



# **BLEDLOW-CUM-SAUNDERTON PARISH COUNCIL**

**Minutes of the Parish Maintenance Committee held at Bledlow Village Hall on  
Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> May 2022 at 7.30pm**

**Present: Councillors: Cllr Dobson, Cllr Cox, Cllr Sage**

**Clerk: Tracey Martin**

**Grass Cutting Contractor**

In the absence of Cllr Reading Cllr Dobson chaired the meeting.

1. **Apologies for absence:** Cllr Reading
2. **Declaration of Interest:** None
3. **Approval of Minutes:** It was agreed by those councillors present that the minutes of the meeting held on 14<sup>th</sup> March 2022 where a true and accurate account of the meeting and the minutes were approved.
4. **Members of the Public Invited to Speak:** No members of public present.

It was agreed that as the grass cutting contractor had attended the meeting to discuss the management of Holy Trinity Grass cutting that the Parish Maintenance Committee would move to agenda item 8b.

5. **Management of Holy Trinity Grass Cutting:** Discussions were had on the costings of what the Parochial Church Council would like to see for grass cutting against what the current schedule is and associated costs. The Parish Council is spending around £800 for the grass cutting season at Holy Trinity Churchyard and the requested action from the PCC would see the costs increased considerably. After discussions Councillors felt that the rear of the churchyard should be cut as per the previous schedule of works with a mower and strimmer and one to two cuts per months with works commencing in June. The front of the churchyard the Parish Council is willing to incur £400 of the additional cost for using a finger bar mower however, would ask that the Parochial Church Council also contribute £400. If they are in agreement then these works are approved by the Parish Maintenance Committee however, if they decide not to contribute then the matter will be brought to a Full Council meeting for further discussion.
6. **Review of actions from previous meeting**
  - 6.1. Devolved Services: Cllr Reading to raise at the Parish Council meeting and ask Cllr Breese to consider writing to the Cabinet Member responsible for Devolved Services: Unfortunately, this is still outstanding but will be raised at the June meeting. **Action: Cllr Reading**
  - 6.2. Meadow Styles Rubber Mulch: Arrange for work to be carried out. Work has now been completed.
  - 6.3. Faculty Headstones: Clerk to complete Faculty application has been submitted.
  - 6.4. Clippings being disposed at The Crest: Clerk to write to resident. Letter was written to the resident, no further action required.
7. **Devolved Services:** As per review of actions 5.1.
8. **Meadow Styles:** Cllr Cox stated that the verge outside Meadow Styles previously was cut by the Cricket Club however, they are now stopping at the speed indicator sign. It was agreed that the grass cutting contractor will cut this area when cutting grass at Meadow Styles. Budget to be updated to reflect the additional costs.
9. **Parish Maintenance:**
  - 9.1. **Bins:** The Clerk reported that the bins requested at the start of bridle path on Haw Lane in the direction of Lodge Hill farm and the bin on Wigan's Lane by the footpath towards Lodge Hill have been accepted and the order for installation has been placed.
  - 9.2. **The Crest Consultation on grass and hedge works:** Cllr Sage stated that he would hope to have a draft ready by Monday 20<sup>th</sup> June. Clerk to follow up if not received. **Action: Cllr Sage / Clerk**
  - 9.3. **Street Sign Cleaning:** Clerk to request that signs are cleaned in the following areas: Perry Lane, Bledlow, specifically beneath trees, Church End, Bledlow –by Church grounds, West Lane, Bledlow and Haw Lane, Bledlow Ridge. The village entrance gates will be cleaned. Cllr Sage stated that he possibly has a list of signs which may help to formulate a list for future cleaning. Cllr Sage to circulate. **Action: Cllr Sage**

Concerns were raised about the visibility of some signage as they are hidden by overgrowth. If the overgrown hedge belongs to a landowner, then Councillors to share details with the Clerk to write to them as part of the Devolved Services responsibilities however, if the hedges are the responsibility of Buckinghamshire Council, then these will be reported through FixMyStreet.

Previous discussions had taken place regarding the unofficial street name signs which had been placed on the Upper Icknield Way. Clerk to follow up with the Buckinghamshire Council Officer. **Action: Clerk**

- 9.4. **The Dell:** Discussions were had on enclosing the sides of The Dell with the front area remaining open. It was agreed that the Clerk would obtain quotes for posts and plain wire fencing. Once quotes received a recommendation will be made to full council for approval.
- 9.5. **Handyman:** The Clerk reported that she had been using a new handyman in one of her other Parishes and he has been really good. It was agreed that for future works including on bus shelters quotes would be requested from both the new and existing contractor with also confirmation of when the job can be carried out.

**10. Correspondence, reports and issues:**

- 10.1. Cllr Sage raised a concern with bus stops in the Parish where some have no timetables and others in a dire state. Clerk to contact Buckinghamshire Council. **Action: Clerk**
- 10.2. Cllr Sage reported that the barriers at the car park in Church Lane, Bledlow Ridge are rusted and need some work. It was suggested that the Car Park is the responsibility of the school.

**11. Next meeting:** Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> July 2022 at Bledlow Ridge Village Hall starting at 8pm.

Meeting closed at 9.10pm

**Signed**.....

**Date**.....