

BLEASBY PARISH COUNCIL

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Website: <http://www.bleasbyparishcouncil.uk/community>



Statutory Annual Meeting of Bleasby Parish Council

Monday 19th May 2025 at 7.30 pm, in Bleasby Village Hall

Present: Cllr Coombs (in the chair), Cllrs Roscoe, Wallin, Winn, Andersen, Cllr Saddington (NCC), the clerk and 3 members of the public

Minutes

1. Election of Chair

Cllr Coombs was nominated as the Chair by Cllr Roscoe and seconded by Cllr Winn. The Council voted unanimously to accept this proposal. Cllr Coombs was duly elected and the Declaration of Acceptance was signed.

2. Election of Vice Chair (Declaration of Acceptance of Office to be signed)

Cllr Andersen was nominated as the Vice Chair by Cllr Roscoe and seconded by Cllr Winn. The Council voted unanimously to accept this proposal. Cllr Andersen was duly elected and the Declaration of Acceptance was signed.

3. Chair's Welcome

The Chair welcomed everyone, and the meeting commenced at 7.35pm

4. Apologies

None were received

5. Declarations of Interest

None were declared.

6. Appointment of Representatives on other bodies/groups

- Village Hall Management Committee
Cllr Nicola Winn will continue in this role
- Grasshoppers
Cllr Michael Coombs will continue in this role
- Flood Advisory Group
Cllr Michael Coombs will continue in this role
- Station Adoption Scheme
None
- Any other bodies
None

7. Minutes of the meeting held on 14th April 2025

The minutes of the meeting on 14th April were agreed and voted unanimously. Signed by the Chair

8. Public Participation

A member of the public asked about the dangerous bridge next to Holme Dyke. Cllr Coombs responded that it has been reported to the Council and a repair is underway. The Clerk to chase.

A member of the public asked about the white lines on the centre of the road that are disappearing in the village. This is causing cars to drift over the centre of the road to avoid the potholes. Clerk to chase NCC

A member of the public requested that signs be installed on the newly planted avenue of trees so that the details are formally recorded. Council to consider.

A member of the public asked about progress on the discussions regarding the fishing rights on Jubilee Ponds. Cllr Coombs explained progress and suggested that an extraordinary meeting be organised to progress this further.

A member of the public also asked about the cleaning and maintenance of the new village entrance signs. Cllr Coombs explained that this will be the remit of the Bleasby Lengthsman. Cllr Roscoe was asked to write an article for the Bleasby News to inform the village about the village entrance signs.

A member of the public wanted to thank everyone who organised the VE Day exhibition in the church. However he pointed out that communications within the village needs to be improved. Cllr Morgan reported that news items should be sent to him so that he can send them out to the village. It was also discussed that the village noticeboards should be used more frequently.

A member of public asked about Gypsy Lane being given Quiet Lane status. One of the criteria is to make the quiet lane part of a network of lanes/footpaths. 4 footpaths lead off Gypsy Lane which could form the network. It was asked if different types of gates could be installed which were more accessible than the current kissing gates so that Gypsy Lane could be part of a network of footpaths.

Cllr Coombs highlighted that this could be included in a potential Bleasby Neighbourhood Plan. He advocated that the development of a neighbourhood plan should be accelerated. The member of the public had developed letter templates that could be distributed throughout the village so that support for this initiative could be brought to the attention of villagers.

Cllr Melton explained that the Gypsy Lane development is Q Class and was therefore deemed to be Permitted Development.

Cllr Saddington was asked about the Quiet Lane status. She stated that she had written to NCC Highways and particularly asked them to look at the widened splays.

Cllr Saddington suggested that Quiet Lanes were the remit of the NCC Rights of Way team and so she had asked how to apply for the status. Cllr Melton suggested we write to Active Travel as they advocate for more people to walk etc.

Clerk to email the petition regarding the Quiet Lane status. to the villagers.

Cllr Saddington to report back to the Council on the process for Quiet Lane status.

9. District/County Council Reports

Cllr Melton reported on the meeting with Lynn Preece regarding tree planting in Bleasby. He reported that it had been a successful meeting and that the project was gaining momentum. Cllr Andersen would provide a fuller update in the agenda item below.

Cllr Roscoe asked Cllr Saddington about the safety issue regarding S bends on the main road between Bleasby and Fiskerton. There are no speed restrictions on the S Bends and there are many recreational users of this road both walking and cycling.

Clerk to write to Cllr Saddington (Cllr Roscoe to draft the email) to request measures

to have the traffic slowed down. Clerk to include the white lines requested in the same email.

10. Finance

- a. To approve payments as listed on payment schedule if any.

The payment schedule was approved by all and signed by the Chair.

- b. To receive and approve bank reconciliation

The bank reconciliation was approved and signed by the Chair.

- c. To review the 2024/25 Internal Audit report (signed by auditor).

The 2024/25 Internal Audit report was reviewed and accepted.

- d. To review, complete and approve the 2024/25 Annual Governance Statement.

The 2024/25 Annual Governance Statement was reviewed in detail, completed, approved and signed by the Chair.

- e. To review and approve 2024/25 AGAR Accounting Statement – section 2.

The 2024/25 AGAR Accounting Statement was reviewed, approved and signed by the Chair.

- f. To note that the Period for Exercise of Public Rights will be Tuesday 3rd June 2025 to Monday 14th July 2025.

The Period of Exercise of Public Rights was noted and will be published on the noticeboards, and on the website and sent to the village as a News item.

- g. To note that Bleasby PC's annual accounts are subject to external audit this year due to increased income and expenditure.

This was noted by the Council

- h. To note NSDC CIL payment of £613.13 from application 24/01234 (Oak Tree Farm)

This was noted by the Council

- i. Any other matters appertaining to finance.

It was agreed that detailed budget reports would be sent each month to Councillors for their scrutiny and comment.

11. Review of Parish Council Policy and Procedure Documents

- a. To review and approve Bleasby PC Standing Orders

The Bleasby PC Standing Orders were reviewed and approved by unanimous vote.

- b. To review and approve Bleasby PC Equality Policy

The Bleasby PC Equality Policy was reviewed and approved by unanimous vote

- c. To review and approve Bleasby PC Financial Regulations

The Bleasby PC Financial Regulations were reviewed and approved by unanimous vote

- d. To review and approve Bleasby PC Councillor Code of Conduct

The Bleasby PC Councillor Code of Conduct was reviewed and approved by unanimous vote

- e. To review and approve Bleasby PC Risk Assessment

The Bleasby PC Risk Assessment was reviewed but not approved. It was decided that it needs amendments and so a new version will be reviewed in the next meeting.

12. Planning

- a. Planning Application 25/00437/FUL, Installation of new gates at West Hall, Main Street, Bleasby.

The Council considered this application and voted unanimously to support this application.

- b. Any other matters appertaining to planning to include decisions.

There were no other matters.

- c. Any other items notified to Bleasby Parish Council prior to this meeting and requiring submission of comments before the following scheduled Parish Council meeting.

There were no other items notified

13. Correspondence

- a. Emails had been received from two members of the public regarding Parish Council support and assistance for obtaining Quiet Lane statue for Gypsy Lane. This was discussed and minuted in item 8.

- b. A member of the public had requested the use of Glebe Field for a private party

The Clerk was asked to email the link to the website page containing the form which needed to be completed. It was noted that this event would not be insured by the Parish Council.

- c. The Grasshoppers team wish to run an event at Jubilee Ponds on 12th July. The Council unanimously voted to agree to this request.

- d. NSDC Flood Resilience Grant – Second round of funding. It was agreed to investigate other items that could be funded.

14. Update on matters from previous meetings.

- a. Tree planting in Bleasby - update on proposals for trees and an article in Bleasby News.

Cllr Andersen reported on the recent meeting with Lyn Preece and stated that a local farmer wants to be considered and planting in Jubilee Ponds was being considered. Glebe Field is not felt to be suitable for further planting. Various landowners are also being considered as potential planting sites. Cllr Andersen reported that he proposes to work with Mr Cast on a potential site for additional trees in Goverton. Cllr Andersen is to produce an article which will be put into the Autumn edition of Bleasby News and potentially also be made into flyers for distribution into resident's houses. Cllr Coombs suggested that the school grounds could be a good site.

- b. Grip improvements on High Cross.

Cllr Coombs reported on his recent meeting with Via. They found that there may be a drainage channel under the road at High Cross and plan to excavate to investigate. This could lead to the installation of permanent grips.

- c. Speedwatch at Bleasby. To note and progress email from Thurgarton Pc regarding sharing of Speedwatch equipment.

The Council voted unanimously to respond positively to Thurgarton Parish Council to accept their proposal to share Speedwatch equipment. Cllr Morgan reported that he is setting up a WhatsApp group to organise the Speedwatch training.

- d. Village Entrance Signs update.

- i. To note LCF grant fund payment – The Clerk reported that the funding had been received.
 - ii. To discuss quotation from Signs of the Times. It was agreed that Cllr Roscoe would progress to ensure the success of the design of the signs.
- e. Update on signage for the slipway at the end of Boat Lane
Ongoing.

15. Flooding in Bleasby

- a. Flood Action Group Report
Bleasby Parish Council would like to request that there be more flood awareness within NSDC planning department.

16. Land and Assets

- a. Jubilee Ponds
 - i. Clarification of Fishing rights on Jubilee Ponds and comments from Councillors on the content of the title deeds regarding fishing rights. Cllr Coombs asked for an Extraordinary Meeting to be attended by the Councillors, the new owner, and the Grasshoppers team. Monday 2nd June at 7.30pm was proposed. The Church was suggested as the venue. Cllr Coombs agreed to contact all the attendees.
- b. Update on Bridge repair to Shale Lane Dyke/ Holme Dyke.
This was discussed and minuted in item 8.

17. Green Spaces Working Group Update

The Grasshoppers reported that on 17 May 2025 a working party had been held at Bleasby Primary School when they assisted with maintenance of nature area. The Next working party will be held on 14th June, location TBD.

The Council also wished to formally proffer their thanks to the Bleasby History Society, Barbara and Peter Cast, the PCC, and Cllr Roscoe for the VE Day event. The Council also wished to offer special thanks to the Flatt family for the donation of the WWII memorabilia.

The Council would like to ask if the Bleasby History Society would consider putting the VE Day information into a booklet for dissemination throughout the village.

18. Agenda items for next meeting

Bleasby PC Risk Assessment
Budget review

19. Date of next meeting – 9th June 2025

There being no further business, the Chair thanked everyone for attending and the meeting was closed at 21.42.

Distribution: Parish Councillors, Cllr S Saddington, Cllr K Melton, Noticeboards, Website