



# BLEADON PARISH COUNCIL

Coronation Halls  
Coronation Road  
Bleadon. North Somerset. BS29 0PG  
[www.bleadonparishcouncil.co.uk](http://www.bleadonparishcouncil.co.uk)  
[parishclerk@bleadonparishcouncil.co.uk](mailto:parishclerk@bleadonparishcouncil.co.uk)

21<sup>st</sup> June 2024

**MEETING:** Open Spaces Working Group.

**DATE & TIME:** Thursday, 27<sup>th</sup> June 2024 at 6.00pm.

**LOCATION:** Farm Shop Café, Purn Way, Bleadon BS24 0QE.

**MEMBERSHIP:** Parish Councillors ID Clarke, Ann Davies, Mary Sheppard, Andy Scarisbrick and Steve Sugg.

## AGENDA

1. To receive apologies for absence.
2. To receive members' declarations of interest on any agenda item.
3. Notes of meeting held on 30<sup>th</sup> May 2024 (for information – pages 2-3).
4. To specifically discuss the following items and, where necessary, make recommendations to the Parish Council.
  - Allotments – Watering System and request to keep livestock
  - Churchyard Memorial Tests/Maintenance – Preliminary findings
  - Works to wall adjacent to toilet block – recommendation to Council
  - Parish Clock Re-gilding – principles in relation to project management
  - Dog bins – location and frequency of collection
  - Colour samples for woodwork (benches and bus shelters)
5. To discuss and update the project/maintenance schedule – this is a standing item and acts as an ongoing record of the business of the Working Group. Discussion of the schedule may also involve recommendations to the Parish Council (page 4).
6. Date of next meeting and note any suggested agenda items – 1<sup>st</sup> August 2024 at 10.00am.

*C P Bolt*

Clerk to the Council

## Open Spaces Working Group Notes

30<sup>th</sup> May 2024

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

**Report Author:** Parish Clerk  
**Present:** Councillors ID Clarke and Mary Sheppard  
No members of the public were present.

### Apologies for absence

None.

### Declarations of Interest

None.

### Jubilee Garden

Councillors considered suggestions from the Council's Grounds Maintenance contractor regarding planting options for Jubilee Gardens. The suggestions which were supported were:

- Shrubs - Witch Hazel (Intermedia), Lavender (Philadelphus Belle Etoile), Roses (Great Maidens Blush, The Pilgrim and Arthur Bell)
- Perennials – Rudbeckia, Echinacea, Helleborus, Michalemas daisies, Carnations/Pinks
- Bulbs – Gladioli, Tulipa, Daffodils, Snowdrops and Allium

Councillors were also updated on interest in tendering for works to the wall.

### Bench at Celtic Way

Councillors noted the very long lead time for the preferred bench and asked that ***the issue be raised at the next meeting of Council as to whether or not this proposal should be pursued.***

### Colour Schemes

Woodwork – Councillors discussed a common colour scheme for woodwork (bus shelters, benches, planters etc) and expressed a preference for Anthracite/Dark Grey or Dark Brown. ***The Clerk was asked to obtain some samples for further consideration.***

Metalwork – The Clerk advised that works to the Grade 2 listed pumps had been discussed with North Somerset Council and that any works would need to be progressed based upon the original colour – a bright green. As a consequence, it was concluded that the same colour should be applied to any repainting of the car parking barrier. It was noted that ***Cllr Sugg had offered to investigate protective coatings/paints and the outcome of this investigation was awaited.***

### Project and Maintenance Schedule

The Project and Maintenance schedule was discussed. The following additions/modifications to the circulated schedule were identified:

- Noticeboards – Cllr Clarke advised that informal discussions with residents at the Veale had indicated a preference for a replacement noticeboard. It was also felt that there was no need for a

replacement board at Bleadon Road due to the proximity of the noticeboard at the Coronation Halls. Materials and size were discussed and the merits of taking a common approach to replacing all noticeboards at the same time. ***The Clerk was asked to include the prospect of replacing noticeboards at the next meeting of the Council.***

- Trees in playground – these should ***be reinspected in the Autumn of 2024 rather than 2025*** as stated in the maintenance schedule.
- Dog bins – ***location and replacement of dog bins to be discussed in more detail at the next meeting of the Group.***

The following Grounds Maintenance issues were also identified:

- ***The need to trim Purn Quarry to prevent unauthorised camping***
- ***Cutting back the hedges to the rear of the WI bench and adjacent to the Parish Pumps***
- ***Removal of a tree limb above the Bier Garden in the churchyard***

Item	Priority	Issue Requiring Resolution	Position as at 21/6/24	Further Action Agreed
Jubilee Gardens	1	Works to wall	Contract awarded - in hand	September start date to be confirmed
	1	Planting scheme	Discussed at May OSWG	None
Seating	2	Replacement of Celtic Way bench	New (non-native) hardwood bench purchased	To be installed
Allotments		Replacement of gate	Both sets of gates replaced. 50% of net costs received from Church Commissioner agents	None - complete
		Polytunnel	3 allotment tenants interested in using facility. Staging to be constructed/developed as a community resource	Physical works to be completed. Need to consider connection to automatic watering system if to be used for growing plants from seed
		Watering	Current hose on a reel problematic for many allotment holders. Additional temporary measures to be introduced.	Permanent underground watering system to be considered.
		Compost area	Insufficient support from allotment tenants to progress a community based compost scheme.	None
Toilets	3	Can accessible toilets be achieved within existing footprint	Budget of £40,000 approved. Indicative prices for conventional rebuild and prefab unit obtained. Confirmation that there is sufficient space within the existing footprint to accommodate two fully accessible toilets. Youth Hall/Coronation Halls to be contacted to establish whether existing toilets might be utilised.	CB to explore securing architectural services to provide further advice at the appropriate time
		Accessway adjacent to toilet	Works to wall to create full width accessway discussed with contractor for Jubilee Garden walls. Quotation awaited.	CB to report once details received. Options to be discussed with neighbouring landowner.
Drains		Blocked drains - Outside Queens Arms	Reported to NSC - Contractor instructed to clean out gullies	None
		Blocked drains - Bridge Road	Reported to NSC - Contractor instructed to clean out gullies. Raised with Drainage Board who have confirmed rhyne capacity is adequate. Response from Wessex Water awaited	None
		Blocked drain - Bleadon Road/A370	Noted that significant amounts of tarmac in this drain.	CB to report
Roman Road Layby		Large potholes/rutting	Mendip AONB have earmarked funding towards labour costs. Edenstone to provide chippings free of charge. Work tendered and contract awarded by Council.	Works expected to be undertaken before the end of July
		Overnight parking	No overnight parking signs to be erected.	
Noticeboards		Replacement	Noticeboards at The Veale and Bleadon Road removed due to safety considerations. Council resolved to replace all noticeboards (oak) with the exception of the one at Bleadon Road and to provide an additional noticeboard in the vicinity of Bleadon Mill. Budget of £5,000 agreed.	CB to investigate suppliers
Road signs		Missing horse warning sign - Roman Road Bramble bank and Shiplate bend	Reported to NSC - NSC investigating	
The Veale		Bus stop	Both signs subject to excessive vegetation growth	None
		Verges	No further action to be taken re possible removal. Heavily overgrown - NSC responsibility	None
Coronation Hall		Tarmac cracking	Checked and considered not to be an issue.	None
		Poor condition of dividing wall	Dividing wall to the West in poor condition. Believed to be the responsibility of the neighbouring property	None
		Fire escape	Further discussion needed regarding stability of chippings	CB to take forward as part of next stage of works below
	Excessive growth of vegetation	Contract awarded - in hand. Some initial cutting back has taken place. More substantive works dependent upon removal of blue container	None	
Potholes		Excessive potholes - Roman Road	Many verges have collapsed - NSC responsibility	Consideration to be given to undertaking/commissioning local surveys to establish need/investment requirements.
20mph zone		EIDs	Forms part of wider discussion around 20mph zones	None
Trees		Play area Sycamore	Question as to whether tree should be cut back further	To form part of 2 year survey of playground trees to take place Winter 2024.
		Churchyard	More substantial trimming of trees in churchyard	To be addressed in any future works
Churchyard walls		Crack in back wall	Being monitored	
PROWs		Need to clarify responsibilities	Definitive maps online	None
Car park		Barrier in poor state of repair	Pressure washing agreed by Council	Clr Sugg to check and confirm paint/protective coating required
		Disabled parking	Blue Badge only notices erected	None - complete
Parish clock		Re-gilding	Architect appointed. Timsbury to reschedule works. Fee structure to be discussed	CB to check with AD accuracy of current donations board
Croquet Club Gate		Not known	Not known	None
Parish Pump/Well		Poor condition	Scheme of work provisionally agreed with NSC Conservation Officer - but still subject to final approval. Specialist tools will be needed.	To be considered late Summer/early Autumn
Japanese knotweed		Previously reported adjacent to churchyard	New Grounds Maintenance contractor informed	None
Grit Bins		Need refilling	Refilling will take place during the Autumn	None
Play Area		Bark chip levels	Further bags of bark distributed	None
		Low wooden fence	Removed due to proximity to trim trail	None - complete
		Signage	New signage authorised by Council	CB to arrange.
		Ground anchor	Ground anchor required for picnic bench - works order placed with JAR	None
	Finger guard on gates	Finger guards ordered. Works order agreed with JAR for fitting	None	
Memorials		Headstones	Initial testing undertaken. Details to be reported to Council	Actions arising to be reported to full Council.
		War memorials	Legal position investigated and funding opportunities shared with church.	To form part of a range of issues to discuss with PCC.
Market Cross		Aged/weathered	Survey to be conducted within next 3 years to establish any restoration requirements	None
Planters		Planting scheme over the Summer	Redundant planters removed. Plants collected and distributed (together with compost) - all planters now planted up. Watering schedule in place. Many volunteers still involved.	Planning for next year needs to commence in Autumn of 2024. If seedlings are to be brought on in polytunnel, then an automatic watering system/shading will be needed.
Streetlighting		Safety/appearance	School Lane completed. Works to light opposite The Veale still not complete. Has been raised with contractor multiple times.	None
Churchyard		Wilding area	Size, location and lack of public information require consideration	To be raised with PCC
Benches		General	Most require pressure washing and staining/painting	Colour options to be discussed
Bus shelters		General	Generally in sound condition - wooden structures need staining/treating to preserve wood	Colour options to be discussed
Defibrillator		Coronation Hall	Pads in Coronation Hall Defib replaced	None - complete
		General	No new areas identified following consultation. Funding opportunity now fully committed - although further funding round expected	Sites to be identified.
Dog Bins		Location and frequency of collection	Views sought via Parish News. Purchase of new bins to be considered	Agenda item for OSWG