



BLEASBY PARISH COUNCIL

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Minutes of Bleasby Parish Council Meeting

Monday 9 January 2023 at 7.30 pm, in Bleasby Village Hall

Present: Cllrs Coombs (In the Chair), Roscoe, Winn, Wallin, Andersen and Dunseath.

In attendance: Lynda Ogilvie, Locum Clerk, and 3 members of the public

Chair's Welcome

Cllr Coombes welcomed everyone. He spoke about the very sad death of Elaine France, who was a member of the Parish Council for many years. Elaine had also been involved in many activities in the community, especially the flood defence group which worked tirelessly to help improve drainage in the village and reduce the flood risk. She would be very much missed by her many friends in the village and elsewhere.

1. Apologies

Cllr McCormick sent apologies for the meeting, which were accepted.

It was reported that Cllr Blaney was unwell and unlikely to attend, and Cllr Saddington would attend as soon as she could.

2. Declarations of Interest

There were no Declarations of Interest

3. Minutes of the Meeting held on 12 December 2022 – to approve and sign as a correct record

The Minutes of the Meeting held on 12 December 2022 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

4. Public Participation

It was reported that there is a new Ambassador for the Station Adoption scheme – Nancy Roberts Gordon. It is also anticipated that new customer services notice boards will be installed, possibly in 2-3 years.

It was suggested that a litter bin could be sited near the bench at High Cross.

5. District/County Council Reports

As neither Councillor was present, this item was deferred to later in the meeting.

8.45 – following Cllr Saddington's arrival

Cllr Saddington wished everyone a Happy New Year. She spoke about the recently announced additional £5.2 million funding awarded to Newark Hospital which will be put towards developing diagnostic screening, and a new theatre amongst other items. Cllr Saddington was asked if she could assist in resolving issues which had arisen in relation to the avenue of trees which will be planted – Clerk to forward the details to Cllr Saddington and she will take the matter up with the appropriate people.

6. Finance

a. To approve payments as listed on payment schedule

The payment schedule as circulated was approved. In addition Councillors approved the payment of £120 to the village hall for meetings from July, and payment to Cllr Coombes for refreshments for the Christmas lights switch on – £27.49.

b. To consider request from St Mary's Church for donation to maintain car park etc

Cllr Coombs proposed, seconded by Cllr Roscoe, that a donation of up to £1000 would be given to St Mary's Church to be put towards the maintenance of the car park and churchyard. Copies of invoices for work carried out will be requested, and payment made against said invoices.

c. Request from BSFA and Bleasby School for new sign

Members agreed to support this request, and Cllrs Coombs and Dunseath will meet with BSFA representatives to agree the sign type and wording.

d. To consider the purchase of waterproof notice boards

Members agreed to purchase 10 A4 size snap frames, and 1 A3 frame. These will be placed at agreed sites in the parish with the intention of reducing the use of single use plastic lamination for occasional signs.

e. To agree budget for the year 2023-24

The outline budget, previously circulated, would be amended to include the Lengthsman income of £1,000 which was now expected. It was noted that the budget includes capital projects of £5,000 for improvement to the Highcross drainage grips, £8,000 for the Gypsy Lane kerbs project and £2,500 for a possible village entry sign scheme. Total budget expenditure for the year is £38,530, meaning that brought forward reserves would be used to pay for approved expenses as may be necessary.

f. To approve Precept request for the year 2023-24

Members unanimously approved a precept for the financial year 2023-34 of £18,683, which represents a 2% increase on the current precept.

g. Any other matters appertaining to finance

There were no further matters appertaining to finance.

7. Planning

a) 22/02335/FULM East Hall, Main Street, Bleasby

Change of use of land for equestrian use, siting a mobile field shelter, construction of a ménage, erection of stable building and associated development

Members did not support this application for the following reasons:

- The area is subject to flooding and the ménage could affect drainage
- The site is within the conservation area of the village, and the proposals would affect the visual amenity of this part of the entrance to the village
- The impact on wildlife in this area
- Concern that floodlight might be used, which would further affect the visual amenity of the area.

8.45 Cllr Saddington arrived, and Council reverted to Agenda Item 5 at this point.

8. Lengthsman Scheme – Update

Cllrs Dunseath and Andersen will attend training session.

9. Correspondence

Email from a resident concerning the barrier failures over the Christmas period. A reply sent explaining that this is being addressed by the Parish Council and also our district and county councillors.

10. Village website – update on replacement administrator(s)

A request for assistance will be put in the next edition of Bleasby News, and Cllr Coombs will speak to someone who may be willing to take it on. Ultimately it may be necessary to engage someone on a commercial basis to become the website administrator.

11. Update on Station Adoption Scheme

Update provided under Agenda Item 4.

12. Land and Assets

a. Jubilee Ponds

The Carp Syndicate does not wish to enter into a formal agreement with the Parish Council to do work at the Jubilee Ponds but will continue to undertake various tasks as hitherto. Ulyetts will be asked to quote for work which cannot be undertaken by volunteers.

b. Glebe Field

There was a good turnout of residents for the Christmas lights switch on. The lights have now been taken down and stored, and the Christmas tree has been recycled.

c. Ferry End

To consider purchase of two replacement benches – update

Council approved the purchase of two composite seats at a cost of £570 plus fixings if available.

13. To consider project/events to mark the Coronation

a. Events

Cllr Saddington has advised that she expects to be able to make a contribution to help with the costs of events to mark the Coronation – Clerk to forward a request for £500 towards events.

Meetings of interested parties will be organised to consider options. Suggestions so far include a pageant through the village, maypole dancing, Morris dancing, and a hog roast on the Glebe Field

b. Flowering cherry trees at Glebe Field

The above proposal was not approved, as there was concern that they would not sit well with the existing trees, some of which need time and space to develop.

14. To consider future planting of troughs – update

The resident who currently plants up the troughs has indicated that she is willing to continue, and does not need additional help at this time. She would welcome a contribution to the purchase of plants, etc., for the troughs, and Clerk will contact her to establish what is required.

15. Update on matters from previous meetings:

- Grips on High Cross
Meeting with VIA yet to be organised. Cllr Coombs will meet with an engineer on site to discuss possible durable improvements to these drainage facilities.
- Interactive speed sign
Request that consideration be given to installing an interactive speed sign near the entrance to the village from Gibsmere
- Notice Board at Goverton
Members to visit the site to consider best location
- Gypsy Lane project
Nothing to report at this time
- Tree to commemorate life of HM Queen Elizabeth II
Cllr Dunseath has found a supplier and will order a tree.

16. Green Spaces Working Group Update

a. Grasshoppers update

The group has cleared an area near the entrance to the Jubilee Ponds ready for planting the wild service tree to commemorate the life of HM Queen Elizabeth II.

They also assisted with decorations on the Glebe Field, and met for a Christmas social evening, during which plans for the next working party were discussed.

17. Glebe Field Play Area Working Group Update

Because of the significant difficulties, previously reported, in proceeding with this project, it was decided to remove it from the Agenda for the foreseeable future.

The following item may be considered confidential, and if so press and public will be excluded

18. Recruitment of new clerk

An approach has been made by a potential candidate, and councillors agreed to meet and interview this person, without further advertising the vacancy because of lack of interest on the previous occasion. Cllrs Coombs, Andersen and Dunseath will be on the interview panel, with Locum Clerk in attendance.

19. Agenda items for next meeting

To be sent to the Clerk at least 7 days prior to the meeting

20. Date of next meeting – 13 February 2023

There being no further business, the Chair thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting at 9.50 pm.

DRAFT