

BLEASBY PARISH COUNCIL

Email: clerk@bleasby-pc.gov.uk

Website: <http://www.bleasbyparishcouncil.uk/community>



Minutes of Bleasby Parish Council

Monday 8th January 2024 at 7.30 pm, in Bleasby Village Hall

Present: Cllrs Coombs (In the Chair), Roscoe, Andersen, Wallin, Winn, and Morgan
Cllr Sue Saddington (NCC) arrived at 20.04. Cllr Keith Melton (NSDC) arrived at 20.04.

In Attendance: Denise Bryant, Clerk, and 3 members of the public

Chair's Welcome

The chair welcomed everyone and opened the meeting at 7.30pm

1. Apologies

No apologies received.

2. Declarations of Interest

Cllr Coombs declared an interest in 23/00115/FULM.

3. Minutes of the meeting held on 11th December 2023

These were accepted as a correct record of the meeting and signed by the Chair.

4. Public Participation

A member of the public thanked FAG for their sterling work.

A member of the public thanked the Parish Council for their advice on dealing with planning consultations.

5. District/County Council Reports

Cllr Coombs asked Cllr Melton to alert NSDC Planning to be aware of the substantial impact of building properties in flood plains and on steep slopes subject to pluvial run-off.

Cllr Coombs asked Cllr Saddington if NCC could arrange a multi-agency meeting to discuss Bleasby's flooding issues. Cllr Saddington said this was very much a propriety and highlighted the need to consider the needs of each village as they all have different issues.

Cllr Saddington highlighted that drains need to be cleaned very quickly. She also stressed that farmers and riparian rights owners need to clear ditches.

Cllr Andersen thanked Cllr Saddington for the rapid delivery of sandbags and asked that Ross Marshall be thanked.

Cllr Saddington asked if there were any projects which need funding. Cllr Coombs suggested that the pumps which are about to be purchased could be considered. Cllr Saddington requested that the clerk complete the relevant form to request the funds.

Cllr Coombs discussed the surface water outlet at the bottom of High Cross. He is proposing to look at the installation of a Sluice gate on the ditches in High cross which would split the waterflow.

A member of the public asked about how village dykes that have been backfilled over the years can re-instated to alleviate flooding. Cllr Saddington reported that Nottinghamshire County Council would enforce this. This will be discussed further at the multi-agency meeting.

Cllr Melton reported that NSDC Cabinet Officers recently met to determine what NSDC should be doing to assist with flooding issues. NSDC noted that there had been 5 storms in 6 months, 2 of which were categorised as one in a hundred-year storms. NSDC propose to bring together all the relevant agencies and all the affected parish councils along the Trent to address the situation. This approach was applauded by Cllr Andersen. He stressed the need for manhole clearance, the adherence to riparian rights and the urgent resolution of sewage issues.

Cllr Melton reported on the status of the development of hydro-electricity plant. Permission was granted in 2018 and commenced in 2022 rendering this an active application. Cllr Melton was asked to ascertain if the company was interested in community involvement.

6. Finance

- a. To approve payments as listed on payment schedule if any.
Payments were noted and approved. The schedule was signed by the Chairman.
- b. To receive and approve bank reconciliation.
Received and approved. Signed by the Chairman
- c. Progress of Unity Bank Application for additional signatories
It was agreed that Cllr Coombs would work with Cllr Morgan to get his Unity letters re-issued. Cllr Winn would phone Unity to get the second letter issued.
- d. To agree budget for 2024/25
It was noted that the budget increase of 4% was discussed at the December meeting. This was voted and unanimously approved.
- e. To note and approve the precept request for 2024/25.
The 2024/25 precept request of £19,430 was voted and unanimously approved.
- f. Any other matters appertaining to finance.
There were no other matters.

7. Planning

- a. **23/00115/FULM for change of use of land to equestrian, siting of two field shelters and erection of new stable building (part retrospective) at Land At Bramley Hedge Boat Lane Bleasby NG14 7FT.**
Cllr Coombs left the room. The councillors discussed the siting of the 2 extant field shelters. Unanimous vote to support.
- b. **Openreach application for Bleasby Cabinet modifications.**
Unanimous vote to support this application but the Council stressed that the cabinet extension should extend to the left of the existing box (as viewed from the road) not to the right-hand side. The clerk to notify NSDC of this condition.
- c. Any other matters appertaining to planning including decisions.
 - i. 23/01741 Bleasby School movement of boundary fence – approved.
 - ii. East Hall, 2 x cherry laurels removal – approved.
- d. Any other items notified to Bleasby Parish Council prior to this meeting and requiring submission of comments before the following scheduled Parish Council meeting.
 - i. 23/01960/FUL Wild Briars, Goverton – Erection of 2 dwellings
 - ii. 23/02058/FUL Goverton Heights, Goverton – Erection of 2 dwellings
Cllr Melton will be asked to call both applications into the NSDC Planning Committee.

8. Correspondence

- a. Response from Openreach to resident's concerns on Ultrafast Broadband connectivity
No other residents had responded to the Clerk detailing issues regarding Broadband connectivity. Cllr Roscoe to discuss Openreach's response with the resident concerned.

- b. Update on village response to email regarding the above and next actions. See above
- c. Email from resident regarding flood pump purchase.
The Council has resolved to purchase emergency pumps for use by the village.
- d. Email from NSDC regarding Public Spaces Protection Orders
Cllr Morgan to respond requesting a PSPO for Glebe Fields

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

- a. Grip improvements and horse signs on High Cross.
The grips are now working well. NSDC/VIA have been invited to visit to determine a more long-term solution. The Council also want to request that a sluice gate be sited where the water run-off from the grips enters the dykes. Cllr Coombs to provide a video which the clerk can send to Via. Clerk to chase horse signs.
- b. Interactive speed sign. Cllr Roscoe organising.
- c. Notice board at Goverton. Ongoing.
- d. Speedwatch at Bleasby, speed survey at Bleasby. Ongoing.
- e. Email use by Councillors. 2 councillors have issues. Cllr Morgan resolving.
- f. Village Survey on village-entrance signs. Clerk to commence design phase.
- g. Lengthsman in Bleasby.
Green Oak quotation received and approved. Work to commence as soon as possible.
- h. Village Electricity generation on the weir. Discussed with Cllr Melton as minuted above.
- i. Casual Vacancy on the Council. Ongoing

10. **Bleasby Proposed Cycle Route - ongoing.**

11. **Flooding in Bleasby.**

- a. Flood Action Group Report
The Council noted receipt of a comprehensive flood report from the Bleasby Flood Action Group. The Council voted a unanimous vote of thanks to the group for the immense amount of work that producing this report entailed. It is proposed to send the report to the Bleasby residents. The report details the action items that the village needs to undertake to ensure future flood events can be successfully managed.
- b. Landowners' responsibilities
Homeowners and landowners' responsibilities are covered comprehensively in the FAG report and will also be covered in the multi-agency meetings being organised. The Council resolved to work with everyone concerned to ensure home and landowners were aware of the issues and their responsibilities.
- c. Additional equipment for flood resilience store.
In addition to purchases for the flood resilience store, the Council noted the following actions:
 - I. Purchase sandbags.
 - II. Clear and check manholes for leaves
 - III. Check for culverts and clear ditches routinely.
 - IV. Installation of a sluice for the High Cross grips.
 - V. Establish a FAG WhatsApp group.
 - VI. Inform residents of each homeowners' personal responsibility. It is becoming necessary that every household should have their own flood mitigation solution – sandbags and a pump etc.
 - VII. It was proposed that the Council organise a drone to establish the lie of the land and the levies.
 - VIII. It was proposed that the village maintain a list of properties which are prone to flooding.
 - IX. The council resolved to oppose new build where there is flood risk.

12. **Land and Assets**

- a. Jubilee Ponds - see Grasshoppers report below.
- b. Glebe Field – nothing to report.
- c. Ferry End – nothing to report.

13. Village Projects Update

- a. Gypsy Lane progress – nothing to report.

14. Green Spaces Working Group Update

- a. Grasshoppers update

There have been no scheduled work parties since Dec update. Grasshoppers have recently welcomed several new members to the team bringing the current Grasshopper count to 27.

Regular work party sessions will continue to take place on the 3rd Sat of each month except for January which will take place on Sat 27th Jan. Given that the Parish Council have agreed that some of the more arduous tasks will be undertaken by contractors, the Grasshopper working party sessions will focus on enhancing our green spaces in ways that improve flora and fauna and make them more enjoyable for community use.

2024 proposed activities: Following on from the successful autumn event organised by the Grasshopper team (building bird boxes and bug hotels + education on local birds) the Grasshoppers are hoping to hold additional seasonal events in 2024 - currently under consideration are:

Spring: how to attract solitary bees and how to build a mini wildlife pond in your garden

Summer: the wildflowers, butterflies, dragonflies and moths of JP meadow

Autumn: Harvest event showcasing locally grown and harvested produce

Winter: wreath making session

Next session: Sat January 27th 10am - 12pm. Meet at Den building area at Jubilee Ponds where we'll be building a "dead hedge" around the Den Building area, inspecting the area and installing bird boxes.

15. Agenda items for next meeting

16. Date of next meeting – 12th February 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 8th January 2024 (approved at PC Meeting held on 12th February 2024)

Signed

Date

Chair

Bleasby Parish Council

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