

BLISWORTH PARISH COUNCIL

Address: 48 Pond Bank, Blisworth, Northamptonshire, NN7 3EL

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Website: <https://parish.blisworthvillage.org>

Minutes of the Ordinary meeting of Blisworth Parish Council held in Blisworth Village Hall on Monday, 3rd October 2022 at 7.30 pm.

Present: Cllr Billing, Chair
 Cllr D Wilson
 Cllr M Field
 Cllr J Hawkins
 Cllr W Root
 District Cllr K Cooper

Also present: 2 Members of the public
 Clerk: Angela Billing

		Action
1.	To receive apologies. Apologies received from Cllr Gardner, Cllr Read and Cllr Brown. The Council resolved to accept the apologies.	
2.	To receive declarations of interest under the Council's Code of Conduct related to business on the agenda. Councillors are reminded that if they have either a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest or other interest in any of the agenda items then they should declare the interest and withdraw from the debate or meeting as appropriate. None received.	
3.	To receive and approve for signature, the minutes of the Ordinary meeting held on 5th September 2022. Approved.	
4.	To note any matters arising from the minutes not included on the agenda for report only. None noted.	
5.	Clerk's report circulated separately. Noted.	
6.	Correspondence from social media: Update from Cllr Read. Circulated ahead of meeting. Noted. This month we have had no direct contacts through social media. Over the last 28 days we have had 813 direct engagements (clicks) on our social media pages and 4 new followers, bringing the total number of followers to 210. We have had a post reach of 1657 people (people who have the message on their feeds). Our top performing post in the period was the posting of traffic data on 4th September 2022 which had an engagement of 334 people and a reach of 1335 people.	
7.	Police & Neighbourhood Watch Scheme: Update from Cllr Read. Circulated ahead of meeting. Noted June 2022: 4 crimes (Violence and sexual offences). July 2022: 14 crimes (8 Violence and Sexual Offences, 2 Criminal Damage and Arson, 1 Burglary, 1 Vehicle Crime, 1 Public Order, 1 Theft. It should be noted that 6 offences were reported at one address in July. There are still have 62 residents registered with the Neighbourhood alert system. There has been one Neighbourhood Alert between 04/09/2022 22:00 and 05/09/2022 08:00 in Buttmead, Blisworth - unknown person(s) has cut security cable and removed electric assisted bike off motorhome. If you have any information, please telephone 101 or use the online form at www.northants.police.uk to send your information quoting reference: 22000516364. The Chair thanked Cllr Read for successfully securing a grant from the Community Policing Fund for c£3k for a third Vehicle Activated Sign (VAS) which will be sited in Courteenhall Road on the new pole.	
8.	Report on data from SID/VAS devices: Update from Cllr Read. Circulated ahead of meeting. Noted. The vehicle activated sign in Towcester Road gathers speed data and volume of traffic. There were 58,736 vehicles coming into the village during September. The average speed was 34.6mph and the max speed recorded was 87mph. 75,483 vehicles exiting the village during September. The average speed was 39.2mph and the maximum speed recorded was 86mph. Generally the data is consistent each month with more vehicles outgoing in the morning and more incoming during the evening.	

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	Please drive safely. Due to IT issues there is no data available this month from the VAS in the High Street. The camera is continuing to gather data in this location and data will be shared next month.	
9.	<p>Gateway Update. Update from Cllr Wilson. The Chair requested that Cllr Wilson suggest that the following item to be added to the agenda for the next Community Liaison Group Meeting: What facilities are going to be provided so that drivers can park, rest and use toilet facilities on-site at the development? This is in response to numerous incidents already of HGV drivers leaving litter and using the green spaces around Grange Park as a toilet because they do not have access to toilet facilities.</p>	Cllr Wilson
10.	<p>Report on meeting with Segro Representatives. Update from Cllr Root. Cllr Root informed the Council of SEGRO's plans to ensure traffic cannot turn right out of the development and then proceed to use local roads. There will be a physical barrier so that HGV traffic cannot turn right onto the A508 towards Roade and Blisworth and there will be a camera to monitor HGVs that go to the roundabout at Junction 15 and then attempt to go back down the A508 towards Roade and Blisworth. HGVs will be fined if they contravene that stipulation. The SEGRO representative was asked who would enforce this (as it would not be the Police) and also asked for information relating to the actual value of the fines. SEGRO stated that they would get back to the Council with that information. SEGRO also noted that rail/freight terminals reduce the carbon-footprint of long-haul HGV traffic but increase HGV traffic to the development. The Chair noted that this was not advertised during the initial planning application in 2019. The Chair thanked Cllr Root and Cllr Brown for their work.</p>	
11.	<p>Resolve to establish owner of tree on Connegar Leys green and to discuss pruning branches of crab apple tree overhanging the path on Connegar Leys green. Following investigation; it was found that the branches of the tree do not overhang the path. It was resolved that the branches do not need to be cut back.</p>	
12.	<p>Resolve to contact home owner(s) with overhanging branches blocking public footpath(s). Home in question is for sale. Clerk to contact the homeowner/seller.</p>	Clerk
13.	<p>Discuss the provision of an extra dog waste bin/litter bin in the alley between Connegar Leys and Greenside and on the large green on the corner of Connegar Leys. It was resolved that a litter bin on Connegar Leys would be more useful as litter bins are also more versatile being able to handle general litter as well as dog mess. Clerk to contact WNC to see if they will agree to collect the refuse in the first instance, before getting quotes for a new litter bin for Connegar Leys green.</p>	Clerk
14.	<p>Resolve to agree options for Jubilee Tree guard. It was resolved to approve a local company for the same size / finish guard at approx. 40% higher cost as the quality of the work could be reviewed in contrast to an internet purchase.</p>	Clerk
15.	<p>Discuss Budget for 2023 – 2024. The Chair suspended Standing Orders to allow questions to District Cllr Cooper. It was resolved that further discussion was required and to await information from District Cllr Cooper regarding WNC's budget in order to ascertain its impact on parish councils before proceeding with the draft budget. The Chairman resumed Standing Orders.</p>	Cllrs Read, Wilson, Root & Clerk
16.	<p>Discuss grass cutting contract and agree next steps and task owners to complete in preparation for re-tender to start contract in 2023. Clerk to try to put together a working group of volunteers to deal with some green areas in the village with the aim to reduce the overall grass-cutting budget. It was resolved that Cllr Wilson would continue to work on the draft contract with input from councillors.</p>	Cllr Wilson
17.	<p>Discuss options for documents and deeds. Deferred until Clerk receives response from Shoosmiths and Arnold Thompson.</p>	
18.	<p>Village Maintenance & Open Spaces:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Play area: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. Monthly safety inspection report: Update from Cllr Wilson. Minor issues with one of the horizontal bars on the multi-play-unit. The middle bar can be rotated; the same bars above and below are fixed. Grass is growing inside the new car installed by Wicksteed directly from the turf through the narrow gaps in the car between the floor and the sides of the car. Clerk to continue to ask Wicksteed to place paving slabs under the little car. 	Clerk

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	<p>ii. Review of signage to consider report from last annual inspection and resolve to agree any required changes. It was resolved that Cllr Billing to add the postcode of Eastfield Play area on signage.</p> <p>b. Defibrillator: Confirmation of satisfactory checks and any issues. Update from Cllr Read. Monthly check was undertaken and no issues were identified. Discuss options with regard to providing training for the defibrillator. It was resolved to inform village groups that free training is available through South Northants Community Responders. Clerk to contact groups and add information about options for defibrillator training to the website and Round and About.</p> <p>c. Allotments & Closed Cemetery. Update from Cllr Billing. Three more plots have become vacant. Third round of outstanding-fees letters issued.</p>	<p>Cllr Billing</p> <p>Clerk</p>												
19.	<p>Finance & Administration</p> <p>Banking Issues:</p> <p>a. Bank reconciliation to 20/09/2022. Checked by Cllr Field, agreed and signed by the Chair.</p> <table border="1"> <tr> <td>Nat west</td> <td>CURRENT ACCOUNT 08684642</td> <td>20/09/2022</td> <td>£28,061.36</td> </tr> <tr> <td>NatWest</td> <td>RESERVE ACCOUNT 40578429</td> <td>20/09/2022</td> <td>£37,545.38</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="3">Uncashed cheques/Payments:</td> <td>£2,404.38</td> </tr> </table> <p>Closing Balance As At 20/09/2022 £63,202.36</p> <p>b. To note receipts and approve the following payments and any others that arrive after publication of the agenda: Note revised details for website fee from £5.65 (£0.94 VAT) to £5.00 (£1.00 VAT). Invoices received after publication of agenda: Invoice received from Alan North, Invoice 017, Issue 147 (October – November) £62.00 (Non-VAT).</p>	Nat west	CURRENT ACCOUNT 08684642	20/09/2022	£28,061.36	NatWest	RESERVE ACCOUNT 40578429	20/09/2022	£37,545.38	Uncashed cheques/Payments:			£2,404.38	
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RECEIPTS			
Date	Payee	Detail	Amount
31/08/2022	NatWest	Interest	* £3.39
			*BR Account
23/08/2022	HMRC	VAT Claim	**£3741.05
13/09/2022	Allotment Tenant	Allotment Fee	**£5.00
			**Current Account

BLISWORTH PARISH COUNCIL PAYMENT LIST FOR: October 2022 Meeting						
PAYMENTS						
Invoice	PAYEE	PURPOSE	CHQ/DD	Total Amount Including VAT	VAT	Amount Excluding VAT
August 2022	SSE	Electricity Supply 02.08.2022 - 01.09.2022	DD	£106.36	£5.06	£101.30
27610	Merland Copy & Print shop	Leaflets x 1000	3099	£60.00	£0.00	£60.00

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AMEI-INV-GB-2022-72249320	A Billing	Reimburse for McAfee Total Protection 2022	3100	£14.99	£0.00	£14.99
SB20221953	PKF Littlejohn LLP	Limited assurance review of Annual Governance & Accountability Return for year ended 31 March 2022	3101	£360.00	£60.00	£300.00
0000818810	Wicksteed Leisure Ltd	Accompanied Inspection of Eastfield Play Area, Blisworth	3102	£198.00	£33.00	£165.00
4211	N&P Garden Services	Grass Cut (Village verges and Play Area) w/c 12/09/2022	3103	£738.00	£123.00	£615.00
	IONOS	Website Fee	DD	£6.00	£1.00	£5.00
	Waves	Water Supply -	DD	£88.00	£0.00	£88.00
	A Billing - Expenses	Clerk's Expenses August 2022 (31.08.2022 - 27.09.2022)	3104	£25.44	£0.00	£25.44
	A Billing - Salary	Clerk's Salary September 2022	3105	£733.50	£0.00	£733.50
9115612	Viking Payments	Toner Brother TN-2410	3166	£25.93	£4.32	£21.61
017*	Alan North	Round & About Issue 147, Oct-Nov 2022	3167	62.00	0.00	62.00
				£2,418.22	£226.38	£2,191.84

*Where Invoice/Receipt received after agenda was published

20.	Resolve to agree to produce a Blisworth PC Training and Development Plan, with timescales and action owners. Deferred. Clerk to review available training plans, ask for Councillor feedback and submit at next council meeting for approval.	Clerk
21.	Resolve to agree Budget and Precept training for the clerk and councillor(s). NCALC Budgeting for clerks and finance staff - @ £36.00 (£6.00 VAT) per person. It was resolved that Clerk to check available dates and book a place for Cllr Root and the Clerk.	Clerk
22.	Resolve to agree response to the review of the internal ward boundaries of West Northamptonshire Council (WNC). Deadline 07.10.2022. The Chair suspended Standing Orders to include District Cllr Cooper in the discussion. It was resolved to submit a comment on behalf of Blisworth Parish Council by Friday 7 th October 2022.	Clerk
23.	Public Session: a. District Councillor Report. (i) Cllr Cooper discussed WNC's Councillor Covid Support Fund and asked for further applications to support Blisworth residents. (ii) WNC sent a strong objection for the proposed amendment to the DCO (SEGRO Development). (iii) WNS/2022/1134/MAO Land to the West Northampton Road, Blisworth. Cllr Cooper has asked the Planning Case Office for an update. She will inform Blisworth Parish Council when this application will be heard. She will attend the meeting and suggested that a representative from Blisworth Parish Council also attends. (iv) Subsidence on Stoke Road – Highways have stated that while they have received the report, they do not have a date for when the scheme to retain the embankment will be on site. Cllr Cooper will continue to pursue this issue. (v) Boundary Review Consultation – It has been decided to reduce the number of councillors from 93 to 77, a reduction of 16 councillors. This is an independent boundary review and all members of the public are welcome to send their comments.	

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	<p>Clr Cooper discussed the implications for the boundary review and asked for the Councillors' perspectives.</p> <p>(vi) Meal Vouchers for October half term will be provided for the most vulnerable families.</p> <p>(vii) WNC has agreed funding for Tiffield Special Educational Needs School.</p> <p>b. Members of the public.</p> <p>(i) A member of the public discussed planning application WNS/2022/1820/FUL.</p> <p>(ii) A member of the public discussed their successful applications for grants for the Blisworth Welcome Packs and also for works for the Village Hall. They also discussed plans for the Blisworth Community Projects Group.</p> <p>(iii) A member of the public (via email) suggested that the weight limit sign at the junction of Chapel Lane and Little Lane needs to be moved to the top of Little Lane as once large vehicles reach the sign, they cannot then turn around due to parked vehicles. Also the member of public suggested that the sign on the approach to the village from Gayton needs to be moved to the opposite side of the road to aid visibility.</p>																
24.	<p>Response to issues raised in the public session.</p> <p>a. (i) Details of the available fund have been advertised on social media. It was agreed that the Clerk will liaise with Clr Cooper and A North to apply for a fund towards the costs of the Blisworth Directory thus in turn reducing costs to the residents of Blisworth.</p> <p>a. (iv) It was agreed that the Clerk will contact residents that have submitted concerns about the subsidence on Stoke Road and provide them with Highways contact details, so that they can relate their concerns directly to Highways.</p> <p>a. (v) It was agreed that Blisworth Parish Council will submit a comment on the Boundary Review Consultation website.</p> <p>b (iii) It was agreed that the Clerk will contact Highways and request that the weigh-limit signage be moved to aid compliance and safeguard Candle Bridge.</p>	<p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p>															
25.	<p>Planning and Development.</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="width: 25%;">Application & Date Comments Due</th> <th style="width: 25%;">Location</th> <th style="width: 50%;">Description</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>WNS/2022/1790/TCA</td> <td>The Chantry Church Lane Blisworth NN7 3BX</td> <td>Town and Country Planning Act 1990 (As amended) : Works to trees in a Conservation Area FOR INFORMATION ONLY Application No. WNS/2022/1790/TCA T1 - Silver birch - Request to remove T2 - Silver birch - Request to remove T3 - Small ornamental cherry</td> </tr> <tr> <td>WNS/2022/1806/FUL Comments by: 11 October 2022.</td> <td>10 Wellspring, Blisworth, Northamptonshire, NN7 3EH</td> <td>Proposal Single storey side/rear extension. No objection.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>WNS/2022/1820/FUL Comments by 12 October 2022.</td> <td>3 Northampton Road Blisworth NN7 3DN</td> <td>Raised decking area with metal railings to rear. No objection.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>WNS/2021/1887/FUL Appeal reference: APP/Z2830/W/22/329 9990 Appeal start date: 23 September 2022</td> <td>Old Telephone Exchange Little Lane, Blisworth, Northamptonshire, NN7 3BS</td> <td>Demolition of the existing building and erection of a 2-bedroom detached dwelling. No comment.</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Application & Date Comments Due	Location	Description	WNS/2022/1790/TCA	The Chantry Church Lane Blisworth NN7 3BX	Town and Country Planning Act 1990 (As amended) : Works to trees in a Conservation Area FOR INFORMATION ONLY Application No. WNS/2022/1790/TCA T1 - Silver birch - Request to remove T2 - Silver birch - Request to remove T3 - Small ornamental cherry	WNS/2022/1806/FUL Comments by: 11 October 2022.	10 Wellspring, Blisworth, Northamptonshire, NN7 3EH	Proposal Single storey side/rear extension. No objection.	WNS/2022/1820/FUL Comments by 12 October 2022.	3 Northampton Road Blisworth NN7 3DN	Raised decking area with metal railings to rear. No objection.	WNS/2021/1887/FUL Appeal reference: APP/Z2830/W/22/329 9990 Appeal start date: 23 September 2022	Old Telephone Exchange Little Lane, Blisworth, Northamptonshire, NN7 3BS	Demolition of the existing building and erection of a 2-bedroom detached dwelling. No comment.	
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	The Chair resumed Standing Orders.		
26.	Resolve to agree purchase of plants for village planters (£63.00 Non-VAT). Agreed.		Clerk
27.	Council Surgery – Resolve to agree on a representative(s) from the Council for Tuesday, 11 th October 2022. It was resolved that Cllr Hawkins and Cllr Brown would attend and Cllr Billing will also try to attend.		Cllrs Brown & Hawkins
28.	To agree the date of next meeting: Monday, 7th November 2022 at 7.30pm. Agreed.		
29.	Close. The meeting was closed at 9:30 pm.		

Signed:

Chairman..... Date:

Please see the clerk for a copy of the signed minutes.