



**MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING OF
BLIDWORTH PARISH COUNCIL**
held at Blidworth Library, New Lane, Blidworth, Notts, NG21 0PW
on Thursday 19th March 2026 commencing at 7.00pm

Present: Councillors: C Dear (Chair), E Litchfield, K Marlow, A Devine, W Bates
T Duffy, A Sykes, S Niedojadlo, T Smith, J Harvey

Apologies: T Smith
Clerk: C Brettell
Members of the Public: 10

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

The Chair asked if anyone was recording. A resident placed his recording device on the meeting table, refusing to put it in the designated area despite advice taken from NALC and stated by the Clerk and objection raised by Councillor Bates.

Action by

26/132 To receive - Declaration of interests both pecuniary and non-pecuniary and applications for dispensation on items listed on the agenda
Cllr Litchfield – declared that as Director and trustee of Blidworth Welfare, he would refrain from 26/141.13 and 142.5 (section 106) and
Cllr Marlow declared an interest in 26/141.13 and 142.5 (section 106)
Cllr Dear expressed an interest in 26/141.13 and 142.5 (section 106) and 26/145.2

26/133 To receive - Apologies for absence given to the Clerk
Apologies were received and noted from Cllr Smith

26/134 To receive and approve – Minutes of the meeting held on the 19th February 2026
(Appendix 1)

It was **resolved** that the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on the 19th February 2026, be accepted as a true and accurate record and were signed by the Chair.

26/135 To note – updates on matters arising from the minutes if not already on the Agenda
(no decisions can be made)
All updates had been emailed out to Councillors.

26/136 To determine which items of the agenda, if any, should be taken with the public excluded. If the Council decided to exclude the public the item will be moved to 26/145 and a resolution passed in order to discuss the item.
None

26/137 To receive Representations (no more than 5 minutes)
137.1 Public Participation

A resident expressed that 'recording of meetings is permitted'. (This was not in dispute; it was the siting of the recording device), and had found listening the residents recording beneficial. He was glad to see 'Public Participation' was on the agenda, and that the Parish Council were

looking into the re-siting of the Notice board.

A resident enquired about the 15% increase to the precept, which was responded to by Cllr Bates who explained the responsibilities of the Parish Council.

A resident discussed incidents in Sherwood Park from November 2025 which had been reported to the police, and a recent Incident where a vulnerable adult had been threatened. Cllr Duffy encouraged all residents to report this to the Police, as without reporting there was no evidence. The Clerk to email details of the anti-social behaviour team at NSDC. It was suggested to contact the Police to ask for a meeting within Blidworth to discuss the issues raised.

Residents asked the Parish Council what there was in the village since there was no youth club. Cllr Bates responded by discussing the work of the Social Action hub in Rainworth, but Blidworth has no building for this.

The Clerk informed residents that she had had discussions with NSDC regarding Extreme Wheels coming onto site for 6 weeks for the youth to bring skating and biking activities and also the NCC youth bus. However, as a resident had blocked the suitable access for this, it had been turned down.

A resident spoke regarding the situation on Oak Avenue and anti-social behaviour. The correspondence that had been circulated to Parish Councillors prior to the meeting. Cllr Litchfield had spoken to the MP Michelle Welsh who will look into this.

The Chair read out the report sent in from the Police and agreed that an increased police presence was required in the village.

137.2 Report from District Council Representatives on Matters of a direct relevance to Blidworth Parishioners

Although invited District Cllr Thompson was not in attendance. Cllr Smith had sent his apologies.

137.3 Report from County Council Representative on Matters of a direct relevance to Blidworth Parishioners

Cllr Ward had sent his apologies and was looking into the issues raised at the last Parish Council meeting and by residents. He had sent in a statement read out by the Chair regarding the situation throughout Nottinghamshire with the quality of the roads. The Chair also commented on the money that had been put towards roads in Nottingham from the takeover by East Midlands combined Authority.

Cllr Duffy commented that she had seen this road repair system in action and it was effective.

The Clerk updated Councillors about the meeting she had had with Cllr Ward, issues addressed included:

- Village policing, and potential surgeries for the village
- the BT phone box and making it into a defib station, questions as to who would take on maintenance and own the Defibrillator
- Section 106 money for the Blidworth
- LIS Grant funding for Marriott Lane Park
- Issues raised on Facebook regarding parking issues and pot holes

137.4 Police Report

The Police were not in attendance, as they were not on shift. They had sent in the following report:

We are working on a day shift today so we will not be able to attend tonight.

A point of note from us is the regular and prolific shoplifting in Blidworth Tesco. 1 suspect has since been charged and sent to prison for 8 weeks and another will be in court at the end of the month, charged with theft.

We are aware of 2 Oak Avenue and a couple of calls which we have received for this. This address is used by probation to house people who have just come out of prison. There is another address in Blidworth which offers the same but this has not caused many / any issues.

It was agreed for the Clerk to write to the Police asking for the possibility of a Police Surgery in the village, in the hope that residents would engage and discuss the issues they are facing.

137.5 Report from other Community Groups on matters relevant to the Blidworth Community Cllr Duffy reported that the food and hygiene banks are going well, and there is a Regeneration scheme for the A614.

26/138 To Discuss/Update on Highway Issues in the Village (if not already covered in District and County Council reports)

The Clerk had been in touch with VIA regarding many of the issues raised by residents. She had contacted the parking Manager at NCC and explained some of the issues with parking on grass verges (Dale Lane) and blocking access and visibility for pedestrians and vehicles, on Mansfield Road (junction with New Lane). They had suggested planters etc. but these had been refused from VIA due to safety concerns. A traffic warden had been requested especially in the evenings when parking is at its worst.

26/139 Financial Matters

To receive and approve accounts and financial information:

139.1 Analysis of Payments – February 2026 (Appendix 2)

139.2 Analysis of Receipts – February 2026 (Appendix 3)

139.3 Bank Reconciliation Statement as at 28th February 2026 (Appendix 4)

139.4 To authorise the schedule of payments for March 2026 (Appendix 5)

It was **resolved** to accept and approve the financial information as per items 139.1 – 139.3 that had been submitted to members and to authorise the schedule of payments (139.4) for March - £ 7923.39 including the invoice of £789.36 (half yearly emptying of dog waste bins).

26/140 Planning Applications

To receive, and where appropriate comment on the following applications, including any applications received since the agenda was published:

**TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING ACT 1990 - SECTION 174 APPEAL
NOTIFICATION OF APPEAL AGAINST ENFORCEMENT NOTICES**

Site Address: Sandon New Lane Blidworth NG21 0PW
 Alleged Breach: Without planning permission, operational 'development' consisting of the erection of an outbuilding to the rear of the property (shown within Photograph 1, Photograph 2 and Photograph 3, and marked by an on 'X' Plan A).
 Application Ref: 23/00231/ENFB
 Appeal Ref No: APP/B3030/C/26/3377194

It was **resolved** to Object to this appeal. The Parish Council not do support retrospective planning applications and the stipulations raised by planning have been breached.

Proposal:	Re-build existing flat roof garden room and erection of a new detached flat roof office building.
Site Address:	46 Meadow Road Blidworth NG21 OPS
Planning Application Ref:	26/00253/HOUSE

It was **resolved** to respond stating 'no objections' regarding this application.

The following planning applications have been added to the agenda for consideration:

Proposal:	Application for determination if prior approval required for proposed replacement of existing 15.00m Swann monopole with proposed 20.00m Phase 4.5 monopole under Schedule 2 Part 16 of the GDPO.
Site Address:	Telecommunications Mast O2 9795 Burma Road Blidworth
Planning Application Ref:	26/00348/TELPA

It was **resolved** to respond stating 'no objections' regarding this application.

Cllr Litchfield declared an interest but updated Councillors on what this application entailed:

Proposal:	Install a fully carpeted 2 lane 33m enclosed non turf cricket practice facility on the site of Blidworth Colliery Welfare Cricket Club.
Site Address:	Blidworth Welfare And Social Centre Mansfield Road Blidworth NG21 0LR
Planning Application Ref:	26/00343/FUL

It was **resolved** to respond stating 'no objections' regarding this application.

A ten minute comfort break was held. The meeting resumed at 8.36pm

26/141 Business

141.1 To discuss and agree – Community Speed Watch scheme (Appendix 6)

The Clerk had sent out information for Councillors and updated them regarding the existing speed camera. PCSO Dunn had suggested a Bushnell speedster. There was a huge difference in capabilities and costs for repairing the original or a replacement and that of the Bushnell Speedster, and the Clerk had not been able to source any grant funding for this. This to be looked at further by parish Councillors and brought back to a future meeting.

141.2 To approve – Financial Regulations (Appendix 7)

It was **resolved** to approve and adopt the Financial Regulations

141.3 To agree – First Aid course provided by Newark Community First Aid for residents – to be held at Blidworth Welfare (details emailed out 9th February)

Newark Community First Aid had suggested a Tuesday evening and Blidworth Welfare were happy to accommodate. Newark Community First Aid were yet to confirm some suitable dates.

Parish Councillors agreed to promote this and obtain how many residents might be interested at the Annual Parish Meeting.

141.4 To discuss – new signage for Village signs (Appendix 8)

The Clerk updated that she had contacted the Company recommended by Mr Townsley who had manufactured the signs for 'Sherwood Day'. Quotation had been circulated. Cllr Bates to discuss with MP Michelle Welsh as to whether she would be able to fund this.

Cllr Bates/MP Michelle Welsh

141.5 To update – bollards outside Voltz and relocation of planters

The Clerk had taken this up with VIA and that the original Parish Councils request for a planter that had been refused. As a compromise VIA had agreed to order and deliver a planter and the Parish Council could then fill and plant this as part of the Summer Planting. No licence paperwork would then need to be completed for this, as responsibility stays with VIA and not the Parish Council.

141.6 To confirm - GDPR training for Parish Councillors has been carried out.

The Clerk asked Parish Councillors to confirm that they had completed the training and circulated a list for signing. Parish Councillors that had not yet completed this to inform the Clerk when carried out.

ALL Parish Councillors

141.7 To discuss and agree – Ideas for commemorative project for 100 years of Blidworth Oaks School

The idea of a commemorative plaque for all celebrating the 100-year centenary, situated at the Pit wheels was discussed. The Clerk to contact Blidworth Oaks School and Blidworth Art Club to see if they would like to be involved with some ideas and designs.

Clerk

141.8 To agree – Councillor ID badges and photos for website.

It was **resolved** for those Parish Councillors wanting an ID badge to let the Clerk know.

Councillors wishing to have a photo on the website, to please provide a photo to the Clerk.

141.9 To update and agree actions – Blidworth War Memorial and damage by Western Power

The Clerk updated members regarding the issues at Blidworth War Memorial, and concerns expressed from residents.

It was **resolved** to pursue Western Power for the grass to be reinstated and the path to be put back to its original condition. If this isn't possible then the whole path to be renewed.

141.10 To discuss and agree – Street naming (emailed out 24th February)

The Clerk updated Councillors regarding the Street naming, and the competition that the Parish Council ran with Blidworth Oaks school several years ago. The Clerk had contacted the street naming team to ask if these were still on file. They had responded to say that several of them could be used.

It was **resolved** to send in the following suggestions:

- Druid (Lane or Walk)
- Robert Jones Road
- Marion Meadow
- Barley Fields

141.11 To update Toro Mower repairs

The Clerk updated Councillors that the Mower had been collected in February and it was found to require new cylinders. A quotation had been received at a cost of £1775.63

An amount of £1500 had been previously agreed. As per the Parish Councils Financial

Regulations, the additional spend of £275.63 was authorised between the Clerk and Chair. The mower should be returned by the end of March.

141.12 To agree – Waste agreement (NSDC) (Appendix 9)

It was **resolved** to agree the Waste agreement for 2026/27. The Clerk to sign and return.

Cllrs Dear, Litchfield and Marlow declared an interest in this agenda item and left the meeting.

141.13 To agree – Section 106 proposals and information from NSDC

The Clerk updated Councillors that NSDC had received bids for more than the allotted section 106 funds they were holding. Other groups within the village had applied individually and the Parish Council had not submitted anything formally as yet. NSDC had advised to be fair to all concerned, they would be applying a closing date imminently and would then go through the applications.

A section 106 meeting was to be held on Thursday 24th March with public and it was agreed that the Parish Council should move swiftly if they wish to put in an official bid.

As the time had reached 9.20pm it was resolved to suspend Standing Orders

141.14 To update – Wild flowering scheme in Blidworth

The Clerk and Groundsman had been working with the Environmental Development Officer at NSDC and the scheme was to be started this week. The Groundsman had suggested alternative areas as Blidworth Lane was looking unsuitable due to the proximity to the road and the hedge not being cut back. This was a positive outcome for Blidworth to be part of this scheme. Publicity photos to take place when work has started.

141.15 To update - Hedgehog signage in Blidworth

Cllr Devine updated Councillors regarding this project and the need for posters and signage in the Village. This is a crucial time as hedgehogs are now coming out of hibernation.

Further options to be explored and deferred to a future meeting.

Cllr Devine

141.16 To update - Annual Parish Meeting

The Clerk updated members that she had invited local community groups to this event (circulated to Councillors via email - 2nd March) and had a good response from those wanting to attend. This would be an excellent networking opportunity for the village. The Clerk suggested inviting local litter pickers to the event to thank them for their work around the village.

Clerk

26/142 Updates from working party leads

142.1 Events – Stalls for the Summer Festival are being advertised.

142.2 Village Planting – no update

142.3 Parks and Open Spaces – A WP meeting had been agreed for 1pm on Monday 30th March, to meet at Blidworth Library

142.4 Finance - Nothing

142.5 Section 106 money – projects meeting arranged and advertised for the 26th March

26/143 To note – Correspondence received

All relevant correspondence sent out via email – including residents hand delivered letter circulated 17th March

26/144 To note – The date of the next Parish Council Meeting – 16th April 2026

A Vexatious and Habitual Complaints Committee meeting had been called at 6.30pm for Thursday 26th March at Blidworth Library. The Section 106 Working Party meeting would follow this at 7pm.

26/145 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 9.45pm

Signed as a true record: _____ Date: _____