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Minutes of the **Ordinary** meeting of **Blisworth Parish Council** held in Blisworth Village Hall on **Monday 1st July 2024 at 7.30 pm.**

Present:

Cllr C Read MBE, Vice-Chair (in the Chair)
 Cllr D Wilson
 Cllr W Root (Minute Secretary in the absence of the Clerk)
 Cllr B Brown
 Cllr B Ingram
 Cllr C Gardner
 Cllr Hawkins

Also present:

2 Members of public

Agenda Item	Minute	Action
BPC/93/ 24-25	To receive apologies. Apologies received from, Cllr S Billing, Angela Billing (Clerk), Cllr N Chandler, Cllr M Field and District Councillor Cooper. The Council resolved to accept the apologies.	
BPC/94/ 24-25	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. No declarations were made.	
BPC/95/ 24-25	To receive and approve for signature, the minutes of the Ordinary meeting held on 3/6/2024. Approval proposed by Cllr Ingram and seconded by Cllr Garner. Approved.	
BPC/96/ 24-25	To note any matters arising from the Minutes not included on the agenda for report only. None noted.	
BPC/97/ 24-25	Clerk's report. Councillors expressed support for not paying the SSE bill until they could explain the brought forward figure quoted. There was support for exploring an alternative electricity supplier and The Finance working Group (FWG) were asked to follow this up and report back to the next Meeting of the Council. All other items noted.	FWG
BPC/98/ 24-25	Public Session: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. A member of the public reported that the Village Directory that the Council had supported, has recently been reviewed and the section containing useful contacts and suppliers was significantly out of date. It is now intended to produce an insert for the Directory with accurate information. The Directory is intended for new residents. ii. A member of the public reported that a resident had written to the Council asking for support for a remembrance bench. 	

BPC/99/ 24-25	<p>Response to issues raised in the public session.</p> <p>i. The Council suggested that anyone aware of new residents could contact the Clerk who would let the member of public know to deliver a copy of the Directory. Its availability could also feature on the Council's website.</p>	Cllr Read						
BPC/100/ 24-25	<p>Planning and Development.</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="300 409 1401 1115"> <thead> <tr> <th data-bbox="300 409 624 488">Application & Date Comments Due</th> <th data-bbox="624 409 986 488">Location</th> <th data-bbox="986 409 1401 488">Description</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td data-bbox="300 488 624 1115">2024/2587/DCOR For information only</td> <td data-bbox="624 488 986 1115">Management suite Northampton Gateway Rail Freight Interchange Collingtree Road Milton Malsor</td> <td data-bbox="986 488 1401 1115">Seek approval of amended plans under Requirement 8(2),(d),(e),(f),(g),(h) and (i) (detailed approval), 10/11 (landscaping), and (15 (lighting) in respect of the Estate Office only (Works No. 4(3)&4 (Further Works (2) (k)) in Respect of signage) of the Northampton Gateway (NG) DCO.</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Noted</p>	Application & Date Comments Due	Location	Description	2024/2587/DCOR For information only	Management suite Northampton Gateway Rail Freight Interchange Collingtree Road Milton Malsor	Seek approval of amended plans under Requirement 8(2),(d),(e),(f),(g),(h) and (i) (detailed approval), 10/11 (landscaping), and (15 (lighting) in respect of the Estate Office only (Works No. 4(3)&4 (Further Works (2) (k)) in Respect of signage) of the Northampton Gateway (NG) DCO.	
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BPC/101/ 24-25	<p>Correspondence from social media: Update from Cllr Read. Cllr Read's report was noted. The Council noted there had been favourable comments about the D-Day display and the diligent work of the Clerk.</p>							
BPC/102/ 24-25	<p>Police & Neighbourhood Watch Scheme: Update from Cllr Read. Police & Neighbourhood Watch Scheme:</p> <p>Crime date for April: Vehicle crime - 4 Violence and Sex Offence - 1 Other Crime - 1 Burglary - 1</p> <p>Cllr Read's report was noted. He noted that at the recent Police Liaison Representative Conference, trust in the Police was reckoned to be an increasing problem, particularly after the recent scandals involving the Chief Constable and Police and Crime Commissioner. After some discussion about the value of PCSOs attending Parish Council meetings, Cllr Read suggested that our PCSO should be invited to the Parish Annual Meeting. This idea was supported by Councillors.</p>	Clerk						
BPC/103/ 24-25	<p>Report on data from SID/VAS devices: Update from Cllr Read. The Council noted the data provided.</p>							
BPC/104/ 24-25	<p>Gateway Update. Update from Cllr Wilson: The next liaison meeting is to be held on 2 July 2024. In their update, SEGRO have said they will engage with West Northants Council (WNC), Highways about signage. Cllr Wilson will raise the issue about signage to Blisworth directing traffic down Knock Lane to see if they can help, noting that</p>	Cllr Wilson						

	<p>until the new Roade bypass is formally adopted by Highways, SEGRO retain responsibility for its maintenance.</p> <p>It was suggested that if Stoke Road traffic volumes could be obtained for before and after the opening of the bypass it might aid in marshalling arguments for amended signage.</p>	Cllr Read
BPC/105/ 24-25	<p>Village Maintenance & Open Spaces:</p> <p>(a) Play Area:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. Monthly safety inspection report: Update from Cllr Wilson. Visual inspection carried out 29 June 2024 and nothing to report. Noted. ii. Review cost of new signage at Eastfield Play area and agree next steps. The Council noted the cost estimates provided by the Clerk. The Council Resolved to spend up to £100 (exc. VAT) on new signage. iii. Discuss option for new play equipment at Eastfield Play area and agree next steps. Councillor Wilson will provide ideas and cost estimates to Councillor Read for drafting a grant application. <p>(b) Defibrillator: Confirmation of satisfactory checks and any issues. Monthly check was undertaken. The unit was logged as functional on the Northamptonshire Emergency Services system "The Circuit" on 22 May 2024. The pads and battery have been replaced. Noted.</p> <p>(c) Allotments and closed Cemetery: After considerable discussion regarding the current situation with the allotments the following actions were agreed:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. The Clerk will ask the Allotment Association for any guidance they have on dealing with allotment holder non-compliance with the terms of their rental agreement. ii. Allotment Holders will receive an invitation to the next meeting of the council to hear their views and discuss current issues. iii. The Clerk will inform allotment holders that in future, issues and complaints regarding the allotments will only be dealt with at Council Meetings. 	Cllr Wilson Cllrs Read and Wilson Clerk
BPC/106/ 24-25	<p>Discuss the Blisworth Football Club lease and agree next steps. The recent difficulties with getting the draft lease progressed was discussed. On balance, it was agreed that getting the lease finalised and signed was the priority with possibly making a complaint about the service the Council has received from its solicitor coming afterwards. The Council agreed that, if necessary, an extraordinary meeting of the Council should be held to approve the lease, rather than wait for the next regular Council Meeting.</p>	Clerk All Cllrs
BPC/107/ 24-25	<p>Traffic Working Group report. Update from Cllr Brown. Councillor Brown's report was noted. The recent repairs to Church Road pavement and Gayton road were recognised. Councillor Brown has been informed by West Northants Council, (WNC) that the consultation on the 20MPH zone has been completed and the Council's comments about extending the proposed zone rejected. However, the Council has not received any notification about the consultation or been offered any explanation for the decision. The Council considered that consultation with Blisworth residents on this issue was vital and Councillor Brown will follow this up with WNC.</p>	Cllr Brown

BPC/108/ 24-25	Internal control: Financial & Management Risk Assessment: To receive declarations of gifts/hospitality and review record of gifts/hospitality received by Councillors or the Clerk to date. None received.	
BPC/109/ 24-25	Finance and Administration: a) Bank reconciliation NatWest Current Account £0.00 NatWest Reserve account £0.00 Unity trust current Account £13, 849.58 Skipton Current Account £82, 537.58 b) To Receive Finance Working Group Report. Update from Cllr Root. Councillor Root's report was noted. The Council discussed the finance and contract letting issues in the new model Financial Regulations that were summarised in the report. After discussion the council agreed to adopt the FWG's recommendations. c) Discuss amendments to the new model Financial Regulations 2024 and agree next steps. The Council resolved to agree the amendments in the draft circulated. d) To note receipts and approve the following payments and any others that arrive after publication of the agenda. RESOLVED: To note receipts and agree the payments listed in Appendix I.	Clerk
BPC/110/ 24-25	Councillor's reports and items for future agendas: Councillor Hawkins reported on a recent course on Conservation Areas which she had found very useful. It was agreed that she should attend the next one if possible.	Cllr Hawkins
BPC/111/ 24-25	Resolve to agree on a representative(s) from the Council for the next Council Surgery. RESOLVED: Cllr Ingram and Cllr Wilson to attend.	Cllrs Ingram and Wilson
BPC/112/ 24-25	To agree the date of next meeting Monday, 5th August 2024 at 7.30 pm. RESOLVED to agree the date of the next meeting to be Monday, 5 th August 2024 at 7:30 pm.	
BPC113/ 24-25	Close. The meeting closed at 9.15 pm.	

Appendix 1

RECEIPTS											
Date	Time	Credit Ref/Debit Ref	Amount Paid In	Interest	Allotments - Rents	Precept	Grants	VAT Refund	Other	TOTAL	Bank Details
			0.00							0.00	
Totals										0.00	

PAYMENTS							
Statutory Power	Invoice	Payee	Purpose	Chq no/DD/BT	Total Amount Including VAT	VAT	Amount excluding VAT
LGA 1972, s.111		NatWest	Bank charges Close Account Fee	NWDD35	£7.70	0.00	7.70
LGA 1972 s 142 LGA 1972, s111 (1)	2030 4243 0228	IONOS	Website Fee 08/06/2024-08/07/2024	UTDD36	6.00	1.00	5.00
LGA 1972, s.111		Unity Trust	Bank charges Unity Trust 05/03/2024-03/06/2024	UTDD37	£18.00	0.00	18.00
LGA 1972, s111	3878	Northants CALC Ltd	Training - Co-option Process	UTBT38	12.00	2.00	10.00
Highways Act 1980, s. 96	2025	CutCrew Ltd	Cut to: Area 2 x 2 & Area 1 x 2 12/06/2024 & 26/06/2024	UTBT39	837.02	139.50	697.52
LGA (Financial Provisions) 1963 s5		A Billing - Expenses	Clerk's Expenses (01.06.2024 - 30.06.2024)	UTBT40	33.35	0.00	33.35
LGA 1972 s112 (2)		A Billing - Salary	Clerk's Salary June 2024 Mth 03	UTBT41	976.19	0.00	976.19

BLISWORTH PARISH COUNCIL

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LGA 1972 s112 (2)	120PF003233662503	HMRC - Nat. Ins.	HMRC Nat. Ins. Employer Contributions Jun 2024 Salary Mth 03	UTBT42	33.42	0.00	33.42
LGA 1972 s112 (2)	Pension Month 03 2024-2025	Nest Pensions	Nest Pension Employer costs 01/06/2024 - 30/06/2024	UTDD43	38.42	0.00	38.42
Environmental Protection Act 1990, s89 (1a)	7800	Shield Ltd	Dog Waste Bins x 13 & Bin x 1 01.06.24 - 30.06.24	UTBT44	148.20	24.70	123.50
LGA 1972, Section 111	7730	Barbara Osborne	Payroll Services Apr 2024 - Jun 2024	UTBT45	85.50	0.00	85.50
				Totals	£2,195.80	£167.20	£2,028.60