

BLITHFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Ordinary General Meeting dated 07.07.2022

Present: Cllr P Atkins (Chairman), Cllr Vernon (Vice Chairman) Cllr P Massey. Mrs F Shipley (clerk)

From the Parish, Mr P Riley

22.07.01 Apologies: for Absence: Cllr S Hulme, Cllr K Massey, these were accepted.

22.07.02 Minutes of last Meeting held on 12.05.2022 along with the minutes from the Annual Meeting also held on 12.05.2022 were resolved and signed

22.07.03 There were no declarations of interest.

22.07.04 Matters Arising from the Minutes

a) Queen's Platinum Jubilee. The Chairman thanked everyone concerned. We have received many expressions of thanks from those who attended, all of whom had enjoyed the evening. We have banked £594 which is surplus. Payment is outstanding for four Jubilee mugs at £7.50 each. An Oak tree will be purchased from the profit to be planted in Blithfield Park with a commemorative plaque beside it. The remaining money will be set aside for future celebrations.

b) Superfast Broadband Update. More residents have now signed up and despite some teething problems all seems to be well.

c) Defibrillator and First aid Training. A parish resident is organising defibrillator training for the Admaston area. It is hoped we may be able to organise something for the rest of the parish at a later date.

22.07.05 Clerk Update

a) Insurance. NALC have close ties with BHIB for parish insurance. They have been very helpful on two occasions when they have been contacted for advice.

b) Purchase of Arnold Baker Local Council Administration, this will be purchased in October when the next edition comes out.

c) Website Training. The clerk has undertaken some training which has been helpful.

d) Cllr K Massey reported to the clerk on 16.06.2022 that the Admaston telephone box had been vandalised. This was reported to the Police and a crime number obtained.

e) Future meeting dates. Future meeting dates have been agreed for 1 September 2022, 10 November 2022, 12 January 2022, 2 March 2022. The date of the May 2023 meetings is dependant on when the elections are.

f) The clerk is now a member of SLCC.

g) Complaints Procedure, the approved complaints procedure has now been uploaded to the website.

h) Councillors were reminding that should they email a group of people, using multiple email addresses, to use the 'bcc' option to remain within the data protection laws and therefore not be circulating email addresses illegally.

22.07.06 Public Participation. Mr P Riley reported that our neighbouring parish of Kingstone and The Blythe were looking at purchasing a telephone box for a defibrillator and they now cost around £3000.

22.07.07 To receive oral report from Borough/County Councillors. There were no councillors present.

22.07.08 The chairman had nothing further to report.

22.07.09 Planning Applications

P/2021/01474 Erection of a car port canopy Bagot Lodge, Blithfield Hall Drive, Blithfield Hall, Admaston, WS15 3N, APPEAL under sec 78 written representation NO COMMENT

P/2022/000625 Felling of 1 Holly tree and 1 Sycamore tree, crown raise 1 Sycamore tree to 5.2 metres above ground level over the road and pavement, reduce branches on 1 Maple tree to give up to 1 metres clearance from telegraph pole and BT cable and reduce 1 Laburnum tree by up to 30% to give suitable clearance on BT cable and road Location: Bagot Lodge, Blithfield Hall Drive, Blithfield Hall, Admaston, Staffordshire, WS15 3NL NO COMMENT

Decisions

P/2022/00417 Application under Section 73 to vary condition 9 attached to planning application P/2018/00361, for the erection of a single storey function building room and associated car parking, to vary the opening hours.
Location: Lakeside Drive, Steenwood Lane, Admaston, Staffordshire, WS15 3NY PERMITS

P/2022/00314 Oakfields Cottage School Lane Admaston Staffordshire WS15 3NH
Crown reduction in height by up to 4 metres of 1 Holly tree (TPO 60) REFUSED

P/2022/00117 The Hayloft, Stansley Wood Court, Newton Hurst Lane, Dapple Heath, Staffordshire, WS15 3PH Erection of a single storey rear extension, porch to the North Elevation, alterations to window and doors on the North, South and West Elevations and installation of photovoltaics to South Elevation roof slope. PERMITS.

P/2022/00255 Orchard House The Old Rectory Blithfield Church Road Admaston Staffordshire WS15 3NL
Crown raise and crown reduction of one English Elm tree APPROVED - delegated

P/2019/01105 Leaway Lea Lane Newton. The skip and caravan have now been removed. The council have not completed their report as they are waiting for information from the applicant. The clerk has written numerous times to the planning authority so the chairman is going to write this time.

22.07.10 Highways and Lengthsman.

a) Watering Pit Corner. Job numbers have been issued. Cllr Vernon is still awaiting a quotation for the work in the resident's adjacent field

b) Verge Cutting. The chairman has received a communication outlining the verge cutting programme for the area. A recent request was received from a resident regarding the long grass on the verges at the junction of Steenwood Lane and the B5013. The clerk reported this to the Highways department and they were cut within about 10 days.

The lengthsman has also cut back some verges at other junctions around the parish.

c) It was agreed to ask the Highways Department to replace the white lines at the Admaston lay-by and request better signage, particularly to clarify where the lay-by ends.

Cllr K Massey (lengthsman) has been looking into ways of repairing the damage to the Admaston telephone box. He also suggests repainting it and possibly keeping it locked in future.

22.07.11 Speeding Cars and Motorbikes. The clerk wrote to the the PCSO regarding the continued problem of poor driving in the parish. The Police are very short of resources and are unable to do much more about it. She then contacted the clerk of Kingstone and Abbots Bromley Parish Councils in a hope we can tackle this problem together. A useful conversation was held. It is believed that the field adjacent to the Blythe Pub is now no longer available for bike and car nights. A drop in the number of vehicles on the lanes on a Tuesday and Thursday nights has already been noted.

The clerk is to write to County Councillor Philip Atkins to find out who owns the lay-by on the Admaston side of the reservoir bridge. There is concern about Parish Council liability should an accident occur there.

22.07.12 Finance.

Finance. a)

Ref/Cheque	Item	Amount
529	SPCA (replacement cheque)	128.63
530	Eric Roy Website hosting	£120
531	Clerk Expenses	£187.50
532	Alistair Jepson donation for audit	£25
533	BHIB insurance	£349.38
S/O	Parish Admin	£203.32
A/c Balance 30.05.2022	A/c 054 £7176.44	A/c 575 £2499.36

The council agreed financial items submitted for approval.

b). The asset register was signed by the chairman.

22.05.12 Items for discussion for the next agenda. The chairman has heard of a village where the residents got together and installed solar panels to their houses. It was so successful that they were able to save themselves money and put power back into the grid. He will look into this further, before the next meeting.

There is some concern across the parish about the new way of working at Abbots Bromley surgery. This situation will be monitored.

22.05.13 Date of Next Meeting 1 September 2022 in Admaston Village Hall at 7pm

The meeting closed at 7.50pm

Signed.....

Signed.....