

BLAISDON PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk to the Council: Anthony Hughes, 4 Mountain View, Ruardean, Gloucestershire, GL17 9YT
Tel. 01594 541483 E-mail: anthony.hughes_ruardean@btinternet.com

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held in Blaisdon Village Hall, Blaisdon Wednesday 14 September 2016

Those attending: Cllr. Stuart Gent (Chair)
Cllr. Richard Boyles (Vice Chair)
Cllr. Kevin Baker
Cllr. Eve Tonks

Mr. Tony Hughes Clerk

Also present: County Councillor Brian Robinson (Observer)

Apologies for Absence Cllr. Dave East (Observer)

29. Health and Safety Procedure

The attention of those present was drawn to the procedures for evacuation of the premises in the event of an emergency.

30. Declarations of interest

Councillor Stuart Gent and Councillor Kevin Baker declared non pecuniary interests in Agenda Item 10a, BT - proposed removal of telephone kiosk, Blaisdon Lane, having shareholdings in BT.

31. Public Forum

(a) Public

There were no members of the public present.

(b) Reports from County Council and District Councillors

(i) County Councillor Brian Robertson

Councillor Robinson reported the following:

- Improvements in performance in gully emptying and repair of potholes
- A section of the road surface of the A4136 had surface dressed as part of a programme of surfacing dressing in the Forest of dean area.
- Meals on Wheels – There had been concerns in regard to the delivery of the Meals on
- Wheels service in the County but issues with the contractor had now been resolved.

- The introduction of the expanded kerbside recycling arrangements was working well but there had been an initial peak in the amount of electrical equipment that had been put out by residents for collection.
- The Lengthsman Scheme – Councillors were invited to notify the Clerk of gully cleaning and drainage works that were considered necessary and the Team would be notified in order to address on their scheduled rounds in the vicinity

(ii) District Councillor Dave East

Nothing further to report on this occasion.

32. Minutes – 14th September 2016

RESOLVED

That the minutes of the meeting held on the 14th September 2016, be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

Matters arising

Pilates Sessions

The Chair advised that the Pilate Sessions had been successful using the Active Together Grant. He would arrange feedback to the organiser. Further classes would continue into autumn on a self-funding basis.

33. City Clerk's Report and Correspondence

The Clerk reported the following correspondence:

(a) Local Seminar – Introduction to the consultation draft Minerals Local Plan for Gloucestershire (2018-2032)

The draft plan was due to undergo public consultation for a period of 8 weeks, starting the following day – 29th September 2016 finishing 5.00 pm on the 24th November 2016. An invitation had been extended for a representative to attend a seminar at 1.30 pm on 28th September 2016 in Gloucestershire County Council main Council Chamber. The event would also be attended by elected County Council members. The purpose of the Seminar was to introduce the draft Minerals Local Plan for Gloucestershire and to find out how people can get involved in its consultation.

(b) A40/A417 Over Roundabout Improvement Scheme – Public Share Events

Public Share Events explaining the Scheme were being held at the following locations:

Thursday 20 September 2016 – 9.00 am to 2.00 pm at Hartbury Village Hall
Thursday 22 September 2016 - 2.30 pm to 7.30 pm at Highnam Village Hall

These works would follow on from the work undertaken by Highways England in 2015.

34. Finance

(a) Financial Report for period August 2016

The Clerk presented a financial report for the month of August 2016 which showed an operating balance of £4440.13 at 31 August 2016.

(c) Invoices for payment and cheques for issue

RESOLVED

That the following payments be approved and cheques issues

Cheque No.	Payee	Description	Amount
000455	Blaisdon Village Hall	Meetings Jan-Jun 2016	£66.00
000456	Blaisdon Village Hall	Pilate's – Room Hire	£96.00
000457	Penny's Pilates	6 Classes July/August	£327.00

35. Planning Applications

Members considered the following planning applications received for consultation and

RESOLVED

That the Forest of Dean District Council be advised of the following comments:

Description	Comments of the Parish Council
Brook Cottage – P1182/16/FUL - Proposed workshop and garage with hobby room and store loft area. Demolition of existing	The Parish Council have no objection in principle to the planning application for a proposed workshop and garage with hobby room and store loft area and the demolition of the existing. However the Parish Council would wish to recommend that the application be conditioned to ensure that use of the property is restricted to that of a hobby room and store loft area and that no future permissions will be granted for change of use from a hobby room and store loft area or for any other use. This is to satisfy the Parish Council's concerns that the property should not be used as residential space or permanent or temporary living accommodation and that current planning regulations are complied with.
The New House, Blaisdon Lane – P1209/16/PQ3PA - Prior approval for the change of use of an agricultural building to a dwelling house (Use Class C3)	The Parish Council are of the opinion that the current planning application (P1209/16/PQ3PA) for the change of use of an agricultural building to a dwelling house, if approved, could set a precedent for future use of the site and for other similar developments that are outside the development boundary.

36. BT – Proposed removal of Telephone Kiosk, Blaisdon Lane

Members were advised of a Notice posted in the Telephone Kiosk, Blaisdon Lane notifying of BT's proposal to remove the kiosk. The proposal was subject to a 42 day consultation period.

Members were concerned of the environmental impact on the Village if the Kiosk was to be removed and also considered other possible options to secure the retention of the Kiosk. Members agreed to submit the following comments of objection to the Forest of Dean District Council:

RESOLVED

The Parish Council strongly object to the proposal to remove the Telephone Kiosk on the following grounds:

1. The Telephone Box is located within the Conservation area and its removal would have a detrimental impact to the surrounding environment and is a focal part of the 'street furniture'.
2. It plays an important part in the northerly approach to Blaisdon. The telephone box, the view of the war memorial and the gate house forms a very "British" feel and as it is so visually important it should be conserved as part of the village's history.
3. Mobile signals are almost non-existent in this area and the kiosk is a useful alternative in the case of emergency.

The Parish Council therefore consider that the Telephone Box including the equipment in it should be preserved as an amenity within the village.

The Parish Council would also wish to be informed of the actual process on how a decision will be made and what part the Parish Council can play.

37. Any Other Business

Phone Kiosk, Flaxley

BT proposed to remove the telephone kiosk at Flaxley and was included in a number of Telephone Kiosk across the Forest of Dean and subject to consultation. Members had no objection to its removal being of modern design.

Drains Report

The Chair advised that arrangements would be made for the public release of the report.

Blaisdon Parish Council – Web Site

The Clerk was requested to pursue the implementation and development of an independent web site for Blaisdon Parish Council rather than reliance on the GL17 hub as previously agreed.

Defibrillator – proposal for outside Village Hall

The Chair informed Members that the Village Hall Committee were considering the possibility of locating a Defibrillator outside the Village Hall with the aid of grant funding from the District Council towards the cost. The Parish Council may wish to consider assisting to part fund this facility subject to further details.

38. Date of Next Meeting –Wed.16 November 2016 at 7.45 pm (Budget 2017/18)

Meeting commenced: 7.45 p.m.

Meeting finished: 8.45 p.m.

Signed:.....Chairman.

Date:.....2016