

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 13th
September 2023 @ 7.00 pm**

In attendance:

Cllr. Richard Boyles.

Cllr. Nicola Atkinson.

Cllr. Tony Brady.

Cllr. Jane Spencer.

Clerk. Jonathan Martin.

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

The welcome was given to all members present and attention was drawn to the location of the fire exits and the emergency evacuation procedure.

505. Apologies for absence.

Apologies had been received from Councillor Mignotte and County Councillor Philip Robinson. None have been received from District Councillor Simon Phelps.

506. Declarations of Interest & Public Forum.

There were none.

507. Minutes of the Meeting 12th July 2023 and matters arising.

Resolved.

508. Clerk's Report and Correspondence.

The Clerk reported on the progress of updating the Council's bank mandate. The process had been delayed via issues with the correct form, however, the proper one had now been found and would be signed and submitted in the coming days.

Regarding the appeal of the Stables planning application, the Clerk informed that, via communications with planning officers at the FODDC, there was no record of an attempted application.

509. To discuss the options for contracting with payroll service provider.

Item 7 was deemed to be better addressed here.

The Clerk described the advantages of delegating the Parish's payroll function out to a payroll provider. These being a professional check on the formalities of this, especially in relation to taxation. The Clerk was instructed to email neighbouring

Parishes to inquire as to how they undertook this. Moreover, the Clerk would inquire with HMRC for a new tax code to better reflect their current employment status.

510. To discuss footpaths, rights of way and bridal paths in Blaisdon and surrounding Parishes.

This item had been proposed by the Chairman.

It was suggested that a few laminated/waterproof OS maps of the local rights of way could be produced by the Council for public display. These would be set up outside or in Blaisdon Village Hall. There may be a potential problem at this, as local farmers may not like tourists being shown where they can lawfully walk across their lands.

The Clerk would communicate with both the Blaisdon Village Hall and Flaxley Village hall as potential partners in this.

511. To begin review and update of the Council's risk assessment.

The Clerk reported that, as far as he could discern, there were no substantial updates required to the present Risk Assessment, as neither the council's assets or operations had changed. The Clerk would pass out the existing document to the councillors for their own review and any alterations would be detailed in the next meeting.

512. Financial Report – July and August 2023.

The reports were given with little activity accruing during the period.

The Clerk was instructed to transfer the unallocated reserves in the current account to the savings account. The current account would therefor only hold the budgeted money.

513. Planning:

- **P1118/23/FUL. Brook Cottage, Blaisdon, Longhope, Gloucestershire. Change of use of existing workshop loft store for the formation of 1 Bedroom holiday let (Retrospective)**

The Council has no objections to the above application.

514. Invoice(s) for payment.

- **Clerk Wages – July 19hrs x £11.06 = £210.14**
- **Clerk Wages – August 19hrs x £11.06 = £210.14**
- **Grant payment made to Blaisdon Village Hall of £300.00 for a children's entertainer, paid on 28th July 2023.**

Total: £ 720.28

The Clerk would chase up the receipts for the spending of the grant money from Blaisdon Village Hall.

Resolved.

515. Any other urgent business.

Councillor Brady gave a report on the management of Blaisdon Hall. The plan of the owners seems to be to convert the building into residential apartments. There may also be a plan to create holiday homes as well. It was noted that the owners could improve their local relations and perhaps be more accommodating, such as restoring guided tours.

The Chairman instructed the Clerk to remove a few broken links on the website.

516. Date and Time of Next Meeting – 18th October 2023 at 7.00 pm

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

..... Date:2023

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