

FLAX BOURTON PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD
AT THE VILLAGE HALL, FLAX BOURTON
TUESDAY 11TH APRIL 2017

Meeting Commenced: 7.42pm

Meeting Concluded: 9.45pm

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

IN ATTENDANCE: Two members of the public present

1. Apologies for absence: None.

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

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

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

4. To approve the change of meeting times from the second Tuesday of the month to the second Monday of the month.

It was resolved to change the meeting time to the second Monday of the month from 8th May 2017. Proposed by Councillor Phillips, seconded by Councillor Higgins; vote taken and all in favour

5. 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 April 2017, noting the following reimbursements: £16.60 to the Clerk for phone top-up and stamps. It was resolved to approve expenditure of £2018.87 for April, and to approve the budgetary control report and the interim March bank reconciliation report (up to 29 March). Proposed by Councillor Phillips, seconded by Councillor Mrs Moss; vote taken and all in favour.

To agree the 2017-2018 Flax Bourton Youth Club grant

7:51pm meeting adjourned to hear from members of the public. 8:19pm meeting reconvened.

It was resolved to approve the Flax Bourton Youth Group grant of £6825.00 for 2017-18 and that feedback would be provided to assist with the application process next year.

Proposed by Councillor Mrs Moss, seconded by Councillor Lillington; vote taken and all in favour.

To discuss whether to join an Internal Audit Consortium.

It was resolved to join the Internal Audit Panel for the 2016-17 Annual Return and to review if the Council then wished to join for 2017-18. Proposed by Councillor Higgins, seconded by Councillor Phillips; vote taken and all in favour.

6) Planning, Licensing and Development

To discuss any issues raised on the following applications:

17/P/0539/F & 17/P/0540/LB St. Michaels House, Post Office Lane

It was agreed that there are no objections.

17/P/0716/TPO Open space adjacent to 11 The Grange

The Tree Preservation Order was noted.

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.

There was nothing further to report.

7) 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.

An update was provided. The Youth Group need to confirm to North Somerset Council they agree to demolish the old hut and that area of land would then be included in the purchase of the DCL. Network Rail will not be proceeding with purchase of the remaining part of the DCL for flood alleviation works, which is a significant change to the proposal, as that land will remain in private ownership. North Somerset Council have agreed to pay the first £2,000 of their legal costs and extend the term of the lease to 75 years. Flax Bourton Parish Council is currently awaiting the revised Heads of Terms. It was resolved to ask North Somerset Council if they could purchase the whole area of the DCL; to agree the Heads of Terms in principal subject to the agreed changes; and to authorise the Chair to instruct solicitors in order to seek advice on the final Heads of Terms and how to proceed with the transaction. Proposed by Councillor Mrs Buckley, seconded by Councillor Higgins; vote taken and all in favour

8) To provide an update on the condition of pavements, including clearance of the earth encroaching on the pavement along the A370.

Despite repeated communication to North Somerset Council this has not been satisfactorily resolved. To try to take this forward, Councillor Lillington will arrange a site meeting with the Area Officer, which will also be attended by Councillor Mrs Buckley. Residents will also be encouraged to report any concerns with the condition of pavements directly to North Somerset Council.

9) To discuss cleaning of 'The Grange' bus shelter and provision of an electronic display.

The Clerk will contact North Somerset Council to request that the bus shelters are cleaned and to ascertain if an electronic display board can be installed.

10)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.

11)To discuss the current provision for ‘dog waste’ bins.

The cost of re-siting the bin on Post Office Lane will be investigated, along with provision of a new bin at Bourton Coombe. Examples and costs of signage will also be obtained.

12)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 the North Somerset Council briefing paper would be included on the website to inform residents of the current situation.

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

The Website Working Group has drawn up a list of requirements for the new website and it was agreed that this would be provided to three companies to obtain a quote. The decision which company to select will then be agreed by the full Council.

14) To report back on any training courses attended.

There was nothing to report.

15) Open Forum

The speed on the cycle path is still an issue and signage needs to be looked at.

16)The Annual Meeting of Flax Bourton Parish Council was confirmed as Monday 8th May 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.

17)To review the Clerk’s working arrangements

It was RESOLVED that a Committee would be set up to deal with recruitment of a new Clerk composed of Councillor Higgins and Councillors Mrs Moss and Ellis. Proposed by Councillor Mrs Buckley, seconded by Councillor Phillips; vote taken and all in favour

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

Signed

Dated