



Councillors, I hereby summon you to attend the ANNUAL meeting of Bletsoe Parish Council on Tuesday, 28th May 2024 at 7.30pm (follows the Annual Parish meeting) at Bletsoe Village Hall to consider the following items of business.

AGENDA

1 Election of Chairman

To elect the Chairman for the coming year.

2 Election of Vice Chairman

To elect the Vice Chairman for the coming year.

3 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

4 Apologies for Absence

5 Declarations of interest in items on the agenda

6 To approve the minutes of the parish council meeting held on 26th March 2024.

7 Clerk's report on actions

- Play area surfacing: BBC Rural Grant application confirmed. Playground contractor has been instructed.
- Land behind Captain's Close (BNP Policy 2 – residential development of up to 8 dwellings): Working Group of councillors met in May 2024 to review the quotes and advice from planning agents. A further on-site meeting with an agent is planned; to aid understanding of the process and to ensure there are no obvious blockers if the council decided to proceed with a sale.

8 Financial Matters

- To approve payments and note receipts, balances, and the budget variance report.
- Annual accounts (2023/24): To receive the internal audit report and approve sections 1 and 2 of the Annual Governance & Accountability Return (AGAR) form.
- To approve the use of the existing internal auditor, Julie Betts, for another year.

9 Meeting dates

To consider if any changes are required to the dates of council meetings and the Annual Parish meeting for the coming year.

10 Full Fibre Broadband

Proposal from Cllr Binks: To share information and consider any actions related to obtaining improved broadband in Bletsoe.

11 Grass cutting

To consider if the New Parish Field (behind the village hall) will be cut by volunteers or whether a paid contractor is required.

12 Speed sign data

Proposal from Cllr Goduti: To receive data from the speed indication device (SID).

13 **Planning applications**

- To consider any applications received since the last meeting, including any received after the agenda has been published:
None at time of agenda issue.
- For noting only: To receive any updates from the borough council on the below application, to which the parish council previously objected.

APPLICATION NO: 24/00010/FUL Full Planning Application

PROPOSAL: Erection of 3 dwellings with vehicular access

LOCATION: Land Adjacent To Rectory Cottage 72 The Avenue Bletsoe Bedfordshire

14 **Pre-emption right on a property sale**

- 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 personal data involved in the below item.
- To consider whether to take up the pre-emption rights from 1985 on the sale of a garage in St Mary's Close. The rights allow the parish council first refusal to purchase the garage. Also to consider whether to agree to the removal of the rights for the future in a Deed Of Variation.

15 **Business for future agendas – for noting only** (no actions can be taken on items not on the agenda)

Date of next meeting: 23rd July 2024 – Bletsoe Village Hall