

## **BLAXTON PARISH COUNCIL**

### **MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 22 JANUARY 2025 AT 19:00 IN BLAXTON VILLAGE HALL**

**PRESENT:** Councillors R Johnson, J Hill, I Collett, P Raybould and J Steventon

**APOLOGIES:** None

**MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC:** None

**IN ATTENDANCE:** E Lear (Clerk)

#### **1. APOLOGIES**

- a) To receive and note apologies from councillors who are unable to attend the meeting - None
- b) To consider reasons for absence provided by councillors who cannot attend and resolve the council's acceptance of these if felt relevant. - Not required.

#### **2. TO CONSIDER THE EXTENT, IF ANY, TO WHICH THE PUBLIC WERE TO BE EXCLUDED FROM THE MEETING-** Not required

#### **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 NOVEMBER 2024**

RESOLVED (1)

That the Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 20 November 2024 be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

#### **5. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION-** None

#### **6. CONSIDERATION OF INTERNAL AUDITOR FOR 2024/25 - Deferred**

#### **7. WARD MEMBERS REPORT –** None received.

#### **8. CDC AND SOUTH AREA COMMUNITIES TEAM ISSUES-**

Apologies were received from Richard Lewis, Neighbourhood Coordinator for the South Area Communities Team at CDC.

#### **9. POLICING ISSUES**

Damage caused to the playing field by the motorbike and electric scooter are being reported to the police and South Area Communities Team who also report issues through to the police on a weekly basis.

#### **10. CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEES**

South Yorkshire Branch of the YLCA –

SYMCA Bus Franchising Consultation meeting: **11/12/24**

Correspondence had been received from the local MP encouraging the Parish Council to support franchising. It was hoped that further consultation would take place regarding details of services if it proceeded to that stage.

## 11. FINANCIAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

a) Payments for approval on 19 December 2024- **Circulated 19/12/24**

<u>Voucher No</u>	<u>Payee/Invoice</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Net</u>	<u>VAT</u>	<u>Total</u>
95	P Dennis	Salary December 2024	108.40	0.00	108.40
96	E Lear	Salary December 2024	570.16	0.00	570.16
96	E Lear	Office, Telephone, Broadband Allowance November 2024	20.00	0.00	20.00
97 - DD 31/12/24	Nest GBP04548149202401000	Clerk's pension 01/12/24 – 31/12/24	14.05	0.00	14.05
98	HMRC	HMRC M9	169.60	0.00	169.60
99- DD 31/12/24	Ionos 203045460790	1&1 Website Hosting costs 08/12/24- 08/01/25	23.00	4.60	27.60
100	Glendale Countryside GC446-0813	Playing Field Car Park, Play Area Grass Cutting 11 November 2024	49.16	9.83	58.99
101 – DD 31/12/24	Unity Bank 042	Account fee 01/11/24- 30/11/24	6.00	0.00	6.00
102	Parish Online 00CE009-0011	Website Service	350.00	70.00	420.00
103	Parish Online 00CE009-0010	Mapping software for year	108.00	21.60	129.60
104	Amazon Business GB41S4MRABEY	Ink cartridges x 3 and highlighter pens	97.83	19.57	117.40
105	Royal British Legion	Donation for wreath	200.00	0.00	200.00
106	Open Space Society Ref: 71257	Subscription Renewal	45.00	0.00	45.00
					<b>£1886.80</b>

Payments Considered for Approval on 22 January 2025:-

RESOLVED (2)

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>
107	P Dennis	Salary January 2025	108.20	0.00	108.20
108	E Lear	Salary January 2025	570.16	0.00	570.16

<u>Voucher No</u>	<u>Payee/Invoice</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Net</u>	<u>VAT</u>	<u>Total</u>
108	E Lear	Office, Telephone, Broadband Allowance January 2025	20.00	0.00	20.00
109 - DD 31/01/25	Nest GBP0454814920538667	Clerk's pension 01/01/25 – 31/01/25	14.05	0.00	14.05
110	HMRC	HMRC M10	169.80	0.00	169.80
111 – DD 31/01/25	Ionos 203045967708	1&1 Website Hosting costs 08/01/25- 08/02/25	23.00	4.60	27.60
112 – DD 31/01/25	Unity Bank 043	Account fee 01/12/24- 31/12/24	6.00	0.00	6.00
113	Doncaster Council 30499308	Bin Emptying Q2	37.50	7.50	45.00
114	Doncaster Council 30502255	Bin Emptying Q3	90.00	18.00	108.00
115	Scribe INV-8061	Scribe Accounts Renewal 2025	345.60	69.12	414.72
					<b>£1483.53</b>

Note: DD above indicates payment taken or to be taken by Direct Debit on the date shown

- b) Bank Reconciliations at 30 November 2024 and 31 December 2024– **Noted**
- c) Net Position 5 December 2024 and 10 January 2025 – **Noted**
- d) YLCA Training Programme (within Weekly News & Notifications) - Circulated 25/11/24, 02/12/24, 06/12/24, 16/12/24, 20/12/24, 10/01/24 and 16/01/24- **Noted**
- e) Climate Change & Sustainability-
  - 1. Update on Cycle Repair Station  
After a misunderstanding about the location of the proposed cycle repair station base, a new location has been marked on the ground closer to the pub. CDC are now producing the plan and performing the statutory undertaker checks for the location, as required by the licence before the location can be confirmed.  
Consultation regarding the project has been undertaken using Facebook. The Blue Bell has been consulted. Reasons why the location has been chosen have been explained.
- f) Purchasing of tools/equipment for use on land  
No response has been received from the Ward Councillors regarding the request for assistance in gaining access to the tools which were previously used on the Joint Playing Field

RESOLVED (3)

That the decision regarding any purchase be DEFERRED until a response is received from the Ward Councillors.

RESOLVED (4)

That the Clerk contact the Ward Councillor again requesting a response.

g) 'Sharing' Station

A proposal to install a wooden structure that could contain books/DVDs/puzzles etc that members of the public could use to leave and exchange items, free of charge.

The proposed location is on the grass verge next to the layby with the unused bus stop on Station Road (on the left hand side as you leave Blaxton roundabout). It is visible but set back from the main road, with the layby creating a safe place to stop.

RESOLVED (5)

That the Council supports its creation.

RESOLVED (6)

That the Clerk will ascertain if CDC are the landowner and what permissions would be required for installation (including costs).

h) Christmas Light Walk

A proposal to create a Christmas Light Walk in the woodland area off Bank End Road which is owned by Hill House School. The project would be ambitious as would require a power supply to the area.

Prior to consideration, other improvements to the Christmas lights should be considered as it was noted that the lights provided by the family houses on Blaxton roundabout provided a focal point to the villages lighting display.

RESOLVED (7)

That the Clerk approach the family houses about providing additions to their past festive light display.

RESOLVED (8)

That the Clerk approach the Blue Bell to ask them to consider the installation of festive lighting on their land/building.

RESOLVED (9)

That the member of the public who has made comments about past festive light displays is invited to the War Memorial to meet with members and review the current provision.

RESOLVED (10)

That the current festive lights are taken down at the Blaxton War Memorial and reviewed. to enable future consideration of a proposal to upgrade the lighting.

i) Cycle Path Proposal

The Mosham Road audit report produced by CDC Active Transport had been received.

Though the team were supportive of improvements to the area, space and financial constraints meant that major projects would not be recommended at this time.

The report outlined a smaller project which could be feasible- improving the access to the public transport system via improvements to the access to the brick bus stop on Mosham Road, including dropped kerbs and a small length of path to access the bus stop (shelter) which sits directly opposite the Mosham Close junction.

#### RESOLVED (11)

That the Council provide support to the bus stop access project but in addition requests further improvements including:

Dropped kerbs to the left hand side of the bus stop, joining a small length of path to access the shelter, with a path that carries on along the length of verge to allow access to Walker's Garden Centre. This access would be safer for all users and provide better access for disabled users.

#### RESOLVED (12)

That a zebra crossing is requested at some point between the bus stop and the entrance to Walker's Garden Centre which would join the new path, allowing for safer access for all pedestrians entering Walker's Garden Centre.

Further discussion took place regarding the traffic lights at the Mosham Road/ Gatehouse Lane junction where people's preferred crossing points could be seen crossing this junction.

#### RESOLVED (13)

That a pedestrian crossing is requested as part of the upcoming changes to the traffic lights road layout.

#### RESOLVED (14)

That the Clerk write to Auckley Parish Council requesting that they also contact CDC to request a pedestrian crossing at this junction.

It was noted by members that the report highlighted a hurdle to the improvements in the area- lack of street lighting. Any future works would require improvements to the street lighting.

#### RESOLVED (15)

That the Clerk contact CDC Street Lighting requesting that they review the provision of street lighting along Mosham Road.

- j) Derelict Land- Chapel on Mosham Road and Storage Site of Station Road  
CDC have contacted the owner of the Chapel and requested that the boarded up windows are painted black with white to create a mock window design- it

was noted that this had been completed. CDC have also requested information regarding future plans for the building.

CDC are trying to establish a forwarding address for the owners of the storage site in order to contact- **Noted**

k) Summerfields Green Space

CDC would not look to acquire the land from the current landowner. They provided Land Registry documents for the registered owner. Discussion took place about this ownership. Further advice had been sought from CDC regarding legal implications if trying to request Village Green status for this land.

RESOLVED (16)

That the Council wait for a further response from CDC with advice.

RESOLVED (17)

That the Clerk research the process for applying for Village Green status.

l) Station Road Railway Crossing Closure (October 2024)

Disruption had been caused along Station Road when cable thefts along the railway line resulted in the barrier closure for a long period of time which resulted in long traffic queues and vehicles turning around. Vehicle crashes took place. No signage or traffic management was put into place during the prolonged closure.

RESOLVED (18)

That the Clerk contact Network Rail requesting information about their emergency procedures during unplanned closures and if lessons could be learnt.

m) Parish Council Website

Blaxtonparishcouncil.gov.uk is now an active website with the Clerks working to ensure that all required information is on the website prior to this website taking over from the current website.

The Clerk requested photos of members for the website.

RESOLVED (19)

That members are to look at the new website and provide feedback.

n) Former Clerk's P.C.

The Village Hall Committee had not expressed an interest in the computer. Discussion took place regarding its age.

RESOLVED (20)

That the Clerk is to dispose of the computer from the asset register by offering to a relevant charity first.

- o) Bank Account Signatories- Circulated 16/01/25

Now include Councillors Hill and Collett- **Noted**

- p) Budget 25/26

The budget for 2025/26 was reviewed and discussed by the Council.

RESOLVED (21)

That the budget for 2025/26 be approved, making the projected budget expenditure £29,477 for the year.

- q) Precept 25/26

RESOLVED (22)

That the Precept for 2025/26 be set at £25,080 which represents a zero % increase for a band D property for 3 years in a row.

## 12. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

- a) Consideration of any Planning Applications received between the issue of the Agenda and the Meeting-  
25/00059/FUL- Erection of a single storey side extension following the demolition of existing utility room- Manor Farm Cottage Mosham Road, Blaxton

RESOLVED (23)

That the Parish Council have no objections and wish to register a neutral response.

## 13. BLAXTON PLAYING FIELD

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

The application for the funding has been submitted via an Officer Delegated Report (ODR).

- b) Improvements to Blaxton Playing Field- Process

The process will involve obtaining at least three quote via site visits and a requirement when the contract is awarded, to publish on the Contract Finder Website as the contract value will be over £30,000 including VAT.

- c) Improvements to Blaxton Playing Field

National Lottery Funding could be obtained for improvements to Blaxton Playing Field, as eligibility has been confirmed.

Applications must be received 16 weeks prior to the requirement for funds and must highlight people and community in the application.

RESOLVED (24)

That an application is made to the National Lottery for funding.

- d) Grass Cutting Quotation

RESOLVED (25)

That the grass cutting quotation from Glendale Countryside Limited at £54.08 per cut (12 occasions per year) be accepted.

e) Bin Emptying Quotation

RESOLVED (26)

That the bin emptying quotation from CDC for the emptying of the bin on the playing field plus the emptying of the bin on Mosham Road for £7.755 per visit (weekly emptying throughout the year) be accepted.

f) Annual Play Inspection

RESOLVED (27)

That the repeat order for the annual inspection for £118 be accepted.

g) Community Orchard Trees

A Grant of £600 plus 10 orchard trees has been awarded by the Environmental Pride Programme. The grant will be used to organise a community planting event using Kids Plant Trees. The project including monitoring should be completed by the 24<sup>th</sup> of February 2025.

RESOLVED (28)

That the Grant be accepted.

RESOLVED (29)

That the planting event be organised for Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> or Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> of February with Kids Plant Trees, enquiring if the Environmental Pride Team are acceptable for the monitoring to be received slightly late.

The Environmental Pride Team had also offered a grant for the Tiny Forest Project.

RESOLVED (30)

That the Project would be declined due to too much to undertake in a short time period.

**14. JOINT PLAYING FIELD**

a) Future Management of the Blaxton and Finningley Joint Playing Field

A response to the last email was received from Finningley Parish Council on the 18<sup>th</sup> of December 2024. The letter was titled 'Finningley Pavilion Account'. A draft response was circulated which disagreed with the title of the response as well as the requirement for any remedial works to be paid from the account which was the Joint Playing Field Account.



RESOLVED (31)

Clerk to send agreed response to FPC.

**Standing Order 3(w) – at 21:30 – RESOLVED (32) That the meeting be extended by up to ten minutes to enable the remaining business to be concluded.**

b) Annual Play Inspection

RESOLVED (33)

That the repeat order for the annual inspection for £94.95 be accepted.

c) Signage for Skate Park

The sign has now been installed on the fencing of the skate park.

d) Request for Footpath Adoption

CDC have responded that they will not adopt the footpath that enters from Lower Pasture.

RESOLVED (34)

That a letter is sent to the member of the public who had requested the action, to inform him of the response.

15. **BLAXTON VILLAGE HALL**

Village Hall Committee – Meetings: 02/01/2025 and 14/01/2025

- a) Parish Council Trustee- Councillor Steventon outlined the position with the Charity Commission. Following the meeting the VHC is now fully compliant with 5 trustees including a BPC representative.

RESOLVED (35)

That Cllr Steventon is confirmed in her appointment as a VHC trustee.

One of the trustees had questioned Councillor Steventon about the Precept, Christmas lights in the village and Remembrance Day. She had responded about the Precept and he would be invited to meet with members to discuss Christmas lights. Discussion regarding Remembrance Day was DEFERRED until the next meeting.

b) Carbon Reduction Grant

A request has been made by the VHC to receive the Carbon Reduction Grant.

They are currently obtaining quotes for a new roof and the grant will be used towards this.

It was stated by Councillor Hill that the energy efficiency of the roof would only be improved by installing solar panels rather just changing the roof.

This is to be taken to the next meeting of the VHC which will take place on the 10<sup>th</sup> of April.

The decision to award the Grant was **Deferred** until the next meeting.

## 15. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next Parish Council meeting is scheduled to be held on Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> February in Blaxton Village Hall at 19:00.

Meeting closed at 21.40

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

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