

## BLISWORTH PARISH COUNCIL

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Minutes of the **Ordinary** meeting of **Blisworth Parish Council** held in Blisworth Village Hall on **Monday 7th October 2024 at 7.30 pm.**

**Present:** Cllr C Read MBE, Vice-Chair (Acting Chair)  
 Cllr D Wilson  
 Cllr B Brown  
 Cllr B Ingram  
 Cllr C Gardner

**Also present:** 3 Members of public

		Action
BPC160/ 24-25	To receive apologies. Apologies received from Cllr Billing, Cllr Root, Cllr Hawkins, Cllr Chandler, the Clerk (Angela Biling) and District Councillor Addison. The Council resolved to accept the apologies.	
BPC161/ 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. None received.	
BPC162/ 24-25	To receive and approve for signature, the minutes of the Ordinary meeting held on 02/09/2024. Approved.	
BPC163/ 24-25	<p>To note any matters arising from the minutes not included on the agenda for report only. The September Youth Parish Council meeting was attended by two young people who are now producing a local survey for their peers around village teenage provision. It is felt a peer to peer survey will likely gather more appropriate responses around what the village needs to do in support of local youth. The young people have started to settle into the "room" kindly allocated by the Blisworth Baptist Church and have requested some bean bags which have been purchased. We approached Roade school to present to a year group unfortunately we are yet to receive a response but we are in touch with Roade Parish Council who are moving along a similar initiative. It is hoped to share ideas and work together. The Council expressed our thanks to the minister of the Blisworth Baptist Church who continues to push things forward on our behalf. The PSCO is planning on visiting the group in November.</p> <p>Cllr Brown noted the meeting scheduled for 11/10/2024 at Blisworth Village Hall at 2 pm with Sarah Bool (MP) to discuss the issue of the increasing number of warehousing units around the village and also the issues caused by the new road signage at the new Roade by-pass. It was noted that 2pm is not an ideal time for residents that work, but unfortunately an evening slot was not available.</p>	
BPC164/ 24-25	Clerk's report circulated separately. Noted.	
BPC165/ 24-25	<p>Public Session:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. District Councillor Report. No report submitted this month.</li> <li>b. Members of the public.</li> </ul>	

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	<p>(i) Members of the public suggested another traffic survey to record the number and size of HGV vehicles now accessing the village roads and raised the issue of SATNAV systems routing traffic through the village.</p> <p>(ii) A member of the Blisworth Baptist Church noted that the next Warm Room sessions are due to be confirmed for November 2024 to March 2025 and asked for volunteers from Blisworth Parish Council for the extended hours.</p> <p>(iii) A member of the public had raised the issue of the need to maintain the war memorial situated in the St John the Baptist Church grounds.</p> <p>(iv) A member of the public thanked the Council for their hard work.</p>							
BPC166/ 24-25	<p>Response to issues raised in the public session.</p> <p>b (i) The previous traffic surveys were noted and it was agreed that the Council would look to gather further traffic data via another survey but this was dependent on the weather and also volunteers.</p> <p>b (ii) Noted. The Council thanked the Blisworth Baptist Church for their initiative. Councillors to contact the Blisworth Baptist Church separately to volunteer.</p> <p>b (iii) The Council are investigating options for maintenance grants for war memorials in addition to clarifying the issue of areas of responsibility for maintenance of the war memorial and costs involved.</p>	<p>TWG</p> <p>Cllr Read and Clerk</p>						
BPC167/ 24-25	<p>Planning and Development.</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="226 1032 1369 1308"> <thead> <tr> <th data-bbox="226 1032 552 1111">Application &amp; Date Comments Due</th> <th data-bbox="552 1032 759 1111">Location</th> <th data-bbox="759 1032 1369 1111">Description</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td data-bbox="226 1111 552 1308">2024/4258/TCA</td> <td data-bbox="552 1111 759 1308">Old Grave Yard High Street Blisworth NN7 3BJ</td> <td data-bbox="759 1111 1369 1308">Notification of tree works: Intended tree work includes: Carry out works to various trees within cemetery.  Noted. No comments.</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Application & Date Comments Due	Location	Description	2024/4258/TCA	Old Grave Yard High Street Blisworth NN7 3BJ	Notification of tree works: Intended tree work includes: Carry out works to various trees within cemetery.  Noted. No comments.	
Application & Date Comments Due	Location	Description						
2024/4258/TCA	Old Grave Yard High Street Blisworth NN7 3BJ	Notification of tree works: Intended tree work includes: Carry out works to various trees within cemetery.  Noted. No comments.						
BPC168/ 24-25	<p>Correspondence from social media: Update from Cllr Read. Noted. There have been no direct messages to the social media platform in the period. The total number of followers on Social Media has increased slightly to 316 people, an increase of four since last month (68% of our followers are listed as women and 129 are listed as resident in Blisworth, the remainder listed in Northampton/Road/Towcester/Hartwell). The highest age demographic is the 35-44 year old age group. We have post reach of 2255 people (people who have our messages on their social media feeds) and a direct engagement (clicks) of 1004 people. Our top performing post in the period was the information on the A508 closure on 25 Sept had reach of 1048 and engagement of 53, one reaction and one comment. Since the last meeting we have posted information on the further road closures, Youth Parish Council, the meeting with Sarah Bool MP and a copy of the parish newsletter Round and About.</p>							
BPC169/ 24-25	<p>Police &amp; Neighbourhood Watch Scheme: Update from Cllr Read. Noted.</p>							
BPC170/ 24-25	<p>Report on data from SID/VAS devices: Update from Cllr Read. Noted.</p>							

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<p>BPC171/ 24-25</p>	<p>Gateway Update. Update from Cllr Wilson. Plot 4 of the SEGRO development is likely to be occupied in December 2025.</p> <p>The junction between Courteenhall Road and the A508 which now restricts any right-hand turn towards Roade village: As part of their works on the surrounding road system, they are intending to extend the barrier to stop the public from using the turning towards Courteenhall village to do U-turn. The barrier will also be extended to the Courteenhall Road Estate.</p>	
<p>BPC172/ 24-25</p>	<p>Village Maintenance &amp; Open Spaces:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Play area: Monthly safety inspection report: Update from Cllr Wilson. Monthly check was undertaken. Issues noted: Missing signage and also gate lock and chain. Noted. Clerk to investigate options for replacements. Cllr Wilson had investigated prices for additional play area equipment from various company specialists. Cllr Read to investigate grant options.</li> <li>b. Defibrillator: Confirmation of satisfactory checks and any issues. Update from Cllr Read. Monthly check was undertaken and no issues were identified.</li> <li>c. Allotments: Update from Cllr Ingram and Cllr Read. Allotment Working Group meeting scheduled for 14/10/2024 at 7:00 pm, Blisworth Village hall to feedback results of the survey and gather further feedback from tenants. Activities over the month included: quotes sought for suited manual padlocks, all vacant plots have now been let and confirmation that the Council will not maintain the height of hedges and if the Council has to step in, the hedges will be entirely removed to prevent further maintenance liabilities.</li> <li>d. Review quotes for padlocks and keys for allotment gates and agree next steps. At the time of the meeting, not all quote requests had been answered. <b>RESOLVED</b> to agree expenditure for padlocks and spare keys up to £400.00. Cost of keys to be paid for by tenants.</li> <li>e. Closed Cemetery: Update from Cllr Billing. TPO applications have been submitted to allow epicormic pruning of lime trees with TPOs and also lime trees within the Conservation Area. TPO applications will not be agreed by WNC until mid-November. At the time of the meeting, not all quote requests for the epicormic pruning had been answered. Deferred to November 2024 meeting. Clerk to pursue quote responses.</li> <li>f. Discuss options for replacement trees and agree next steps. Deferred to November 2024 meeting.</li> </ol>	<p>Clerk</p> <p>Cllr Read</p> <p>Cllr Read and Cllr Ingram</p> <p>Clerk</p> <p>Cllr Billing</p> <p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p>
<p>BPC173/ 24-25</p>	<p>Traffic Working Group: Update from Cllr Brown.</p> <p>Cllr Brown noted that she had met with a representative from Kier (Highways) to review again the pavements in Blisworth village. He has agreed that depending on the weather, Connegar leys and Buttmead should all be resurfaced this year. Noted that it was helpful for residents to also submit areas of concern on Fix My Street. Issues raised concerning the weeds now growing through the resurfaced areas possibly due to the fact that the areas of tarmac are no longer sealed. The representative explained that due to an incident where a hedge had been set on fire, they are no longer allowed to seal the edges of the tarmac.</p> <p>The issue of parking on both corners on Pond Bank (parking on the pavements and also on the grass areas on both corners) limiting sight-lines turning out and into Pond Bank was investigated. The representative agreed that bollards would not limit the parking. He suggested that the Council apply for double yellow lines as these would also then prohibit</p>	<p>TWG</p>

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	<p>any parking on the adjacent grass areas or the pavements. The Council was supportive that the Traffic Working Group should investigate options for double yellow lines, including approach to enforcement and the effects of displacement of parked vehicles to other parts of the village.</p> <p>The Kier representative agreed to review the condition of the Towcester Road pavement and agreed to submit a report to the Council. Blisworth Parish Council unfortunately were not support by Highways in our earlier application to reduce the speed limit to 40 mph on this section of road on approach to the village. Cllr Read to ask the PCSO for speed data on Towcester Road.</p> <p>The Kier (Highways) engineers have surveyed Stoke Road for a possible position for a chicane on Stoke Road to reduce speed and also to make it a less attractive option as a rat-run through the village. Once the design specification has been made available, the Council will organise a pubic consultation for all the residents to gather their views.</p>	<p>TWG Cllr Read  TWG</p>
<p>BPC174/ 24-25</p>	<p>Internal Control:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Internal Control Checklist: Update from Cllr Billing. Noted. No issues to report.</li> <li>b. Financial &amp; 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.</li> </ol>	
<p>BPC175/ 24-25</p>	<p>Finance &amp; Administration</p> <p>Banking Issues:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Bank reconciliation to 24/09/2024 £88,945.91. Noted. Checked by Cllr Root.</li> <li>b. To note the final instalment payment of the Precept. Final instalment of Precept, £22,785.00, received at Skipton Building Society on 27/09/2024.</li> <li>c. To note the completion of AGAR 2023-2024. Noted. Completion notice posted on website and noticeboard.</li> <li>d. To note the Finance Working Group Report: Update from Cllr Root. The update was provided by Cllr Wilson in Cllr Root's absence. Noted.</li> <li>e. To note Actual versus Budget report. Noted.</li> <li>f. Resolve to apply for all our allocated S106 money from Northampton Gateway. <b>RESOLVED</b> to apply for all our allocated S106 money from Northampton Gateway.</li> <li>g. Resolve to allocate £250 from the Contingency budget line to the Youth Parish Council to cover expenses this financial year. <b>RESOLVED</b> to allocate £250 from the Contingency budget line to the Youth Parish Council to cover expenses this financial year.</li> <li>h. Resolve to create a new Ring-Fenced Reserve for Allotment Deposits. <b>RESOLVED</b> to create a new Ring-Fenced Reserve for Allotment Deposits.</li> <li>i. Resolve to create a new Ring-Fenced Reserve for Closed Cemetery Donations. <b>RESOLVED</b> to create a new Ring-Fenced Reserve for Closed Cemetery Donations.</li> <li>j. Resolve to approve in principle a Section 137 Grant of £10.00 to Blisworth Community Primary School. <b>RESOLVED</b> to approve a Section 137 Grant of £10.00 to Blisworth Community Primary School.</li> </ol>	<p>FWG Clerk  Clerk  Clerk  Clerk</p>

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	<p>k. To discuss option to purchase a wreath for Remembrance Sunday as a Section 137 payment and agree next steps. <b>RESOLVED</b> to purchase a wreath for Remembrance Sunday as a Section 137 payment.</p> <p>l. To note payments received and consider invoices to be paid. <b>RESOLVED</b> to note receipts and agree the payments listed in Appendix I.</p>	Clerk
BPC176/ 24-25	<p>Football Club Lease:</p> <p>a. Discuss compensation payment sought on behalf of Blisworth Football Club and agree next steps. <b>RESOLVED</b> to accept £500.00 compensation and to request that compensation is paid direct to Blisworth Football Club.</p> <p>b. Discuss Football Club lease and note any actions. Noted that the delay in signing-off the lease is because the draft lease is still with Blisworth Football club. Blisworth Football Club have confirmed that the lease is still with the Football Foundation. The Secretary to Blisworth Football Club is going to request that the Football Foundation return the draft lease with their recommendations so that the lease can be finalised and agreed.</p>	Clerk
BPC177/ 24-25	Resolution to co-opt a councillor for the current vacancy. Deferred: No candidates applied.	
BPC178/ 24-25	Councillors' reports and items for future agenda. None received.	
BPC179/ 24-25	Council Surgery – Resolve to agree on a representative(s) from the Council for the next Council Surgery. <b>RESOLVED</b> that Cllr Wilson, Cllr Billing and Cllr Ingram will attend.	Cllrs Wilson, Billing and Ingram
BPC180/ 24-25	To agree the date of next meeting, Monday 4th November 2024 at 7.30pm. Agreed. Cllr Brown offered her apologies for the 04/11/2024 meeting.	
BPC181/ 24-25	Close. The meeting closed at 8.22 pm.	

Signed:

Chairman..... Date:

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

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Appendix I

RECEIPTS

Date	Description	Credit Ref/Debit Ref	Amount	Paid In	Withdrawn	INTEREST	ALLOTMENTS - RENTS	ALLOTMENTS - PLOT DEPOSIT	PRECEPT	GRANTS	VAT REFUND	OTHER	TOTAL	Bank
09-Sep-24	Allot Fee	Allot Fee 33a	£40.00	£40.00	£0.00		£10.00	£30.00					£40.00	UT
09-Sep-24	Allot Fee	Allot Fee 33/38	£80.00	£80.00	£0.00		£20.00	£60.00					£80.00	UT
16-Sep-24	LOCKS DIRECT	Reimburse Lock	£66.42	£66.42	£0.00							£66.42	£66.42	UT
18-Sep-24	ANGELA BILLING	Closed Cemetery Donation	£84.00	£84.00	£0.00							£84.00	£84.00	UT
27-09-2-24		Precept Final Instalment	£22,785.00	£22,785.00	£0.00				£22,785.00				£22,785.00	Skipton
			<b>£23,055.42</b>			<b>£0.00</b>	<b>£30.00</b>	<b>£90.00</b>	<b>£22,785.00</b>	<b>£0.00</b>	<b>£0.00</b>	<b>£150.42</b>	<b>£23,055.42</b>	

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<b>PAYMENTS</b>								
<b>Entry No</b>	<b>Statutory Power</b>	<b>Invoice</b>	<b>Payee</b>	<b>Purpose</b>	<b>chg no/DD/BT</b>	<b>Total Amount Including VAT</b>	<b>VAT</b>	<b>Amount excluding VAT</b>
74	Local Government Act 1972 s 214 (6)	02/08/2024	Tesco Petrol-CPS Team	Credit Card Payment CPS Petrol	CC-UTDD74	9.03	1.51	7.52
75	Local Government Act 1972 s 214 (6)	02/08/2024	Tesco Petrol-CPS Team	Credit Card Payment CPS Petrol	CC-UTDD75	8.21	1.37	6.84
76	LGA 1972, s.111	27/08/2024	Lloyds Bank PLC	Credit Card Fee	CC-UTDD76	3.00	0.00	3.00
77	Parish Councils Act 1957, s. 3. Highways Act 1980, s. 301	IV01404341	SSE Electricity	SSE 01/04/2024-30/04/2024	UTBT77	94.36	4.49	89.87
78	Parish Councils Act 1957, s. 3. Highways Act 1980, s. 301	IV01404342	SSE Electricity	SSE 01/05/2024-31/05/2024	UTBT78	97.51	4.64	92.87
79	Parish Councils Act 1957, s. 3. Highways Act 1980, s. 301	IV01404343	SSE Electricity	SSE 01/06/2024-30/06/2024	UTBT79	94.36	4.49	89.87
80	Parish Councils Act 1957, s. 3. Highways Act 1980, s. 301	IV01404344	SSE Electricity	SSE 01/07/2024-31/07/2024 Site Ref:AGR0143235	UTBT80	97.51	4.64	92.87
81	LGA 1972, s.111		Unity Trust	Bank charges Unity Trust 04/06/2024-03/09/2024	UTDD81	18.00	0.00	18.00
82	LGA 1972, Section 111	7811	Barbara Osborne	Payroll Services Jul 2024 - Sep 2024	UTBT82	85.50	0.00	85.50
83	LGA 1972 s112 (2)		A Billing - Salary	Clerk's Salary Sept 2024 Mth 06	UTBT83	976.19	0.00	976.19
84	LGA 1972 s112 (2)	120PF003233662506	HMRC - Nat. Ins.	HMRC Nat. Ins. Employer Contributions Sept 2024 Salary Mth 06	UTBT84	33.42	0.00	33.42
85	LGA 1972 s112 (2)	Pension Month 06 2024-2025	Nest Pensions	Nest Pension Employer costs 01/09/2024 - 30/09/2024	UTDD85	38.42	0.00	38.42

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86	LGA 1972 s 142 LGA 1972, s111 (1)	2030 4395 1652	IONOS	Website Fee 08/09/2024-08/10/2024	UTDD86	15.60	2.60	13.00
87	LGA 1972 s 142	27	Alan North	Invoice 27 for R&A Alan North Oct-Nov 2024 Iss 159	UTBT87	50.00	0.00	50.00
88	LGA 1972 s 142	29078	Merland Copy Shop Ltd	Printing of Round & About Oct-Nov Issue 159	UTBT88	170.00	0.00	170.00
89	Environmental Protection Act 1990, s89 (1a)	8080	Shield Ltd	Dog Waste Bins x 13 & Bin x 1 01.09.24 - 30.09.24	UTBT89	148.20	24.70	123.50
90	Parish Councils Act 1957, s. 3. Highways Act 1980, s. 301	IV01561431	SSE Electricity	SSE 01/08/2024-31/08/2024 Site Ref:AGR0143235 & AGR0143236	UTBT90	105.73	6.01	99.72
91	LGA (Financial Provisions) 1963 s5		A Billing - Expenses	Clerk's Expenses (01.09.2024 - 30.09.2024)	UTBT91	24.95	0.00	24.95
92	Highways Act 1980, s. 96	2161	CutCrew Ltd	Cut to: Area 2 x 2 & Area 1 x 2 04.09.2024 & 18.09.2024	UTBT92	837.02	139.50	697.52
<b>Totals</b>						<b>£2,907.01</b>	<b>£193.95</b>	<b>£2,713.06</b>