



BLEASBY PARISH COUNCIL

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Minutes of Bleasby Parish Council

Monday 17 April 2023 at 7.30 pm, in Bleasby Village Hall

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

Cllr Blaney arrived at 20.00.

In Attendance: Denise Bryant, Clerk, Oliver Scott, NSDC Conservation and 2 members of the public

Chair's Welcome

Chair welcomed everyone and opened the meeting at 7.30.

1 Apologies

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllrs Dunseath and McCormick. Cllr Saddington sent apologies via Cllr Blaney.

2. Declarations of Interest

Cllr Coombs declared an interest in planning item 23/00115/FULM

3 Minutes of the meeting held on 13 March 2023

These were accepted as a Correct Record and signed.

4. Public Participation

Station Adoption Group update given by Jenny Sterland. Planters continue to be tended. Jenny met the Community Rail Ambassador who updated Jenny on renovations planned at the station this year. There are also discussions ongoing about a station Car Park.

The patch of land on the Newark side of the station is overgrown and needs to be tidied up. A suggestion was made that the volunteers from Network Rail could work with Grasshoppers to get this renovated. It was also noted that the railway verges either side of the level crossing need tidying due to arisings from railway maintenance works.

Cllr Roscoe reported that recently a member of the public has been seen walking a dog on Glebe Field and that there has been an increase in dog fouling in the village. There has also been a recent dog incident on Jubilee Ponds which resulted in a member of the public being injured.

5. District/County Council Reports

As Cllr Blaney was not present this item was deferred until later in the meeting.

8pm – following Councillor Blaney's arrival

Cllr Blaney informed the council that he was not seeking re-election this year. Cllr Blaney has been a councillor for 34 years and has attended over 300 council meetings. He thanked Bleasby for their support and said it had been a huge privilege to represent Bleasby PC at NSDC. In turn, the Chair thanked Cllr Blaney for his support over the years.

The Acre – no decision has yet been made. Cllr Blaney to chase.

February Bin collection – Cllr Blaney has logged the issue and hopes it will be changed next year.

East Hall – Issue discussed regarding erection of structures given the recent planning decision. Oliver Scott to investigate and report back to the Council.

University sign on Brackenhurst campus being relocated - ongoing

Cllr Coombs raised the issue of the large recovery vehicle parked on a blind corner on Bleasby Main Street. Cllr Blaney to investigate.

A member of the public asked Cllr Blaney about the removal of trees at The Acre. Concern was raised that the latest splay plan indicated that all the old trees are to be taken down and replaced by new ones which will mean a fundamental change to the appearance of the plot. Cllr Blaney assured the member of the public that the NSDC Tree Officer had carefully assessed the state of all the trees. All trees that have been removed were in a poor state (old and at the end of their life) or saplings. Parish to monitor the tree replacement and highlight issues to District tree officer.

6. Finance

a. To approve payments as listed on payment schedule.

The payment schedule, as circulated, was approved.

b. Any other matters appertaining to finance.

I. Approval of David Dixon, Dixon Accountancy for 22/23 internal audit.

Council resolved to appoint Dixon Accountancy for internal audit for 22/23. Approved. All in favour

II. Approval and signature of AGAR Form 22/23 Certificate of Exemption

Approved, all in favour and Chairman signed Agar Exemption Certificate.

- III. Bank Reconciliation to March 31st, 2023.
Accepted and Chairman signed bank reconciliation.
- IV. Approval and signature of Unity Trust Form for Denise Bryant to administer the Unity bank account
Approved, all in favour and Unity Trust form signed by authorised signatories.
- V. To receive and note VAT claim form for Dec 22 to March 23.
Council noted VAT claim had been made
- VI. Update on progress of Year End Closure process.
Updated and progress approved

7. Planning

a. 23/00115/FULM Change of use of land to equestrian and extension to existing stable block (part retrospective) at Bramley Hedge, Boat Lane, Bleasby. 6th April original closure date. Extension granted to 18th April.

Cllr Coombs left the room due to declaration of interest on the above planning application.

Council voted unanimously NOT TO SUPPORT the application on the following grounds:

- The area is subject to flooding, and this would increase the risk of flooding to the surrounding area
- The inappropriately large size of the development would have a negative effect on the character and appearance of the surrounding area.

b. Any other matters appertaining to planning

There were no other matters appertaining to planning

8. Correspondence,

a. NSDC Statement of Persons Nominated for Election of Parish Councillors for Parish of Bleasby.

The council noted that three persons had been nominated and therefore the Council was quorate. Further discussions ongoing regarding co-option of councillors.

b. Email correspondence from/to member of public concerning food provision at the Coronation celebration.

The Council were made aware.

c. Email from NSDC Regarding Parish Housing Needs Survey.

The Council noted the Housing Needs survey and will examine the draft survey when available.

9. Conservation area – Discussion re Conservation area with NSDC Conservation Officer – Oliver Scott

Oliver Scott is the NSDC Senior conservation officer. Oliver explained that the NSDC Conservation Team becomes involved if a planning application has heritage issues. They are advisors to the Planning officers and the Planning Cttee.

Oliver gave a wide-ranging and very interesting update on many matters relating to Conservation areas in NSDC. Notable points are:

When there are ecology conditions attached to planning permissions, these are best monitored by local parishioners and the Parish Council

There are plans for a new biodiversity net gain policy. The policy will stipulate that any new development should not result in a loss of biodiversity. It is anticipated that the new policy will be enacted in 2024. There is a first phase planned for the end of 2023.

Conservation areas are defined very strictly, and Oliver stressed that each planning application had to be considered on its own merits.

Conservation area appraisal are being undertaken NSDC. It is envisaged that Bleasby will reviewed this year.

The Chair thanked Oliver for attending our meeting and stated that the information had been very useful to everyone at the meeting.

10. Asset Register Audit and Insurance Renewal Review

The council noted the various elements that needed adding and withdrawing from the current asset register and committed to examining the insurance renewal for the next meeting.

11. NSDC Dog Waste Bin Contractual Review

The NSDC Dog Waste bin contracts for 23/24 were approved.

12. Progress on new notice board at School in connection with access to children out of hours

The school is happy with the noticeboard.
The quotation was approved.

13. Update on matters from previous meetings

a) Grips on High Cross
Ongoing.

b) Interactive speed sign and Thurgarton Speedwatch Meeting

A member of Thurgarton's Speedwatch team to attend the Bleasby Parish Council Meeting on 13th June to discuss Thurgarton's Speedwatch experiences and best practises.

c) Notice board at Goverton

VIA confirmed that the Goverton verge is an adopted verge so license is needed. Therefore details of the proposed notice board are required. Cllr Coombs to supply the Clerk with an image and dimensions

d) Avenue of Trees

This has now been planted. Clerk to send thanks to Chris Mason at Via. Sue Saddington and her team to be thanked too.

14. Update on projects/events to mark Coronation

The Hog roast has been organised by Cllr Coombs who has also made the Coronation chair. All leaflets have been printed and distributed. Glebe Field to be mowed week before and all grass collected.

15. Land and Assets

a. Jubilee Ponds

Sign to be erected asking that dogs to be kept on leads as it is nesting season. Cllr Coombs to supply the signs.

Clerk to thank Roberta Desbrulais and Sarah Roscoe for their efforts in organising and producing the Easter Fairy Doors.

b. Glebe Field – approval of quote for renovation of the Aircrews and War Memorials £300 each plus VAT.

Fully approved.

c. Ferry End – benches and tree work

Benches have been delivered. Now need to be installed permanently. Cllr Coombs to organise. .

d. Maintenance programme for coming year – Ulyett update.

Ongoing.

16. Village Projects Update

a. Gypsy Lane progress

Ongoing.

17. Green Spaces Working Group Update

a. Grasshoppers have tidied the hedgerow on Glebe Field. They also enjoyed the refreshments provided in the church.

The Grasshoppers have also tidied Ferry End and cleared the Bird hide area in Jubilee Ponds.

The Council also noted that the fishermen have re-laid some of the gravel on the footpaths on Jubilee Pond.

18. Village Website – update on replacement administrator(s)
Ongoing

19. Annual Parish Meeting Update – 26th April 2023

Agenda issued and majority of speakers confirmed. One remaining speaker to be confirmed by Cllr Winn

20. Agenda items for next meeting
None noted

21. Date of next meeting – 15 May 2023 Annual Meeting of the Council.

There being no further business, the Chair thank everyone for attending and closed the meeting at 10.12pm.

*I declare that the above is a true account of the meeting
(approved at PC Meeting held on 15th May 2023)*

Signed

Date

Chair
Bleasby Parish Council

Distribution: Parish Councillors, Cllr S Saddington, Cllr R Blaney, Noticeboards, Website