



**MINUTES OF THE BLIDWORTH PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
held at Blidworth Library, New Lane, Blidworth, Notts, NG21 0PW
on Thursday 19th October 2023 commencing at 7.00pm**

Present: Councillors: H O'Hare (Chairman), E Litchfield, C Williams, G Fisher, H Catling,
K Hickenbottom, C Walsh, T Smith, W Bates, K Marlow

Apologies: J Rea
Clerk: C Brettell
Members of the Public: 8

Abbreviations: NCC – Nottinghamshire County Council
NSDC – Newark and Sherwood District Council

Action by

- 23/68 To receive - Declaration of interests both pecuniary and non-pecuniary and applications for dispensation on items listed on the agenda**
Cllr Smith, Cllr Litchfield and Cllr Fisher declared an interest in 23/76.3
- 23/69 To receive - Apologies for absence given to the Clerk**
Apologies were received and noted from J Rea
- 23/70 To receive and approve – Minutes of the meeting held on the 21st September 2023**
(Appendix 1)
A query was raised over Agenda item 23/62.9 and an additional sentence added to the minutes.
It was then **resolved** that the minutes of the meeting held on the 21st September 2023 be accepted as a true and accurate record.
- 23/71 To note – updates on matters arising from the minutes if not already on the Agenda**
(no decisions can be made)
The Clerk had put in a request with NCC for a grit bin on Appleton Road near the junction with Sherwood Avenue, which was being looked into.
The holly tree is to be trimmed back on the 14th November. The Clerk had purchased a new mobile phone.
- 23/72 To determine which items of the agenda, if any, should be taken with the public excluded. If the Council decides to exclude the public the item will be moved to 23/67 and a resolution passed in order to discuss the item.**
None
- 23/73 To receive Representations (no more than 5 minutes per item)**
73.1 Public Participation
A resident reported that the parking was becoming an issue in the village, on footpaths and blocking pavements. For example on the cycle track, Belle Vue Lane and Mansfield Road. He also identified 'grot spots' in the village, under the notice board, under the seats on Mansfield Road and outside the shops. Clerk to raise with NSDC street cleaning team.

A resident mentioned the parking issues on the corner of Rookwood Close. NSDC are aware of this from the village walk around arranged by the tenancy team a few weeks ago, and are looking at additional signage.

A resident enquired about the section 106 money from Gleasons for the development on New Lane. The board explains about the money available and pots of money that are available for the community.

He was unclear about why the money can only be spent on developments such as community facilities. Would like more information on the 'Pavilion' suggestion as to its feasibility, as it could be expensive. This was to be discussed later on the Agenda.

The Chairman responded to say that Parish Councillors have a duty to ensure that they are in post to represent the village, and will look at their best interests.

A resident asked about the overpayment of fuel that had been taken twice from the bank account. The Clerk confirmed that the account had been sorted due to not having an up to date meter read.

He referred to Parish council minutes and asked about the 'Friends of Sherwood' and would like to know how this group is set up, and who is having DBS checks.

Cllr Walsh responded by referring to the Parish Council Standing Orders and stating that the Parish Council are not required to respond directly and would get back to him with the answers in due course.

Residents also enquired about the CCTV at Sherwood park and its suitability. The feedback from the meeting from NSDC ASB team last week and highlighted areas for improvement.

73.2 Reports from District and County Council Representatives on matters of a direct relevance to Blidworth Parishioners

No report from Tina Thompson

NCC Cllr T Smith, discussed the 'anti skid' markings that had been installed on the corner of Warsop Lane. He is also looking at speed reduction measures outside the school (Joseph Whitaker).

Flooding issues are also being looked at. He informed members that with the heavy rain forecast the 'River Maun' (Mansfield) and flood prone areas may flood. Cllr Smith had been looking into this with the NCC team.

73.3 Police report

No Police report

Cllr Marlow updated members regarding the ASBO meeting held on Tuesday 17th October, with Cllr Hickenbottom, the Parish Groundsman, representatives from NSDC (ASB team),

PCSO T Stokes and residents.

Issues with Dog mess on the top field to be looked into (reported back to NSDC).

Crimes and incidents are not being reported to the police and are not being recorded. This can be done anonymously. The Police had offered to put their cameras up, but there is currently not enough evidence to warrant this. More reports need to be raised showing crimes.

The Clerk to ask the PCSO's for contact/reporting information that can be shared on the noticeboard and on Facebook.

Clerk

CLRs also took this opportunity to discuss the location of the new benches with residents. This to be finalised before installation.

23/74 Financial Matters

To receive and approve accounts and financial information:

74.1 Analysis of Payments – September 2023 (Appendix 2)

74.2 Analysis of Receipts – September 2023 (Appendix 3)

74.3 Bank Reconciliation Statement as at 30th September 2023 (Appendix 4)

74.4 To authorise the schedule of payments for October 2023 (Appendix 5)

The Chairman checked the bank reconciliation figures with the bank statements.

It was **resolved** to accept and approve the financial information as per items 74.1 – 74.3 that had been submitted to members and to authorise the schedule of payments for October.

23/75 Planning Applications

To receive, and where appropriate comment on the following applications:

Application No	23/01608/LDCP
Date Registered	26 September 2023
Proposal	Certificate of Lawfulness for proposed use of land to produce small scale fruit, floral and herb production with erection of a polytunnel
Location	Plots 12C And 12D Ricket Lane Blidworth
Applicant	Mr John Smyth The Lion Main Street Farnsfield NG22 8EY
Q Code	7B Certificate of Lawful Development
Case Officer	Michael Read - Telephone 01636 655965
Application website	https://publicaccess.newark-sherwooddc.gov.uk/online-applications/applicationDetails.do?activeTab=summary&keyVal=S0T693LBKEE00

It was **resolved** to respond to this application stating ‘No Objections’
Cllr T Smith Abstained

Application No	23/01647/FULM
Date Registered	27 September 2023
Proposal	Proposed change of use of land from agriculture to equestrian
Location	Land Adjacent To Jesmondene Cottage Blidworth Bottoms Blidworth
Applicant	Mrs Caroline Smith C/o Agent
Q Code	Q21 Householder Developments
Case Officer	Laura Gardner - Telephone 01636 655907
Application website	https://publicaccess.newark-sherwooddc.gov.uk/online-applications/applicationDetails.do?activeTab=summary&keyVal=S116ZJLBKHU00

It was **resolved** to respond to this application stating ‘No Objections’
Cllr T Smith Abstained

Application No	23/01667/LDCP
Date Registered	29 September 2023
Proposal	Lawful development certificate for proposed first floor rear extension, including the addition of photo-voltaic solar panel(s) to the detached garage roof, replacing french door with Bifold doors, widening existing access gateway
Location	High Park Farm Cross Lane Blidworth NG21 0LX
Applicant	Mr Max Lee High Park Farm Cross Lane Blidworth NG21 0LX
Q Code	7B Certificate of Lawful Development
Case Officer	Jennifer Wallis - Telephone 01636 655370
Application website	https://publicaccess.newark-sherwooddc.gov.uk/online-applications/applicationDetails.do?activeTab=summary&keyVal=S18LNXLBKJ00

It was **resolved** to respond to this application stating 'No Objections'
Cllr T Smith Abstained

It was **resolved** to add the following Planning application to the agenda (due to time scales):

Proposal:	Application for variation of conditions 08 and 09 to extend the period of time in which the works are to be undertaken attached to planning permission 22/02461/FUL; Removal and replacement a single storey outbuilding and conversion with adjacent barn to form annexe (part retrospective)
Site Address:	Hill Top Farm Main Street Blidworth NG21 0QL
Planning Application Ref:	23/01752/S73

It was **resolved** to respond to this application stating 'No Objections'
Cllr T Smith Abstained

Planning Decisions and Appeals

The following Planning decisions/Appeals have been made:

For the full list of conditions please see the Newark and Sherwood District Council Planning Portal

Town and Country Planning Act 1990

The Town and Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) (England) Order 2015 (as amended)

Application for:	Householder Application
Application No:	23/01263/HOUSE
Applicant:	Mrs Nicola Darbyshire
Agent:	
Proposal:	Installation of new insulated roof on existing side extension (retrospective)
Site Address:	107 Dale Lane Blidworth NG21 0SU

Newark and Sherwood District Council as Local Planning Authority in pursuance of their powers under the said legislation **Grant Householder Application** for the development described in the above

Noted

Cllr B Bates entered the meeting 19.35

23/76 Business

- 76.1 To update – Grass verge cutting in Blidworth and the agreement with VIA
The Clerk updated members regarding the meeting she had had with Cllr Smith. Frank Ferne (VIA) had agreed to have a meeting to look into this further. **Clerk/Cllr Smith**
- 76.2 To discuss and agree – preparation for Remembrance service, including donation to the RBL and letter to local residents regarding the road closure.
The Clerk updated members regarding Remembrance, and had had a meeting with Rev Burton. A letter had been drafted to be delivered to local residents affected by the road closure. Cllrs Fisher, Smith and Catling were able to do this.
The 'knit and natter' group had completed the wreath.
Cllr Hickenbottom was now unable to provide the PA system. Cllr Williams suggested that he may be able to borrow a PA system to use.

However, it was **resolved** that if this is not possible to ask John Wyke Smith to do this at a cost of £60.

It was **resolved** to donate £25 to the RBL as per their request.

- 76.3 To discuss and agree – update from Section 106 meeting and proposal for the Parish Councils BID

Cllrs Fisher, Litchfield and Smith declared an interest and left the room

Discussion took place regarding the section 106 money. The Parish Council had engaged with the community and encourage all organisations to put BIDS in to NSDC for the section 106 money.

It was **resolved** for Blidworth Parish Council to move forward with a plan for a Pavilion area at Sherwood Park that they feel they would like to put forward for the village. This to be brought back to the next Parish Council meeting.

The Clerk advised that NSDC were happy to hold a meeting with the public regarding the section 106 money on Monday 13th November at Blidworth Library. This would be driven by NSDC and would allow residents to ask questions. The Clerk to publicise on social media. **NSDC**

Cllr Smith, Cllr Litchfield and Cllr Fisher returned to the room

- 76.4 To note - Local Development Framework Plan Review – Second Publication Allocations & Development Management Development Plan Document – Regulation 19 Consultation (emailed out to Councillors 28th September)
Noted
- 76.5 To update – provision for Christmas Light Switch on event
The Clerk updated members with what had been arranged so far for the event. This included a selection of craft and gift stalls, Santas grotto, and an outside food truck. Childrens Christmas craft activities, and a visit by Blidworth Oaks school choir with a selection of Christmas carols.
Cllr Smith is looking into providing a Christmas tree at the Library. NSDC have offered some support with entertainment.

It was **resolved** for Cllr Marlow to have a budget of £150 to spend on 100 selection boxes or similar. **Cllr Marlow**

- 76.6 To confirm – provision for winter planting and bulbs, including planting of the war Memorial

Cllr Williams updated members regarding the winter planting. The Clerk was in receipt of a quotation for the Winter planting from D Wilson at a cost of £1200. The Clerk had also enquired as to what the cost of planting at the War memorial would be, which is £200.

It was **resolved** to have the winter planting at the War memorial only, at a cost of £200 which is to be taken from the 'Events' budget.

The Clerk had purchased bulbs to be planted when the summer plants are removed – Cllrs to be involved in this. Crocus bulbs had also been gifted by the Blidworth and Ravenshead Rotary club.

- 76.7 To update – Grant money awarded for projects (CCTV and Heritage trail) and deadlines for use

The Clerk had written to Miner2Major and asked for an extension which had been granted until the end of March. Councillors to move forward with this project as a matter of urgency.

The grant funding from NSDC for the CCTV is due to be returned in October 2023, following an original extension. Cllr Bates proposed that Vault Contracts be invited to a future meeting to come and talk to Councillors and discuss options. Clerk to arrange.

- 76.8 To discuss – Offer from Pro-Moulds, Blidworth to donate benches in the village
The Clerk had spoken to Mr Beebe and discussed options. He would like to donate benches to be situated in the village not on the parks, with a 'sponsored by' plaque on each one. Cllrs Hickenbottom and Williams to look into possible places which would then need to be agreed with highways. **Cllrs Hickenbottom/Williams**

23/77 To Discuss/Update on Highway Issues in the Village (if not already covered in District and County Council reports)

Parking issues on Dale Lane and Belle Vue Lane were discussed. Residents and Councillors were encouraged to report issues directly.

The Clerk to put out information on the Parish Council Facebook page to make this easier for residents.

The Planting on Dale Lane was also brought up which is part of a NSDC planting scheme. They are aware of the situation. It is scheduled to be cut back twice a year.

Cllr Smith to look into this and arrange a site visit to look at options with the area. **Cllr Smith**

23/78 Updates from working party leads:

78.1 Comms/Marketing/Events/Youth Forum – Already discussed

78.2 Bloom/Planting – Already discussed

78.3 Parks and Open Spaces – including update with Sustrans . Cllr Bates provided an update. The Sustrans Officer he met with looks at routes around the country that may need removing due to safety etc. Road counters have been used to monitor traffic on Route 6 - If the route is busy they may improve the lane to slow traffic down for bike users.

78.4 Neighbourhood/Parish Plan – nothing to report

78.5 HR/Finance – HR and budget meeting to be arranged.

23/79 To note – Correspondence received

All relevant correspondence sent out via email –

The Clerk to acknowledge the Crocus bulbs donated by Blidworth and Ravenshead Rotary club – a thank you to be sent.

23/80 To note – Future dates

The date of the next Parish Council Meeting – 16th November 2023

Upcoming Parish Council Surgery - Saturday 21st October 2023

A 15 minute comfort break was held

23/81 Exclusion of Public (Confidential Items)

In accordance with Public Bodies (admission to meetings) Act 1960 section 1(2) the Council exclude the public and press from the meeting by reason of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted.

Meeting closed at 9.41pm