



Councillors, I hereby summon you to attend the meeting of Bletsoe Parish Council on Tuesday, 26th September 2023 at 7.30pm at Bletsoe Village Hall to consider the following items of business.

AGENDA

- 1 **Public Open Session:** 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.
 - Members of the public (15 minutes)
 - Borough Councillor Martin Towler report
- 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 25th July 2023.
- 5 **Clerk's report on actions**
 - Village Hall Defibrillator: Town Close Charity have kindly agreed to supply a new defibrillator – currently on order. Temporary defib is still in place.
 - Streetlight upgrade: LED streetlights were installed in August. One faulty sensor was replaced and Western Power were called out to reconnect one of the lanterns – no other issues.
 - Clerk to seek quotes for village grass cutting – to be added to November agenda.
 - Discussions with local groups about funding churchyard maintenance – update to be provided.
 - Annual tenancy agreement for grazing on the Old Parish Field was signed by the current tenant and the rent and deposit transferred.
- 6 **Financial Matters**
 - To approve payments and note receipts and balances.

Date	Category	Payee	Description	Receipts	Payments Gross	Payments VAT
17 July 2023	Streetlights: Elect	NPower			220.75	
01 August 2023	Wayleave Income	Western Power Dist	Annual wayleave income	16.40		
11 August 2023	Parish Field Rent	N/A	Grazing Field Rental 2023-2024	700.00		
14 August 2023	Streetlight LED upgrade	Andy Muskett Ltd			6,525.36	1,087.56
29 August 2023	Smockers	D Dyer	Lawnmower Parts		122.49	
04 September 2023	Resident donation	N/A	Parish Field donation	150.00		
	Not yet paid Payroll fees	Red Shoes	Qtrly payroll fees		31.20	5.20
	Not yet paid Smockers	P A Vine	Smockers expenses July/Aug		88.26	
	Not yet paid Staff costs	Multiple	Staff Costs - Aug/Sept Salary, July/Aug/Sept PAYE		1,140.10	

- To review the budget variance report.

- 7 **Play area surfacing**
To consider quotes to install safety surfacing under the two swingsets at the play area – issue mentioned in the inspection report.
- 8 **Memorial tree/plaque**
To consider funding a tree at the Memorial Garden and relocating the plaque that was removed from the bench for safe keeping.
- 9 **Memorialisation policy**
Proposal from Cllr Binks: To adopt a Memorialisation Policy, which includes the application process for memorial benches. Draft policy circulated.

10 **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: 23/01897/FUL Full Planning Application

PROPOSAL: Single storey rear extension, repositioning of front door, raise flat roof to insulate and reposition air conditioning units.

LOCATION : Ashdown 26 The Avenue Bletsoe Bedford Bedfordshire MK44 1QF

APPLICATION NO: 23/01711/FUL Full Planning Application

PROPOSAL: Replacement of fascia, soffit and cladding to front and side.

LOCATION : Herdsmans Cottage 8 Coplowe Lane Bletsoe Bedford Bedfordshire MK44 1QE

- Planning Enforcement: To note any updates in relation to planning enforcement.
22/00095/UNDEV - Land Adj Waiting For The Sun Farm, 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. **Status:** Planning application was submitted but not validated. Awaiting update from the borough council – Clerk has chased repeatedly.*

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

Borough council have visited the site in relation to environmental concerns.

Status: Environment Agency have given a Formal Warning to the site owner for the burning activity. Clerk has chased the borough council repeatedly for their report/update.

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

Date of next meeting: 28th November 2023 – Bletsoe Village Hall