

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 11th
January 2023 @ 7.00 pm**

In attendance:

Chairman. Richard Boyles.

Cllr. Sue Foster.

Cllr. Nicola Atkinson.

Cllr. Stuart Gent.

Dist Cllr. Simon Phelps.

Clerk. Jonathan Martin.

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

The safety information was given, and a request was made for the audience to declare any recording activity.

416. Apologies for absence.

Apologies were received from Cllr Stephen Foster and County Councilor Philip Robinson.

417. Declarations of Interest & Public Forum.

No declarations or dispensations were made.

Forum.

A report was given by District Councilor Phelps.

The District Council's planning strategy seems to have now been pushed further into the distance, as a new policy has been imposed, whereby new houses must remain in keeping with the local aesthetic. Further restrictions for the prevention of flood damage will also likely result in local planning being effectively frozen until after the upcoming district elections.

Regarding these new elections, this will be the first instance where voter ID is required. The types of ID that will be recognized will be passports, be they in date or expired. A driver's license and/or a bus pass. This is not an exclusive list of viable ID and parishioners should consult government websites for up to date information. People without ID can apply for this from the District Council. So far the central

government has not started to promote this change in election rules, however it is believed that this would start soon.

Cllr Phelps asked the Council if they were satisfied by the standard of local rubbish collection. There were no issues reported. Cllr Phelps raised this as he had received local complaints about rubbish falling onto the streets off the back of the collection vehicles. The Chairman asked if compactors had been installed into the collection vehicles. No one was sure, but if they had, then this would reduce rubbish falling out as it would be crushed into place.

418. Minutes of the meeting held on December 14th 2022, and matters arising.

The Clerk reported that Flaxley Village Hall had confirmed that they would report back on the status of their warm spaces scheme, and therefore are ready to receive the grant monies.

It was also reported that the Council's printer had seemed to have suffered a terminal failure. Also, the Council's laptop's battery seemed to have failed in that it could only function when plugged in. The Councillors authorised the Clerk to have the Laptop handed in to a local computer shop for examination, and for a replacement printer to be purchased. The Clerk would report back on these.

Resolved.

419. Clerk's Report and Correspondence.

The Correspondence was addressed above.

420. Financial Report – December 2022.

There were no significant activities other than the Clerk's wages last month. However, it was noted that there was a higher interest payment into the Council's savings account.

421. Presentation of final draft budget for 2023-24 for discussion.

The previous draft budget was re-examined, and no other alterations were deemed necessary. It is now the confirmed Blaisdon Parish Budget for 2023-24. It will now be put up on the website for display.

Resolved.

422. To resolve on the precept for 2023.

From the new budget, the precept for the next financial year is set at £3,840.30. This represents a 2% increase on the previous year.

Resolved.

423. Presentation of draft policy documents of the complaints procedure and updated Standing Orders.

The new complaints procedure had been supplied to the Councillors for review, who noted several minor typos that needed to be corrected before publication. This document was a slight modification of a template designed for smaller parish councils.

The new Standing Orders have had their addition of new time limits for various clauses. This will be emailed to the Councillors for a final check before resolving on the adoption of this at the next meeting.

424. Invoices for payment.

- Clerk Wages - September. 19hrs x £10 = £190.00

Resolved.

425. Any other urgent business.

The Clerk reported that he had recently resigned amicably from his role as Clerk at Pauntley Parish Council, to be effective on January 1st 2023.

426. Date and Time of Next Meeting – 15th February 2023 at 7.00 pm

Agreed.

Meeting commenced: 7.00 p.m. Meeting finished: 7.33 p.m. Signed:

..... Date:2023

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