



# BLEDLow-CUM-SAUNDERTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Devolved Services and Community Maintenance Committee  
Meeting held via Zoom on Monday 15<sup>th</sup> February 2021 at 7.30pm

**Present: Councillors: N Cox, A Sage, S Reading (Chair)**  
**Clerk: Tracey Martin**  
**Two members of the public**

The meeting was conducted pursuant to the provisions of the Council's Standing Orders as modified by the Local Authorities and Police and Crime Panels (Coronavirus) (Flexibility of Local Authority and Police and Crime Panel Meetings) (England and Wales) Regulations 2020

1. **Apologies for absence:** None

2. **Declaration of Interest:** None

3. **Approval of Minutes:**

It was agreed by those councillors present that the minutes of the meeting held on 18<sup>th</sup> January 2021 where a true and accurate account of the meeting.

The minutes were approved following a proposal by Cllr Sage and seconded by Cllr Cox.

4. **Members of the Public Invited to Speak:** Two members of the public were present to discuss the flooding issues in Sandpit Lane which has been an ongoing since at least 2014 but became a major issue with the recent rainfall levels and as only one of the ditches is functioning this resulted in severe flooding. It was reported that in one of the ditches the pipes need unblocking. This has been reported to TfB however, there has been no response to date. Cllr Sage checked the maps and it would appear that the ditches up to the Seven Stars may be the responsibility of Buckinghamshire Council / TfB. Cllr Cox recommended that the letter which has been drafted by the members of public includes the information on reporting through FixmyStreet so that all affected residents can report the issue. It was also agreed that the Clerk's details can be added to the letter and that the Parish Council is in support of the action. Clerk to contact Cllr Etholen and TfB to confirm responsibility and how this will be progressed.  
**Action: Clerk**

5. **Devolved Services:**

5.1. **Hedges:** Discussions were had on the hedges which the Parish Council maintains. It was agreed that the information held is sufficient and no further information is required from Buckinghamshire Council.

5.2. **Meeting:** Cllr Cox proposed that a meeting with the new contact for Devolved Services and the Local Area Technician would be of benefit once lockdown restrictions had been lifted.

5.3. **The Crest:** Discussions were had following The Crest report received from the Arboriculturalist. It was agreed that the hedge would be cut to 6ft with a round top and potentially would be cut with a Saw Blade on a tractor. Clerk to make enquiries.  
**Action: Clerk**

5.4. The Clerk reported that she is still waiting for confirmed costings for The Hedge.

5.5. **Sign Cleaning:** It was agreed that the Clerk would instruct Princes Risborough Town Council to carry out sign cleaning on signs within the 30mph speed limit.

5.6. **VAS Restricted:** Following a report that the VAS in Bledlow Ridge was obscured by a hedge Clerk to make enquiries as to whether the Parish Council should be sending a letter or whether it is a road safety issue and should be dealt with by TfB.  
**Action: Clerk**

6. **Meadow Styles:**

6.1. Cllr Sage reported that he had visited St Georges playground to look at the surfacing they use under their equipment. Under high traffic areas they had rubber asphalt. It was agreed that this may be an option for Meadow Styles. Clerk to enquire on the price per sq. mtr and report back so the Committee can consider whether it may potentially be suitable for Meadow styles.  
**Action: Clerk**

7. **Parish Maintenance:**

7.1. **Holy Trinity Church Tree Report:** The report has one tree which needs work within 6 weeks. It was agreed that the clerk will arrange for this work to be done and also to obtain permission as it is within a conservation area.  
**Action: Clerk**

The other recommendations will be addressed in the Autumn.

The arboriculturalist has offered an onsite meeting in March to go through the report. Clerk to arrange for Cllr Cox, Cllr Reading and Cllr Sage to attend.  
**Action: Clerk**

**8. Identifying CIL Eligible Projects:**

- 8.1. Cllr Sage opened the discussion by asking Councillors to think about any projects which the Committee may like to ask the Parish Council to set aside funds for within the Committees scope.
- 8.2. Cllr Cox suggested a bench around the tree outside the Lions of Bledlow which could be a joint project between the Parish Council and the WI in memorial to Cllr Bendyshe-Brown. Clerk to make enquiries on costings. **Action: Clerk**
- 8.3. Cllr Sage suggested the grass area at The Crest and that it could potentially be turned into a wild flower meadow.
- 8.4. Cllr Sage raised the issue of car parking in The Crest and Chiltern View and suggested that the Parish Council could put in lay bays
- 8.5. Discussions were had on Bledlow Ridge Cricket Club and it was agreed that any grant applications would be welcome.
- 8.6. Cllr Reading suggested that money may need to be allocated for Meadow Styles in the future for replacement of equipment.
- 8.7. Cllr Cox suggested that the Committee's first project could be repair/maintenance of seating within the Parish. **Action: All**
- 8.8. It was agreed to put an Action Plan together of spending priorities. **Action: All**

**9. Next meeting:**

15<sup>th</sup> March 2021 starting at 7.30pm via Zoom

12<sup>th</sup> April 2021 starting at 7.30pm via Zoom

17<sup>th</sup> May 2021 starting at 7.30pm via Zoom

Meeting closed at 9.05pm

**Signed**.....

**Date**.....