

BLISWORTH PARISH COUNCIL

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Minutes of the **Ordinary** meeting of **Blisworth Parish Council** held in Blisworth Village Hall on **Monday 6th March 2023 at 7.30 pm.**

Present: Cllr Billing, Chair
 Cllr J Hawkins
 Cllr D Wilson
 Cllr B Brown
 Cllr M Field

Also present: Clerk: Angela Billing
 3 Members of public

		Action						
1.	To receive apologies. Apologies received from Cllr Gardner, Cllr Read, Cllr Root and District Councillor Cooper. 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 6th February 2023. 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.	Discuss request to further support costs for a school crossing-patrol officer and agree next steps. Resolved to allocated a further £710.00 towards the cost of a school crossing-patrol officer as this benefits many residents and also provides traffic calming measures on the busy High Street in the village. Agreed that payments towards the cost of the school crossing-patrol officer to be allocated as a Section 30: Power to contribute financially to traffic calming schemes.	Clerk						
7.	Discuss request for an S137 grant from Blisworth Baptist Church for £450.00 towards costs for stocking the Leisure Hall. Resolved to request further details regarding the usage of the Leisure Hall.	Cllr Wilson						
8.	Public Session: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. District Councillor Report. Not received. b. Members of the public. A member of the public reported that Shire Lumsden Ltd are no longer able to print the Blisworth Parish Council Round and About bi-monthly newsletter. The Clerk had recommended another local printer, who has been approached and who can provide an equal service. We are awaiting confirmation regarding pricing. 							
9.	Response to issues raised in the public session. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) District Councillor Report. No response required. b) Members of the public. No response required. 							
10.	Planning and Development. <table border="1" style="width: 100%; margin-top: 10px;"> <thead> <tr> <th>Application & Date Comments Due</th> <th>Location</th> <th>Description</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>WNS/2021/1858/EIA Appeal reference: APP/W2845/W/23/331</td> <td>Land at Milton Road, Gayton, Northamptonshire</td> <td>Construction of a temporary 49.72MW Solar Farm, to include the installation of Solar Panels with transformers, a substation, a DNO control room, a customer substation, GRP comms cabin, security</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Application & Date Comments Due	Location	Description	WNS/2021/1858/EIA Appeal reference: APP/W2845/W/23/331	Land at Milton Road, Gayton, Northamptonshire	Construction of a temporary 49.72MW Solar Farm, to include the installation of Solar Panels with transformers, a substation, a DNO control room, a customer substation, GRP comms cabin, security	
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	<p>4266 Appeal start date: 31 January 2023</p> <p>All representations must be received by 07/03/2023.</p> <p>Resolved to respond by reiterating Blisworth Parish Council's initial objections.</p>		<p>fencing, landscaping and other associated infrastructure.</p> <p>An appeal has been made to the Secretary of State against the decision of West Northamptonshire Council (South Area) to refuse to grant planning permission.</p>	
	<p>WNS/2021/1819/EIA</p> <p>Additional comments to those already submitted, must be received by 16/03/2023</p> <p>Resolved to respond by reiterating Blisworth Parish Council's initial objections.</p>	<p>Land North Of The Bell Plantation Watling Street Towcester</p>	<p>Hybrid planning application comprising of Part A: Full planning permission for a new roundabout access from the A5; internal spine road, creation of development plots with associated earthworks and plateauing; delivery of plateaus and access for Towcester Town Football Club (TTFC); site-wide structural landscaping and infrastructure; and a single warehouse (Use Class B8) and ancillary office, with associated access, hardstanding, landscaping, parking and supporting infrastructure.</p> <p>Part B: Outline planning permission with all matters reserved for the development of TTFC and employment floorspace falling within Use Classes B2 and B8, with ancillary office space on the development plots; as established through Part A of this application.</p> <p>Amendment Details</p> <p>Submission of further information and evidence in relation to Environmental Statement: • AIMSUN Modelling Report (highway modelling) • Football pitch plateau dimensions and levels • Amended Construction & Environmental Management Plan (CEMP) • Amended Planning Statement</p>	
<p>11.</p>	<p>Correspondence from social media: Update from Cllr Read. Report circulated ahead of the meeting. There have been no direct contacts through social media this month. Our total number of followers has increased by 4 residents to 224 people (69.9% of our followers are listed as women and 97 are listed as resident in Blisworth, the remainder listed in Northampton/Road/Towcester). We have had a post reach of 306 people (people who have our messages on their social media feeds) and a direct engagement (clicks) of 154 people. Our top performing post in the period was our post concerning the planting of the Queen's Jubilee memorial cherry tree. This led to 168 people reached and 74 direct engagements, 4 comments and 25 likes. Comments were universally positive, which was pleasing to see.</p>			
<p>12.</p>	<p>Police & Neighbourhood Watch Scheme: Update from Cllr Read. Report circulated ahead of the meeting. We have 67 members registered on the Neighbourhood alert scheme and no alerts have been issued for our village. Regular updates about local crime and matters of priority within South Northants on Neighbourhood Alert: www.northamptonshireneighbourhoodalert.co.uk/. These are also published on the Parish social media. Using this system complies with GDPR.</p> <p>The next meeting with Northants Police is scheduled for 08/03/2023 via Teams meeting where feedback from the Northants Police Rural Crime Engagement event will be discussed.</p>			

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13.	<p>Report on data from SID/VAS devices: Update from Cllr Read. Report circulated ahead of the meeting. VAS unit in Stoke Road: In the period between 5 Feb and 5 Mar (29 days) there were 78,155 vehicle movements (2,695 per day) with an average speed of 30.4 mph and 85% of vehicles were travelling below 35 mph. This means that over 404 vehicles daily speed on Stoke Road adjacent the doctor's surgery and through the restricted residential area. The top speed recorded was 66 mph.</p> <p>VAS unit in Courteenhall Road: In the period between 5 Feb and 5 Mar (29 days) there were 99,404 vehicle movements (3,427 per day) with an average speed of 33.3mph and 85% of vehicles were travelling below 41 mph. This means that approximately 514 vehicles daily speed down Courteenhall Road adjacent residential properties. The top speed recorded was 85 mph.</p>	
	<p>Gateway Update and discussion. Update from Cllr Wilson and Cllr Brown. Cllr Wilson reported that the WINVIC Site Agent has asked for volunteers from parish councils to attend monthly meetings on site in order to discuss up and coming works for the following month and to keep locals more informed. Cllr Wilson volunteered to attend each month. Cllr Brown reported that she had completed a leaflet drop asking residents of Knock Lane about their reactions to the Roade bypass and works due to be carried out in Knock Lane as part of the planning application for the works at Northampton Gateway. Cllr Brown and the Clerk met with two residents from Knock Lane. The residents had sourced the opinions of other residents in the area via email, which they shared with Cllr Brown. Residents expressed concern at the speed and increased volume of traffic on Knock Lane and Stoke Road, and their fear that the new road layouts will exacerbate this due to the widening of the Knock Lane/Stoke Road junction. They reported that there have already been a number of near accidents involving children and horses as a result of the speed and quantity of traffic. The combination of the Riding School on Stoke Road, the number of privately stabled horses and the access to/egress from bridleways on the route mean that horses, children and walkers regularly travel along both roads. These roads are narrow and have a number of bends and a hill which mean that the line of sight is restricted. Cllr Brown will discuss the issues and suggested remedies at the Highways meeting on 07/03/2023. The Clerk reported the recent concerns of residents to the increasing deterioration of the subsiding section of the Stoke Road which is exacerbated by the increasing volumes of traffic. A Highways representative stated that they will send an engineer to re-evaluate the condition of the road by the end of this week.</p>	<p>Cllr Wilson</p> <p>Cllr Brown</p>
14.	<p>Discuss plans for the King's Coronation and agree next steps. The Clerk, had contacted various village groups and individuals, on behalf of the Council, by way of ascertaining residents' ideas/requests. Clerk reported on the feedback received to date. Cllr Hawkins and Cllr Brown volunteered to attend a meeting to discuss plans for the King's Coronation further.</p>	<p>Cllr Brown</p> <p>Cllr Hawkins</p>
15.	<p>Water Bill: Resolve to use latest water meter reading from Blisworth Football Club and Blisworth Scouts sub-meter readings obtained by the Clerk to enable collection of Blisworth Football Club's and Blisworth Scouts' share of the water bill, due before the end of this financial year. Agreed.</p>	<p>Clerk</p>
16.	<p>Char.gy initiative to install electric car charging units in the village. Update from Clerk and Cllr Read. Clerk reported that due to demand, Char.gy planned to concentrate on supporting councils to make more streets EV-friendly with lamppost chargers. This would mean a pause to offer charge points for new requests at locations like car parks, private housing estates and apartment buildings or community halls and hotels. The Clerk has requested that Char.gy put Blisworth Parish Council on their waiting list until further feedback is received from Blisworth residents.</p>	
17.	<p>IT and Communications: Discuss IT and Communications policy and agree next steps. Amended option to use OneDrive to be included. Approved. Clerk to update.</p>	<p>Clerk</p>
18.	<p>To review and approve amendments to BPC Freedom of Information Policy. Approved.</p>	
19.	<p>Warm Room Grant: Resolve to approve payment of £1,116.84 to the Blisworth Baptist Church as per advice from West Northants Council (WNC) and NCALC. Funds will be allocated from the WNC Warm Welcoming Spaces Application 2022-23 granted to Blisworth Parish Council for this purpose. Agreed that payment to Blisworth Baptist Church to be allocated as a Section 19 Miscellaneous Provision; particularly as the money originated from the WNC grant rather than funds from the Precept.</p>	

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20.	Village Maintenance & Open Spaces: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Play area: Monthly safety inspection report: Update from Cllr Wilson. Monthly check was undertaken and no significant issues were identified but Cllr Wilson did note deterioration in the paint work on the edge of the spinning mechanism on the carousel. Cllr Wilson to monitor. b. Defibrillator: Confirmation of satisfactory checks and any issues. Update from Cllr Read. Monthly check was undertaken and no issues were identified. c. Allotments & Closed Cemetery. Update from Cllr Billing. Cllr Billing to obtain further quotes for the fencing at the allotments. Cllr Billing to look into other options for the path at the Closed Cemetery due to the costs indicated by the recent quotes and the difficulty associated with the steep gradient of the incline. 	<p>Cllr Wilson</p> <p>Cllr Billing</p>																																							
21.	Internal Control: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) Financial & Management Risk Assessment: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. To receive declarations of gifts/hospitality and review record of gifts/hospitality received by Councillors or the Clerk to date. None received. 																																								
22.	Finance & Administration Banking Issues: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Bank reconciliation to 6th March 2023. <p>NatWest CURRENT ACCOUNT 08684642 20/02/2023 £28,205.55</p> <p>NatWest RESERVE ACCOUNT 40578429 20/02/2023 £37,637.11</p> <p>Uncashed cheques/Payments:</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr><td style="width: 10%;">3194</td><td style="width: 70%;">Marcus Young Environmental Services</td><td style="width: 20%; text-align: right;">1,797.12</td></tr> <tr><td>3201</td><td>Friends of Blisworth Primary School</td><td style="text-align: right;">500.00</td></tr> <tr><td>3202</td><td>J E Matthews & Sons Ltd</td><td style="text-align: right;">474.00</td></tr> <tr><td>3203</td><td>A Newbery</td><td style="text-align: right;">100.00</td></tr> <tr><td>3204</td><td>A Billing - Salary</td><td style="text-align: right;">783.50</td></tr> <tr><td>3205</td><td>HMRC - Nat. Ins.</td><td style="text-align: right;">3.52</td></tr> <tr><td>DD</td><td>IONOS</td><td style="text-align: right;">6.00</td></tr> <tr><td>DD</td><td>Waves</td><td style="text-align: right;">55.00</td></tr> <tr><td>3206</td><td>Blisworth Baptist Church</td><td style="text-align: right;">1,116.84</td></tr> <tr><td>3207</td><td>A Billing - Expenses</td><td style="text-align: right;">28.16</td></tr> <tr><td>3208</td><td>BVH&PFA</td><td style="text-align: right;">230.00</td></tr> <tr><td>3209</td><td>CutCrew Ltd</td><td style="text-align: right;">797.18</td></tr> <tr><td colspan="2" style="text-align: right;">Total Uncashed payments</td><td style="text-align: right;">£5,891.32</td></tr> </table> <p style="text-align: right;">Closing Balance as at 06/03/2023 £59,951.34</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> b. To review and agree signatories for Skipton interest bank account. It was agreed at the 06/02/2023 meeting that Cllr W Root, Cllr D Wilson, Cllr B Brown and the Clerk (Angela Billing) would be signatories to the Skipton Building Society savings account. It was resolved that as Cllr Wilson is already a signatory on the NatWest current bank account, it was not necessary to have four signatories on the Skipton Building Society savings account. Revised signatories agreed to be: Cllr W Root, Cllr B Brown and the Clerk (Angela Billing). c. To note receipts and approve the following payments and any others that arrive after publication of the agenda: The following payments were received after publication of the March agenda (see Payments below): BVH&PFA - £230.00 (No VAT) CutCrew Ltd - £797.18 (inc. VAT), £132.86 (VAT), £664.32 (Net of VAT) Friends of Blisworth Primary School (part 2 of 2) - £710.00 (No VAT) 	3194	Marcus Young Environmental Services	1,797.12	3201	Friends of Blisworth Primary School	500.00	3202	J E Matthews & Sons Ltd	474.00	3203	A Newbery	100.00	3204	A Billing - Salary	783.50	3205	HMRC - Nat. Ins.	3.52	DD	IONOS	6.00	DD	Waves	55.00	3206	Blisworth Baptist Church	1,116.84	3207	A Billing - Expenses	28.16	3208	BVH&PFA	230.00	3209	CutCrew Ltd	797.18	Total Uncashed payments		£5,891.32	<p>Clerk</p>
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RECEIPTS			
Date	Payee	Detail	Amount
31/01/2023	NatWest	Interest	*£26.38
			*BR Account
			**Current Account

PAYMENTS						
Invoice	PAYEE	PURPOSE	CHQ/DD	Total Amount Including VAT	VAT	Amount Excluding VAT
January 2023/0020	SSE	Electricity Supply 04.01.2023 - 01.02.2023	DD	100.10	4.76	95.34
	Friends of Blisworth Primary School	School Crossing Patrol Officer - Part 1 of 2	3201	500.00	0.00	500.00
18975	J E Matthews & Sons Ltd	Tree Guard for Queen's Jubilee Tree	3202	474.00	79.00	395.00
	A Newbery	Cutting Closed Cemetery 2022-2023	3203	100.00	0.00	100.00
ICO:00012050708	Information Commissioner's Office (ICO)	Data Protection Officer Fee ICO Certificate - Subscription to 18.02.2024	DD	35.00	0.00	35.00
	A Billing - Salary	Clerk's Salary February 2023	3204	783.50	0.00	783.50
120PF003233662311	HMRC - Nat. Ins.	HMRC Nat. Ins. Employer Contributions February Salary	3205	3.52	0.00	3.52
02/03/2023 203035099702	IONOS	Website Fee - 28/02/2023-31/03/2023	DD	6.00	1.00	5.00
	Waves	Water Supply	DD	55.00	0.00	55.00
	Blisworth Baptist Church	Warm Welcoming Spaces Grant	3206	1,116.84	0.00	1,116.84
	A Billing - Expenses	Clerk's Expenses February 2023 (01.02.2023 - 28.02.2023)	3207	28.16	0.00	28.16
Inv 73, 75, 78	BVH&PFA*	Hire of Village Hall & Wi-Fi (04/04/22 to 06/03/23)	3208	230.00	0.00	230.00
Inv 1470	CutCrew Ltd*	Cut to: Area 2 x 2 & Area 1 x 2	3209	797.18	132.86	664.32
	Friends of Blisworth Primary School*	School Crossing Patrol Officer - Part 2 of 2	3210	710.00	0.00	710.00
				4,939.30	217.62	4,721.68

*Where Invoice/Receipt received after agenda was published.

23.	Councillors' reports and items for future agenda. Letter to Blisworth Football club asking for plans about their water supply.	
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	Request that the next Finance Working Group meeting revisits plans for reserves in light of the meeting with Highways ready for BPC April meeting.	
24.	Council Surgery – Resolve to agree on a representative(s) from the Council for Tuesday, 14th March 2023. Resolved that Cllr Hawkins will attend on Tuesday, 14th March 2023 between 10:00 – 11:30 am.	Cllr Hawkins
25.	To agree the date of next meeting Monday, 3rd April 2023 at 7.30pm. Agreed	
26.	Close. The meeting closed at 9.31 pm.	

Signed: Chairman..... Date:

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