

**FLAX BOURTON PARISH COUNCIL**  
**MINUTES OF PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD**  
**AT THE VILLAGE HALL, FLAX BOURTON**  
**MONDAY 10<sup>th</sup> September 2018**

Meeting Commenced: 7.31pm

Meeting Concluded: 8.52pm

**PRESENT:** Councillors: Mrs Moss (Chair), Mrs Buckley, Walker, Higgins, and Burton.  
Clerk: Sarah Jezard.

**APOLOGIES:** Councillors: Mrs Ellis (Vice Chair), Lillington

**IN ATTENDANCE:** There were no members of the public present.

**1. To note any apologies for absence.**

Councillors Mrs Ellis and Lillington.

**2. To receive Councillors' declarations of interests in items on the agenda and to consider any written applications for dispensations.**

One Councillor declared an interest in the Mill Farm Planning application.

**3. To approve and sign the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Monday 13<sup>th</sup> August July 2018.**

It was resolved to approve the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Monday 13<sup>th</sup> August 2018. Proposed by Councillor Jane Moss and seconded by Councillor Higgins. Vote taken and all in favour.

**4. Planning, Licensing and Development**

**Joint Spatial Plan** – Public hearings have been delayed from October this year until May next year. The Mayoral Strategic Development Plan will sit above the Joint Spatial Plan and includes the 4 unitary councils in the West of England including North Somerset Council.

**North Somerset Local Plan 2036 Issues and Options Consultation**

Councillor Higgins briefed councillors on this new consultation which is open until 10th December 2018. There are key questions to consider regarding (1) Road and Transport Issues including the proposed Nailsea Corridor Improvement and (2) Development Proposals including settlement boundaries and planning hierarchy.

For Road and Transport, the consultation states that an "Emerging Findings of Technical Studies" will be issued in November showing scheme development in relation to the Strategic Development Locations.

The document also sets out transport and communication issues from the Bristol South West Economic Link Transport Study in relation to Bristol Airport.

Councillors agreed to engage with Roger Key, Transport Consultant, in advance of the "Emerging Findings of Technical Studies" due to be distributed in November. Clerk to arrange a meeting to agree next steps and timing.

The Council also agreed to appoint a Planning Consultant to assist with the response.

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

It was also noted the Working Group that has been formed between Flax Bourton and Wraxall and Failand Parish Councils will be happening shortly to agree the Terms of Reference.

Planning application: 18/P/4043/FUL, Mill Farm, Flax Bourton

Following discussion in the meeting and agreed points to include in the Parish Council's response, the following statement was submitted to the planning officer.

*In principle, the Parish Council does not have any objections to this planning application but recommends the planning officer checks the status of the land for farm use and agriculture. The Parish Council requests the following conditions are adhered to, to be consistent with other consents in the village;*

*The agricultural building shall be for agricultural use only and for no other purposes and within 3 months of the agricultural use ceasing the building shall be taken down and completely removed from the land permanently.*

*Within 6 months of completion of the agricultural building, if no agricultural use commences on the land, then the building shall be taken down and completely removed from the land permanently.*

**5. Financial reports:**

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

All three reports were taken en bloc and it was resolved to approve the cashbook and budgetary control reports for September 2018 and the bank reconciliation reports for August. Expenditure of £1,890.14 for September was approved, detailed below.

Flax Bourton Youth Group June	568.75	0.00	568.75
Bin it Dog Waste Solutions	105.82	17.64	88.18
GBSport and Leisure	120.00	20.00	100.00
GBSport and Leisure	96.00	16.00	80.00

Clerk's salary	737.46	0.00	737.46
Village Orderly Salary	156.29	0.00	156.29
Bin it Dog Waste Solutions	105.82	17.64	88.18
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1,890.14</b>	<b>71.28</b>	<b>1,818.86</b>

Proposed by Councillor Mrs Moss and seconded by Councillor Mrs Buckley; Vote taken and all in favour.

## **6. To discuss progress with the Parish Council's lease of Designated Community Land (DCL) adjoining the school from North Somerset Council.**

The following points were discussed.

- Councillor Mrs Moss reported the school was happy the Parish Council is not immediately planning any major works to the condition of the land which will require Landlord's consent. The short term plan is to look to mow the grass and remove the tussocks.
- Now the new term has commenced, the Parish Council will meet with the School to finalise the agreement for the use of the land and car park.
- The Lease between the Diocese and NSC/Parish Council is still to be finalised.
- The ditch and drain have been cleared although further works on this are to be undertaken.
- Network Rail (NR) are looking to conduct survey works in the area around Flax Bourton Primary School off station road with a view to construct flood attenuation ponds to alleviate railway flooding in the area. Some of the land NR's contractors would require access too for surveys interfaces with the Primary School and Flax Bourton Parish Council (FBPC) as the lease holder. Contact has been made with the school and an agreement is in place to grant access when required providing FBPC are also in agreement. The survey dates are currently proposed as 24<sup>th</sup>-28<sup>th</sup> September.
- Councillor Mrs Moss discussed the new speed limit on Station Road, associated signage and new road markings. North Somerset Council has advised it is not possible to reduce the speed limit further at this stage but that they are happy for us to monitor it and report back if any problems. No further concerns were raised and the Council reluctantly agreed to proceed.

## **7. Succession Planning**

- Councillor Mrs Moss stated she will stand down from her position as Chairman in May 2019.
- Councillor Mrs Ellis has stated that she will stay in the position of Vice Chair but would be equally happy to stand aside if required. She confirmed she would not wish to move over to become Chair.
- Councillor Higgins stated he will stand down as Councillor in May 2019.

Councillor Mrs Moss stated there is a requirement for a new Chairman to be appointed to the Council in May 2019 when she steps down. The Clerk said there could not be a Council without a Chairman and asked for expressions of interest from the existing Council. The Clerk also made it clear that the position of Chair should not need to do any more than a good Councillor. Succession planning will be an ongoing conversation over the coming months and Councillor Mrs Moss asked for Councillors to speak to her and/or the Clerk with any questions. She stated that she was keen for the conversations to start now rather than leave until May next year.

**8. To receive an update on the progress of actions from previous meetings.**

- Clerk to contact Long Ashton Football Club re: covering the goalpost fittings at the playing field.
- Councillor Buckley to confirm when the new noticeboard can be installed.
- Discussion re: the gate at the end of Post Office Lane following requests to change this from a kissing gate to a larger gate to allow cyclists to use the footpath. This has come to attention due to complaints about the large gate that also leads to the footpath having been locked presenting difficulty for cyclists using the path. From local knowledge, it was suggested that given the locked gate is on private property, the owner is entitled to lock it. In addition, as this footpath is not a cycling path the Council agreed to leave the gate as a kissing gate but stated they would monitor the situation. The Council will not get involve in a dispute about private property and land.
- Clerk stated 3 quotes would be requested for the trees around the Farleigh Green play area to be cut back.

**9. Open forum.**

Nothing noted.

**The next meeting of Flax Bourton Parish Council will be 7.30pm on 8<sup>th</sup> October 2018 at Flax Bourton Village Hall.**

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

Signed ..... Dated .....