

BLAXTON PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 25 OCTOBER 2023 AT 19:00 IN BLAXTON VILLAGE HALL

PRESENT: Councillors R Johnson, J Scutt, P Raybould, J Hill and J Steventon

APOLOGIES: None

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC: None

IN ATTENDANCE: P Reeves (Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer)

1) APOLOGIES – None

2) TO CONSIDER THE EXTENT, IF ANY, TO WHICH THE PUBLIC WERE 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 20 SEPTEMBER 2023

RESOLVED (1)

That the Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 20 September 2023 be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

5) PUBLIC PARTICIPATION – None

6) WARD MEMBERS REPORT – None

7) CDC AND SOUTH AREA COMMUNITIES TEAM ISSUES – See Item 8 'Policing Issues'

8) POLICING ISSUES

It was reported that there had been an increase in the misuse of the shelter next to the skate park on the Blaxton & Finningley Joint Playing Field. Litter and drug paraphernalia had been regularly left in the area and the Clerk confirmed this has been reported to the Doncaster South Local Policing Team and the CDC South Area Communities Team. The Clerk reported that the local PCSO had confirmed they patrol the area and will continue to do so.

RESOLVED (2)

That the Clerk be requested to raise awareness of the issues with the shelter on the Blaxton & Finningley Joint Playing Field on the BPC website and Facebook page and that thanks be given to the Blaxton Parish Councillors and other volunteers who regularly clear the area of litter.

9) CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEES

a) CDC Parish Councils Joint Consultative Committee (PCJCC) – Meeting 20/07/23 Minutes circulated 24/10/23 – Next meeting 09/11/23 – **Noted**

b) South Yorkshire Branch of the YLCA – Meeting 25/10/23 apologies given – **Noted**

c) Public Rights of Way Forum (PROW) – Meeting 19/10/23 apologies given – **Noted**

d) Yorkshire and Humber Climate Commission (YHCC) – 'Carbon Literacy Training' dates confirmed 22/11/23, 29/11/23 and 4/12/23 – **Noted**

10) FINANCIAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

- a) Payments considered for approval on 25 October 2023

RESOLVED (3)

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>
55 – DD 30/09/23	Unity Trust Bank Statement No.024	Current Account Service Charge to 30/09/23 (Retrospective)	18.00	0.00	18.00
56	Glendale Countryside Limited GC446-PC-04183	Playing Field, Car Park, Play Area Grass cutting 19/09/23	44.69	8.94	53.63
57	P Reeves	Salary October 2023	524.55	0.00	524.55
57	P Reeves	Office, Telephone, Broadband Allowance October 2023	25.00	0.00	25.00
57	P Reeves	CDC Investigation Extra 10hrs	137.00	0.00	137.00
58	P Dennis	Salary October 2023	96.90	0.00	96.90
58	P Dennis	CDC Investigation Extra 10hrs	111.50	0.00	111.50
59	HMRC	HMRC M7	52.00	0.00	52.00
60 – DD 27/10/23	1&1 Ionos Ltd 203038489518	1&1 Website Hosting costs 08/10/23 – 08/11/23	23.00	4.60	27.60
61	Mr Flag 1415 Ltd 26082	6' x 4' Sewn Union Flag with eyelets (inc. £6.00 P&P)	102.90	21.78	130.68
62	CDC 29322652	Litter Bin Emptying Q2 26/06/23 – 01/10/2023	70.30	14.06	84.36
					1,261.22

Note: **DD** - Payment due to be collected by Direct Debit on date shown

- b) Bank Reconciliation at 30 September 2023 – **Noted**

- c) Net Position to 19 October 2023 – **Noted**

- d) Draft Budget 2024/25

Council was requested to consider suggestions for projects for possible inclusion in the 2024/25 budget.

RESOLVED (4)

That suggestions for projects for possible inclusion in the 2024/25 budget be advised by Members to the Joint Clerks to be discussed/approved at the next meeting in order for the Joint Clerks to finalise the proposed budget and circulate via email prior to the meeting in January 2024.

- e) YLCA Training Programme – circulated 22/09/23, 29/09/23, 6/10/23, 16/10/23 and 24/10/23 – **Noted**

- f) Surplus Second Class Stamps

The Clerk reported that the Council has 117 second class stamps which are unlikely to be used and that these are available to be purchased at current prices.

RESOLVED (5)

That the Clerk be requested to provide the bank details to anyone wishing to purchase the stamps.

g) Coronation Tree

It was reported that a meeting with the CDC Tree Officer had been held on 21 September 2023 and that a location behind the benches had been agreed as a suitable position. An Amelanchier lamarckii 'Robin Hill' tree was suggested due to the narrow upright form and flowering in late April/early May. The planting could take place around mid-November and updates could be given so that the planting date could be shared. A quotation for the Coronation tree and plaque was circulated on 25 October 2023.

RESOLVED (6)

That the quotation of £400 for the planting, establishment and watering for 3 years of the Amelanchier lamarckii 'Robin Hill' tree be accepted and an update of the planting date be shared with the Parish.

RESOLVED (7)

That the quotation of £125 for a brass effect plaque with hardwood post, including installation, be accepted.

h) Remembrance Sunday Arrangements

It was reported that arrangements were well underway for the Remembrance Service on Sunday 12 November 2023. It had been reported that the area around the War Memorial was looking particularly untidy and would benefit from a clean up before Remembrance Sunday.

RESOLVED (8)

That the Clerk be requested to contact Need A Hand to request a quotation and availability for maintenance around the War Memorial before Remembrance Sunday.

i) Blaxton Roundabout

It was reported that CDC Highways had confirmed that the road markings associated with the roundabout were to be fully recovered in the next few weeks, weather permitting. It was also advised that no additional signage is required as all existing advanced direction signs were considered to be in good condition with ample forward visibility to the roundabout.

RESOLVED (9)

That the Clerk be requested to report when the road markings had been fully recovered.

11) PLANNING APPLICATIONS – None

12) BLAXTON PLAYING FIELD

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

Following discussions between Cllr Hill and the CDC Stronger Communities Officer, a survey on proposals for public open greenspace improvements at Blaxton Playing Field was now available for completion by Blaxton residents. It was suggested that a leaflet with the survey details and QR code for completion online be distributed to every household in Blaxton so that views can be obtained, in addition to publishing the details on the BPC website and

Facebook page. It was also proposed that paper copies be made available at Finningley Post Office for those without internet access. A closing date of 27 November 2023 was suggested to give ample time for feedback to be submitted and responses be collated before the next meeting.

RESOLVED (10)

That the Clerk be requested to contact The Arrow to check if distribution of a leaflet is possible for the November issue and publish the survey details on the BPC website and Facebook page.

13) JOINT PLAYING FIELD

a) Playing Field Association (PFA)

Following the analysis and report presented to Council by the Clerk which concluded that the dissolution of the Playing Fields Association (PFA) on 6th September 2023 was not in compliance with the Constitution and therefore invalid, advice was sought from YLCA. They came to the same conclusion; that it is the 2003 Constitution in accordance with the 2010 amendment that should be adhered to. Section 19 clearly states that "this Constitution may be altered from time to time by agreement between the Committee and the Parish Councils of Blaxton and Finningley. Such alterations to be signed by the Chairman or Vice Chairman of each of the three bodies". This procedure was not followed.

It was also noted that, following Resolution 18 in the meeting on 25 September, the Chair of Blaxton Parish Council attempted to make contact with the Chair of Finningley Parish Council but received no response.

Council discussed the matter and agreed that the resolutions below be referred to the Clerk of Finningley Parish Council immediately as this matter requires urgent resolution.

RESOLVED (11)

That the Clerk be requested to refer the following to the Clerk of Finningley Parish Council for review by Finningley Parish Council at their next meeting;

- That the position in relation to the Joint Playing Field be re-set to the date of the AGM on 14th June 2023, and the PFA Committee be reinstated under the 2003 Constitution.
- Following the agreement to reinstate the PFA Committee under the 2003 Constitution, the PFA (as elected at the AGM) meet to agree an amended/revised Constitution to be presented to the two Parish Councils for consideration and agreement.
- That, until an amended/revised Constitution is agreed, the PFA, under the 2003 Constitution, remain responsible for the management of the whole facility.
- That Blaxton Parish Council is provided with a full up-to-date report on the finances of the PFA including Income, Expenditure and Bank Balances from April 1st 2023 to date, for it's meeting on 6 December 2023.
- Blaxton Parish Council has been approached by Doncaster Cricket Club expressing an interest in re-negotiating their agreement to remain and play cricket at the Joint Playing Field in the 2024 season. Do Finningley Parish Council agree to the re-opening of negotiations with the PFA?

It was also reported that the Skate Park and ramp from Lower Pasture were overgrown and required attention, in addition to the Shelter.

RESOLVED (12)

That the current state of the Shelter, Skate Park and ramp from Lower Pasture be monitored and any reports of misuse be shared.

- b) Finningley and Blaxton Joint Playing Field Improvement Projects Funded by Section 106 Grant (12/01327/EXTM)

It was noted that the spray-off for the Joint Playing Field had been re-scheduled due to the weather – **Noted**

14) BLAXTON VILLAGE HALL

Village Hall Committee – Meeting 11/10/23

Cllr Steventon reported that new blinds and curtains and a trolley for the chairs had been discussed. Due to recent damage to the Village Hall during a private event, consideration was being given to deposits being requested for event bookings.

It was also reported that consideration had been given to the request of hosting a Clothing Bank for the Yorkshire Air Ambulance, but space and poor visibility from the road were issues.

RESOLVED (13)

That the Clerk be requested to respond to Yorkshire Air Ambulance to suggest contacting businesses in the area who may be in a position to support a Clothing Bank.

15) DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of Blaxton Parish Council will be held on Wednesday 6 December 2023
in Blaxton Village Hall at 19:00

Meeting closed at 21:20

Chair: _____

Date: _____