

FLAX BOURTON PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD
AT THE VILLAGE HALL, FLAX BOURTON
TUESDAY 14TH MARCH 2017

Meeting Commenced: 7.32pm

Meeting Concluded: 9.54pm

PRESENT: Councillors: Mrs Moss (Chairman), Phillips; Mrs Ellis; Mrs Buckley, Lillington and Higgins.

IN ATTENDANCE: Twenty-six members of the public present

1) Apologies for absence: Councillor Windo.

2) To receive Councillors' declarations of interests and to consider any written applications for dispensations: None.

It was proposed by Councillor Mrs Moss that Item 6 on the agenda be brought forward due to the level of public interest; vote taken and all in favour.

7:35pm meeting adjourned to hear from members of the public. 8:49pm meeting reconvened.

6) To discuss the proposal that the Parish Council leases Designated Community Land (DCL) adjoining the school from North Somerset Council, including an update on the Network Rail Flood Resilience Scheme.

Council discussed the proposal following the public debate. It was agreed that Council would go back to North Somerset Council to try to renegotiate aspects of the Heads of Terms and that there would need to be further public consultation on the use of the land. There would also be further engagement with Network Rail about proposals for the culvert and balancing ponds. It was resolved, following the unanimous show of support from the public in attendance, to agree in principle to the revised Heads of Terms put forward by North Somerset Council. Proposed by Councillor Mrs Moss, seconded by Councillor Mrs Ellis; vote taken and all in favour

3) To approve and sign the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Tuesday 14th February 2017

It was resolved to approve the minutes of 14th February 2017. Proposed by Councillor Mrs Moss, seconded by Councillor Higgins; vote taken and all in favour

4) Financial Reports

To approve the monthly expenditure, budgetary control report and bank reconciliation reports

All three reports were taken en bloc. Councillors reviewed the monthly expenditure for March 2017, noting that the following expenses were reimbursed: £32.00 to the Clerk for printer cartridges. It was noted that the General Reserves will be at a healthy level for

2017-18. It was resolved to approve expenditure of £2960.03 for March, and to approve the budgetary control report and the February bank reconciliation report. Proposed by Councillor Mrs Moss, seconded by Councillor Lillington; vote taken and all in favour.

To agree the 2017-2018 Flax Bourton Youth Club grant

It was agreed that the April Standing Order would be paid as usual but to postpone the decision about the total grant until the next meeting, pending clarification of information in the Treasurer's report, including plans for the use of the Youth Club Reserves, and the total number of members on roll.

5) Planning, Licensing and Development

To discuss any issues raised on the following applications:

17/P/0469/F Charlton Nursery, Main Road

Although in the Green Belt, and outside the Settlement Boundary, did not believe the proposed extension will have any effect on the openness of the surrounding countryside. A significant area of garden will remain. It was proposed that Councillors recommend support for this expanding business. Proposed by Councillor Higgins; seconded by Councillor Mrs Moss; vote taken and all in favour.

To receive any further updates or information on The Core Strategy and Planning and Development within North Somerset including the Core Strategy – Sites and Policies submission.

The Council received a briefing that following the recent consultation on Sites and Policies, the Planning Inspector has further questions and is to hold Hearings in the week commencing 15th May. Developers and Landowners have asked for 44 further sites to be considered including Trustees of the Wraxall Estate in respect of their Green Belt land to the west and east of Station Road – some 60 acres.

7) To receive an update on the progress of actions from previous meetings.

The Clerk provided an update on actions and the next steps were discussed.

8) To receive an update on the Stancombe Quarry Fund.

The Council was briefed that the next meeting of the Fund Management Committee is on 22nd March and there will be two representatives from Flax Bourton Parish Council. A new process for administering the Fund is being developed and around £20,000 is available each year. The Council will continue to publicise the Fund in the village to encourage applications.

9) To discuss arrangements for the Annual Parish Meeting and Annual Meeting of the Parish Council.

It was agreed that the Annual Parish Meeting would be held on Tuesday 11th April immediately preceding the meeting of Flax Bourton Parish Council.

10) To discuss the current provision for 'dog waste' bins.

The location of the current dog waste bins was discussed, along with possible locations for two additional bins. It was agreed that costs for additional bins and signs would be discussed with the current contractor.

11)To provide an update on access to high-speed broadband within the village.

An update was provided on North Somerset Council’s Phase 2 of the broadband roll-out, which is still delayed due to a legal challenge. It was agreed that information on Phase 2 and the reasons for the delay would be provided to residents via the website and noticeboards.

12)To discuss methods of communication including an update from the Website Working Group.

It was noted that the Website Working Group is to arrange a meeting to draw up the requirements for the new website for approval at Council.

13) To report back on any training courses attended.

There was nothing to report.

14 Open Forum

Nothing was raised.

15) The next meeting of Flax Bourton Parish Council was confirmed as Tuesday 11th April 2017 at 7.30pm at Flax Bourton Village Hall

Resolved under the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, to exclude the public and press for the following agenda item by reason of the confidential nature of the business.

16)To review the Clerk’s working arrangements

It was RESOLVED that the contracted working hours of the Clerk would be varied, subject to review in 3 months. Proposed by Councillor Mrs Moss, seconded by Councillor Higgins; vote taken and all in favour

There being no further business, the Chair closed the meeting.

Signed

Dated