

Bloxham Parish Council - Report for May 2021

Meetings

- The Annual Parish Council meeting was held on Zoom on 5 May 2021. Agendas and minutes are available on the PC web site. <http://www.bloxhamparishcouncil.co.uk/>
- Councillor Leonard Leigh was appointed as Chairman for 2021/2022 and Councillor David Bunn was appointed as Vice-Chairman for 2021/2022.
- Daniel Goodwin was co-opted onto the Parish Council at the meeting on 5 May 2021.
- All Parish Council meetings are open to the public and are held twice a month; the first Monday (unless it is a bank holiday, then it is the Monday of the following week) and either the third Tuesday or Wednesday. Both meetings include consideration of planning applications. These meetings are also forums for residents to raise issues of concern.
- Parish Council meetings will continue to be held on Zoom and agendas will be available on the PC web site as usual. The Clerk should be contacted for further details, however, the Zoom joining details are published at the top of the agendas.

Next Meetings

- 19 May, 7 June & 22 June 2021 at 7.30pm on Zoom.

Planning

- 21/00734/F & 21/00735/LB, Seymour Cottage, Queens Street, Bloxham – The Parish Council objected to an application for a single storey rear extension.
- 21/01156/F, Tythe Barn, Goose Walk, Bloxham - The Parish Council has no objections to an application for the erection of gym/annexe outbuilding and greenhouse.
- 21/01086/F, Chebli, Banbury Road, Bloxham - The Parish Council objected to an application for a two storey side extension, single storey rear extension and loft conversion to habitable accommodation (resubmission of 20/02995/F).
- 21/00840/F, 7 Painters Close, Bloxham - The Parish Council has no objections to an application for the conversion of garage to habitable accommodation and erection of new front porch, Incorporating new windows/doors.
- 20/03351/F, Land Adjacent Ells Lane, Ells Lane, Bloxham - The Parish Council has no objections to an application for the erection of two agricultural buildings.
- Millers Homes would be contacted to establish whether they had any plans for the amenity land on Milton Road/Barford Road, next to Bloxham Mill.
- The Parish Council would make comments on the siting of the Bloxham School cricket nets when it was consulted on the planning application, as a statutory consultee.

Planning applications and the Parish Council's comments could be viewed at <https://www.cherwell.gov.uk/info/115/planning/443/see-or-comment-on-a-planning-application23as>

Environment/ Highways

- Walkers going over Hobb Hill will notice posts and string at the gates and on the footpath. The farmer is using these to guide users to the location of the Public Right of Way. The farmer will be making hay in the field this year. If the ground becomes compacted it becomes unusable. Walkers should try to keep to the right, close to the hedge on the way up from Courtington Lane and at the top, walk straight down to the kissing gate at the bottom on Ells Lane. Please keep to the paths and enjoy your walks up Hobb Hill...a good pair of wellies / boots always helps.
- Potholes, overhanging trees or hedges and street lighting issues can be reported by residents at <https://fixmystreet.oxfordshire.gov.uk/> When reporting on this site, photographs are useful.
- Please do not park on the grass verges as this destroys them and damages the appearance of the whole village.
- Works to a tree in Winters Way will be undertaken by the PC as the land on which it is located, is unregistered. A tree in Greens Garth would also be inspected.

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- There are no allotments in Bloxham, however there are some in Milton which can be rented. More information can be obtained by contacting Harriet Featherstone at Carter Jonas. harriet.featherstone@carterjonas.co.uk
- Three specific areas of biodiversity will be progressed with wild flowers by the new Biodiversity Group, on grass verges in the village and more information is available on the PC web site. <https://www.bloxhamparishcouncil.co.uk/news-story.php?newsid=74>
- If residents see litter lying around the village, please could you pick it up and dispose of it in a litter bin. Litter picking equipment is available from the Parish Council.
- DOGS MUST BE KEPT ON A LEAD IN THE JUBILEE PARK PLAY AREA, AS PER THE SIGNAGE
- 'No Mow in May', grass verges would not be cut in May, to encourage biodiversity in the village.
- The Parish Council thanks all of the residents who have been volunteer litter picking and take pride in the appearance of the village.
- Significant damage has been caused to fences along the footpaths in the village and if it does not stop, some of these routes would be closed by the land owners. Bags of dog mess have also been strewn over hedges and fields. Please respect the countryside and clean up after your pets!
- The Parish Council will obtain more details on 'The Great Big Green Week' and discuss at a future meeting, how it could be involved to support the climate emergency.
- The Parish Council noticeboards outside Bloxham Museum and on the High Street would be refurbished.
- Cherry Tree Centre and the St Mary's Thursday Club had received their grant funding from Cherwell District Council, following the submission of successful applications by the Parish Council.

Finance

Community

- If any residents would like to be involved with the Parish Council's Traffic Calming Working Group to address speeding and other traffic issues in the village, please email the Clerk.
- Please could parents encourage their children to be careful of pedestrians when riding bikes on footpaths. There was recently a near miss between a child on a bike and an older member of the community on The Gogs footpath, but thankfully there were no injuries on this occasion.

Covid-19

- Residents are reminded that social distancing should be maintained at all times, staying two meters apart, but if this is not possible, it should be 1 meter with extra precautions, such as a face covering.
- The latest guidance on the Covid-19 lockdown restrictions can be found at <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/national-lockdown-stay-at-home>

Communication

- Follow Bloxham Parish Council on Facebook.
- The Parish Council's 'Drop-In and Chat' sessions are usually held from 10.30 am to 11.30 am on the second Saturday of every month at the Ex-Servicemen's Hall, however they are currently cancelled due to Covid-19 Pandemic. However, it is hoped they will begin again in September 2021.
- Contact the Clerk, Theresa Goss, on 01295 710965, **during normal office hours** or email bloxhamparishcouncil@gmail.com