

BLEADON PARISH COUNCIL

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Clerk to the Parish Council

Marian Barber

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Minutes of a Meeting of Bleadon Parish Council held in the Coronation Hall, Bleadon at 7.00 pm on Monday, 12th March, 2018 when the following business was transacted.

Present: Councillors Steven Hartree (Chairman), Mary Sheppard (vice-Chairman), Ray Blezard, David Chinn, Terry Porter.

Clerk: Marian Barber

Six members of the public were present.

306.1 To Receive any Apologies for Non-Attendance.

Apologies received from Cllr Richard Dobson

306.2 To Receive any Declarations of Interest on Agenda Items.

No declarations were received.

306.3 To Approve the Minutes of the Meeting held on 12 February 2018.

It was noted that the items raised under Public Participation were all raised by one parishioner. The minutes were **approved**.

306.4 Public Participation.

i) Members of the Public

A parishioner explained that the finger post with a red reflector by the dog bin on The Veale had been knocked down and should be replaced. The noticeboard nearby is saturated and mouldy. The dog bin is full, as are others in the village. The Ranger should have his photo in the Bleadon News. The Chairman explained that the council could not insist on a photo being published but that a high-visibility vest with 'Ranger' printed on it was an option.

A parishioner was concerned that the Neighbourhood Plan was a waste of money and should not be progressed. He had asked Locking and Hutton parish councils for their opinion and discovered that Locking was uncertain but Hutton was not bothering. The clerk for Locking had produced a 'pros and cons' list and concluded it was a waste of time. Cllr Porter responded on several points, suggesting that the parishioner was mis-informed, particularly regarding the importance placed on such Plans by Planning Inspectors when considering applications and appeals. Local Plans (together with any Neighbourhood Plans that have been brought into force) are the starting-point for considering whether applications can be approved. An up to date plan positively guides development decisions. The Chairman

explained that a Councillor had received offensive and undue negativity from certain parishioners during his work to gather information and support regarding a Neighbourhood Plan. NSC had been asked to provide an officer to speak at the Annual Parish Meeting so that this council could understand the likely support for seeking funding to progress to a draft Plan. New funding for the production of Neighbourhood Plans was available from April 2018. The parishioner left the meeting.

A parishioner stated the difficulty of driving out of Mulberry Lane due to poor visibility caused by inappropriate parking, particularly when there was anything going on such as road works nearby. The historic mounting block had been moved by contractors and not replaced, so a resident had moved it back.

A similar problem occurs at the Catherine's Inn end of Bleadon Road due to taller vehicles being parked in Huttons garage and obstructing the sight-line. Clerk to ask Huttons if taller vehicles could be parked further back.

The Chairman reminded the meeting that members of the public should notify the Clerk by the Friday before the meeting of any item they wish to raise. This may enable answers to be provided at the meeting. If not received in advance then any point raised may be heard but may not receive a response at the meeting.

ii) District Councillor

Retrospective application 17/P/2556/F for a replacement workshop was refused in January 2018 but the building is still there. In these cases NSC has to make a judgment whether to enforce, taking into account the cost of action versus the likelihood of success as an inspector may disagree.

The Sites and Policies Plan is a big step forward in the Local Plan process and will be reviewed at NSC full council in April. The Planning Inspectorate required considerable additional land for housing. The Plan now suggests a five-year supply of development sites and should remove some of the challenges that could be brought by developers.

There is a 5.99% increase in district Council Tax for the financial year 2018-19. Over 3% is necessary for the cost of adult social care. Banwell Children's Centre is closing but this is due to low numbers using the centre. Re-housing homeless people last year cost £465,000. There is a relatively small number of permanently homeless people in the district. These are people who will use shelters occasionally but do not wish to be permanently housed.

The Planning Department is under stress- there are not enough people to manage the number and complexity of applications submitted.

The Purn application was refused even though Bleadon Parish Council had no concerns and the applicant had proceeded in line with advice. It is being looked at again by NSC.

Cllr Porter left the meeting.

iii) Police – no report

[Subsequent to the meeting a report was received by email noting that 26 calls were made during the period and four crimes were reported. These were: Assault – 1; ASB – 1; Burglary Non-Dwelling – 1; and Harassment – 1.]

306.5 To receive the Clerk's Report.

Clerk's Actions from previous meeting:

- a) Confirmed that the roles of Ranger and Parish Clerk do not require DBS checks. However, current members of staff now have photo identity cards.
- b) Ranger to clean noticeboards more often.
- c) Weston Super Half-marathon - NSC Road Closures notice on our website.

- d) Notices regarding Councillor vacancies and Allotment vacancies on our website.
- e) Letters/emails confirming Parish Council decisions sent to:
 - a parishioner regarding Horse Rider Signs;
 - the May Day Fayre committee;
 - the Coronation Hall Management Committee;
 - request quotes from three local tree surgeons (NB only one replied);
 - two parishioners regarding vexatious correspondence;
 - Cross and Compton Bishop Parish Council; and
 - NSC for a presentation on Neighbourhood Plans at the Annual Parish Meeting.

Other items:

Fly-tipping at Roman Road reported by Ranger and cleared by NSC.
Responded to two emails requesting genealogy information.

The report was noted. The Clerk explained that there had been a burst pipe in the Public Toilets, now fixed by Beers Plumbing and Heating. The stopcock is not accessible and the plumber will be asked to return to fit as necessary. It was noted that there used to be a standpipe for filling watering cans and this will be included if possible.
The Ranger is on holiday until after Easter and his essential duties will be covered by Mark Howe.

306.6 Exchange of Information between Councillors.

The Nationwide account should be closed by 16th March 2018 and the balance transferred to the deposit account.

The village boundary (regarding development) will not be looked at until the Sites and Policies Plan is approved (on the NSC Full Council agenda 10th April 2018)

Plants for the village have been ordered, comprising red, white and blue flowers for the centenary of the RAF.

306.7 To Note a Planning Decision.

17/P/5633/FUL – Proposed conversion of existing agricultural storage barn to a mixed use of part storage and part holiday let. Erection of a single storey side extension to be used with the holiday let. **REFUSED**

306.8 To Consider Planning Applications Received

17/P/5322/FUL – South Hill Farm, Bridgwater Road. Conversion of existing farmhouse to create three residential units.

Agreed - no objection.

17/P/5649/FUL – Purn Holiday Park, Bridgwater Road. Construction of equipment store. It was noted that the equipment store was now located closer to the road.

Agreed – no objection.

306.9 To Accept the quote received to Undertake a Survey of all Trees and Shrubs in the Churchyard.

Three qualified Tree Surgeons had been asked to quote and one quotation had been received by the closing date of 28th February 2018. The Council considered the price quoted to be too high for the small number of plants involved.

Agreed that the Clerk will discuss the price with Drinkwater Tree Services and bring to the next meeting for decision.

306.10 To Review and Approve the Monthly Budget Report and Bank Reconciliation for February.

Agreed to approve the monthly budget report and bank reconciliation for February.

306.11 To Approve Items of Expenditure and Income.

Expenditure

Chq	Payee	Details	Net £	VAT £
300762	Faye Thomas	February public toilet cleaning	100.00	
300763	GB Sports	Playground Inspection February	15.00	3.00
300764	Webglu	Website hosting /mailbox April-June	70.00	14.00
300765	Marian Barber	Clerk salary February	948.57	
300765	Marian Barber	Clerk expenses February: mileage	16.20	
		Home Working allowance:	17.33	
		Stamps (24 x 1 st , 36 x 2 nd)	35.76	
		Locking filing box:	18.33	3.66
		Stationery items:	25.46	5.09
		HP62 ink (2 x black, 2 x colour):	41.25	8.24
		Clerk & Ranger photo ID:	29.19	5.84
300766	Alistair Gill	Village Ranger salary February	312.00	
300766	Alistair Gill	Village Ranger mileage February	24.30	
300767	HMRC	PAYE and NI	336.74	
300768	Avon LCA	ALCA / NALC sub for FY2018-19	217.83	
Direct Debit	Vodafone	07453 358318 mobile (Parish Clerk)	25.14	5.02
Direct Debit	SSE Electric	Public Toilets electricity	49.27	2.46

Income

Paying in slip	Chq/cash/BACS	Details	Amount £
000063	Advertiser cheque	Advert in Bleadon News	100.00

306.11.1 Motions under Standing Order 10.a).ix 'to authorise the payment of monies up to £500'.

Motion 1 – to approve payment now of invoices received:

Chq	Payee	Details	Net £	VAT £
300769	Kevin Barrett	Interim Clerk - February	345.00	0
300770	Strutt & Parker	Land at Bleadon – 30.9.17 to 25.3.18	72.50	0
300771	Bin-it	Dog bins 4 Feb to 3 Mar 2018	70.54	14.11
300772	Chris Beers	Emergency plumbing – Ladies' WC	100.00	

AGREED to pay 300769, 770 and 772. Regarding 300771 it was noted that the dog bins appeared not to have been emptied recently. Clerk to discuss with Bin-it before payment.

Motion 2 – to approve payment, before next meeting, of invoice expected:

Sage Payroll	Annual licence due 20 April 2018 (£216.00 last year)		
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AGREED to renew the licence when received.

Motion 3 – to approve the purchase of 100 PVC poster holders for the noticeboards to replace the sun-damaged ones. Replacing 18 per board requires 90 PVC holders but buying an extra 10 is cheaper: **90 units = £117.72 incl VAT** **100 units = £104.40 incl VAT.**

AGREED to purchase 100 PVC poster holders.

306.12 To Receive the Following Reports:

- Allotments – It was hoped that the one and a half vacant plots would be taken up when the weather improves. Notices are on the noticeboards and the website.
- Churchyard – No report.
- Footpaths & Bridleways – the stile from the footpath to Hillside Road is loose and needs repair.

- (d) Roads & Transport – Potholes in Purn Way have been reported to NSC as have those by the curry house on the A370. White lines need repainting near Purn Stores, by The Queen's Arms and on the A370 at Bridge Road. Potholes are present at Purn Quarry / Accommodation Road and also adjacent to the new patching recently provided.
- (e) Marshalls Liaison – The next meeting is on 22 March. A new traffic island on the A370 will be discussed.
- (f) Children's Playground – a new sign giving contact details has been installed but a better-quality and more permanent sign should be erected. Clerk to action.
- (g) Newsletter – There will not be a Spring edition produced due to personal pressures on the team. A request for help for future editions has been put on the website.
- (h) Website – no report.
- (i) Neighbourhood Watch & Community Safety – No report. Clerk to ask the current representative if they wish to continue. If not then a new person could be sought at the Annual Parish Meeting.

306.13

To Receive the Following Brief Holders' Reports:

- 1) Coronation Hall – The Chairman explained that the Hall Management Committee was seeking quotes for the new pedestrian entrance and path; the Parish Council has agreed to contribute 50%.
It has been agreed that on general matters the Parish Council, the Hall Management Committee and the Youth Club may meet together, although any legal issues will still be discussed separately.

Standing Orders suspended: The Clerk detailed the cost of implementing one-way vehicle movements in the car park as received from NSC. Two quotes were given for installing signage and painting direction arrows in the car park. £1,437.76 includes putting signs on posts at both entrances whereas £905.13 has new posts at one end and signs on existing fence/wall at the other. An extraordinary Full Council meeting is required to consider these options if the council wishes to proceed before the May council meeting.

Standing Orders resumed.

- 2) Youth Club – A management meeting was held last week and some of the young people attended. There is a new male leader working there now which is beneficial to the team. The committee members are aware that the request to renew the lease needs to be given to the Parish Council by 24th May 2018 but they would like to revise some elements of the lease. They are also trying to recruit some more trustees. Cllr Chinn to suggest that the trustees send the letter in time for it to be considered at the Parish Council meeting on 14th May.
- 3) ALCA – there is a liaison meeting on 14th March but unfortunately we are unable to attend.
- 4) Chairman – There is provision in next year's budget for a 'civic recognition award' to be given to one or more people who have given exceptional service to Bleadon. The preference is for the award to be made at the Annual Parish Meeting.

306.14

To Propose arrangements for the Annual Parish Meeting (APM).

The meeting will take place at Coronation Hall at 7pm on Monday, 9th April, 2018. The agenda will include reports from the Chairman and the Hall Management Committee and the Finance Summary for 2017/18. It is hoped that a presentation from an expert regarding the pros and cons of Neighbourhood Plans will be attending.

Standing Orders suspended: A parishioner asked how everyone would be notified, since the Bleadon Newsletter was not an option. A general discussion took place during which it was agreed that a leaflet will be produced by the council and distributed to every household. The offer of distribution by the Newsletter team was gratefully accepted.

Regarding the Neighbourhood Plan, the council's intention is to apply for the new funding, working with parishioners in order to progress to a draft plan for wider consultation. It was suggested that the leaflet could include links to websites giving further information on the pros and cons of Neighbourhood Plans. The 'independence' of any expert was questioned as it was felt that a consultant might be hoping for a contract and a council officer's report might be proscribed.

As every parishioner is invited so there could be a problem with numbers. The Hall has a capacity limit. A parishioner offered the free loan of his Public Address equipment with a roving microphone to ensure that all attendees can hear and be heard. The council gratefully accepted this offer.

Standing Orders resumed.

AGREED that a leaflet be produced and distributed before the end of March.

306.15

Date of Next Parish Council Meeting.

Monday 14th May at 7 p.m. in the Coronation Hall. This will be the Annual Meeting of the council.

The meeting closed at 8.27pm

Chairman

DRAFT