

BLAXTON PARISH COUNCIL

**MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING HELD ON FRIDAY 23 APRIL 2021 AT
19:00 USING ZOOM REMOTE MEETING SOFTWARE**

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

APOLOGIES: Councillor P Schofield

IN ATTENDANCE: P Reeves Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer and P Dennis,
Retiring Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC – Two

1) APOLOGIES

RESOLVED (1)

That apologies for absence be accepted from Councillor P Schofield.

2) MINUTES OF ANNUAL PARISH MEETING HELD ON 18 APRIL 2019

The minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on 18 April 2019 were agreed at the Parish Council meeting on 16 May 2019 – **Noted.**

3) MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES - None

4) CHAIR'S REPORT FOR 2019/20/21

The Chair read his report which was received and noted and is appended to these minutes.

5) BUDGET AND PRECEPT 2021/22 – Noted

The Clerk confirmed copies are available upon request by members of the public.

6) ISSUES RAISED BY RESIDENTS OF THE PARISH – None

Meeting closed at 19:09

Chair: _____

Date: _____

BLAXTON PARISH COUNCIL

Chair's Report 23 April 2021

Good Evening Everyone,

It has been two years since the last Annual Parish Meeting. The COVID-19 pandemic meant that the meeting was not convened last year, therefore this report shall cover Blaxton Parish Council's activities from the last two years.

I became Chair of Blaxton Parish Council in May 2019 with the aim of bringing a youthful image to the village and by thinking of more innovative ways to involve the parishioners with the work that *we* do for *them*.

Blaxton Parish Council now has a Facebook page, which mirrors content from the website and noticeboards, but is also a way to engage with parishioners in real time. This social media presence was used to gauge what model of roundabout parishioners preferred for Blaxton Playing Field, which was installed in October 2019.

During this time, work was completed to give Blaxton's War Memorial a fresh look, designed by a Blaxton resident, with resin bound gravel and two new trees. There was a great turnout of over 300 people for the 2019 Remembrance Sunday, with a smaller gathering for 2020's socially distanced service.

Blaxton Village Hall is now home to a defibrillator which can be used in emergencies. The purchase of this was funded through the Parish Council and a grant from the Yorkshire Ambulance Service, with the Village Hall Committee paying the minimal electricity costs.

Members of the Parish Council who are on the Blaxton and Finningley Joint Playing Fields Committee have been continuing their efforts to progress projects funded by section 106 money on the Joint Playing Field. The money to finance these projects has now been released by Doncaster Council and work is now commencing to enhance the Joint Playing Field. There are also plans for separate section 106 money to be spent on Blaxton's Playing Field.

The Parish Council has continued its efforts to raise traffic concerns to Doncaster Council and South Yorkshire Police. This includes the speed and volume of regular traffic; speed of HGVs at all times of the day; increased commercial and residential developments that would significantly increase traffic volumes. This will be a matter the Parish Council continues to pursue.

After being approached by a resident in Auckley, the Parish Council has agreed in principle to having CCTV which will focus on roads in the village.

Parish Councillors have continued to attend external committees and groups which impact on the Parish. These include the Doncaster Sheffield Airport Consultative and Noise Monitoring committees, Parish Council Joint Consultative Committee, Yorkshire Wildlife Park Consultative Committee, Community Alcohol Partnership and Yorkshire Association of Local Councils.

Thank you Norma, Richard and John, who have continued to work hard as Parish Councillors over these two years.

Thank you also to Patricia Schofield, who has dedicated most of her life to Blaxton Parish Council and served for many years as a Doncaster Ward Councillor for the area. Patricia is stepping down from the Parish Council this year, however her impact on the village over the decades is incalculable.

A final thank you to the outgoing Clerk to the Parish Council, Philip Dennis, who has been in post since 2012. Philip's hard work, due diligence and patience has been in the background of many of the Council's successes over the years. And here we welcome Pam Reeves as new Clerk to the Council, who I am sure will continue to progress matters on behalf of the Parish Council.

We look forward to 2021/22 and the work which Blaxton Parish Council can do for the village.

Chairman

Rob Dennis