

# BLEASBY PARISH COUNCIL

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## Minutes of Bleasby Parish Council

Monday 11 December 2023 at 7.30 pm, in Bleasby Village Hall

**Present:** Cllrs Coombs (In the Chair), Roscoe, Andersen, Wallin, Winn and Morgan

**In attendance:** Lynda Ogilvie, Locum Clerk, Cllr K Melton (NSDC) Cllr S Saddington (NCC) (from 7.40 pm) and 14 Members of the Public

Prior to the meeting being opened, Cllr Coombs was thanked for his work in putting up the Christmas tree and lights in the Glebe Field, which everyone agreed looked very festive.

### Chair's Welcome

The Chair welcomed everyone and opened the meeting at 7.30pm

### 1. Apologies

There were no apologies for absence.

### 2. Declarations of Interest

No Declarations of Interest were made.

### 3. Minutes of the meeting held on 13 November 2023

These were accepted as a Correct Record and signed by the Chair.

### 4. Public Participation

It was reported that a new cabin is to be installed on the Nottingham side of the railway station and is anticipated in the Spring.

A question about potholes was raised. Cllr Melton commented that – although this is a County Council matter – he is aware that the process is that if the potholes are painted round in white paint they will be dealt with as a matter of urgency, but those painted yellow may take some weeks to repair.

### 5. District/County Council Reports

Cllr Melton explained the current priorities of the District Council. These include climate change and biodiversity loss, and two Cabinet posts have been established on these issues. He also commented on recent flooding in the area, and he had been able to view the problems first hand, which helped his understanding of the problems being faced.

Cllr Melton was asked about the weir project – he has no further news at this time but will investigate and report at a future meeting.

He was also asked about Southwell swimming pool, and the plans which the District Council has for its repair and reopening. Cllr Melton said that initial investigations have shown that repairs will be complicated and time consuming, and currently there is no agreement as to what needs to be done. However, he said that the District Council will do everything it can to ensure that it is repaired and reopened as soon as possible.

Cllr Saddington commented on recent floods and noted that Bleasby has a good flood action group.

She is no longer on the Health Scrutiny Committee but is now on the Pensions Committee.

She agreed that potholes seem to be getting worse. Action to repair them is being taken as quickly as possible.

## **6. Finance**

### a) To approve payments listed on the payment schedule

The payments on the payment schedule were approved. In addition, payments to Bleasby Village Hall for the use of the hall, and to Cllr Coombs for the purchase of refreshments for the Christmas lights switch on were approved.

### b) To receive and approve bank reconciliation

The bank reconciliation, having been circulated, was approved and signed by Chair.

### c) Progress on Unity Bank Application for additional signatories

Cllr Morgan has now completed this process. Both Cllrs Coombs and Winn remain outstanding and will be followed up as soon as practicable.

### d) Update on budget review for 24/25

Councillors agreed an increase of 4% in the Council's budget for the year 2024/25.

### e) Any other matters appertaining to finance

There were no other matters for consideration.

## **7. Planning**

### a) 23/01960/FUL Erection of 2 no dwellings, with detached double garages, new private access road to private drive. Wild Briars, Goverton

Chair referred to letters which have been received from residents expressing concern about this development.

Members unanimously opposed this application on the following grounds:

- Displacement of water. Water running down the hill from the area of the proposed properties will impact on properties further down the hill and make flooding of these properties more likely.
- The village sewerage system quickly becomes overloaded with water flooding down into the village, and results in the system shutting down and sewerage backing up in houses and gardens.

b) 23/02058/FUL Erection of two dwellings with detached garages. Goverton Heights

Members unanimously opposed this application for the same reasons as given for the previous application.

c) 23/01946/OUTM Outline application for up to 9 detached, self build dwellings with all matters reserved except access, 12 Manor Close and Land North of Manor Close, Bleasby NG14 7GE

Chair invited members of the public present to address the council with concerns about this development. Matters raised included the following:

- Bleasby is not designated a village for development in the Local Plan
- There are already significant traffic problems in the road associated with the local school and additional houses will exacerbate this problem. There have been times when school parking has blocked the road to other users, including emergency vehicles.
- The proposed access to the site will cause problems for neighbouring properties
- The properties will not be 'affordable'
- It will impact the character of the Close

Members of the Council unanimously opposed this application on grounds outlined above. It was also noted that a similar application has been turned down in the past, and it is considered that the reasons for this rejection have now become even more noticeable. It was especially noted that there has been an increase in water standing across the fields at the back of Manor Close which would be displaced into neighbouring properties should this area be built upon.

d) Any other matters appertaining to planning including decisions:

i. 23/02102?TPO Birchlea Gypsy Lane Bleasby NG14 7GG. Undertake works to trees protected by TPO N135 identified as T1 – Silver birch – crown reduction by 30% - maintain shape and longevity

No objection to this application.

ii. 23/01695/FUL Little Rudsey Farm change of use of storage/office to Annexe. Full Planning permission granted.

Noted.

e) Any other items notified to Bleasby Parish Council prior to this meeting and requiring submission of comments before the following scheduled Parish Council Meeting.

There were no such items.

## **8. Correspondence**

### a) Southwell Rotary offer of Defib Training for village

This is postponed to January/February. Details will be circulated when available.

### b) Provision of Canva SW for Bleasby News team. Cost £99 per annum.

Council unanimously approved this cost.

c) Letter from Snowball, an organisation which aims to map access for disabled people throughout the country.

Members agreed that a notice about this organisation could be placed on the website for response from individuals as they wish.

d) Email from resident who has been advised that their property cannot benefit from proposed high speed internet being connected to eligible properties in the village, and asks that the PC support her application by writing to our MP with concerns.

Agreed that a suitable notice will be put on the website to ascertain how many other properties are affected in this way, and then formulate a letter to the MP and others as appropriate.

## **9. Update on matters from previous meetings**

### a) Grip improvements and horse signs on High Cross

Grips, having been cleared, are working well. Via to be invited to see them operating so they understand how the system works.

### b) Interactive speed sign

Currently this has been removed and will be re-sited on rotation but no information as yet on where this might be. Cllr Roscoe will follow up.

### c) Notice Board at Goverton

Cllr Coombs is currently renovating the notice board.

### d) Speedwatch at Bleasby, speed survey at Bleasby

This remains in hand, and it is anticipated that it will be operational in February/March.

### e) Email use by Councillors

Members felt that this is generally working well, although some members have had problems with sending emails via the new system. Cllr Morgan will assist those Councillors who are having difficulties.

### f) Village Survey on village entrance signs

This is being actioned, and suitable suppliers will be asked for quotes.

g) Lengthsman in Bleasby

Chair has met with Green Oak representative and will circulate his quote to Councillors.

h) Village Electricity generation on the weir – a village project

Still ongoing.

i) Xmas tree and light switch on

This had taken place on 9 December and was well attended.

## **10. Bleasby Proposed Cycle Route**

Now on hold until January.

## **11. Flood Action Report**

To be circulated.

## **12. Land and Assets**

a) Jubilee Ponds

Chair reported that a tree had fallen, and he had chopped it up, but it requires further disposal.

b) Glebe Field

Xmas lights have now been installed in the field for the festive season.

c) Ferry End

The Grasshoppers group have undertaken some tidying up in the area. There was discussion about planting some trees or shrubs to replace the willows which have been removed. Will be considered at a future meeting.

## **13. Village Projects Update**

a) Gypsy Lane progress

The railings will be repainted in the Spring.

## **14. Green Spaces Working Group Update**

Activities during the month included:

- Ferry End tidy up, as noted above.
- Tree removal at Jubilee Ponds
- Assistance with lights and Xmas tree installation at Glebe Field
- Christmas Wreath making social at St Mary's Church
- Currently working on recommendations for 2024 budget and plan for management/maintenance of Parish Green Spaces.
- The next working party will be Saturday 16 December.

**15. Agenda items for next meeting**

- Casual Vacancy on the Council
- Flooding – to discuss responsibilities of landowners, and consideration of additional and appropriate equipment for the flood store.

**16. Date of next meeting – 8 January 2024**

**There being no further business, Chair thanked everyone for their attendance and closed the meeting at 21.30 hours.**

***I declare that the above is a true account of the meeting held on 11<sup>th</sup> December 2023 (approved at PC Meeting held on 8<sup>th</sup> January 2024)***

***Signed***

***Date***

***Chair  
Bleasby Parish Council***

***Distribution: Parish Councillors, Cllr S Saddington, Cllr K Melton, Noticeboards,  
Website***