

Blockley Parish Council

**minutes**

of Blockley Parish Council Meeting **Thursday 21st November, 7pm,**

**St George’s Hall,**

**Meeting opened**: 19.08

**Present:** Cllr Bryan-Chair (JB), Cllr Turner-District Councillor & Vice-Chair (CT), Cllr Leach(CL), Cllr Turton (AT)

**Apologies**: Cllr John (JJ), Cllr Bradley(TB), Cllr Thorneycroft (ET)

**Not present:** County Councillor Lynden Stowe (LS)

**Members of public**: Sue Salmon representing Cakes & Co

**Minutes:** Nikki Holt, Clerk & RFO (NH)

1. Welcome and apologies for absence.
2. Items for Any other business – see item 14
3. Declarations of Interest and Dispensations for items on the agenda -NONE*.*
4. Public Participation - Meeting was suspended at this point to hear any representations by members of the public on any matter on this agenda. NONE
5. Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting of 17th October 2024 approved unanimously
   1. Matters arising.
6. County and District Councillors’ updates.

6.1 District Cllr Turner presented update. See appendix 1

6.2 County Cllr Stowe – no update provided

1. Finance: Cllr Bryan
   1. Resolved to approve unanimously Financial Report 12.10.24 – 15.11.24 for including bank reconciliation for September & detailing all accounts held by the council as circulated & shared prior to meeting.
   2. Resolved to approve unanimously Transactions for period 12.10.24 – 15.11.24
   3. Grant applications a) SGH for £950, Cllrs resolved unanimously to defer to January in order to to discuss with management committee. b) resolved to approve unanimously Cakes &Co for £360 Souper Mondays **ACTION : Council** to REVIEW GRANT POLICY & Application Form to provide more information to feed out to community
   4. Budget proposal for 2025/26. Cost centres were scrutinised line by line. Consideration given to impact of staffing review along with future projects including; War Memorial restoration, New Bus Shelters in Paxford & Aston Magna, Churchyard Monuments restoration, creation of Neighbourhood Plan/Local Plan and real term increases in costs over past 2 years. Council also cognisant of prudence to maintain reserves at a certain level.

Resolved to approve unanimously an 11% increase to precept requirement - total value £132,051.15

1. Youth & Recreation: Cllr Leach
   1. Update on Youth Club. At Forum resident expressed interest in previous consultation on Youth provisions **ACTION:** JB to send over to her
2. Community: Cllr Turner
   1. Speed Watch update – CT advised success in getting camera and solar panel, installed 20.11.24. Unanimous thanks go to the Speedwatch Group volunteers
   2. Councillor Advocacy Scheme update – CT attended November meeting. Has shared with council Police Manual for Parish Councils in Teams. Reports of Increase in car theft to order & anti-social behaviour amongst youth. There are inconsistencies in reporting back to councils due to staffing cut backs
3. Burials: Cllr Leach
   1. Cemetery clear update. Cllr Leech – update, need a further day to book skip **ACTION**: CL to liaise with residents re skip placement. Signage Green Bins- Organic waste only **ACTION**: NH to advise MO to remove all bins other than wheelie bins **ACTION:** CT to chase CDC on new Black Bin
4. Personnel Committee: Cllr Turner
   1. To consider additional Personnel committee members & Chair of Personnel Committee – Defer CT will chair in interim approved unanimously
   2. Personnel committee met as item 11.3 CT updated council on matters arising from External Staffing Review
   3. Minutes of Personnel meeting 07.11.24 - deferred to Jan meeting
   4. Resolved to approve the 23/24 NALC pay award for Clerk RFO role.

Resolved to approve pay increase as proposed for MO recognising hard work and no pay increase for 24months.

**ACTION**: NH to contact Cloudy it Clip training in teams not accessible

1. Planning:
   1. Current planning application was reviewed, no comments from council. All others were Tree Control Orders
2. Clerk’s Highlights
   1. Council reviewed quote for replacement cemetery gates and fencing. ACTION: NH to revert to contractor with variations to specification
   2. NH requested BT re-paint and repair Phone Box by entrance to churchyard. Is scheduled for next year.
   3. NH sent issues spreadsheet to Director of Highways and County Cllr Stowe re numerous outstanding issues. NH & CT have a meeting with Highways representative 04.12.24 to discuss.
3. To receive Parish Councillors’ reports on matters not on the agenda

CT reported on conversation with resident re: restoration of the names on War Memorial – some people have strong feelings that the fading is rather appropriate. **ACTION**: Council to consult with residents once final quotations received

**Bank:**

Current Account Balance: £76,451.81

Instant Access Account Balance: £148,436.88

**Total £224,888.69**

**Adjusted Bank Balance considering unpresented payments and receipts Total: £224,888.69**

The bank was last reconciled to the 31st October 2024

**Income:**

(£3,220.43 VAT Refund)

£75 goodwill payment Unity Trust

£775.46 Cotswold DC AP (Haberdashers CiL)

**Expenditure:**

View Transaction report for all transactions over reported period.

**Notes:**

***Interest rate adjustment, Gross/AER, Current: 2.75%/2.77%, new: 2.60%/2.62%***

7.3 Grant applications, SGH & Cakes & Co:

* SGH £950 or £4750 for efficient lighting upgrade. (£800 from community infrastructure Capital Grant)
* Cakes & Co. £360, Souper Mondays continuation CFY
* Grants Tracker CFY:

Application Date Club/Society Amount BPC Minute Ref Date paid

Mar-24 The Voice £500.00 21.03.24.7.4 04.04.24

Feb-24 Easter Entertainment Toddler Group £320.22 15.02.24.8.2 10.04.24

Oct-23 Cakes & Co for Souper Mondays £360.00 19.10.23.7.6 24.04.24

Feb-24 Paxford Village Hall £905.50 27.03.24.7.3 30.05.24

Aug-24 Horticultural Society £243.05 19.09.24.6.4 26.09.24

Oct-24 Draycott Mission £332.00 17.10.24.7.4

**Total: £2,360.77 of £4,000, balance: £1,639.23**

7.4 Budget proposal finalised for review, adjustments in salary impacts to forecast personnel c.tee review and mid year backdated NALC adjustments. Othe CCs also adjusted, working session on agenda to review in detail for approval. Proposed 5% precept increase.

11.4 NALC Pay scale adjustment +3.15% backdated to April 1st.

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| **BPC Transaction report 12.10.24-15.11.24** | | |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| 07Nov2024 | Direct Debit (NEST) |  | -128.45 | 79543.79 |
| 01Nov2024 | HMRC VTR |  | 3220.43 |  |
| 31Oct2024 | Service Charge |  | -9.15 |  |
| 31Oct2024 | Direct Debit (NEST) |  | -559.16 |  |
| 31Oct2024 | B/P to: BT |  | -32.02 |  |
| 31Oct2024 | B/P to: Thomas Fox L'scape |  | -1872 |  |
| 31Oct2024 | B/P to: Thomas Fox L'scape |  | -1209.6 |  |
| 31Oct2024 | B/P to: Stow Active Sports |  | -740 |  |
| 25Oct2024 | B/P to: Paxford VH |  | -20 |  |
| 25Oct2024 | B/P to: Mrs NC Scott |  | -4817.55 |  |
| 24Oct2024 | Goodwill Payment |  | 75 |  |
| 21Oct2024 | Direct Debit (GRUNDON WASTE MANA) |  | -62.08 |  |
| 18Oct2024 | Direct Debit (ICO) |  | -35 |  |
| 18Oct2024 | Direct Debit (NEST) |  | -190.74 |  |
| 17Oct2024 | B/P to: Glospfa |  | -50 |  |
| 17Oct2024 | B/P to: Cloudy Group Plc |  | -115.72 |  |
| 17Oct2024 | B/P to: Thomas Fox L'scape |  | -943.2 |  |
| 17Oct2024 | B/P to: Mrs NC Scott |  | -1605.15 |  |
| 17Oct2024 | B/P to: C Scobie |  | -95 |  |
| 17Oct2024 | B/P to: Stow Active Sports |  | -462 |  |
| 17Oct2024 | B/P to: Mr Steven Woods |  | -620.15 |  |
| 17Oct2024 | COTSWOLD DC -AP |  | 775.46 |  |
| 16Oct2024 | Direct Debit (LLOYDS BANK PLC) |  | -3 | 89039.87 |
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Meeting Closed:21.58

Signed Chair: ­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date: ­­\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_