



# BLEDLOW-CUM-SAUNDERTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held at Bledlow Ridge Village Hall on  
Monday 14<sup>th</sup> August 2023 at 7.30pm

**Present: Councillors:** S Breese (Chairman), D Dobson (Vice Chairman), P Davidson, J Butler, D Freeman, N Cox, S Reading and S Bird

**Clerk:** Tracey Martin

**Buckinghamshire Councillor:** C Etholen

**Mike Bridgman as a member of the public until agenda item 59, then as a Councillor**  
**One representative from Aylesbury Opera**

57. **To receive apologies for absence:** Buckinghamshire Councillors: S Adoh and R Carington.
58. **Declaration of Interests and Dispensations:** None declared.
59. **To consider the co-option of Bledlow Ward Councillor:** Mike Bridgman provided Councillors with a summary of his background. Cllr Reading proposed Mike Bridgman and Cllr Butler seconded and a vote was taken with all Councillors in favour. Cllr Bridgman signed his declaration of acceptance of office.
60. **To approve minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on the 10<sup>th</sup> July 2023:** Following a proposal by Cllr Butler seconded by Cllr Davidson a vote was taken and all Councillors were in favour and the minutes were signed.
- As the representative for Aylesbury Opera had not yet arrived it was agreed to move onto the next agenda item.
61. **To receive an update from Buckinghamshire Councillors, responses to outstanding actions and to receive questions from Parish Councillors:**
- 61.1. **Lydebrook Road and Footpath update:** The objection window closed on the 11<sup>th</sup> August 23. The Buckinghamshire Officer handling Lydebrook is currently out of the office. Cllr Breese requested a timeline. Cllr Etholen will contact the Officer to obtain a timeline for reopening the footpath. **Action: Cllr Etholen**
- 61.2. **Bledlow Ridge Household Recycling Centre, Wigans Lane, Bledlow Ridge:** The Buckinghamshire Officer has now sent through the stats for the site however, the Parish Council would like to receive these quarterly without having to chase. Cllr Etholen to request that the stats are sent through on a quarterly basis. **Action: Cllr Etholen**  
Cllr Breese stated that there are still a couple of issues outstanding since the focus groups – an untidy area as you turn left out of the site by the gate needs clearing. There are also some screening issues following the recent tree works. Cllr Etholen to liaise with Buckinghamshire Officer: **Action: Cllr Etholen**
- 61.3. **Princes Risborough Relief Road Culverton Link and Proposed Village Green:** A meeting was held on the 24<sup>th</sup> July with Risborough members. Unfortunately, neither Ridgeway West Councillors or the Parish Council were informed. Concerns were raised that neither was Bledlow-cum-Saunderton invited to the meeting as a neighbouring Parish. Cllr Etholen stated he would be writing to the Cabinet Member for Planning and Regeneration raising concerns that he and his colleagues were not invited to the meeting and it was agreed that Cllr Breese would also write to him. **Action: Cllr Breese**
- 61.4. **The Paddocks Enforcement Update on Caravan / Mobile Home:** The enforcement team have written to the landowners who have two weeks to respond. If there is no response by the 25<sup>th</sup> August, they will revisit the site.
- 61.5. Cllr Etholen reported that the current landlord of the Golden Cross in Saunderton has been unable to renegotiate his lease and will be leaving however, a new landlord and landlady will take over. Cllr Cox asked that the Assets of Community Value should be reviewed to check they had not expired. **Action: Clerk**
62. **To Consider Grant Application from Aylesbury Opera:** Discussions were had on the grant application for £500. Questions were raised on the price of the tickets however; it was felt that the current price would not exclude anybody. The representative also confirmed that they run a 'pay what you can' scheme. A concern was raised that there is potentially another similar event around the same time. After further discussions it was agreed that the Parish Council would underwrite up to £500 against any loss. All councillors were in favour. It was also suggested that Aylesbury Opera approach the Community Board, Community Impact, and the Carrington Charity. The representative left the meeting.

**63. To ratify Councillors responses to Planning Consultations:**

New Planning Applications:

23/06710/FUL: Garage Building The Residence Wycombe Road: No objection

23/06754/CLP: Bledlow Cricket Club West Lane Bledlow: No objection

23/06690/FUL: Wigans Farm Wigans Lane Bledlow Ridge: No objection

23/06691/CLP: 10 Fords Close Bledlow Ridge: No objection

23/06882/ADRC: Bledlow Ridge Lawn Tennis Club: For information only, no comment required

23/06864/FUL: Crofters Chinnor Road Bledlow Ridge: No objection

23/06926/FUL: Rooftops 18 Haw Lane Bledlow Ridge: No objection

A vote was taken and all comments were approved.

Planning Applications which have been decided:

23/06467/MINAMD: Crofters Chinnor Road Bledlow Ridge: Application refused

23/06054/FUL: Windrush Chinnor Road Bledlow Ridge: Application permitted

23/05906/FUL: Farley Cottage Oddley Lane Saunderton: Application permitted

23/05898/FUL: St Ives Perry Lane Bledlow: Application permitted

23/06059/FUL: 10 Crownfield Wycombe Road Saunderton: Application permitted

23/06108/LBC: Pitch Green Farm Chapel Lane Bledlow: Application permitted

23/06107/FUL: Pitch Green Farm Chapel Lane Bledlow: Application permitted

23/05839/FUL: 42 Saunderton Vale Saunderton: Application permitted

23/06409/PNP3Q: Groveway Farm Hinton Crossing Bledlow: Details not required to be submitted

23/06141/VCDN: OS Parcel 8300 Chinnor Road Bledlow: Application permitted

23/06562/FUL: 3 Virginia Gardens Bledlow Ridge: Application refused

Cllr Reading reported an inaccuracy with planning application 23/06217/FUL. The highways report currently states that Lea Road is 50mph however, this is incorrect it is in the national speed limit. It was agreed that the Clerk would write to the planning officer.

**Action: Clerk**

**64. To Note Insurance Renewal for 23-24: Noted**

**65. Authorisation of Payments:** The following payments were submitted for approval:

**Unity Payments:**

Payee	Description	Net	VAT	Total
Tracey Martin	Salary - Difference between S/O	£76.44		£76.44
B/R Tennis Club	Contribution to Leylandii Trees	£400.00		£400.00
Shield Maintenance	Bin Emptying	£15.16	£3.03	£18.19
PKF Littlejohn	Annual External Audit	£315.00	£63.00	£378.00
G Spratt	Grass MSt, Saunderton & Bledlow Churchyard and Fpaths 62664 and 78283	£880.00		£880.00
Zurich Municipal	Insurance - 23-24	£875.80		£875.80
PRTC	D/S Grass Cutting 20/07/23	£286.80	£57.36	£344.16
PRTC	D/S Grass Cutting 04/05/23	£286.80	£57.36	£344.16
PRTC	D/S Grass Cutting 01/06/23 & 28/06/23	£585.55	£117.11	£702.66
<b>Total</b>		<b>£3,721.55</b>	<b>£297.86</b>	<b>£4,019.41</b>

Following a proposal by Cllr Butler and seconded by Cllr Dobson a vote was taken and all Councillors were in favour of approving the payments and the payments were approved.

**Lloyds Bank Card Spend:**

IONOS	Web Hosting, Virus Scan & Domain	£27.94	£5.59	£33.53
IONOS	Web Hosting	£12.00	£2.40	£14.40
GiffGaff	Mobile Top Up	£5.00	£1.00	£6.00

**Standing Orders and Direct Debits**

Tracey Martin	Salary	£648.96	£648.96
Tracey Martin	Home Working Allowance	£26.00	£26.00

Cllr Butler reported that the Quarter one accounts had been checked and signed off.

**66. To Approve Signatories for NS&I Account and Agree Ongoing Management of Roberts Legacy:** Currently we are unable to receive statements or access the account. It was agreed by all Councillors to move the funds into the Parish Council Unity Account and for the Clerk to keep a separate record of the funds. Cllr Breese and Cllr Davidson will be signatories on the NS&I account so the balance can be transferred.

**67. Annual Governance and Accountability Return – To Note Report and Confirm the Notice of Completion has been published:** Matters arising from the External Auditor have been dealt with under agenda item 66. The Clerk confirmed the Notice of Completion of Audit has been published.

68. **To Discuss and Approve Works on The Green, Bledlow:** Cllr Breese informed Councillors of the work required. Killing of the roots of the elder, re-seeding of ground under the benches which are now being rotated to allow the sun to get underneath and clearance of the ditch and verge which has been confirmed as being owned by the Parish Council as part of the green. After discussions it was agreed by all those present that in the autumn the Parish Council will carry out the above works then hand back over to the landlord of The Lions. Clerk to obtain quotes.
- As The Chairman and Clerk felt that Studmore Pond needed to be discussed in a closed session it was agreed to move onto other agenda items: Memorial Plaque at Meadow Styles and Correspondence in order to raise any questions whilst Cllr Etholen was still present.
69. **To Consider Donating towards a Memorial Plaque at Meadow Styles:** A request had been made to the Parish Council asking for a contribution towards a plaque recognising Reginald Johnson. The estimated total cost is £400 and three groups would be contributing – Parish Council, Bledlow Ridge Tennis Club and Bledlow Ridge Cricket Club. After discussions it was proposed to contribute £50 and a vote was taken and all were in favour.
70. **Correspondence, reports and issues from Councillors and Clerk:**
- 70.1. Cllr Cox raised a concern with verges not being cut within the 30mph speed limit. It was confirmed that these are not devolved to the Parish Council. Strimming is not taking place around the village entrance signs and the 'S' bend on the county boundary needs cutting. The Clerk asked if these have been reported on FixMyStreet, Cllr Cox confirmed they had not. Cllr Cox to send details through to Clerk copying in Cllr Etholen.  
**Action: Cllr Cox / Clerk**
- 70.2. Cllr Dobson had received an email from a resident at 'The Residence' who had raised concerns with an area of land being used as a trailer park. The resident had contacted Buckinghamshire Council but had been informed that without knowing the owner of the land they could not do anything. The owner of the land has since been identified and the resident will pursue with Buckinghamshire Council.
- 70.3. Cllr Reading reported that the proposal for chicanes had been submitted to Buckinghamshire Council and the Community Boards. A Highways Officer has drafted a report which recognises the speeding problem however, it suggested other methods than chicanes. The report was due to be discussed at the Community Board meeting in July however, there were no Highways Officers available which is frustrating as the meeting dates are known well in advance. This will now be discussed on the 7<sup>th</sup> September. Cllr Etholen is due to attend another meeting and is happy to raise the proposal if Cllr Reading sends through the details.  
**Action: Cllr Reading**
71. **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 item 72 on the agenda:** Cllr Dobson proposed the motion and Cllr Freeman seconded and a vote was taken and it was resolved to close the meeting. Cllr Etholen left the meeting.
72. **To Consider Ongoing Management of Studmore Pond:** Discussions were had on the ongoing management of the pond. The Clerk had come across a record of the register of the Common Land which contained information on boundaries and licenses. Further information is required on this license which is believed to be with Buckinghamshire Council. Clerk to make enquiries.  
**Action: Clerk**
73. **Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960: To resolve that the public and press be re-admitted to the meeting:** Following a proposal by Cllr Dobson seconded by Cllr Freeman a vote was taken and it was resolved to readmit the press and public although there were none present.
74. **Correspondence, reports, and issues from Councillors and Clerk Continued:**
- 74.1. Cllr Butler asked Cllr Cox if Beat the Bounds is going to take place as discussed previously. Cllr Reading volunteered to drive the minibus and Cllr Cox will look at dates.  
**Action: Cllr Reading**
- 74.2. Cllr Bridgman raised a concern with diggers at The White House and what works are being carried out. As its not clear what is taking place works to be monitored.
- 74.3. Cllr Davidson stated that the pavement at The City which had been discussed previously has now been tarmacked over however, the entrance of Meadow Styles needs some repairs. Cllr Dobson added that he had been contacted by Bledlow Ridge Cricket Club about improvements to the entrance and other projects asking if the Parish Council would consider supporting the repairs. It was agreed that this would be on a case-by-case basis and the necessary grant application forms being completed. The Clerk will respond accordingly and suggest that they also apply to the Community Boards.  
**Action: Clerk**
75. **To confirm the dates and time of the next Parish Council Meeting:** Monday 11<sup>th</sup> September 2023 at Bledlow Village Hall.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.05pm.

Signed.....

Date.....