



Councillors, I hereby summon you to attend the meeting of Bletsoe Parish Council on Tuesday, 25<sup>th</sup> July 2023 at 7.30pm (follows the Annual Parish meeting) at Bletsoe Village Hall to consider the following items of business.

## AGENDA

- 1 **Public Open Session (15 minutes):** This council is committed to community engagement and therefore warmly invites members of the public to contribute during this part of the meeting. Members of the public should note that the council is only allowed to take decisions on topics that are publicised on the agenda. Please note that interruptions during the remainder of the meeting are not permitted.
  - Borough Councillor Martin Towler report
  - Smockers report
  - Request from developer to address the parish council in relation to a residential development on "Land North of the Old Rectory" (Site BNP4 - up to 3 dwellings in the Neighbourhood Plan)
  - Members of the public
- 2 **Apologies for Absence**
- 3 **Declarations of interest in items on the agenda**
- 4 **To approve the minutes of the parish council meeting** held on 23<sup>rd</sup> May 2023.
- 5 **Clerk's report on actions**
  - Village Hall Defibrillator: Temporary defib is currently in place. The council has been offered a new defibrillator by a local fundraiser – eta July/August.
  - Streetlight upgrade: Lanterns have been ordered – expected 8<sup>th</sup> August. Awaiting install date.
  - Speed sign: Sign relocated along The Avenue closer to the A6.
  - Flytipping/CCTV signs: New signs have been added to Coplowe Lane to replace the missing ones.
  - Request to Bedfordia Farms for Coplowe Lane surface repair: Inspected by Bedfordia and considered to be a normal amount of tarmac degradation.
  - Request to the following companies about not using Bletsoe as a cut through for large vehicles: Serco – noted request. ABSS Skips – asked parish council to report instances where their lorries are seen cutting through and they will check their vehicle telemetry as drivers have been informed not to use this route.
- 6 **Financial Matters**  
To approve payments and note receipts.

| Date          | Category             | Payee        | Description                           | Receipts | Payments<br>Gross |
|---------------|----------------------|--------------|---------------------------------------|----------|-------------------|
| 13 April 2023 | Precept Income       | BBC          |                                       | 6,167.50 |                   |
| 17 April 2023 | Streetlights: Elect  | NPower       |                                       |          | 215.72            |
| 05 June 2023  | Insurance            | Came & Co    |                                       |          | 1,232.12          |
| 05 June 2023  | Admin                | BATPC        | Cllr training                         |          | 35.00             |
| 14 June 2023  | Fete Insurance       | Bletsoe Fete | Fete insurance                        |          | 284.44            |
| 19 June 2023  | Internal Audit       | Julie Betts  |                                       |          | 150.00            |
| Not yet paid  | Streetlights: Maint  | EON          |                                       |          | 132.60            |
| Not yet paid  | Staff costs          | D Brough     | June/July Staff Costs                 |          | 414.70            |
| Not yet paid  | Grounds Maintenance  | H and G      | June: Orchard, Mem gardens, Play area |          | 240.00            |
| Not yet paid  | Grounds Maintenance  | H and G      | July: Orchard, Mem gardens, Play area |          | 240.00            |
| Not yet paid  | Play Area Inspection | Playsafety   | Annual inspection                     |          | 180.00            |
| Not yet paid  | Admin                | D Brough     | Printer ink                           |          | 51.49             |
| Not yet paid  | Payroll fees         | Red Shoes    | Qtrly payroll fees                    |          | 15.60             |
| Not yet paid  | Village Hall Hire    | Bletsoe VH   |                                       |          | 10.00             |

7 **Neighbourhood Plan annual review**

To confirm that the Neighbourhood Plan policies remain relevant. Clerk has circulated an analysis of each policy.

8 **Annual play area inspection**

To receive the annual play area inspection report covering the village hall playground, the MUGA, and the football pitch.

9 **Donation for churchyard grass cutting**

Proposal from Cllr Field-Foster: To donate towards the maintenance of the churchyard at St Mary's Church, Bletsoe.

10 **Cut of BPHA open space grass**

Proposal from Cllr Glanvill: To consider any actions to remediate the issue of BPHA open spaces grass not being cut.

11 **Memorial tree/plaque**

To consider planting a tree at the Memorial Garden and relocating the plaque that was removed from the bench for safe keeping.

12 **Planning applications & enforcement**

- Planning applications: To consider any applications received since the last meeting, including any received after the agenda has been published:

*APPLICATION NO: 23/01414/FUL Full Planning Application*

*PROPOSAL: The demolition of an existing four bed dwelling and the erection of a five-bedroom dwelling.*

*LOCATION : Fernleigh Cottage Bourne End Lane Bletsoe Bedford Bedfordshire MK44 1QS*

- Planning Enforcement: To note any updates in relation to planning enforcement.  
*22/00095/UNDEV - Land Adj Waiting For The Sun, Rushden Road, Bletsoe*  
*Planning contravention notice served by the borough council. A Change of Use planning application is expected to be submitted by the landowner – not submitted as yet and the borough are considering their options. Update July 2023: Planning application was submitted but not validated. Awaiting update from the borough council.*

*20/00105/UNAUTU - Waiting For The Sun, Rushden Road, Bletsoe*

*Borough council have visited the site in relation to environmental concerns and the report is still awaited.*

**Update July 2023:** Environment Agency have given a Formal Warning to the site owner for the burning activity.

13 **Old Parish Field agreement**

- To resolve that, under Section 1 Paragraph 2 of the Public Bodies (Admission to meetings) Act 1960, the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the next item of business due to commercial sensitivity around the tender/contract for renting out the Old Parish Field.
- To agree any changes to the terms of the leasing of the Old Parish Field for grazing purposes.

14 **Business for future agendas (No actions can be taken on items not on the agenda)**

15 **Date of next meeting:** 26<sup>th</sup> September 2023 – Bletsoe Village Hall