

# BLAISDON PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk to the Council: Anthony Hughes, 4 Mountain View, Ruardean, Gloucestershire, GL17 9YT  
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## **Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held in Blaisdon Village Hall, Blaisdon Wednesday 17 January 2018**

Those attending: Cllr. Stuart Gent (Chair)  
Cllr. Eve Tonks  
Cllr. Sam Spencer

Mr. Tony Hughes Clerk

Apologies for Absence Cllr. Richard Boyles  
Cllr. Kevin Baker  
District Councillor Dave East (Observer)  
County Councillor Brian Robinson (Observer)

### **53. 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.

### **54. Declarations of Interest**

Councillor Gent (Chair) declared a disclosable pecuniary interest in the Blaisdon Woodland Management Plan by jointly owning land adjacent to the woodland which may have implications in relation to the right of access to the wood. He indicated that he was also a member of the Parochial Church Council who may have an interest in operations and access by articulated lorries.

### **55. Public Forum**

No members of the public present

### **56. Minutes – 13 December 2017**

#### **RESOLVED**

That the minutes of the meeting held on the 13 December 2017, be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

### **57. Reports from County and District Councillors**

Apologies for absence from County Councillor Brian Robinson and District Councillor Dave East, therefore no reports on this occasion.

## **58. City Clerk's Report and Correspondence**

The Clerk reported the following:

### **Woodland Management Plan for Blaisdon Woods**

The Clerk reported receipt that day of an e mail from John Evans, Forest Manager, Andrew Bronwin & Co Ltd inviting the Parish Council to comment on the draft Management for Blaisdon Woods. Comments were requested by 31 January 2018.

#### **RESOLVED**

That an extension of time be sought to enable the Parish Council to consider the draft plan at its next meeting on 14 February 2018.

### **Local Government Boundary Commission Electoral Review of the Forest of Dean**

The Clerk report receipt of a letter dated 16 January 2018 from the Local Government Boundary Commission notifying of publication the Commission's report and its final recommendations for the Forest of Dean District area. A full copy of the report could be accessed on the Commission web site [www.lgbce.org.uk](http://www.lgbce.org.uk) and an interactive map of the final recommendations could be accessed by the link <https://consultation.lgbce.org.uk> . The final recommendations proposed that the Forest of Dean District Council's 38 councillors should represent 5 three-councillor wards, 7 two-councillor wards, and 9 one-councillor wards across the district. Blaisdon Parish would be in the Westbury-on-Severn Ward.

#### **RESOLVED**

That the information be noted.

### **Preparing for Year end and Audit 2018**

The Clerk reminded members that new auditing arrangements would come into place on 1 April 2018 which would affect the Annual Governance and Accountability Return for year end 2018. The Gloucestershire association of Town and Parish Councils (of which the Parish Council was Member) would be running a training course on 6<sup>th</sup> February 2018 and the Clerk suggested that it would be beneficial to attend. The current financial provision for training in the 2017/18 budget was £50 although the course would cost £55.

#### **RESOLVED**

That the Clerk be authorised to attend the course as outlined and the Council hereby authorise the payment of £55.

That Historic England be informed that the Parish Council have no objections and support the proposal to List the structure.

**59. Finance**

**(a) Financial Report December 2017**

The Clerk presented a financial report for the month of December 2017 which showed an operating balance of £5574.63 as at 1 January 2018.

**(b) Invoices for Payment**

None

**60. Budget Preparation for the next financial year 2018-2019 and Precept**

The Council considered its final budget for the financial year 1 April 2018 to 31 March 2019 and the precept to be recommended to the Forest of Dean District Council.

The precept was recommended to be set at £2707 which was an increase of £47 on last year reflecting an increase in provision for the Clerk's salary in accordance with NJC pay scales as agreed at the last meeting.

**RESOLVED**

**(1) That the budget for the financial year 2018-2019 be approved.**

**(2) That the Forest of Dean District Council be advised that the recommended precept of Blaisdon Parish Council for the Financial Year 2018/2019 is £2,707.**

**61. Any other urgent business**

**Arrangements for Annual Parish meeting – Wednesday 18 April 2018**

Consideration was given to a guest speaker at the Annual Parish meeting to be held on Wednesday 18 April 2018 at 7.30 pm. Possible suggestions, if available, were Baroness Royall, or Eric Freeman Radio Gloucestershire. Approaches would be made.

**62. Date and Time of next meeting**

Wednesday 14 February 2018 at 7.30 pm.

Meeting commenced: 7.30 p.m.

Meeting finished: 8.05 p.m.