

Minutes of the Extraordinary Blackwell Parish Council Meeting held on Thursday 23rd July 2026 at Blackwell Community Centre

PRESENT

Cllrs: Gascoyne (Chair), Newham (Vice Chair), Stocks, Hart, Reynolds, Renshaw, Lee and Peters

ALSO PRESENT

K Poynter (Clerk)

Members of Public: 0

1754/2026 To Receive Apologies for Absence

RESOLVED: to accept apologies received from: Cllrs Poulter (prior commitment) and Hough (work commitment)

Mover: Cllr Gascoyne

Seconded: Cllr Hart

Agreed

1755/2026 Declaration of Members Interests

Interests to be declared as appropriate during the meeting.

1756/2026 Public Speaking

No members of public were present

1757/2026 Buildings and Parks

a. Gents toilets at Blackwell Community Centre

RESOLVED: to ask for quotes to cover the whole wall

Mover: Cllr Lee

Seconded: Cllr Newham

Agreed

b. Request from Greater Creative

RESOLVED: to approve a request from Greater Creative to decorate the kitchen serving hatches at the three community centres

Mover: Cllr Hart

Seconded: Cllr Reynolds

Agreed

c. Temporary solutions to wetpour gaps at Westhouses

RESOLVED: to look at filling the gap between the wetpour and the path at Westhouses with sand

Mover: Cllr Hart

Seconded: Cllr Stocks

Agreed

d. Removal of recycling bins

RESOLVED: Following the revelation that the recycling bins at Blackwell Community Centre were owned by a business pretending to be a charity, it was agreed to allow Recycled Clothing Banks to remove the recycling bins and if they requested a donation to a charity of their choice to dispose of any clothing inside, then Cllr Peters offered to match it if more was requested than could be paid.

Mover: Cllr Gascoyne

Seconded: Cllr Reynolds

Agreed

e. Newton Community Centre Floor

RESOLVED: if JMH still hadn't responded to chasing about the issues with the floor at Newton Community Centre, to allow Shire Flooring to take a look when they are laying the kitchen floor at Blackwell Community Centre, and if there was to be a charge, to delegate approval to the Chair, Vice Chair and Clerk.

Mover: Cllr Hart

Seconded: Cllr Reynolds

Agreed

f. Other issues that have arisen

RESOLVED: following the discovery of deep scratches on the floor at Blackwell Community Centre and not being able to pinpoint which user is responsible, to contact the installer to say that there is a problem with the floor and will they look at it. If nothing happens, to defer to the September meeting.

Mover: Cllr Gascoyne

Seconded: Cllr Reynolds

Agreed

It was noted that Newton Community Association had offered to donate £500 towards a new Christmas Tree for Newton and it was suggested when applying for the Object in the Highway Licence, to go for the biggest sizes as no final decision had been made.

1758/2026 Staffing

a. Resignation

It was noted that the Projects and Procurement Assistant had resigned. Her last date will be 7th August.

b. Recommendations from the Finance & HR Committee

RESOLVED: to approve the Staff Resilience Plan

Mover: Cllr Stocks

Seconded: Cllr Hart

Agreed

Chairman's Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

RESOLVED: following the recommendation that the position be altered to a Finance Assistant and the potential need for more hours, that the Finance & HR Committee is delegated to assess all of the staff posts in conjunction with the budget and make recommendations to the council in September.

Mover: Cllr Reynolds

Seconder: Cllr Gascoyne

Agreed

RESOLVED: to allow up to three additional hours a week during busy periods, at the Clerk's discretion, for the Parish Ranger and this to be taken from the repairs and maintenance budget. Also, to look at a battery solution to allow the water pump to run from the van – the Clerk to send the specs gathered so far to Cllr Gascoyne to run past an electrician.

Mover: Cllr Stocks

Seconder: Cllr Reynolds

Agreed

1759/2026

Date and Time of Next Meeting

Monday 7th September 2026 – 7pm, Blackwell Community Centre

The meeting closed at 7.59pm

Chairman's Signature: _____

Date: _____