



Blockley Parish Council

Minutes - Thursday 17th February 2022, 7.00pm, Paxford Village Hall.

Present: Cllrs – P Baines, T Bradley (presiding), C Cowles, K Derson, E Thorneycroft and C Turner

Ward councillors: L. Stowe and S. Jepson

PC 2201 Westmacott

Members of the public: 4

Apologies for absence accepted from: J Brian

The Clerk/RFO: Sarah Longbottom

Meeting opened at 7:00pm

1. Apologies were accepted from J. Brian.
2. Items for Any Other Business:
 1. Play area communication plan
 2. Church reordering
 3. GCC Build Back Better grant
 4. May Fair
3. Declarations of Interest and Dispensations for items on the agenda – None.
4. Public Participation –

A resident of Paxford spoke of his desire to have the speed limit in Paxford reduced to 20 mph. It was acknowledged that work is being done by the parish council to try to facilitate volunteer speed watch groups which may be able to obtain evidence of speed in the village.
5. RESOLVED to approve the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting of 20th January 2022, proposed TB, seconded PB, unanimous.
 1. Matters arising

ACTION: 20.01.22:4.1 - Cllr Turner is to research implementing a volunteer speed watch group - COMPLETE

ACTION: 20.01.22:6.1 – Cllr Bradley is to raise all outstanding matters with Cllr Stow - COMPLETE

ACTION: 20.01.22:9.1 - Cllr Bradley is to contact local societies to inform them of the Platinum Jubilee working group and arrange a kick-off meeting - COMPLETE

ACTION: 20.01.22:9.2 – Memorial plaque and tree guards are to be researched for the Platinum Jubilee trees (Clerk) – ONGOING, item 13

ACTION: 20.01.22:12.1 - A full review of the parish noticeboards is to be proposed in February including a new board to be situated at Back Ends Common (Cllr Bryan) – COMPLETE
6. County and District Councillors' updates

-Cllr L Stowe (County Councillor) gave an overview of the traffic surveys operating in Blockley; the surveys are replicating surveys from ten years ago to understand any changes in driver behaviour. Funds of £550,000 have been allocated by the County Council, a proportional of the cost of additional radar speed activated signs could be provided if the parish council also contribute towards the cost. The evidence of the surveys will be shared with the parish council upon completion and applications to bid for the funds can be then made.

-An increase of 2.99% will be imposed on the County Councils part of council tax.

-The Build Back Better grant scheme is available to support with projects that have the objective of recovering from the Covid 19 pandemic.

-Cllr S Jepson (Cotswold District Council) reported on the district council's budget decisions; an increase of 3.3% will be imposed on the District Councils part of the council tax, town and parish councils will fund all of local election costs from 2025.

-PC 2201 Westmacott provided an update from the constabulary including crime figures for the parish. An increase of 36% year on year but 2020-21 was the pandemic lockdown.

- The police will support the volunteer speed watch group and advise on optimum, safe locations from which to conduct the activity.

7. Planning:

22/00250/AGFO: lighting restrictions to be requested to minimise impacts on nocturnal biodiversity.

22/00278/FUL: request preliminary bat roost assessment (PRA) is undertaken prior to determination.

22/00182/FUL: proposals involve loss of a short length of hedgerow and possibly garden trees. Works should provide compensatory planting to ensure net gain for biodiversity. BPC request an informative with respect to the protection of nesting birds.

8. Finance: – Cllr Cowles

1. The finance report for 14th January 2022 – 11th February 2022 detailing all accounts held by the council were circulated ahead of the meeting.
2. RESOLVED to approve expenditure from 14th January 2022 – 11th February 2022, proposed BC, seconded TB, unanimous.
3. The debit card has been received and is held by the Responsible Finance Officer, the Financial Regulations have been reviewed, Section 6 appropriately regulates the use of the card.
4. RESOLVED to renew a 12 month IT contract with Cloudy IT to guarantee that the 10% Microsoft increases are avoided until 2023, proposed BC, seconded PB, unanimous.
5. Grant applications:
 1. – Paxford Village Hall
RESOLVED to award £1,000.00 to contribute towards the purchase of an acoustic panels for the main hall to reduce overall noise levels. Proposed BC, seconded PB, unanimous.

9. Recreation and Youth update by Cllr Derson:

A summary report of the Youth Club attendance and activities was circulated ahead of the meeting.

An extraordinary meeting is to be held to discuss the objectives and timeline of the Children and Young People Strategy including youth services provision. *ACTION 17.02.22:9.1*

10. Environmental Sustainability working group update by Cllr Turner

1. RESOLVED to hold the parish Spring Clean on Saturday 26th March 2022. Proposed CT, seconded ET, unanimous. Clerk to discuss with The Great Western Arms about providing a location for waste bags and refreshments. Clerk to arrange collection of waste with CDC. *ACTION 17.02.22:10.1*
2. RESOLVED to commission Stockwell-Davies to conduct work to trees in Churchill Close that were rated as highest priority by the parish tree inspection survey at a cost of £1,350, proposed CT, seconded TB, unanimous. Work to be completed before 31st March 2022.

Tree No.	Species	Description
T103- T106	Elder & Whitebeam	Remove to ground level
G4, T107- T108	Lawson Cypress & Whitebeam	Remove broken / dead branches and generally tidy up
T115- T116	Cherry	Raise crown to 5m over road only. Prune to give 0.3m clearance from cable
T98-101	Lime	Raise crown to 5m over path and road only. Remove moderate-major deadwood

3. RESOLVED to have ecologists review three areas of Churchill Close to assess possible enhancements to biodiversity, proposed CT, seconded KD, 1 objection, approved by majority.

11. Queens Platinum Jubilee working group update by Cllr Bradley:
Local societies have been invited to a remote, inaugural meeting 28th February 2022.
12. DEFFERED to propose refurbishment and new noticeboards across the parish.
13. Clerk’s update and correspondence log
- The resolution in January agreeing to the rotation of parish halls to host the council meetings was not possible due to existing bookings. Venues were changed to be:
 - o Feb – Paxford
 - o Mar – LVH
 - o Apr – Paxford
 - o May – Jubilee
 - o June – Draycott
 - o July – SGH
 - o Sept – Paxford
 - o Oct – Jubilee Hall
 - o Nov – SGH

 - Tree guards and plaques examples were sourced, further plaques are to be sourced and Stockwell Davies are to be consulted on the best guards for the two oak whips that are to be planted to celebrate the Queens Platinum Jubilee.
- Correspondence:
- K. Hill is to be advised that the council agree for the bench at Brook Lane to become a memorial bench and request a donation of the cost of the bench.
 - S. Salmon is to be advised that the council agree in principal and are seeking an ecologists advise on the most suitable location and species for a memorial tree on Churchill Close.
 - R. Grimes is to have her offer of a Platinum Jubilee tree accepted and the oak tree the council have sourced is to be moved to Paxford verge.
14. Any other business:
1. Play area communication plan – once a date is known for the installation, a letter on parish council social media and directly through neighbouring houses is to be written to inform residents of the work. Full details and site plan is to be held on the website.
 2. Church reordering – awareness of the reordering was brought to members attention.
 3. GCC Build Back Better grant – a grant requesting £1,000 to support the Strength and Balance classes into 2022-23 is to be made. *ACTION 17.02.22:14.1*
 4. May Fair – awareness of the event was brought to members attention.

Date of Next Meeting: Thursday 17th March 2022.

Meeting closed at 21:30.

Approved by Blockley Parish Council:

Signed.....

Print.....

Date.....

Action points:

ACTION: 20.01.22:9.2 – Memorial plaque and tree guards are to be researched for the Platinum Jubilee trees (Clerk)

ACTION 17.02.22:9.1 An extraordinary meeting is to be held to discuss the objectives and timeline of the Children and Young People Strategy including youth services provision.

ACTION 17.02.22:10.1 Spring Clean - Clerk to discuss with The Great Western Arms about providing a location for waste bags and refreshments. Clerk to arrange collection of waste with CDC.

ACTION 17.02.22:14.1 GCC Build Back Better grant application requesting £1,000 to support the Strength and Balance classes into 2022-23 is to be made.