

## BLAXTON PARISH COUNCIL

### MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 17 SEPTEMBER 2020 AT 19:10 USING ZOOM REMOTE MEETING SOFTWARE

**PRESENT:** Councillors R Dennis (Chair), R Johnson, and J Scutt

**APOLOGIES:** Councillors N McCarron and P Schofield

**IN ATTENDANCE:** P A Dennis (Clerk)

#### **MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC – Two**

#### **1) APOLOGIES**

RESOLVED (1)

That apologies for absence be accepted from Councillors N McCarron and P Schofield.

#### **2) TO CONSIDER THE EXTENT, IF ANY, TO WHICH THE PUBLIC ARE TO BE EXCLUDED FROM THE MEETING**

#### **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 16 JULY 2020**

RESOLVED (2)

That the Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 16 July 2020 be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

#### **5) MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**

- a) Reviews of Standing Orders and Financial Regulations would be submitted to the next meeting – **Noted**
- b) Absent Members had been notified of opportunities to join meetings with using tablets and other devices – **Noted**

#### **6) PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

Two residents attended the meeting and spoke against the proposal for the Council to purchase a sign to indicate that vehicle turning was available at the end of Park Lane; this had been the subject of a recent questionnaire issued to all Park Lane residents.

##### Concerns expressed included:-

- There was no evidence of frequent vehicle reversing
- The gate at the end property was never locked
- No one had ever been prevented from using the turning circle
- Residents should arrange for delivery vehicles to turn in their own drive where space permitted and assist with their manoeuvres
  
- Residents should notify drivers in the delivery instructions that turning was available at the end of the Lane if necessary – this would remove the need to display a sign at the New Street junction

- The proposed sign would encourage more unwanted traffic and pose a security risk to all residents
- Speed of vehicles using the turning facility should be kept down

Improvements needed on Park Lane:-

- Obstructions should be removed from the Lane
- Hedges should be cut back by residents
- A street sign was needed to show which numbers were to the left and right at the New Street approach

The Chair thanked the residents for their comments.

**7) WARD MEMBERS REPORT – None Present**

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

a) Road Traffic Issues on Approaches to Blaxton Roundabout – Resolution 3 16/07/20

It was reported that arrangements were being made to convene a meeting of representatives of the Parish Council, Ward Members, DMBC Officers and Mineral Site operators. Initial responses to matters raised by the Parish Council had been expected in time for this meeting but, to date, only one official response had been received.

RESOLVED (3)

That the Clerk be requested to contact Ward Member Jane Cox for an update on progress with arranging a meeting.

b) New Street Garages Site – Resolution 5 16/07/20

i) Results of Informal Survey

RESOLVED (4)

That the results of the survey included with the Agenda be received and noted

ii) DMBC response to request to use site for other purposes

It was noted that DMBC had confirmed that for the foreseeable future the site was available only for garages and parking. It would however continue to explore the possibilities for redevelopment as affordable housing in the future.

Members were concerned that DMBC would leave this project pending for some time whilst the site remained as now and continued to be (greatly) under-utilised and unsightly when it is clearly a prime site for redevelopment or other more community value use.

RESOLVED (5)

That the Clerk be requested to ask DMBC for recommendations for who the Parish Council could contact to conduct an independent review of the drains on the site and the work needed to enable the site to accommodate four dwellings.

**9) POLICING ISSUES**

- a) South Yorkshire Police and Crime Panel Annual Report 2019/20 – **Noted**
- b) Community Speed Watch – **no update received**

- c) Community Alcohol Partnership – Next meeting 1 October 2020 – **Councillor Johnson confirmed his availability to attend**

## 10) CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEES – UPDATES

- a) DMBC Parish Councils' Joint Consultative Committee – **not met**  
 b) Doncaster Sheffield Airport

An online meeting of the Noise Monitoring and Environmental Sub-committee had been scheduled for 24 September 2020 which Councillor Scutt indicated that he could attend if Councillor McCarron was unable to attend.

- c) Yorkshire Wildlife Park – **not met**

## 11) FINANCIAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

- a) Payments considered for approval on 17 September 2020

RESOLVED (6)

That the following payments be approved.

| <u>Voucher No</u> | <u>Payee/Invoice</u>                        | <u>Description</u>  | <u>Net</u> | <u>VAT</u> | <u>Total</u> |
|-------------------|---|---|------------|------------|--------------|
| 29                | YLCA<br><b>363-2021</b>                     | Spread Your Wings Webinar<br>10/07/20   | 48.00      | 0.00       | 48.00        |
| 30                | Open Spaces Society<br><b>71257</b>         | Subscription Sept 20 - Aug 21   | 45.00      | 0.00       | 45.00        |
| 31                | Glendale Countryside<br><b>GC446PC02486</b> | BPF Grass Cutting 3 and 17 July<br>2020   | 77.96      | 15.59      | 93.55        |
| 32                | Glendale Countryside<br><b>GC446PC02557</b> | BPF Grass Cutting 31 July and 14<br>August 2020                                 | 77.96      | 15.59      | 93.55        |
| 33                | P A Dennis                                  | Salary August 2020  | 386.57     | 0.00       | 386.57       |
| 33                | P A Dennis                                  | Office, Telephone, Broadband<br>Allowance August 2020                           | 25.00      | 0.00       | 25.00        |
| 34                | P A Dennis<br><b>203022649433</b>           | Reimbursement for 1&1 Website<br>Hosting costs 08/08/20 - 08/09/20              | 23.00      | 4.60       | 27.60        |
| 35                | P A Dennis<br><b>INV31214793</b>            | Zoom Fee 16/07/20 - 15/08/20 -<br>unable to find VAT No.£2.40 not<br>recovered  | 14.39      |            | 14.39        |
| 36                | HMRC  | Month 5 Contributions   | 96.60      | 0.00       | 96.60        |
| 37                | P A Dennis                                  | Salary September 2020 + Arrears<br>from 01/04/20                                | 450.33     | 0.00       | 450.33       |
| 37                | P A Dennis                                  | Office, Telephone, Broadband<br>Allowance September 2020                        | 25.00      | 0.00       | 25.00        |
| 38                | P A Dennis<br><b>203023018558</b>           | Reimbursement for 1&1 Website<br>Hosting costs 08/09/20 - 08/10/20              | 23.00      | 4.60       | 27.60        |
| 39                | P A Dennis<br><b>INV41092021</b>            | Zoom Fee 13/09/20 - 12/10/20 -<br>unable to find VAT No. £2.40 not<br>recovered | 14.39      |            | 14.39        |
| 40                | HMRC  | Month 6 Contributions   | 112.40     | 0.00       | 112.40       |
|                   |   |   |            |            | 1,459.98     |

- b) Bank Reconciliation to 31/08/20 – **Noted**  
 c) Balances against Budgets to 12 September 2020 – **Noted**

d) National Salary Award

RESOLVED (7)

That it be noted that the full year effect of the National Salary Award increase of 2.75% on spinal column point 17 of £159.12 could be met from within current budgets.

e) Arrangements for the appointment of Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer

Members received the Clerk's resignation with effect from 31 December 2020 with regret and recorded their sincere thanks for his valued work over the years.

RESOLVED (8)

That the Clerk be requested to advertise the forthcoming vacancy and explain that further details of the duties, including job description, person specification and interview arrangements would be available after the Parish Council meeting on 15 October 2020.

f) Park Lane Sign – Resolution 14 – DMBC response **emailed 24/07/20**

i) Resident Petition supporting the provision of a sign to inform drivers of the availability of a turning area to avoid unnecessary reversing 21 August 2020 – **Noted**

ii) Response to Council questionnaire about the provision of a 'No Reversing' sign for Park Lane

The Council considered a summary of responses to the questionnaire circulated by the Council on 23 August 2020 to all Park Lane residents. Sixteen responses were received of which eleven supported the sign and five did not.

Council also considered comments made during the Public Participation included at Item (4) above.

Ten of the eleven responses in favour of a sign supported wording (b) – 'Use Turning Circle Avoid Reversing'.

RESOLVED (9)

That residents who spoke during Public Participation be thanked for their comments which were noted.

***Councillor J Scutt abstained from the following decision***

RESOLVED (10)

That, whilst understanding the concerns expressed by residents, since the majority of resident replies were in favour of the display of a sign, the Council agree to provide a sign with the wording 'Use Turning Circle Avoid Reversing' at the junction of New Street and Park Lane.

g) Website Accessibility

It was reported that the Council's website currently falls significantly below the standard required by the Website Content Accessibility Guidelines (WCAG) and that a statement will be added to the site to explain the current position regarding accessibility.

## RESOLVED (11)

That the position be noted and that a report on possible options for providing a Website Content Accessibility Guidelines (WCAG) compliant website would be provided to the next meeting of the Parish Council.

- h) YLCA Branch Meetings in October 2020 – South Yorkshire Branch 28 October 2020 using GoToMeeting – **Noted – Councillor Scutt offered to attend**

- i) Remembrance Arrangements 2020

A letter from Reverend Neil Redeyoff, Holy Trinity and St Oswald's Church, was received and circulated to Members on 11 September 2020. He explained that, under the Covid Regulations from 14 September 2020, Acts of Remembrance in Church or the Church grounds would sadly not be possible.

Council was requested to consider arrangements for the Act of Remembrance in the light of the Covid Regulations.

## RESOLVED (12)

That the information be received with sadness and understanding and, that the Council explore ways to mark the Remembrance in a Covid compliant manner with wreath laying, flag lowering, playing the Last Post and Reveille and, other elements of the usual event.

## RESOLVED (13)

That this matter be considered further at the next meeting when it was hoped that greater clarity about Covid compliant Remembrance events would be available.

- j) Face to Face Parish Council Meetings – **NALC Advice emailed 16 July 2020**

There was consensus that the advice to avoid face to face meetings where possible would not change for some time and that councils would continue to be encouraged to use electronic devices to enable virtual meetings to take place.

## RESOLVED (14)

That the advice be received and noted.

- k) Delegation to Clerk during Covid-19 lockdown

It was reported that since the last Parish Council meeting on 16 July 2020 delegated power to the Clerk was used only in respect of Planning Items 12(a) and 12 (b) and, Joint Playing Field Item 14(c) below.

## RESOLVED (15)

That the report be noted.

## 12) PLANNING

- a) **Application 20/02012/FUL**, New Farm House, Bank End Road, Blaxton – Single storey rear/side extension and new pitched roof – Neutral Comment – delegated power emailed 25/08/20 – **Noted**

b) **Application 20/01219/MIN**, Proposed sand and gravel extraction (9 years with up to a further 2 years restoration) – Land on the North Side of Bank End Road Finningley Doncaster DN9 3NT – **Various Comments (see attached Appendix 1) made under delegated power and notified to DMBC Planning 26/08/20 and response from Crestwood Environmental emailed 08/09/20 – Noted**

c) **Application 20/02275/FUL**, Nei Pau, Thorne Road, Blaxton – Erection of two storey side extension

RESOLVED (16)

That the Council object to the application because of the limited availability of onsite parking for a five-bed house which appears to be inadequate and, could result in overspill parking on the A614.

d) Doncaster Local Plan Examination starts 14 October 2020 – emailed 10 and 13 August 2020 – **Noted**

e) Public consultation website relating to proposed redevelopment of Station Road, Finningley – Swann Homes – **Noted**

f) Nottinghamshire Minerals Local Plan Hearings – 26th October 2020 – **Noted**

### 13) BLAXTON PLAYING FIELD

a) Progress Towards Reopening

RESOLVED (17)

That it be noted that the Playing Field was reopened on 23 July 2020 and that two DMBC Notices had been displayed.

b) Improvements to Blaxton Playing Field – Section 106 Funding (18/02593/FULM)

RESOLVED (18)

That it be noted that, following discussions at the beginning of August, quotations from two further Contractors for specifying a scheme for hard surfacing and drainage to allow the designated parking area to be accessed and brought into use were awaited.

### 14) JOINT PLAYING FIELD 20:45

a) Memorial Seat Installed

RESOLVED (19)

That it be noted that the Memorial Seat had been installed and, that the kind offer of the Council to provide a cushion was respectfully declined following feedback from users.

b) Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB)

It was reported that recent instances of ASB had been reported to the Police who had engaged. A Member expressed concern that members of the public appeared to prefer to complain about the behaviour on social media rather than logging on the Police website or calling 101.

RESOLVED (20)

That the report be noted

**Standing Order 3(w) – at 21:36 – RESOLVED (21)**

***That the meeting be extended by up to 15 minutes to enable the remaining business to be concluded.***

c) Finningley and Blaxton Joint Playing Field Improvements – Section 106

Following consultation on 8 August 2020 and indications of agreement from all Members, the Clerk agreed, in accordance with delegated powers, to administer the Section 106 Grant and payments in respect of 'Playing Areas Improvements – The Joint Playing Fields'. The decision was taken after consultation and agreement with Finningley Parish Council and DMBC. Regular reports on the progress with the project will be provided to Blaxton and Finningley Parish Councils by the Clerk and Joint Playing Field Association members.

RESOLVED (22)

That the report be noted.

**15) BLAXTON VILLAGE HALL**

- a) Minutes 25 June, 14 and 23 July and 3 September 2020 – **Noted**
- b) Hall reopened on a limited basis on 27 July 2020 – Noted
- c) Matters arising from the Village Hall meetings minutes

The Clerk reported that the defibrillator had been returned to the supplier because the battery indicator had dropped by 'one bar'. A loan device had been provided whilst the Council's device is investigated.

RESOLVED (23)

That the report be noted.

**16) ITEMS FOR INFORMATION**

Since the last meeting on 16 July 2020 a number of general items of correspondence including Covid-19 updates, community activities and initiatives and training opportunities have been circulated – no requests have been made to discuss any of these items formally in a Parish Council meeting. – **Noted**

**17) DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

RESOLVED (24)

That it be noted that the next meeting of the Parish Council will take place on Thursday 15 October 2020 at 19:00 using Zoom or, in Blaxton Village Hall if Covid-19 conditions permit.

Meeting closed at 21:47

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

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

**BLAXTON PARISH COUNCIL**

**Item 12(b) above – Comments on Planning Application 20/01219/MIN** | Proposed sand and gravel extraction (9 years with up to a further 2 years restoration) | Land on the North Side of Bank End Road Finningley Doncaster DN9 3NT – submitted 26 August 2020

- *The Parish Council is experiencing growing local concerns and complaints from residents about the traffic, particularly HGV traffic using Blaxton roundabout during and out of permitted operating hours.*
- *Frequent spillages of sand and gravel on the roundabout causing skid hazard and potential damage to vehicles.*
- *The suitability of the B1396 to sustain the current level of traffic is a grave concern without adding another 112 journeys a day.*
- *What is the design capacity of the B1396 between Blaxton Roundabout to the derestriction sign on Bank End Road adjacent to the public footpath crossing point and the entrance to the playing field?*
- *The speed limit. HGVs' travelling at 40mph up to the roundabout present a serious danger to residents and vehicles in this built up area.*
- *The width of Bank End Road is around 5.5 – 5.6 metres between 'Newholme' and 'The Pines'. Is this really wide enough for two 2.5 metre HGVs to pass at a speeds of up to 40mph?*
- *The already existing operations in the area – Rotherham Sand & Gravel site (very busy HGV site); Blaxton Aggregates at the Quarry junction of Wroot Road and the B1396; The Aggregates R Us operation already sited on Wroot Road; The Cement Mixing operation next to the Blaxton Aggregates Quarry entrance; Ash Holt industrial estate opposite the Quarry; local Farms using the roads to access their fields and move crops; Buckleys Coaches garage on Thorne Road; traffic (particularly HG's traffic) using the A614 via Blaxton roundabout to travel to and from A1 to M18/M180.*
- *New and proposed new housing developments on Station Road adding commuter traffic to the area when fully complete but HGV and worker traffic in the meantime.*

*This proposed development cannot be considered "in isolation". A proper current traffic assessment is necessary before this development can even be considered.*

*The proposal includes these statements:*

- *The traffic count is 10 x 2 way trips per hour for 49 weeks a year 5.5 days per week.*
- *The traffic assessment concludes that the traffic "is considered negligible in this location".*
- *Section 6.1.7 states that its "evident that the trip generation forecasted would not severely impact the surrounding highway network".*

*The Parish Council would like to see the evidence on which these statements are based.*