

BLAISDON PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk to the Council: Jonathan Martin, Whitecliff House, Newland Street, Coleford, Gloucestershire, GL16 8NB, Tel. 01594 834345 E-mail: blaisdonclerk@gmail.com

**Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held
at Blaisdon Village Hall. Wednesday 14th
September 2022 @ 7.00 pm**

In attendance:

Cllr. Nicola Atkinson
Cllr. Sue Foster
Cllr. Stephen Foster
Cllr. Stuart Gent
Clerk. Jonathan Martin.

The meeting was chaired by Councillor Nicola Atkinson as the acting Chairman.

373. Welcome and Health and Safety procedure. Members of the public will be requested to declare if they intend to record the meeting.

A welcome was given with attention directed to the location of the two fire exits and the emergency meeting area in the car park.

374. Apologies for absence.

Apologies were received from Cllr Boyles who is on holiday. As well as from County Cllr Robinson who is unavailable, and from District Cllr Phelps, who has declined due to the observance of the etiquette relating to Her Majesty's passing.

375. Declarations of Interest & Public Forum.

No declarations of interest or dispensations were made. No members of the public were present.

376. Minutes of the meeting held on July 13th 2022.

The Clerk confirmed that he had received evidence in the form of various receipts and financial records from Blaisdon Village Hall, as confirmation that the grant money of £700.00 has been spent. These would be supplied to the Cllrs for inspection.

County Councillor Robinson had emailed to confirm that some work had been done on the path in Blaisdon Lane, and the undulating camber in Velthouse Lane has been filled in, for which we are grateful. However, he has not indicated any further action to be taken regarding the surface of the path, so we need to find out what the Highways Officer's long-term plans are for the improvement in the surface of the path to enable it to be adequate to walk on. The Highways Officer had previously indicated that due to the cost, work might need to be undertaken over 2 financial years. CC Robinson would be asked as part of his summons to the next Blaisdon Parish Meeting to provide a further report on these long-term plans.

Councillor Atkinson stated that surface dressing in Blaisdon Lane had been completed. However, run-off water had already removed some of the surface dressing just below the entrance to the Village Hall. Councillor Atkinson suggested that she would collect images, local reports of this and other remaining road problems and send them to the clerk who will forward them to Glos Highways.

Resolved.

377. Clerk's Report and Correspondence.

The Clerk reported that he had received a copy of the Parish's footpath's and stiles and that this would be supplied to the Councillors for future use.

The Clerk also updated the Council on the effects of the Queen's passing and funeral. The Clerk had attended the formal reading of the Proclamation of succession at the Forest of Dean District Council at 2pm 11th September, representing Blaisdon Parish Council. The Council's website had been updated with an appropriate condolence image of the late Queen, as well as a copy of the document of Proclamation for the new King Charles III.

378. Financial Report – July and August 2022.

There appeared to be an error with the recording of the recent insurance payment. Other changes to the new financial report format would be added as well, such as the inclusion of a balance brought forward into its calculations.

379. Invoices for payment.

- Blaisdon Village Hall rent: £24.00
- Open spaces subscription: £45.00
- Clerk Wages - July. 19hrs x £10 = £190.00
 - August. 19hrs x £10 = £190.00

The Clerk will check with Blaisdon Village Hall that the booking for August was not charged to the Council, as this meeting was declined.

Resolved.

380. Any other urgent business.

The Clerk was instructed that draft minutes should now be made available to the Councillor's within 2 weeks of the meeting to which they refer. This will enable adequate time for reading and corrections to be made before publication on the website.

Regarding the Council's website, it was reported there had been problems in finding the current agenda and minutes. The Clerk would ask the website management company to investigate this. It was also suggested that the website be restructured so that the current agendas and minutes page is easier to find. This would be undertaken as well.

Problems with the receiving of planning applications would need to be addressed, in that several recent applications have referred to developments on properties outside of Council’s planning jurisdiction. The Clerk would look into this. Moreover, the Clerk would need firmer confirmation from Councillors as to whether an extension is to be sought from the District planning office in order to align the planning applications with our meeting schedule.

381. Date and Time of Next Meeting – 12th October 2022 at 7.00 pm

Agreed.

Meeting commenced: 7.00 p.m. Meeting finished: 7.44 p.m. Signed:

..... Date:2022