



BLISLAND PARISH COUNCIL

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Council Meeting – 10th December 2020 7pm.

Minutes of the Virtual Meeting of the Council held on Zoom.

0157/20	<p>Persons Present/Apologies NOTED persons present: Cllrs Meads (Chair), Dickin (Vice-Chair), Montague, M Stirling, Spencer, K Lowden, Green.</p> <p>Apologies received from Cllr Runnalls.</p> <p>T White – Clerk</p> <p>Three members of the public.</p> <p>Clerk reminded all members of the Council that they must come to meeting and make decisions with an open mind.</p>
0158/20	<p>Declarations of Interest from Members / Dispensations None.</p>
0159/20	<p>Council Meeting: Minutes: 12th November 2020 RESOLVED that the above Minutes of the Meeting of Blisland Parish Council having been previously circulated, be taken as read, approved and signed.</p> <p>Proposed Cllr Green, seconded Cllr Dickin. Unanimous - Carried.</p>
0160/20	<p>COVID-19 - National Lockdown Measures from 5th November – 2nd December 2020 Clerk reported that the national lockdown has now ended, and Cornwall is in Tier 1.</p>
0161/20	<p>Public Participation None.</p>
0162/20	<p>Cornwall Councillor Report Nothing received.</p> <p><i>*Cllrs Lowden and Stirling lost connection and dropped out of the meeting.*</i></p>
0163/20	<p>Planning and Pre-Applications RECEIVED the following applications:</p> <p>Application: PA20/09052 Proposal: Replacement dwelling Location: Bests Blisland Bodmin PL30 4LH Applicant: Mr & Mrs Millward</p>

0164/20	<p>Clerk read an email update received from the applicant shortly before the meeting.</p> <p><i>*Cllrs Lowden and Stirling re-joined the meeting*</i></p> <p>The Parish Council RESOLVED to send the following response to the Local Planning Authority: The Parish Council does not support this application due to it not being compliant with Cornwall Local Plan Policy 7, the impact on the AONB and the impact on the Dark Skies designation, by virtue of its siting and design and it would set a precedent for more development of this type.</p> <p>Proposed Cllr Meads, seconded Cllr Green. Unanimous - Carried.</p> <p>Application: PA20/09526 Proposal: Single storey extension to front of property Location: 2 Undertise Cottages, Chapel Hill, Blisland, Bodmin Applicant: Joy Weaving</p> <p>The Parish Council RESOLVED to support this application.</p> <p>Proposed Cllr Green, seconded Cllr Lowden. Unanimous – Carried.</p>
0165/20	<p>Application: PA20/09983 Proposal: Works to trees in a Conservation Area namely to fell 2 x ash trees T11 and T44 due to ash dieback Location The Village Green Blisland Bodmin Cornwall Applicant: Blisland Parish Council</p> <p>This is the Parish Council application so supported by default.</p>
0166/20	<p>NOTED Appeal decision: PA20/00297 – Land north of Merrymeeting Farm, Tresarrett, Blisland – Mr P Sessions – Appeal Dismissed.</p>
0167/20	<p>Public Toilet Toilet is open again and Colin Almond has recommenced his daily cleaning. He has rubbed down and repainted the handrails.</p>
0168/20	<p>Highways and Footpaths</p> <p>Written report received from member of the public detailing numerous highway issues which Clerk will forward to Highways. General discussion regarding: Cllr Lowden raised water running down from the hall and down to the crossroads, and drains blocked and possibility of grit boxes. Cllr Meads updated with some information and possibility of Parish Council purchasing one or finding out more information. Where would it be located? It is a public highway so perhaps the Highways Dept should be providing the grit/salt. Recent incident where a resident almost fell and contacted Highways. Water run off from fields near St Pratt’s Cross is missing the road drain and running down to bridge near bridge cottage. Water build up in this area due to blocked drain at the bridge. Cllr Spencer – salt boxes will not cure the root of the problems of blocked drains and a spring running into the road. Potholes and drainage - to be taken up by Cllr Batters. Cllr Green reported that footpath no 8 past Poldue should now been completely opened up and new stiles and steps installed. Debbie Ebsary from CORMAC on behalf of Cornwall Council still has some money and Cllr Green has highlighted some other paths that can be improved. Potential article for the Parish Magazine regarding footpath no 8. New map has been installed on the side of the bus shelter.</p>

0169/20

Councillor Vacancies

Mrs Denise Holman attended the meeting to receive questions from the Parish Council in relation to becoming a member of the Council. The questions were agreed in advance of the meeting and asked by Cllr Meads. (Questions and answers summarised below)

Why do you want to be a councillor?

Previously a Councillor, workload took over but now have more time and always been strongly involved with the parish and now want to be involved with the Parish Council.

What work commitments do you have?

Works for her own company and wouldn't ask to be part if she didn't think she could give it the time. Flexible working arrangements so can give more time to the parish during the day and evenings.

Site meetings – Yes can be flexible.

The Parish Council is committed to member training and all members must attend code of conduct training annually – would you be prepared to do this?

Absolutely.

What areas of council business interest you specifically? Why?

Any aspect to do with the village I am very interested and passionate about, the village green, interested in planning encouraging the right sort of planning applications. Interest is in the community and Blisland and making sure we have enough money to keep the village going.

What do you see as being the main roles of the PC and why?

Make sure everything is running orderly for the parish, to make ourselves available to the community and stand by them if there is a problem. Have their interests at heart and challenge things that we don't feel are right for the parish. Described herself as passionate and opinionated.

Listen to every aspect and give our opinions to make decisions to make sure everything is orderly and correct for the village.

What qualities do you think are needed to carry out the function of a parish councillor?

Approachable and seen to be doing what we say we are going to do.

Local government is not like private sector, and requires a different approach, do you think this is something you can adjust to?

Yes, as long as it is working in the right direction.

Do you feel there are any areas where conflict of interest might arise e.g. in relation to discussing planning applications, grants for local organisations etc?

No, I don't think so. I would declare that in any case.

Councillors have portfolios which are specific areas of responsibility, managed on behalf of and with the final approval of the council (e.g. the management of the trees on the village green, arranging a litter pick twice a year, organising the Christmas carols event around the tree). Will you have the time to manage a portfolio?

Yes - Most certainly will.

Members voted for their preferred candidates out of the three via confidential written ballot. Majority votes were received for Mrs D Holman and Mr S Weekes and it was **RESOLVED** that they are **DULY CO-OPTED** as members of the Parish Council.

Cllr Meads thanked all candidates for their time and for their interest in joining the Parish Council.

Clerk explained requirement for paperwork to be completed prior to new members joining the meeting.

0170/20	<p>Clerks Report Code of Conduct for Clerks – CALC Training Session Clerk attended Code of Conduct training session for Clerks hosted by Sarah Mason from CALC. It was extremely useful and a good refresher in relation to members compliance with the Code of Conduct and dispensations. It was the first set of sessions they have hosted specifically for Clerks. Clerk thanked the Council for supporting attendance.</p>
0171/20	<p>Woodland Proposal – South Penquite Mr Dominic Fairman will be attending the January meeting to discuss the proposal with the Parish Council.</p>
0172/20	<p>Water Leak A leak on land to the rear of Fairfield Lodge was reported by a local resident but is now being taken up directly with South West Water. Will update further as appropriate.</p>
0173/20	<p>Letter from Blisland Community Association The Chair of the Blisland Community Association has written a letter of thanks to the Council for their donation towards to the Christmas boxes. If anyone would like to suggest some recipients for a Christmas surprise box, please inform Clerk by email after the meeting.</p>
0174/20	<p>Christmas Lights Two emails have been received complimenting the Council for the lights on the Village Green. It has brought some much needed cheer to the village. Cllr Meads thanked all those involved again.</p>
0175/20	<p>Finance RECEIVED and APPROVED the bank reconciliation as at the 30th November 2020. RECEIVED and APPROVED the December 2020 pay schedule. Proposed Cllr Lowden seconded Cllr Dickin. Unanimous – Carried.</p>
0176/20	<p>Scheme of Delegation NOTED the decisions taken under the approved scheme of delegation (previously circulated).</p>
0177/20	<p>Community Website The Blisland community website (blisland.info) is due to be taken offline soon. The current content manager for the site is leaving the area and will no longer be updating the site. This site has been a very useful central source of information about and for the parish but is no longer fit for purpose. Unfortunately, the existing data cannot be migrated to another site satisfactorily so a new site setup would be required. There is a desire to retain a community website for the various groups and businesses within the parish separate from the Parish Council website and Council business. The website name www.blisland.co.uk has been transferred to Cllr Spencer so it's retained, and a new community website is proposed. The existing www.blisland.info name will be transferred when the site is taken down. Before the site is designed, it is recommended that the parish organisations are contacted to better understand their needs. The parish council has provision in the recently approved budget for setup costs and ongoing host fees for an additional website in the period 2021-2022. In the short term, a new landing page can be created on the newly acquired blisland.co.uk page to inform that something new will be coming soon. There is already a link on the existing Blisland.info page which takes you to this new website to help the transition process.</p>
0178/20	<p>Institute and Public Conveniences – Valuation Office Rating Review Clerk updated that the Public Conveniences have been reviewed and rated separately. General discussion regarding the Institute - Filing cabinet is still there - ask Cllr Runnalls to move it when possible. Cllr Spencer – chased window company and it is on his list to do. Benches taken off the green – Cllr Runnalls premises. A couple of them need to be refurbished. Speak to Cllr Runnalls to find out the condition and what needs repairing. Clerk to check budget for maintenance.</p>

0179/20	<p>Internal Councillor Audit It was RESOLVED that Cllr Dickin and Cllr Spencer will undertake the internal audit review with the Clerk. Proposed Cllr Green, seconded Cllr Lowden. Unanimous – Carried.</p>
0180/20	<p>Local Maintenance Partnership RECEIVED information, DISCUSSED and RESOLVED to accept the LMP grant. Proposed Cllr Green, seconded Cllr Montague. Unanimous - carried.</p>
0181/20	<p>Highways Signage Quotes received from Highways for finger post signage. Parish Council will need to wait until next financial year as provision in the 2021-2022 budget. RESOLVED to respond to Highways that the works and quote will be revisited when the funds are available in the new budget. Proposed Cllr Montague, seconded Cllr Green. Unanimous. – Carried.</p>
0182/20	<p>Trees on Village Green Clerk provided an update regarding the tree monitoring and the tree application currently being considered by Cornwall Council.</p> <p><i>*Two members of the public disconnected from the meeting.*</i></p> <p>Cllr Lowden suggested the replacement trees could be smaller ones – perhaps cherry trees.</p> <p>Clerk advised that guidance can be sought from the forestry department following the survey in the new year.</p> <p>Cllr Meads raised the matter of the stones around the green protect the edge of the green from being eroded by parking etc. Cllr Meads suggested contacting Cllr Runnalls about them being lifted and replaced.</p>
0183/20	<p>Update: Neighbourhood Development Plan Cllr Dickin advised that the NDP Steering Group is continuing to work on the landscape character assessment and waiting for further content for the wildlife assessment. Cllr Green added that Cllr Dickin is doing an amazing job chairing the NDP. This was endorsed by Cllr Meads.</p>
0184/20	<p>Update: Institute Institute matters already discussed.</p>
0185/20	<p>Upcoming events/training Nothing currently.</p>
0186/20	<p>Notification of meeting/items for agenda: January 2021 (ZOOM meeting) Church – invite Charles Whitehead to provide an update. Signage on A30 for village and pub but not reinstated following the roadworks. Any other matters to be sent to the Clerk.</p>
0187/20	<p>Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960. RESOLVED that in view of the confidential or special nature of the business about to be transacted it is advisable that the press and public be excluded and instructed to withdraw during the discussion for the following items:</p> <p>Proposed Cllr Dickin, seconded Cllr Spencer. Unanimous – Carried.</p>
0188/20	<p>Employment Matter RECEIVED resignation from the Clerk. Agreed that for purposes of business continuity and to allow for recruitment process, Clerk will finish at the end of March 2021.</p> <p>Meeting closed at 20:45.</p>

