



BLEDLow-CUM-SAUNDERTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held via Zoom on
Thursday 4th March 2021 at 7.30pm

**Present: Councillors: N Cox, A Sage, J Butler, S Bird, D Dobson, S Breese,
M Blackwell, S Reading (Chair), A Lord (Vice Chair)**
Clerk: Tracey Martin
Councillors: Carl Etholen and Shade Adoh
Four members of the public present

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. **Dispensations:** None
3. **To approve the minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 4th February 2021**
It was agreed by those councillors present that the minutes of the meeting held on 4th February 2021 where a true and accurate account of the meeting.
The minutes were approved following a proposal by Cllr Cox and seconded by Cllr Butler.
4. **Members of the Public Invited to Speak:** A member of public who was presented stated he had tried joining the Rural Network as recommended by Cllr Cox however a fee was required to join. Clerk to share bulletins.
Action: Clerk
5. **Motion: Pursuant to Section 1 (2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, a resolution is required to exclude the public and press to protect the confidential nature of the business to be transacted during consideration of items 6 and 7 on the agenda.** The Council resolved to exclude members of the public and press for item 6.
6. **To discuss and approve £1k budget for legal costs which may be incurred.**
 - 6.1. Discussions were had on the potential legal which costs which may be incurred.
 - 6.2. Cllr Breese proposed the motion and Cllr Butler seconded. A vote was taken with 7 councillors in favour and Cllr Lord voting against.
 - 6.3. On the 19th March 21 clerk to follow up whether any progress has been made. **Action: Clerk**
7. **Motion: Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960: to resolve that the public and press be re-admitted to the meeting.** The Council resolved to readmit the public and press.
8. **Outstanding Actions:**
 - 8.1. **Piccadilly Progress from Community Board:** Cllr Breese reported that he'd had a site visit with the Local Area Technician and a solution has been identified – double height granite set kerb. Now waiting for TfB to produce an estimate to go to the Community Board.
 - 8.2. **Rapid Rural:** Cllr Reading provided background information on Rapid Rural. The aerial was installed to solve broadband issues for some areas in Bledlow. When the Church Faculty agreed there were two conditions – A license agreement be approved by the Diocese Registrar and that a Contract Valuer be employed. Cllr Breese proposed an amendment to the original motion:
Original Motion: This Parish Council agrees to fund any legal and professional costs incurred by Holy Trinity Church, Bledlow in connection with addressing the Faculty conditions imposed by the Diocese of Oxford up to a maximum of £2500 inclusive of VAT and disbursements.
Amended Motion: To increase budget allocation for Rapid Rural to £2,500 inclusive of VAT for Winkworth's to do the faculty work and up to £2,000 including VAT for the valuation. Cllr Cox seconded the amended motion and Cllr Reading accepted the amendment as the proposer. Discussions were had on the details and a vote was taken with all councillor in favour. The council resolved to allocate the budget.

9. **Reports from Sub-committees:**

Covid-19 Support Group:

- 9.1. Cllr Sage reported that he is waiting to hear back from schools for the allocation of the last laptops and will report back on the figures next month.
- 9.2. Cllr Sage suggested that an end date is implemented for the Covid Support Group based on the Government Roadmap. Councillors agreed.

Devolved Services and Community Maintenance Committee

- 9.3. Cllr Reading reported that minutes had been circulated from the Committee Meeting which took place on 15th February 2021.
- 9.4. Discussions were had on Sandpit Lane Flooding. A meeting with the Local Area Technician had taken place and it was identified that it is the homeowners / landowner's responsibility to clear the ditches. Cllr Breese reported that there are a group of volunteers / residents who are happy to form a club who will coordinate getting residents on board and contractors in place but they would need to consider how to enforce this. Cllr Cox suggested that the Clerk speak to Environmental Agency to find out the process. Cllr Etholen also provided details for the Strategic Flood Management Team Leader at Buckinghamshire Council to contact. **Action: Clerk**
Cllr Sage suggested that the Clerk talk to the Clerk of Sydenham who have recently cleared all their ditches. **Action: Clerk**
- 9.5. Cllr Reading gave an overview of issues the DSCM Committee were working on, including sign cleaning and the hedge obstructing the VAS on Chinnor Road, Bledlow Ridge. The next meeting will take place on the 15th March 2021.

10. **Parish Maintenance:**

- 10.1. **To approve Princes Risborough Town Council, increase for Devolved Services:** Discussions were had and all Councillors were in agreement to accept the increase.
- 10.2. **To approve devolution of green space for Wycombe area from 1st January 2022 to 31st December 2024 at Hillview:** Discussions were had and all Councillors were in agreement to approve the devolution of Hillview.
- 10.3. **To review and approve quotes for tree T25 at Holy Trinity Church:** The previously circulated quotes were discussed and it was agreed to award the works to Oxford Oak. The Clerk confirmed that an application had been submitted to the planning portal via the Arboriculturalist. Cllr Lord queried whether the quotes should be opened in a private session. Clerk to look into as she thought it was for tenders through Contract Finder. **Action: Clerk**

11. **Applications for Grants:**

Bledlow Village Hall Grant Request: Treasurer and Martyn Timberlake were in attendance to represent Bledlow Village Hall.

- 11.1. The Working Group had circulated a recommendation to the Parish Council which in summary stated that the Parish Council will allocate a £30,000 provision from the 2021/2022 budget against items 1 and 2 on the grant application: Roof Repairs and Refurbishment of Bell Tower. If funds are not drawn by the end of 21/22 budget year the surplus would be put back into general reserves. There were also recommendations that the Village Hall should attempt to secure funding from additional sources. A vote was taken with 6 Councillors in favour, 2 against and 1 Councillor abstaining. Cllr Lord requested that it be minuted that he had abstained from voting. The vote was carried and the Parish Council resolved to allocate £30,000 to Bledlow Village Hall from the 2021/2022 budget.

Bledlow Village Hall Grant Application for Running Costs:

- 11.2. The recommendation from the Working Group was not to support this application as Bledlow Village Hall had received £10k from the government and the pre-school was running during lockdown so income was still being received. A vote was taken on the Working Group recommendation with all Councillors agreeing with the recommendation. It was resolved that the Parish Council would not approve the £7,000 grant request for running costs.

Messenger Grant Application

- 11.3. Discussions were had on the grant application for £265 from the Messenger. The Clerk had previously circulated advice which had been received from BALC that the Parish Council should not be paying a grant to the Messenger because it is run by Bledlow PCC. Councillors agreed that the Parish Council is paying for a service in advertising in the magazine and requested that Bledlow PCC invoice for the Parish Council £500 for 1 years advertising – 2 pages each addition.

BRAC / BRCC / BRTLC Grant Application

11.4. The Chairman of BRAC was in attendance to represent the grant application. He stated that following a survey of the trees and hedges it had identified some safety issues. Discussions were had on the application and a vote taken with all Councillors in favour. The Parish Council resolved to approve the grant application of £5107.20. Cllr Cox and Cllr Reading will have a site visit with the Chairman to run through the works.

12. **To Consider and Discuss Grant Applications from Churches:** As this was discussed at point 11.3 no further discussions were required.

13. Planning Matters:

New Planning Applications:

- 13.1. 21/05235/FUL – 5 Gables Drive, Saunderton: No objection.
- 13.2. 20/05849/LBC/APP/K0425/Y/20/3257988 – Routs Green Farm, Bledlow: Appeal against refusal of permission: No comment submitted
- 13.3. 20/05848/FUL/APP/K0425/D/20/3257987 – Routs Green Farm, Bledlow: Appeal against refusal of permission: No comment submitted
- 13.4. 21/05290/MINAMD – 1 Little Lane Saunderton: No comment required
- 13.5. 21/05050/FUL – Bramblings, 13 Fords Close, Bledlow Ridge: No objections
- 13.6. 21/05145/CLE – Grangewood, Chapel Lane, Bledlow Ridge: Comment submitted see planning portal for full details.
- 13.7. 21/05334/FUL– 66 Haw Lane, Bledlow Ridge: No objection
- 13.8. 21/05374/FUL – The Threshing Barn Lee Road Saunderton: No objection
- 13.9. 20/05461/VCDN / PP 17/07846/OUT - OS Parcel 8300 Chinnor Road Bledlow: Objection
- 13.10.20/06158/FUL / APP/K0425/W/20/3262639 - OS Parcel 5382 Chinnor Road Bledlow Ridge: Appeal against refusal of permission: No comment submitted
- 13.11.21/05463/CTREE - Church End Cottage Church End Bledlow: Objection
- 13.12.21/05482/FUL - Chesterton House, Deanfield, Saunderton: No objection
- 13.13.21/05493/FUL & 21/05494/LBC - Brook House Forty Green Bledlow: Objection

Planning Applications which have been decided:

- 13.14.20/06584/FUL– Bledlow Mill North Mill Road Bledlow: The Parish Council has no objections and the application was withdrawn.
- 13.15.20/08444/CLE - 19 Fords Close Bledlow Ridge Buckinghamshire: The Parish Council made no comment and the planning authority Refused the Certificate of Lawful Use
- 13.16.20/07961/LBC - The Manor House Perry Lane Bledlow: The Parish Council had no objections and the application was permitted.
- 13.17.20/08335/FUL - Princes Risborough Golf Club Lee Road Saunderton: The Parish Council had no objections and the application was permitted.
- 13.18.20/08394/FUL - Southfield Farm, Chinnor Road, Bledlow Ridge: The Parish Council objected to the application and the application was refused.
- 13.19.20/08186/FUL - Yew Tree Cottage Church Lane Bledlow Ridge: The Parish Council had no objections and the application was permitted.
- 13.20.20/08487/CLP - 5 Gables Drive Saunderton: The Parish Council made no comment and the planning authority Refused the Certificate of Proposed Use

14. Authorisation of Payments:

The following payments were submitted for approval:

Payments for approval at March 2021 Meeting						
Date	Inv No	Payee	Description	Net Amount	VAT	Amount
		Bledlow-cum-Saunderton Parish Council	Invoices to be paid £3839.50 + reinstate balance £584.36	£4,423.86		£4,423.86
29/01/2021	285	TBS Hygiene	Bin Emptying January	£26.25	£5.25	£31.50
12/02/2021	05497/2021	Duckworth Associates	Tree Report Holy Trinity Church	£620.00		£620.00
12/02/2021	4168	Reids Playground Maintenance	Free Standing Slide Repairs & Painting Seesaw	£1,990.00	£398.00	£2,388.00
17/02/2021	n/a	Ken Hanson	Felling of Tree Bledlow Ridge CC as agreed at June 2020 meeting	£800.00		£800.00
						£0.00
		Total		£3,436.25	£403.25	£3,839.50
Lloyds Bank Account Spend March 2021 Meeting						
	Invoice No:	Payee	Description	Net Amount	VAT	Amount
	4102	Reids Playground Maintenance	Repairs - Basket Swing, Log Walk, Cableway Check	£825.00	£165.00	£990.00
	175	TBS Hygiene	Bin Emptying Dec 2020	£31.00	£6.20	£37.20
	4979	4 Seasons Tree Care	The Crest Tree Works	£180.00	£36.00	£216.00
	2021-1	Bledlow Village Hall	Hall Hire - Jan & Mar 2020	£80.00		£80.00
	n/a	Andy Sage	Mileage collecting laptops 153 miles @ .22p	£33.66		£33.66
	1267	Oxford Oak Tree Surgery	Tree Works Meadow Styles	£700.00	£140.00	£840.00
	4984	4 Seasons Tree Care	Work at The Dell	£930.00	£186.00	£1,116.00
	4144	Reids Playground Maintenance	Cableway Repairs,	£880.00	£176.00	£1,056.00
	1802330286	Royal Mail	PO Box Renewal	£236.25	£47.25	£283.50
		Amazon	2 x Webcams for Laptops for Kids	£59.98		£59.98
		Amazon	Headset for laptops for Kids	£16.99		£16.99
		Total		£3,972.88	£756.45	£4,729.33
Standing Orders - March Meeting						
Date	Invoice No:	Payee	Description	Net Amount	VAT	Amount
10/02/2021		Tracey Martin	Salary February	£648.96		£648.96
10/02/2021		Tracey Martin	IT Allowance	£10.00		£10.00
						£0.00
		Total		£658.96	£0.00	£658.96
Lloyds Direct Debits - March Meeting						
Date	Invoice No:	Payee	Description	Net Amount	VAT	Amount
04/02/2021	203024861770	IONOS	Monthly Fee	£19.99	£4.00	£23.99
07/02/2021	203024900463	IONOS	Monthly Fee	£8.99	£1.80	£10.79
15/02/2021	1613364183908	GiffGaff	Monthly Top Up	£5.00	£1.00	£6.00
19/02/2021	69551825	Zoom	Monthly Fee	£11.99	£2.40	£14.39
		Total		£45.97	£9.20	£55.17

All payments were approved following a proposal by Cllr Lord and seconded by Cllr Bird.

15. Saunderton Burial Ground Fees:

- 15.1. The previously circulated burial ground fees were discussed and the Clerk's recommendations approved.

16. Footpath Proposal Haw Lane

- 16.1. Cllr Butler reported that she'd had discussions with the land owner and they had raised concerns over Stewardship and Biodiversity. The owners had asked whether fencing of approx. 200 mtrs could be installed. Cllr Butler had received an estimated cost of around £1-2K. All Councillors were in favour, Cllr Butler to make further enquiries and report back. Action: Cllr Butler

17. Correspondence, reports and issues from Councillors and Clerk

- 17.1. Cllr Breese informed the meeting that he had had sight of a letter being sent from Bucks Council to the Planning Inspectorate regarding the Household Waste Recycling Centre setting out what would have been the Planning Officers recommendation had the matter still been in the hands of the Council. The letter had also been seen by Cllr Cox, who had sent Cllr Reading a copy shortly before the meeting.
- 17.2. Cllr Cox queried whether a meeting of the CIC had taken place and why the Parish Council was not invited. Cllr Lord responded that he is both a Director and a member of the Group.

- 17.3. Cllr Lord reported that no action has been taken to install a hand sanitiser in the Bledlow Ridge bus shelter/library.
- 17.4. Cllr Blackwell asked for the Kendrick Homes Development to be added to the agenda for April.
Action: Clerk
- 17.5. Cllr Butler asked the Clerk to write to St Congar regarding the fly tipping within the Molins site.
Action: Clerk
- 17.6. Cllr Etholen reported that Jim Stevens had been appointed as the Chairman for the North West Chilterns Community Board Sub Group for Transport.
- 17.7. Cllr Etholen reported that the New Bucks Road Safety Fund Initiative had met and requested that the Parish Council break down their expression of interest which included 3 areas be broken down into 3 separate applications. The closing date for applications is 15th May.
Action: Cllr Reading
- 17.8. Cllr Etholen reported on Perry Lane, Bledlow emergency road works. Councillors had already received notification.
- 17.9. Cllr Etholen reported that the Saunderton Parking Consultation is going to be post elections due to Purdah.
- 17.10. Cllr Etholen stated that his attendance had been missed off the minutes for February
- 17.11. Cllr Etholen requested an agenda item for reports from Buckinghamshire Council be added to the agenda.
Action: Clerk
- 17.12. Cllr Etholen reported that he had received a message from the Planning Inspectorate with regards to the Household Waste Recycling Centre and the appeal had been validated and they are now awaiting a case officer and date for the enquiry.

18. **Next meeting:** It was confirmed that the next meeting will be held via Zoom on Thursday 1st April 2021 on Zoom with the Annual Meeting of the Parish starting at 7pm followed by the Parish Council Meeting at 7.30pm.

Meeting closed at 10.10pm

Signed.....

Date.....