

Minutes of Blackwell Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 7th July 2025 at Blackwell Community Centre

PRESENT

Cllrs: Gascoyne, Newham, Lee, Poulter, Stocks, Hart, Hough, Miles, and Renshaw

ALSO PRESENT

K Poynter (Clerk)

Cllr D Harvey (Derbyshire County Council)

Members of Public: 8

1544/2025 To Receive Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from Cllr Burrows as he had looked at the agenda and wasn't interested in any of the items/was double booked.

Mover to accept: Cllr Renshaw

Seconder to accept: Cllr Poulter

NOT AGREED

1545/2025 Variation of Order of Business (if required)

To be decided upon as appropriate during the meeting.

1546/2025 Declaration of Members Interests

Cllr Renshaw declared an interest in anything relating to Bolsover District Council

Other interests to be declared as appropriate during the meeting.

1547/2025 Public Speaking

a. A member of public asked a question about the last election. There was a conversation about people living within a three-mile radius (as the crow flies) of a ward being able to stand for election. It was confirmed that the parish is currently in the pre-election period for two upcoming elections and that everything had been undertaken in accordance with legislation. The Election Team had been contacted to check that all current candidates were within the three-mile limit and the Police had confirmed that checks had been made and everything was in order. It was noted that the elections are only happening in Blackwell and Hilcote wards this time.

A member of public asked whether the Parish Ranger could have a better water system for when tending to plants in the far reaches of the parish. It was noted that consideration had already been given to this item.

A member of public spoke about the Platform Thirty1 project and the artwork being installed on one of the walls at Newton Community Centre.

A member of public asked what powers the parish council has to deter boy racers in the parish. A Councillor mentioned that the issue had come up in a recent conversation with the police and their response was to report any incidents to the Police (by calling 101 or going on the website), ideally with as much information as possible, but that if it was even just to give them a time and place, that the more reports received would mean that they are more likely to go out and investigate.

It was asked whether hearing loops could be installed in the community centres.

b. *County and District Councillors*

There was a discussion about temporary changes to some of the bin collection schedules and it was concluded that no-one in the parish will be affected.

Cllr Harvey spoke about getting to grips with the organisation of the county council and that there will be a meeting in the next few days to discuss the unitary council situation, which is looking like two councils being formed – North and South Derbyshire.

Concern was expressed by Councillors about what the unitary council would mean for the workload at parish council level.

Cllr Renshaw passed on apologies from Cllr Moesby and reported that a working party looking at the Unitary Council had been formed at the district council. There is a survey out asking for public opinion on the proposed changes and it is expected that there would be further news in November. There is a Dragonfly meeting this week and at the end of the month there should be a decision about what happens next. The independent report on Dragonfly Developments can be found online. The keys to phase one of Woburn Close are due to be handed over this month. The Local Growth Committee will be focussing on local businesses in communities over the next six months.

c. *Crime Figures*

Chairman's Signature: _____

Date: _____

It was noted that one of the new focuses in Blackwell was the nursing home, due to the volume of issues connected to it.

1548/2025 To Confirm the Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 2nd June 2025

RESOLVED: to approve the above minutes

Mover: Cllr Gascoyne

Seconder: Cllr Newham

Agreed by All

1549/2025 Chairman's Announcements

The Chair stated that in light of the upcoming elections and the one that had previously taken place, the council was working tirelessly on the budget to try and keep the impact as low as possible.

1550/2025 Report from the Clerk

The Clerk reported that elections had been confirmed for Thursday 24th July 2025 and were taking place in Blackwell and Hilcote wards. Staff are also trying to find solutions to lock cabinets.

1551/2025 To Consider any Updates on the Unitary Council Situation

Following previous discussions, a Parish Council Liaison Meeting has been arranged for 17th July at The Arc. Cllr Renshaw will attend and other Councillors are also welcome.

1552/2025 Finance and Governance Reports and Matters

a. **RESOLVED:** to approve the payments for June and July as received so far

Mover: Cllr Gascoyne

Seconder: Cllr Newham

Agreed by All

b. It was noted that as of today, the bank balances stand at:

CCLA - £7,179.86 and Co-op - £228,658.47

c. It was noted that the only news received on the external audit to date is that the auditors have received the paperwork and it is now in a queue to be processed.

d. It was noted that the reserves currently remain the same, but expenditure will be needed due to the parish van and the election costs

e. It was reported that the van had passed the MOT, but had an issue with the heater – it is booked in for a repair, but the cost will be passed onto the council if they are unable to fix it before the lease is up.

RESOLVED: To ask if money can be knocked off the price if the heater still isn't working at the time of purchase and to run the final price last the Chair, Vice Chair and Chair of the Finance & HR Committee before purchase.

Mover: Cllr Stocks

Seconder: Cllr Hart

Agreed by All

f. **RESOLVED:** to ratify that the quote for the van/mower/trailer insurance for £924.96 was approved by the Chair, Vice Chair and Clerk.

Mover: Cllr Stocks

Seconder: Cllr Lee

Agreed by All

g. It has been confirmed that the funding for the repairs on the wall at Blackwell Cricket Ground had been approved. It was agreed that this is fantastic news – thank you to the Projects and Procurement Assistant.

h. A list of training opportunities available with DALC was handed out to Councillors and it was agreed that if anyone was interested, they contact the Clerk to be booked on.

1553/2025 Parish Buildings (LG(MP)A 1976 s19 / LGA 1894 s8(1)(i))

a. **RESOLVED:** to approve the following recommendations from the Parish Facilities Committee:

i. That what would be required for the Parish Ranger undertake PAT testing be investigated

ii. To ask Platform Thirty1 whether they would be interested in working with the council on a project to render and paint Blackwell Community Centre with a mural celebrating Blackwell village and to go with round tables in the lounge for a grant application that is currently being put together to refurbish Blackwell Community Centre.

iii. To have a proper assessment of the roof at Hilcote Community Centre and if appropriate funding becomes available, apply to have the whole roof changed.

iv. To look for funding for general upgrades and possibly additional space at Charnwood Pavilion

v. That staff help BRAG with the forms for installing the anvil in Blackwell.

Mover: Cllr Renshaw

Seconder: Cllr Poulter

Agreed by All

It was noted that the fan had been repaired in the ladies toilet at Hilcote Community Centre and that the lock at Newton Community Centre has been changed.

Chairman's Signature: _____ Date: _____

- b. It was noted that a resident had written in to express disappointment at Armed Forces Day not being recognised by the council this year when it had been done historically. There was a discussion about the current links to the armed services and events that the council does undertake. Council could not remember anything for Armed Forces Day happening previously, but if the resident wanted to do something next year, they were more than welcome to approach the council.

RESOLVED: to suspend Standing orders due to time constraints

Mover: Cllr Hart

Seconder: Cllr Hough

Agreed by All

1558/2025 Communications (LGA1972 s142)

It was noted that the deadline for articles for the September issue of the parish newsletter would be around 8th August and that it would likely go out from 19th September.

There were discussions about allotment codes, responsibility for the area in front of the gates at the Littlemoor Lane allotment site and an application for section 137 Funding.

RESOLVED: to reinstate Standing Orders

Mover: Cllr Newham

Seconder: Cllr Hart

Agreed by All

1559/2025 Allotments

- a. **RESOLVED:** that Cllr Poulter have the gate code to North/South Street, so that if anyone wanted additional access to the allotments, he would be able to arrange access.
- b. **RESOLVED:** that the parish council would cut the ivy invading a neighbouring house from the Littlemoor Lane site so it could die off naturally.

Mover: Cllr Gascoyne

Seconder: Cllr Hough

Agreed by All

1560/2025

Section 137 Funding Applications

Cllr Stocks declared in interest in this item as a member of Westhouses Community Association (WCA)

RESOLVED: to approve a funding request from WCA for £200 to contribute towards a container to store materials, display items and arts and crafts for work in the community (the total scheme coming to £1,850).

Mover: Cllr Gascoyne

Seconder: Cllr Hough

Agreed by All

1543/2025 Date and Time of Next Meeting

Monday 1st September 2025, 7pm at Blackwell Community Centre

The meeting closed at 9.11pm

Chairman's Signature: _____

Date: _____

BLACKWELL PARISH COUNCIL – Minutes

02/06/2025 Blackwell Parish Council						
Invoices for payment June/July 2025						
Invoice						
Date	Vendor	Invoice Detail	NET	VAT	Total Due	Payment details
08/06/2025	Water Plus	Water Supply HCC May/June	136.22		136.22	DD
15/04/2025	Ayvens	Van lease	294.86	58.97	353.83	DD (invoiced 2 months in advance)
15/05/2025	Ayvens	Van lease	294.86	58.97	353.83	DD (invoiced 2 months in advance)
15/06/2025	Allstar	fuel	95.26	19.04	114.30	DD
16/06/2025	Onecom	phone/internet	229.83	45.97	275.80	DD
	BRAG	newsletter delivery	22.50		22.50	
16/06/2025	Heathcote	Bamford St Warden	60.00		60.00	paid 16/06/2025
06/06/2025	Water Plus	Water supply BCC	85.34		85.34	DD - brought up to date
12/06/2025	Water Plus	Water supply CP	-249.76		-249.76	DD
06/06/2025	Water plus	Water supply NCC	269.14		269.14	DD
01/05/2025	B&Q	paint BCC	33.33	6.67	40.00	DD (two months later)
12/05/2025	Screwfix	safety boots	31.97		31.97	DD (two months later)
20/05/2025	Screwfix	Hi vis waistcoats/gloves BCC	28.93	4.83	33.76	DD (two months later)
21/05/2025	Screwfix	goggles BCC	7.57	1.51	9.08	DD (two months later)
21/05/2025	Screwfix	sealant clear BCC	13.32	2.66	15.98	DD (two months later)
03/06/2025	Rhodes	reimbursement NCC & CP keys	31.50		31.50	paid 03/06/25
01/06/2025	DALC	Internal audit charges	430.00		430.00	paid 03/06/25
30/05/2025	Clarkes Cemetery Services	Churchyard maintenance May	660.00		660.00	paid 03/06/25
20/05/2025	Civic Pride	lamppost testing	570.00	114.00	684.00	paid 03/06/25
30/05/2025	ASI	intruder alarm BCC	240.00	48.00	288.00	paid 03/06/25
23/05/2025	Glapwell Hall Gardens Ltd	summer plants	141.54	28.31	169.85	paid 03/06/25
31/05/2025	Bullock	weekend key holder	168.00		168.00	paid 03/06/25
05/06/2025	Hargan Electrical	BCC kitchen	552.84		552.84	paid 30/06/25
08/05/2025	Sharp	photocopier copies	25.00	5.00	30.00	DD
19/05/2025	St Werburghs	VE Day refreshments	75.34		75.34	
15/06/2025	Peac Solutions	Photocopier lease	153.00	30.60	183.60	DD
15/06/2025	A2R Electrical Solutions	Light BCC	83.33	16.67	100.00	
13/06/2025	ICO	ICO registration	52.00		52.00	paid by card 13/06/25
12/06/2025	THC Midlands	BCC kitchen labour	2,950.00	590.00	3,540.00	
12/06/2025	THC Midlands	BCC kitchen materials	1,760.00	352.00	2,112.00	
12/06/2025	THC Midlands	toilet cladding BCC	394.00	78.80	472.80	
27/06/2025	Clarkes Cemetery Services	Churchyard maintenance June	660.00		660.00	
05/06/2025	Bolsover District Council	HCC premises licence	180.00		180.00	paid 27/06/25
20/06/2025	Hargan Electrical	BCC fan/spotlights HCC fan	315.00		315.00	paid 315
24/06/2025	Russell & Booth Plumbing	outside tap CP	135.00	27.00	162.00	
04/06/2025	Poynter	reimbursement towle dispenser	24.99		24.99	paid 27/06/25
26/06/2025	Gallagher	Van/mower/trailer insurance	924.96		924.96	paid 27/06/25
26/06/2025	Bolsover District Council	staff costs June payslip cpsts Apr-Jun	8,977.94	12.00	8,989.94	paid 27/06/25
30/06/2025	Bullock	weekend key holder June	152.00		152.00	paid 30/06/25
29/06/2025	Wilkinson	evening key holder	68.00		68.00	paid 30/06/25
15/12/2025	St Werburghs	carol service refreshments	32.70		32.70	
30/04/2025	PMC polythene Ltd	10,000 dog poo bags	92.50	18.50	111.00	late because they sent to a previous Clerk
01/07/2025	Bolsover District Council	replacemenmt of two swing seats Scan	104.00	20.80	124.80	
03/07/2025	The Lockshop	replacement lock for NCC	171.50	34.30	205.80	
					0.00	
					0.00	
		TOTAL	21,478.51	1,574.60	23,053.11	

Chairman's Signature: _____

Date: _____