



BLEADON PARISH COUNCIL

Coronation Halls
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14th August 2025

MEETING: Open Spaces Working Group.

DATE & TIME: Tuesday, 19th August 2025 at 6.00pm.

LOCATION: Church Rooms, Coronation Road, Bleadon BS24 0PG.

MEMBERSHIP: All Parish Councillors

Working Group meetings are generally open to the public. Some items to be discussed may be confidential in nature, in which case members of the public may be asked to leave the meeting.

A G E N D A

1. To receive apologies for absence.
2. To receive members' declarations of interest on any agenda item.
3. Notes of meeting held on 30th January 2025 (for information – pages 2-3).
4. To specifically discuss the following item(s) and, where necessary, make recommendations to the Parish Council (verbal reports unless otherwise indicated)
 - Evaluation of bids for play area/exercise equipment (Report to follow)
 - To receive initial feedback following the closing date for tender submissions for the refurbishment of the toilet block
 - Parish planting scheme
 - Submissions received from parishioners in relation to the small project fund
 - Update on local North Somerset Council devolution issues
5. Date of next meeting and note any suggested agenda items – 25th November 2025 at 6.00pm (venue to be confirmed).

C P Bolt

Clerk to the Council

Open Spaces Working Group Notes

30th January, 2025 at 6.15pm

Action points are in ***bold italics***

Report Author: Parish Clerk

Present: Councillors Ann Davies, Andy Scarisbrick and Steve Sugg.

Appointment of Chairman

Councillor Scarisbrick was appointed as Chairman for the meeting.

Apologies for absence

Councillor Mary Sheppard (Chairman).

Declarations of Interest

None.

Notes of Meeting Held on 24th October 2024

Noted.

Jubilee Gardens Planting Scheme

Councillors considered a proposed planting scheme from Bleadon Horticultural Society. Councillors had previously identified the following requirements from any planting scheme:

- Drought tolerant plants
- Low height and low maintenance
- Year round colour
- Replacement of rose bushes with a dwarf tree/specimen plant
- Herbs along the front edge to provide smell and the opportunity for parishioners to use for culinary purposes
- Plants along the stone wall with root systems which would not damage the stone wall

Councillors considered that the scheme met all of these issues and welcomed the support of the BHS in developing the scheme and the offer to provide both practical and financial help in implementing the scheme. It was noted that Council had approved a budget of £1,000 in respect of a planting scheme and had delegated authority in relation to its implementation.

The Clerk was asked to pass the group's thanks to the BHS and to make arrangements to implement the scheme presented.

Play Equipment Feedback

18 responses had been received to the survey conducted through Parish News. One of these responses was a response from the youth club following a facilitated session conducted by the YMCA. Proposals in relation to swings, climbing net and a carousel were all extremely popular. Other suggestions received included a basketball hoop and a trampoline. Further work would now be undertaken as to how best to configure the existing site given the feedback received.

The proposals for gym equipment had also been well received. Two responses had suggested that the area would be better used for social gatherings. Councillors considered that there was merit in

exploring the provision of gym equipment further and to assess whether there might be external grant funding opportunities. The Clerk advised that – in general terms – grant applications were likely to be more successful where it could be demonstrated that the grant sought was a small part of a wider scheme i.e. the funding body was not being asked to fund the entirety of any works. There was a clear opportunity to set the gym proposals in the context of a wider scheme centred around physical improvements to the car park environs and bringing forward the refurbishment of the toilet block would be a key component. ***The Clerk was asked to investigate funding opportunities for gym equipment and identify a project plan/timescale for the refurbishment of the toilet block.***

Planters/Tubs Required for 2025 planting scheme

Councillors favoured limited changes to the existing arrangements, noting that there were some tubs which had already been authorised for removal and some which would need replacing because they had deteriorated to a point where they could no longer be used. In such cases, councillors favoured using tractor tyres as replacement planters – tractor tyres reflecting the agricultural heritage of the Parish. It was recognised that these initial conclusions would need to be tested with the volunteers who undertake planting and watering. ***The Clerk was asked to test these initial thoughts with volunteers and report back.***

Parish Clock Update

Councillors noted that Smiths of Derby had been contacted and were in the process of arranging an engineer to visit to try and establish why the clock mechanism was not functioning.

Tree Works

Councillors were updated on the procurement process which was underway, the results of which would be reported to the next meeting of Council.

Market/Village Cross Cleaning

Councillors were updated on the procurement process which was underway, the results of which would be reported to the next meeting of Council.

Project and Maintenance Schedule

Councillors noted the Project and Maintenance Schedule.