would like more information or have a proposal you would like to discuss, then please email <a href="mailto:parishclerk@bleadonparishcouncil.co.uk">parishclerk@bleadonparishcouncil.co.uk</a>

Craig Bolt (Parish Clerk & RFO)

#### **Changes to Street Cleaning and Bin Emptying**

As from 1st April, North Somerset Council will no longer be providing any public street cleaning or bin emptying operations throughout most of the Parish. The exceptions to this are that North Somerset Council will still be responsible for responding to fly tipping and street cleansing along Bridgwater Road (as a main arterial road).

This isn't a major shift in emphasis for Bleadon as the Parish Council has largely been discharging these functions for a number of years. The main effect is that the Parish Council will take on responsibility for emptying the bin adjacent to the bus shelter on Bleadon Road - as well as continuing with the services it has provided for a number of years. The impact of the changes will be more marked for some other Town and Parish areas.

We will be re-jigging some of the existing arrangements in the light of the changes. This will include removing the dog waste bin on Bleadon Road as dog waste can now be deposited in the larger bin adjacent to the bus shelter. We will also be installing some new, larger dog bins in a number of existing locations and exploring whether we can put some bins in at the lay-bys in Roman Road.

Craig Bolt (Parish Clerk & RFO)



Take part in a 5, 10, 20 or 30 mile trek across the beautiful Mendip Hills to support your local hospice. **Registration closes 25th May 2025.** 





#### Parish Precept - Bucking the Trend

We previously advised you that the Parish Council wanted to freeze the precept at its current year level of £67,800 for the next financial year but that we needed to understand more about North Somerset Council's proposals to devolve services.

I'm pleased to say that we have been able to freeze the precept at the same time as taking on some additional responsibilities from North Somerset Council relating to bin emptying/street cleaning. We've also been able to absorb costs associated with changes to National Insurance for employers and other inflationary pressures.

The effect of freezing the precept is that there will be a real cash saving to each household. This is because the precept amount is spread across the number of properties within the Parish and this number is set to increase with the new development at the quarry site in Bridge Road (and other locations).

We estimate that there will be a saving of 5.3%. This should mean that the average Band D property will see a reduction of a little over £10 in respect of the Parish Precept element of their Council Tax bill. The actual saving will vary dependent upon the band of your property, with the saving being higher for properties in higher bands and vice-versa. We realise that £10 isn't a huge amount in the great scheme of things and that it will be swallowed up in the increases signalled by North Somerset Council, the Police and other statutory bodies. However, we hope you will feel that the Parish Council is doing its bit to keep your costs down whilst still trying to deliver upon improvements across the Parish.

In relation to improvements, we plan to move forward with some exciting new projects this year relating to investing in play provision and refurbishing of the public toilets, as well as a host of other smaller works. To that end, we have set a budget of £173,695 for the financial year starting 1st April 2025. The budget will be funded by way of the Parish Precept, earmarked reserves and a sum of £40,000 we hope to

secure in relation to play provision arising from the quarry development. We don't anticipate the need to use general reserves to meet our expenditure requirements for next financial year.

**Ann Davies** (Lead Councillor For Finance)

#### The Bleadon Belles

The WI choir are busy getting ready for entering the **Highbridge Festival of the Arts**. We enjoyed taking part last year and listening to the other very different choirs. If you would like to come along and support us it is open to the public, entrance £3, at St John's Church, Highbridge on **Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> March**.

<u>https://www.highbridgefestival.org.uk/</u>. The Belles will be singing in the afternoon.



We are continuing to visit local care homes with mini choirs throughout the year.

We are also happy to announce a repeat of our popular Summer Tea

Party at 2pm on Sunday

6<sup>th</sup> July in the Coronation
Hall.

The Belles will be performing with other talented local artistes. Refreshments, with cake of course, will be included in the ticket price.

Keep an eye on the Notice Boards and In and Around Bleadon on Facebook for when tickets are available as they sell out fast.

### Bleadon May Fayre is back Sunday 4 May 11am - 3pm



In a change to previous years the May Fayre will welcome summer to Bleadon on SUNDAY of the early May Day Bank Holiday weekend.

That's not the only change. This year the event is being managed by the Queens Arms with the support of the Parish Church, Coronation Halls and Bleadon Youth Club.

The principal location for the main event is still in the heart of the village at the Coronation car park and play area. Additional events and displays in the Church, together with the Coronation Halls and the Youth Centre.

After 3pm the revelry, food and music will continue up at the Oueens Arms.

The gates will open at 11am with an admission charge of £2 for all entrants over 3yrs old. Allowing unlimited access to all venues throughout the day.

Tickets for the game stalls in the play area and car park will be on sale at the gates and bar. £5 for a strip of 10 tickets.

All profits raised on the day will go to the benefit of the local community.

#### **SUNDAY TREATS**

- · Live music with Start of Time
- Chalice Morris Men
- The Beached Buoys
- Crafty stalls
- Weston Wood Turners
- Butcombe beers on tap
- Tasty food
- · Art Show
- Refreshments
- · Garden plants for sale
- Cakes and home produce
- Challenging fun and games
- Big Prize raffle
- Tombola
- Bouncy Castle
- · Flowers in the church

Skittles

#### **CAN YOU HELP ON THE DAY**

to erect gazebos, run a stall or game, staff the gates? If you want to be part of the fun please email us bleadonmayfayre@gmail.com



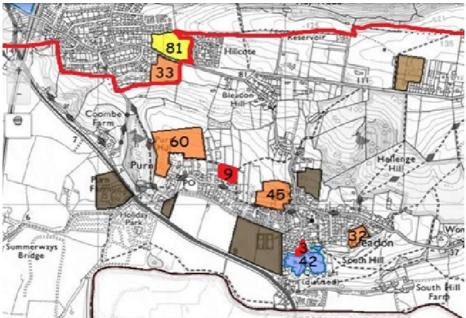


#### **Public Consultations**

All general and planning policy consultations can be found on the North Somerset Council's (NSC) website at <a href="https://n-somerset.inconsult.uk/">https://n-somerset.inconsult.uk/</a>.

#### North Somerset Council Local Plan Additional Sites Consultation

NSC state that the housing requirement as set by the government is **23,895** over the 15 year plan period. This is an **additional 8,620 dwellings** above the proposed housing supply target in their <u>Regulation 19</u> plan of 15,275 dwellings.



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The above map shows the potential housing allocations for Bleadon, with the proposed number of dwelling indicated. NB proposed changes will affect the settlement boundary and related exception sites. The 81 and 33 house allocations are related to WSM Town Council, outside Bleadon Parish boundary, marked with a red line.

Agreed	Most	Other	Less	Hard	Planning
residential	Suitable	Potential	Sustainable	Constraints	Permission
sites				Identified	Given

NSC has identified a potential 191 dwellings for Bleadon. It has already confirmed 54 dwellings at the former quarry, Purn Way and Rockville (coloured blue and red). Another potential 137 dwellings have been indicated over three sites (coloured orange) and a further five sites for potential development (coloured light and dark brown)

This consultation aims to identify where additional development is possible at sustainable locations across North Somerset, outside areas at risk of flooding or other significant constraints. This will need to take account of delivery and infrastructure issues, such as strategic transport improvements and the provision of other infrastructure.

NSC invite all comments on the proposed approach including:

- Any robust reason why the sites identified as 'most suitable' at the strategic locations should not be allocated.
- What potential additional sites and locations should be considered at the towns and larger villages to address the shortfall.
- Whether there are any convincing reasons why other sites in less sustainable locations should be considered.

The deadline for comments to NSC is 21 March 2025 at 5pm. The consultation, interactive mapping and additional information can be found at <a href="https://n-somerset.inconsult.uk/Reg19AddSites/consultationHome">https://n-somerset.inconsult.uk/Reg19AddSites/consultationHome</a>.

You can respond to NSC online via the link above. Alternatively you can email responses to <a href="mailto:planning.policy@n-somerset.gov.uk">planning.policy@n-somerset.gov.uk</a> or send your response to Planning Policy Team, Town Hall, Walliscote Grove Road, Weston-super-Mare, BS23 1UJ

#### **Bleadon Parish Public Consultation – Local Plan Housing Allocations**

Bleadon Parish Council (BPC) hosted its third Local Plan resident's meeting. Around 40 residents attended the public meeting on 10<sup>th</sup> March at the Coronation Hall to discuss their concerns about NSC's proposed housing allocations. As BPC is not the planning authority it has no control over the Local Plan, so councillors encouraged residents to submit their comments directly to North Somerset Council before the 21<sup>st</sup> March 2025 deadline. Residents may also wish to discuss these proposals with Bleadon's district councillors, Cllr Terry Porter & Cllr Mike Solomon and/or Dan Aldridge MP.

#### **NSC Community Governance Review Consultation**

This review is being undertaken in line with the government's recommendation to carry out a community governance review every 10 - 15 years. During this consultation, **deadline 30<sup>th</sup> April 2025 at 23:59pm**, North Somerset Council ask that you consider the following:

- Whether existing parish and town council boundaries reflect local boundaries.
- Whether new councils should be created or existing ones merged.
- Whether the number of councillors in each area is appropriate.
- How local governance can be made more effective and efficient

#### Community Governance Review CAN change:

- Create, merge, alter, or abolish parishes
- Change electoral arrangements, including the ordinary year of elections, the number of parish councillors and parish & parish ward ward boundaries
- Convert a parish council into a parish meeting
- Group parishes together under a common parish council

Comments can be submitted online at <a href="https://n-somerset.inconsult.uk/Community">https://n-somerset.inconsult.uk/Community</a> Governance Review/consultationHome

#### Working with Communities in Rural West of England

West of England Rural Network are starting a project aimed at strengthening community led action across the West of England. We want to ensure that the specific challenges people face in our rural areas are heard and addressed. We want to understand what services and support are already available, and where the gaps are, so we can help communities create their own solutions to local problems. **The deadline to respond to the survey is 27<sup>th</sup> March** at https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/V65MG52.

### **Consultation on Compulsory Purchase Process and Compensation Reforms**

This consultation has now closed and the responses are being analysed. More information at <a href="https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/compulsory-purchase-process-and-compensation-reforms/compulsory-purchase-process-and-compensation-reforms">https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/compulsory-purchase-process-and-compensation-reforms</a>

Cllr Jo Gower-Crane (lead for Public Consultations / Engagement)

#### **Housing Needs Update**

Towards the end of last year a survey was sent out to all households in the parish to help inform research to establish whether there is any additional housing need in Bleadon. The survey was sponsored by Hastoe Housing Association, a housing association specialising in the delivery of rural homes.

Hastoe had previously approached the Parish Council to enquire about any potential appetite for exploring a 100% affordable housing scheme in the Parish, given Hastoe had a potential opportunity to acquire an exception site which could facilitate the delivery of new homes. (An exception site is one outside the settlement boundary). The Parish first wanted to understand what, if any, level of need existed, and as such Hastoe proceeded to arrange for a housing needs study to take place.

Hastoe commissioned a company called Arc 4 Consultancy to carry out the survey and research and following an October 2024 deadline for responses, Arc 4 have since drafted and presented their findings.

The report is still in draft form whilst it is reviewed by Hastoe and the Parish Council. The report identifies a need for a modest amount of additional affordable housing in the parish for local people. One key thing that Hastoe were keen to stress was that any development that may be explored would be 100% affordable (rented and shared ownership) and priority would be given to people with a local connection to the Parish.

The Parish Council are reviewing the feedback and will share their thoughts with Hastoe, who await this prior to carrying out any further investigation into a potential development. If a proposal is to come forward then Hastoe commit to providing further engagement with the Parish Council and to holding a public drop in session before any scheme is put forward for planning consideration.

We hope to provide a further update soon.

Chris Meadows (Regional Development Manager – Hastoe)

#### Bleadon St Peter & St Pauls Church

**Sunday 20th April is Easter Sunday** - Easter Greetings to you all from Bleadon Church. Please look out for our services and events. You are invited to join in too!

As we look forward to Easter and beyond, I want to say a very big thank you to all of you who joined in with our "Planting Hope" sharing of daffodil bulbs. By the time you read this their splash of bright yellow may well have been and gone, but I do hope they have given you a smile and helped you to grasp hope in some way. We have never done something quite like this before. It would be great to hear what you made of it and any ideas for future similar things to share.

Like "Planting Hope", Easter invites us to grasp possibilities that give and renew life. So many of us here and across the world need this so much right now. Daring to hope, daring to believe that life can come again, is a real challenge to all of us. I wonder how you react to the Easter remembering and celebration of Jesus being alive three days after he was so clearly dead?

In the run up to Easter this year, members of Bleadon Church are sharing a special focus on Luke's Gospel, one of the four "life stories of Jesus" that are in the Bible. We hope that by looking together at the whole of Jesus' life as Luke tells it, we will see more clearly how life can be lived more fully, and beyond the boundaries we often just accept. We would love to share this with you too. A fresh pair of eyes and ears can so often see with new depth and bring new insight. It would be great to know what stands out to you about Jesus and his life and we hope you might enjoy hearing what stands out to others too.

When we **come together for our 10.15am Sunday services** in the coming weeks, we want to gather up our different responses to what Luke is showing us. Please do come along if you would like to be part of that with us. We would love to see you.

I am looking forward to Easter and beyond even though I don't know exactly what to expect! I hope you are too? Please share with us in whatever way you can.

#### Rev'd Tim Erridge

Bleadon Church - revtimerridge@gmail.com - 01934 815 404)

#### **Bleadon Church Electoral Roll 2025**

We would like to briefly tell you about the church electoral roll and hope you will join us.

Church Representation Rules require that every 6 years a completely new electoral roll should be drawn up for each parish church.

We are currently preparing our Bleadon Parish electoral roll and inviting those not currently listed to join us as a commitment to the church (subject to certain criteria). You do not have to be a regular churchgoer (although that would be lovely) nor is there a financial commitment but it does mean that you can take part in decisions which affect the church and parish and to take part in the APCM (Annual Parochial Church Meeting), held this year on 12<sup>th</sup> May 2025.



Electoral Roll

Belong

If you haven't previously applied please contact either of the Churchwardens or the Electoral Roll Officer (details below), for an application form or just to find out more about what being on the electoral roll is about.

Completed applications need to be received by 11<sup>th</sup> April 2025 at the latest and we welcome all newcomers.

Other than joining in with church matters being on the roll does entitle you to apply for a free pass to Wells Cathedral.

#### **Churchwardens:**

Sue Arnold 07712452845 Sara Hughes 01934 811008

#### **Electoral Roll Officer:**

Lorna Kent 01934 814734

#### **Highway Improvement Proposals**

Thank you to everybody who has contacted the Parish Council over recent months regarding highways improvements. We've had a wide variety of comments brought to our attention, ranging from impassioned pleas to reduce speed within the village centre through to improving pavements.

As you will probably be aware, the vast majority of highways issues are the responsibility of North Somerset Council. That Council has established two means of reporting highways concerns.

The first is designed for smaller issues such as potholes, damaged signs etc. These issues can be reported using North Somerset Council's online reporting system 'Report a Problem' by way of the following link:

#### https://n-somerset.gov.uk/report-or-request-it

There are also third party reporting sites, such as <u>Fixmystreet.com</u> which has a helpful map interface but it's unclear the extent to which North Somerset Council prioritises its work based upon the use of third party sites.

The second means of reporting is designed for larger projects. It was previously only open to North Somerset District Ward Councillors to use but has recently been extended to Town and Parish Councils. It is not a mechanism open to the general public to use. However, the Parish Council has taken advantage of this new reporting arrangement and submitted four proposals, as follows:

- 1. An integrated scheme aimed at improving the safety of access and egress into/from the village centre by way of:
  - o Providing traffic lights at the junction of Bleadon Road and Bridgwater Road
  - o Reducing the speed limit on Bridgwater Road on the approach to Bleadon Mill/Bridge Road
  - o Resurfacing works at the junction of Bridge Road

- 2. An integrated scheme to improve safety for road users and pedestrians at the intersection of Celtic Way, Coronation Road and Shiplate Road by way of:
  - Improved signage and road markings
  - o Resurfacing works to the highway
  - Traffic regulation orders to address inappropriate/unsafe parking
  - o Upgrades to pavements/footways within the vicinity
- 3. A speed reduction scheme throughout the main population areas in this respect, the Parish Council has identified the issue and is inviting North Somerset Council to come forward with technical proposals to address the issue.
- 4. The provision of mirrors at four locations.

It will be some months before we have an answer from North Somerset Council as to whether any of these proposals will be progressed, but we have put together a compelling evidence case and have identified sources of funding which would mitigate the impact upon the use of North Somerset Council's limited highways budgets - so we feel that the proposals have mileage (pun intended!).

We'll keep you updated.

Steve Sugg (Lead Councillor for Transport & Highways)

#### North Somerset Council Three-weekly bin collection

Following an extensive public consultation in 2024, North Somerset councillors have agreed to introduce three-weekly black bin waste collections later this year. No changes will take place until summer 2025.

For further information check the North Somerset Council website at <a href="https://n-somerset.gov.uk/my-services/bins-recycling/three-weekly-waste-collections">https://n-somerset.gov.uk/my-services/bins-recycling/three-weekly-waste-collections</a>

#### Play Area Feedback

A huge thanks to everybody who responded to the survey in the last edition of Bleadon Parish News. Most popular were things like the climbing net and basket swing but there was less support for the interactive play boards. There was also a lot of support for the introduction of gym type equipment on Pea Green.

We also had some specific feedback facilitated by the Youth Club with some additional suggestions for other bits of equipment e.g. a trampoline.

We will now be putting together a specification and inviting some play providers to give us their expert opinion (and costs) as to how best to configure the range of play equipment we might want to instal.

We are still waiting for formal confirmation from North Somerset Council regarding the funding which has been negotiated as part of the planning changes in respect of the quarry development. I know some parishioners are concerned that this might mean the loss of the green space within the quarry and more houses being erected. I would like to reassure you that this is not what has been discussed.

There will still be an area of green space within the quarry. The difference is that instead of items of play equipment going into this area of green space, the Parish Council will receive a sum of money which it can invest in the existing play area. The further benefit of this approach is that the green space within the quarry will be unencumbered and will provide a much needed area of open space to kick a football around etc.

There are ongoing discussions as to how best to preserve this area as public open space for future generations.

Craig Bolt (Parish Clerk & RFO)



## Talk to us

#### Join your Neighbourhood Policing Team at

Drop in and speak to PCSO Steve Hemmett, whether you want advice on how to protect your belongings, arrange for free bike security marking, more information about the work we are doing in your area, or you want to raise a concern about an issue in your community.

Time: 12:00 till 13:30

Date:

2/4/25 7/5/25 4/6/25 2/7/25 6/8/25 3/9/25 1/10/25 5/11/25

Their will be no attendance in March

#### Location: Bleadon Riverside Holiday village Bridgewater road BS240AN

For more information please visit: www.avonandsomerset.police.uk/your-area



Climate Change & Biodiversity	Cllr Gower-Crane			
Contactus/Social Activities/Targeted				
Support/Grants	Cllr Davies			
Drains	Cllr Sugg			
Finance	Cllr Davies			
Food Security	Cllr Gower-Crane			
Halls/Car Park Environs	Cllr Davies			
Highways – Safety/Signage/Parking/PC				
laybys	Cllr Sugg			
Historic Structures – Market Cross,				
Pump/Well	Cllr Sugg			
Neighbourhood Watch & Community				
Safety	Vacant			
Open Spaces Working Group Chair	Cllr Sheppard			
Parish Clock	Parish Clerk			
Parish News Working Group Chair	Cllr Gower-Crane			
Planning	Cllr Clarke			
Planting schemes	Cllr Scarisbrick			
Public Engagement/Consultations	Cllr Gower-Crane			
Public Rights of Way	Cllr Sugg			
Public Toilets	Cllr Davies			
Outside Organisations				
ALCA North Somerset Group	Cllr Clarke & Cllr Gower-Crane			
Bleadon Youth Club	Cllr Scarisbrick			
Church Liaison	Cllr Clarke			
Coronation Hall Management Committee	Cllr Davies & Cllr Sheppard			
NSC Standards Sub-Committee	Cllr Clarke			
Play Area	All Cllrs as Trustees			
District Councillors & MP				
District Cllr Terry Porter	rict Cllr Mike Solomon			
Email: terry.porter@n-	nil: mike.solomon@n-			
	erset.gov.uk			
Mobile: 07989 855 339	bile: 07768 631 702			
Member of Parliament for Weston-super-Mare				
Dan Aldridge MP (Labour) daniel.aldridge.mp@parliament.uk				

# Bleadon Village MONTHLY

# MARKET Saturday

19th April

17th May

21<sup>st</sup> June

19<sup>th</sup> July

Coronation Hall and Jubilee Hall BS24 0PG

9.30am - 12 noon

30+ stalls with: Fresh local produce.

Goat Meat, Milk, Cheese. Bakery. Eggs. Pies. Savouries. Preserves. Cakes. In Season Veg. Plants.

Books. Crafts. Fashion. Cosmetics. Jewellery. Collectables.

Gifts. Toys. Bric-a-Brac.

Something new every month.

Delicious locally sourced refreshments.

Find us on Facebook and Instagram

#### **The Annual Residents Meeting**

(aka the Annual Parish Meeting)

#### 28<sup>th</sup> April 2025 Coronation Hall at 7:30pm

HAVE YOUR SAY... and light refreshments! This is NOT the usual parish council meeting

Did you know... by <u>law</u> the council must hold a parish meeting just for Bleadon parish residents, to exercise their free speech? This happens once a year, between March and June. This meeting gives you an opportunity to raise and discuss ANY issue affecting the parish with your fellow parishioners. For example, the proposed housing allocation, the state of the roads/potholes, diversions, school places, buses, food security, community events, flooding and drains, etc. Your concern doesn't need to be on the agenda, but it would help the chairman schedule time if you could let the parish clerk know your topic in advance if possible.

As it is also the beginning of a new financial year, this meeting enables residents to meet and consider what they would like to see achieved by next year, and whether Bleadon Parish Council's current priorities and projects can help achieve those goals. The key issues raised at this residents' meeting will be recorded and submitted to the parish council's annual meeting in May, for consideration and action where applicable.

Councillors are not obliged to attend, read annual reports, answer questions or make decisions, that's what monthly council meetings are for, with specific agenda items, background papers and minutes. However, attending councillors may be able to identify who would be best able to help resolve identified issues, e.g. an individual, a specific group, the parish or district council, etc.

Some councillors will of course attend, especially the chairman of the parish council who will be chairing the meeting. So please be patient as they are residents too, with their own personal views for the parish, just like you.

If you have any questions, or if there is anything specific you would like to discuss at the resident's meeting, please let our parish clerk Craig know via email at parishclerk@bleadonparishcouncil.co.uk or Tel: 07453 358 318