



Councillors, I hereby summon you to attend the meeting of Bletsoe Parish Council on Tuesday, 28th November 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 26th September 2023.
- 5 **Clerk's report on actions**
 - Discussions with local groups about funding churchyard maintenance – update to be provided.
 - Purchase of a tree for planting at the Memorial Garden – update to be provided.
 - Play area surfacing – third quote received, which was required for submission of a grant application to the borough council. Awaiting response from grants body.
- 6 **Financial Matters**
 - To approve payments and note receipts and balances.
 - To review the budget variance report.
 - To discuss the budget and precept setting for 2024/25.
- 7 **Grass cutting**

To appoint a contractor for the maintenance of the orchard, Memorial Garden, play area and the surround of the village hall.
- 8 **Land behind Captain's Close (aka Old Parish Field)**

To consider moving forward with obtaining quotes from professional services firms for the sale of the above land, in line with the Bletsoe Neighbourhood Development Plan (BNP Policy 2 – residential development of up to 8 dwellings).
- 9 **Parking on Memorial Lane**

Proposal from Cllr Foster: To consider what can be done to resolve parking issues on Memorial Lane.
- 10 **New dog signs**

Proposal from Cllr Margrave: To consider the purchase of additional/replacement signs at the entrances to the New Parish Field behind the village hall following reported dog fouling incidents.
- 11 **Defibrillator training**

Proposal from Cllr Glanvill: To consider providing public defibrillator training.
- 12 **Planning applications**

To consider any applications received since the last meeting, including any received after the agenda has been published: None received at the time of issuing the agenda.
- 13 **Annual NJC pay scale adjustment**
 - 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 the confidential nature of staff matters.

- In line with contractual obligations, to agree to implement the new pay scales as agreed by the National Joint Council for Local Government Services (NJC) for 2023-24; to be implemented (backdated) from 1 April 2023. Clerk contract is tied to this salary scale.

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

Date of next meeting: 23rd January 2023 – Bletsoe Village Hall