

## BLAXTON PARISH COUNCIL

### MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 21 FEBRUARY 2019 IN BLAXTON VILLAGE HALL AT 19:35

**PRESENT:** Councillors N McCarron (Chair), P Schofield, R Dennis, R Johnson and J Scutt

**APOLOGIES:** All Present

**IN ATTENDANCE:** John Mason (Ink Architectural) Item 12(f) and P A Dennis (Clerk)

**MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC – None**

**1) APOLOGIES – All Present**

**2) TO CONSIDER THE EXTENT, IF ANY, TO WHICH THE PUBLIC ARE TO BE EXCLUDED FROM THE MEETING – None**

**3) DECLARATION OF PREJUDICIAL INTERESTS, OTHER INTERESTS, THE RECEIPT OF GIFTS AND HOSPITALITY AND REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATION – None**

**4) MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 17 JANUARY 2019**

RESOLVED (1)

That the Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 17 January 2019 be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

**5) PUBLIC PARTICIPATION – None Present**

**6) MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES – None**

**7) DMBC AND EAST AREA COMMUNITIES TEAM ISSUES**

a) Pedestrian and Cyclist Safety – Mosham Road – Resolution 2

Councillor Scutt reported that, since DMBC had advised that it was often criticised for creating new cycle routes which did not join up with other parts of the network, he had looked at the width of verges between Auckley and Blaxton, on Gatehouse Lane and at the existing cycle provision around Hayfield Lane, the Airport and beyond. It appeared that there was potential for a useful connection to be made between Blaxton and the Hurst Lane junction at Auckley and, from the Gatehouse Lane junction on Mosham Road along Gatehouse Lane to Hayfield Lane. Subject to survey this route might be able to connect to the Great Yorkshire Way junction with Hurst Lane and on to Parrots Corner via the A638.

It was recognised that, if such a scheme was possible, funding would be a major issue and, that the majority of the suggested route was within the area of Auckley Parish Council.

RESOLVED (2)

That, since the majority of roads which might benefit from cycle/pedestrian path provision were in Auckley, the Clerk be requested to contact Auckley Parish Council to explain the Council's concern for the safety of cyclists and footpath users who

needed to travel between Blaxton and Auckley to access Hayfield Lane Primary School, New College Doncaster, Hayfield School and the amenities in Auckley and to ask for the Council's views about a joint approach to requesting DMBC to consider extending the cycle/pedestrian network.

- b) Refreshed Joint Charter for Partnership between DMBC and the Parish and Town Councils of Doncaster – Consideration of Parish Council response – Resolution 3

RESOLVED (3)

That the Council record that it would be pleased to sign up to the Joint Charter and confirm its continued commitment to partnership working with DMBC.

- c) Road Traffic Issues – Springs Road development and Blaxton Traffic volumes

A lengthy discussion took place about the increasing numbers of all types of vehicle passing through Blaxton. There was particular concern about the number of heavy goods vehicles, many resulting from planning development approvals which appeared to take no account of the cumulative vehicle impact on Blaxton residents.

Councillors felt that Blaxton was heavily impacted by goods vehicles in both directions on the B1396 and the A614. This was exacerbated by routing agreements which sought to stop HGVs from using Wroot Road between Finningley Village and Wroot Cross Roads because of the proximity to St Oswald's CE Academy School.

It appeared that DMBC had no statistics to show changes in traffic flow numbers over the years and, Officers had confirmed that there was no intention of conducting automated traffic counts thus preventing the establishment of base data. The absence of data concerned Members of the Parish Council because this implied that judgements about the impact of development applications were made in the total absence of independent knowledge about existing road traffic volumes around Blaxton. Additionally, DMBC justified not surveying traffic flows in Blaxton by relying only on the low number of incidents reported to the Police to make judgements. DMBC contend that other areas with higher numbers of reported incidents were the priority for using the limited resources available for casualty reduction schemes which, though logical, is used to support the decision to not assess the needs of Blaxton based on meaningful road usage and speed statistics.

Minor accidents at Blaxton roundabout are often due to traffic speed but DMBC refuses to consider reducing speed limits. This ignores the impact on the lives of those affected by accidents, delays caused to other road users, minor injuries incurred, time to recover, effort and cost of having damaged vehicles repaired, lost production and pay due to the need to sort out vehicle repair arrangements and the probability of whiplash injuries and related insurance claims. It also contributes to residents being unable to enjoy the outside environment along the A614 and B1396 in Blaxton and increases danger for those crossing roads, especially close to Blaxton Roundabout.

RESOLVED (4)

That the Clerk be requested to:-

- a) contact Ward Members again to highlight the Council's concerns about traffic volume and speed
- b) request historic traffic volume and speed figures on the A614 and B1396 through Blaxton from DMBC

- c) contact Auckley, Cantley with Branton and, Finningley Parish Councils to ask if they have similar concerns to Blaxton Parish Council and if a joint meeting, possibly with Ward Member representation, to discuss issues could be useful.

d) Litter Pick/Keep Britain Tidy – The Great British Spring Clean

RESOLVED (5)

That the Council confirms support in principle for local litter picking initiatives in the Parish and for the Keep Blaxton Tidy Great British Spring Clean Campaign and, requests the Clerk to gather further information.

- e) DMBC Programmes Funding Newsletter – **Noted**  
 f) Civic Mayor Award 2019 – **Noted**

**8) POLICING ISSUES**

- a) Elected Member Updates – **Noted**

**9) DONCASTER SHEFFIELD AIRPORT**

- a) Airport Consultative Committee Annual General Meeting and Ordinary Meeting Agendas 24 January 2019

RESOLVED (6)

That the Agendas and the Chair's reports about staff changes new routes and passenger numbers be noted.

**10) YORKSHIRE WILDLIFE PARK CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE**

- a) Draft Minutes 23 January 2019 – **Noted**

**11) WARD MEMBERS**

Invitation to meet with Vigo Group Representatives – **arrangements in hand for meeting in April**

**12) ACCOUNTS AND FINANCIAL MATTERS**

- a) Payments for authorisation on 21 February 2019

RESOLVED (7)

That the following payments be authorised:-

<u>Payee/Invoice No</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Net</u>	<u>VAT</u>	<u>Total</u>
Community First Yorkshire INV_518	Membership Subscription 2019/20 (Paid on 18/02/19)	35.00	7.00	42.00
DMBC 24708505	Maintain Play equipment and repair tarmac as per inspection report. Completed 15/01/19	240.00	48.00	288.00
DMBC 24766609	Dog Waste Bin 01/10/18 - 31/12/18 – 3 bins @ £5.63 each for 12 weeks	202.68	40.54	243.22

<u>Payee/Invoice No</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Net</u>	<u>VAT</u>	<u>Total</u>
P A Dennis (HP Inc. UK Limited) <b>6618425</b>	HP Office Jet Pro 7740 printer	124.17	24.83	149.00
P A Dennis	Salary February 2019	374.67	0.00	374.67
P A Dennis	Office, Telephone, Broadband Allowance February 2019	23.60	0.00	23.60
P A Dennis <b>203016496169</b>	Reimbursement for 1&1 Website Hosting costs 08/02/19 - 08/03/19	19.99	4.00	23.99
HMRC	Month 11 Contributions	95.20	0.00	95.20
1415 Limited (Mr Flag) <b>O/N13800</b>	6' x 4' Sewn Union Flag with eyelets	88.80	17.76	106.56
Need A Hand <b>1945</b>	Apply herbicide to fence lines D,E,H,I J and around play equipment 18/02/19	75.00	0.00	75.00
Need A Hand <b>1946</b>	Apply weed killer to War Memorial 19/02/19	35.00	0.00	35.00
<b>Total</b>				<b>1,456.24</b>

- a) Bank Reconciliation February 2019 – **noted**
- b) Balances against the Budget to 15 February 2019 – **noted**
- c) Budget 2019/20 approved on 17 January 2019

RESOLVED (8)

That the Budget for 2019/20, approved at meeting on 21 January 2019, circulated by email on 18 February 2019 be confirmed subject to the following revisions:-

- Salary of Clerk – national pay award increase of £176 to £5,798
  - Estimate of YLCA Subscription increase of £15 to £422
- d) Possible Opportunities for Redevelopment or replacement of Blaxton Village Hall from Section 106 Funds or other Grants

The Chair reported that she had advised the Village Hall Committee that current indications were that no Section 106 funding was available at present but, that there were many other grant funding opportunities available if a scheme to redevelop or upgrade the Village Hall was created. Committee members were reluctant to commit to seeking grant funding.

RESOLVED (9)

That the report be noted.

- e) Defibrillator

The Chair reported that the Village Hall Committee was reluctant to agree to locating a defibrillator outside the Village Hall because of concerns about the device being vandalised.

RESOLVED (10)

That the report be noted.

f) War Memorial site improvements

The Chair welcomed John Mason, Ink Architectural, who had attended to present recommendations for the resurfacing and redesign of the War Memorial site on Bank End Road. Council had been concerned for some years about grounds maintenance difficulties on the site. The gravel surfacing frequently overflowed onto the footpath and was difficult to keep free of weeds.

Mr Mason outlined suggested works which included surfacing the site with resin bound gravel, resetting the flag pole, new edging around the base of the monument to accommodate a narrow gravel border, repainting railings on the site boundaries, cleaning ironwork around the memorial, removal of two conifers and the planting of a black cherry tree, and renovation of the electricity box door and roof. Mr Mason, as a long-time resident of Blaxton, also offered to waive his fee for planning and managing the project as a gesture of goodwill to the community.

RESOLVED (11)

That the plans outlined at the meeting be accepted and that Mr Mason be requested to seek quotations for the works for consideration at a future Council meeting.

RESOLVED (12)

That Mr Mason be thanked for the very kind offer to waive his fee for undertaking the design and project management work which the Council was very pleased to accept.

- g) War Memorial – Auckley Parish Council response to invitation to contribute to upkeep and maintenance – Support in principle; will review when cost of improvements known – **Noted**
- h) Facebook Page – Resolution 17 – **Noted – to be progressed**

### 13) PLANNING

a) Planning Applications

**19/00149/FUL** – 50 Blue Bell Court, Blaxton, Doncaster, DN9 3BD – Erection of front and rear extension including alterations – **Neutral Comment**

**19/00068/FUL** – 8 Fernbank Close, Blaxton, DN9 3PT – Extensions

RESOLVED (13)

That the Clerk be requested to seek an update on planning application 19/00068/FUL following submission of the Council's objection.

b) Springs Road Community Liaison Group 24 January 2019 – Minutes and Meeting report by Councillor J Scutt

RESOLVED (14)

That the minutes of the Springs Road Community Liaison Group meeting held on 24 January 2019 and the report from Councillor J Scutt be received and noted and, that Councillor Scutt be thanked for his report

- c) iGas Information updates – Wireline Tools – **Noted**
- d) iGas Community Fund – **Noted**
- e) Summerfields Estate Green Space – **No Issues**

#### 14) CHAIR'S REPORT

- a) Cadent Gas Manhole Covers on Station Road verge opposite Back Lane – **Noted now completed**
- b) Horses

The Chair reported on the distressing matter of around 80 neglected horses in a field on Bank End Road and on efforts to try to get DMBC and the RSPCA to take action to remove two dead animals and have others checked. Residents had complained about the poor state of the animals and had taken food and water to them. At the date of the meeting about 20 horses had been taken in by Tia recue.

RESOLVED (15)

That the distressing report be noted and the Chair thanked for her actions.

#### 15) BLAXTON PLAYING FIELD

- a) Mole Control

Council discussed, at some length, the possibility of taking action to control damage by moles on the playing field. Councillor McCarron did not support taking action.

RESOLVED (16)

That, in the interests of public safety, the Council accept the quotation from Tornado Mole Services to provide unlimited visits to clear the field of moles to terminate after no further evidence of moles for a continuous period of seven days for a fee of £100.

- b) Rabbit Control

The Chair reported that a resident had complained about hearing shooting at night from the direction of the Playing Field and was concerned that this may have been the Contractor authorised by the Council to undertake Rabbit control.

RESOLVED (17)

That the Clerk be requested to obtain details of the incident from the resident and confirm the dates of visits by the Contractor.

- c) Bank End Road Fence Repair

Two quotations for replacing the stock fencing along the Bank End Road boundary of the Playing Field were considered.

RESOLVED (18)

That the quotation for £2,278.64, excluding VAT, submitted by BAK Hedge Laying and Fencing Services for the supply and installation of 225 metres of stock fencing, including disposal of old fencing, be accepted.

- d) Roundabouts – **to be considered further at the March 2019 meeting**

**16) BLAXTON VILLAGE HALL**

- a) Village Hall Committee Minutes 24 January 2019 – **Noted**
- b) Constitution

The Clerk reported that, following receipt of the model Constitution from the Village Hall Committee, he had contacted Community First Yorkshire for advice and, it had become clear that revising the Village Hall Constitution was not a straight forward process because the Committee is a registered charitable trust. Charities are subject to complex laws and it may be that leaving the Constitution unchanged is an option to be considered.

RESOLVED (19)

That the report be noted and that the Clerk be requested to investigate the issues around revising the Village Hall Constitution and update Members at the next meeting.

**17) JOINT PLAYING FIELD**

- a) Section 106 Projects – **Nothing to report**

**b) CORRESPONDENCE**

- a) YLCA South Yorkshire Branch meeting notes 9 February 2019 including link to ‘20’s Plenty for Us’ campaign – **Noted**
- b) Local Government Ethical Standards – A review by the Committee on Standards in Public Life (CSPL) – **Noted**
- c) YLCA White Rose Update January 2019 – **Noted**
- d) YLCA – Yorkshire Day 1 August 2019 – **Noted**
- e) NALC Chief Executive Bulletin 1 February 2019 – **Noted**
- f) SYPTE – Doncaster Bus Service Changes from 3 March 2019 – **Noted**

**c) DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

RESOLVED (20)

That the duration of meetings be considered at the next meeting of the Parish Council which was due to take place on Thursday 21 March 2019 at 19:35 in Blaxton Village Hall.

Meeting closed at 22:10

Chair: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_