



# BLEADON PARISH COUNCIL

Coronation Halls  
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25<sup>th</sup> August 2024

**MEETING:** Open Spaces Working Group.

**DATE & TIME:** Thursday, 29<sup>th</sup> August 2024 at 10.00am.

**LOCATION:** Youth Centre Hall, Coronation Road, 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 1<sup>st</sup> August 2024 (for information – pages 2-3).
4. To specifically discuss the following item(s) and, where necessary, make recommendations to the Parish Council (verbal reports unless otherwise indicated)
  - Parish Clock – Plaque
  - Play area development
  - Planting scheme for Jubilee Garden
  - Allotments – invoicing and payment
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 (pages 4-5).
6. Date of next meeting and note any suggested agenda items – 26<sup>th</sup> September 2024 at 10.00am (Church Rooms).

*C P Bolt*

Clerk to the Council

## Open Spaces Working Group Notes

1<sup>st</sup> August 2024

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

**Report Author:** Parish Clerk  
**Present:** Councillors ID Clarke, Mary Sheppard and Ann Davies (part – including Play Area discussion)  
No members of the public were present.

### Apologies for absence

Councillors Ann Davies and Andy Scarisbrick.

### Declarations of Interest

None.

### Notes of Meeting Held on 27<sup>th</sup> June 2024

The Clerk confirmed that proposals in relation to noticeboards were expected to be ready for the next meeting of Council.

Councillors confirmed that the use of gabions in the churchyard was acceptable.

The Clerk confirmed that discussions had taken place with the wall owner in relation to proposals to alter the wall configuration adjacent to the toilet block. The reconstituted stone products proposed to be used were unlikely to meet councillors expectations. As a consequence, ***the Clerk had discussed using natural stone throughout and would be proposing a contract variation to the next meeting of Council.***

***The Clerk was asked to clarify with Cllr Sugg what progress has been made in relation to works to the car parking barrier adjacent to the play area.***

### Play Area

Councillors noted that Edenstone had proposed a figure in relation to play provision associated with the agreed planning permission being met off site at the Bleadon play area. This proposal was now with North Somerset Council for consideration and for clarification of the process to be followed.

The Clerk advised that there had been some feedback following the Parish News article and he had taken the opportunity to raise the issue of how the play area might be improved with users over the course of the last few weeks. Councillors concluded that it would be helpful to discuss a number of principles to help guide future developments. Following discussion, ***the following principles were recommended for adoption by Council:***

- ***That future developments should focus upon early years and over 12s – the primary age range group largely being well served by the existing play area.***
- ***That the existing rural nature of the play area should be preserved, with wood apparatus and muted colour schemes.***

- *That the Council should take the opportunity to introduce equipment capable of use by children with special/additional needs.*
- *That sound/music based equipment would be inappropriate given the proximity of the site to residential properties.*
- *That the potential to introduce 'gym' type equipment for older age ranges in the vicinity of Pea Green should be explored.*

#### **Project and Maintenance Schedule**

Updates to the Project and Maintenance schedule were noted.

Item	Priority	Issue Requiring Resolution	Position as at 25/8/24	Further Action Agreed
Jubilee Gardens		Works to wall	Works underway.	None
		Planting scheme	Discussed at May OSWG	Scheme requires finalising
		Removal of part of wall adjacent to toilet	Additional elements agreed by Council and with wall owners	None
Seating		Replacement of Celtic Way bench	Bench installed	None - complete
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 staging to be completed. Need to consider connection to automatic watering system if to be used for growing plants from seed
		Watering	Above ground system extended - now 3 connection points for tenants (top, middle and bottom)	None
		Compost area	Insufficient support from allotment tenants to progress a community based compost scheme.	None
Toilets		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 contacted to establish whether existing toilets might be utilised - Youth Hall supportive but recognise limitations of existing access	Outline refurbishment scheme awaited from one specialist company
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 rhyme capacity is adequate. Response from Wessex Water awaited	None
		Blocked drain - Bleadon Road/A370	Noted that significant amounts of tarmac in this drain. Issue reported	None
Roman Road Layby		Large potholes/rutting	Bulk of works completed.	Further work required to tidy up and move large boulders back into position
		Overnight parking	No overnight parking signs to be erected.	
Noticeboards		Replacement	Noticeboards ordered - expected delivery end of September. 8 highways accredited contractors approached for quotes to install as per NSC requirements	Further consideration of information panels needed.
Road signs		Missing horse warning sign - Roman Road Bramble bank and Shiplate bend	Reported to NSC - NSC investigating Both signs subject to excessive vegetation growth	Follow up report to NSC
The Veale		Bus stop	No further action to be taken re possible removal.	None
		Verges	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 (raised section)	Contract awarded - in hand. Some initial cutting back has taken place. More substantive works dependent upon removal of blue container	Container requires removal (and payment)

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	Defintive 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	Dial removed and being restored. Potential re-instatement early October. Council to consider plaque requirements	Clr Davies leading on plaque
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	Fitted by clerk.	None
		Finger guard on gates	Fitted by JAR	None
		Replacement/additional equipment	Dependent upon discussions regarding quarry site	
Memorials		Headstones	Gabions approved by Diocese. Other potential remedial works still the subject of discussion.	Gabions to be installed
		War memorials	Legal positon investigated and funding opportunities shared with church.	None
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	Cutting back at the end of October 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	Further consideration needed