



# MINUTES OF BLEADON ANNUAL MEETING OF ELECTORS HELD AT 7PM ON MONDAY 29<sup>th</sup> APRIL 2024 AT THE CORONATION HALLS

The meeting was chaired by Councillor Mary Sheppard (Chairman of Bleadon Parish Council).

**Present:** 3 members of the public, 1 District Councillor, 5 Parish Councillors, and the Parish Clerk.

## 1. APOLOGIES.

Apologies were received from District Councillor Porter and Parish Councillor Scarisbrick.

## 2. MINUTES OF THE LAST ANNUAL MEETING OF ELECTORS HELD ON 28<sup>th</sup> APRIL 2023

The minutes of the meeting of the Annual Meeting of Electors held on 28<sup>th</sup> April 2023 were approved as a correct record of the meeting.

The minutes of the meeting were accordingly signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

## 3. BLEADON PARISH COUNCIL REPORTS

The Chairman and Bleadon Parish Councillors gave a powerpoint presentation covering the following aspects:

- The Parish Council's focus in the last year on Governance and Accountability, improving the Council's financial position and developing a longer-term plan.
- What went well – including the completion of a range of projects around the village centre, considering and responding to 50 planning applications, tendering new three year contracts for a range of services and responding to consultations/lobbying for improvements in a number of areas including rural food strategy, highways and transport.
- What the Council could have done better – including a number of smaller scale maintenance tasks and moving forward with the re-gilding of the Parish Clock, as well as a desire to further improve public engagement, including the intention to hold a Contactus meeting for new Bleadon residents later in the year.
- 2023/24 Budget outturn
- Details regarding the precept and other income
- 2024/25 Budget and the significant change in emphasis of funding, which would see more in the way of physical/visual improvements across the Parish.
- An explanation of some of the work already undertaken in the vicinity of the Coronation Halls and further work planned, including in relation to the toilet block and play area.

As part of the Chairman's opening remarks, the Chairman gave thanks to the following:

- Mark Howe for his role as both a former Councillor and Grounds Maintenance contractor
- Adrian Leonard for his role as the Ranger
- Fellow Parish Councillors
- Members of the public in attendance
- The Parish Clerk

## 4. NORTH SOMERSET COUNCIL REPORTS

### Ward Councillors Report

Councillor Solomon provided an update and responded to questions in relation to the following:

- Action taken to address potholes – noting that the demand far outstripped the funding available to North Somerset Council.
- Concerns regarding the junction at the A370 and Bleadon Road and the recognised need to lobby for a permanent solution in this location.
- Planning procedures and the mechanisms by which concerns regarding local planning applications can be lodged and applications called in for scrutiny.
- Discussions regarding additional funding for the play area.
- Concerns regarding the loss of local bus services.

**5. AVON & SOMERSET CONSTABULARY – Local Beat Manager’s Report.**

Crime statistics for the month of April were provided. There were no questions arising.

**6. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Residents raised the following concerns not already addressed as part of the reports above:

- Grass cutting – particularly in the churchyard. It was noted that a new contractor had been appointed the first week in April and the grass had been very long prior to the first cut. A plan of action had been agreed with Church representatives in relation to the churchyard which included raking out of dead grass.

**7. REPORTS BY VILLAGE ORGANISATIONS.**

None

**8. DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING OF ELECTORS – MONDAY, 28<sup>TH</sup> APRIL 2025 AT 7.30PM**

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 7.50pm and thanked all those who had attended.

..... Chairman

..... Date