

Blandford St Mary Parish Council

**Minutes of the Annual Parish meeting, Annual General Meeting and monthly meeting of the Parish Council which took place at The Brewery Hall in Hall & Woodhouse Visitor Centre, Bournemouth Road, Blandford St Mary**

on Wednesday, the 7th of May 2025 at 6.30pm

Present: Cllr M Albery, Cllr J Dallison, Cllr M Dallison, Cllr I Mackay, Cllr T Coats and Cllr N Russell

In attendance: Mrs N Phillips (Parish Clerk)

There were three members of the public present and Dorset Councillor Barrie Cooper

**1/apm.** **Apologies for absence – there were none**

**2/apm. Retiring Chairman to convene the meeting**.

**3/apm. Annual reports of the Councils officers and local organisations**

**Play Area** – Cllr M Dallison reported that works have started on repairs and maintenance to the Play Area equipment.

**Village Hall** – to be discussed under the Parish Council meeting.

**Blandford+ Monitoring Group** – Cllr J Dallison reported that meeting have taken place and the key points raised is Infrastructure List & its incorporation into the Monitoring Sheet - B+ Working Group. Identifying any gaps and adding to sheet.

**Allotments –** Cllr T Coats reported that the Allotment Association have applied for some of the 106 money allocated to the Allotments for installing a new water supply withing the site and to erect security fencing around the site.

It was also noted that there are plots available for resident in Blanford St Mary and Bryanston. A notice will be put out on both Parish Council website and an Allotment Association committee meeting is to be organised to discuss how to best advertise the available plots.

**Environment** – nothing to report.

**4/apm. Any matters arising**. A member of the public that had asked permission for a remembrance bench to be erected on the recreation area, reported that the funds have been raised and has been transferred to the Parish Council for them to purchase the bench. The Clerk will order the bench and arrange delivery. **Action – Clerk**

**The retiring Chairman closed the Annual Parish Meeting**

**At this point the Annual General meeting was opened**

**1/25. Election of Chairman and signing of Declaration of Office**

Cllr T Coats proposed for Cllr M Albery for Chairman of Blandford St Mary Parish Council 2025-26, this was seconded by Cllr I Mackay, all were in favour. Cllr M Albery agreed.

**RESOLVED**: Cllr M Albery for Chairman of Blandford St Mary Parish Council 2022-26 (1/245no budgetary allocations required)

**2/25. To receive and accept apologies of absence.**

There were none

**3/25.** **Election of Vice Chairman**

Cllr T Coats proposed for Cllr J Dallison for Vice-Chairman of the Parish Council, this was seconded by Cllr M Dallison all were in favour. Cllr J Dallison agreed.

**RESOLVED**: Cllr J Dallison for Vice-Chairman for Blandford St Mary Parish Council 2025-26(3/25 no budgetary allocations required)

**4/25. Declaration of interest and dispensations**

There were none.

**5/25. Parish Council legal documents**

To confirm that having met the conditions of eligibility as defined in the Localism Act 2011 and SI 965 the Parish Councils (General Power of Competence) (Prescribed Conditions) Order 2012 will be agreed. This was proposed by Cllr J Dallison and seconded by Cllr M Dallison, all members in favour.

**RESOLVED:** The Parish Council met the conditions of eligibility for the General Power of Competence. (4/25- no budgetary allocations required).

To confirm there have been no changes to the adopted policies and procedures. The Clerk confirmed that all policies and procedures have not been changed.

**6/25. Approve minutes from AGM dated the 3rd of May 2024**

The Minutes of the AGM dated the 8th of May 2024 were proposed by Cllr T Coats and seconded by Cllr M Albery, that they are an accurate and true record of the meeting. They were duly signed by the Chairman.

**RESOLVED**: to approve the minutes from the AGM dated the 8th of May 2024 (no budgetary allocation required)

**7/25. Approve the governance statement, annual accounts and confirm no conflict of interest with DBO LLP**

**The Clerk tabled the following:**

**• The annual governance statement 2024/25**

**• The end of year accounting statements 2024/25**

**• The Asset Register 2024/25**

**• The Bank reconciliation 2024/25**

These were proposed and it was confirmed that there no conflict of interest with DBO LLP by Cllr T Coats and seconded by Cllr M Dallison all members agreed to approve the end of year accounts and the governance statement for the external auditor. The Chairman duly signed the forms.

**RESOLVED: to approve the end of year accounts and sign the governance statement (7/25 – accounts)**

**8/25. To Approve the minutes from the 2nd of April 2025**

The minutes were proposed by Cllr I Mackay and seconded by Cllr N Russell all agreed that the minutes are a true and accurate record of the meeting. They were duly signed by the Chairman.

**RESOLVED**: that the minutes were approved and signed by the Chairman (8/25 – no budgetary allocations required)

**9/25. Officers and Chairman’s report.**

**To agree officers’ roles for 2024/2025**

To be agreed at the Parish Council meeting in June

The following officers reported on roles:

* **Village Hall -**
* **Planning** – **Planning application P/FUL/2025/02344 – Blandford Town Museum –** retain storage unit. This application had just been received and will be discussed via email for a decision.

**10/25. Received report from Dorset Council representative.**

Dorset Councillor Barrie Cooper reported that he will raise concerns over the temporary pedestrian rights of way signs along Fairmile, that he feels Dorset Council should supply more fixed signs. Cllr Cooper will request new signs.

**11/24 Finance**

The Clerk tabled the financial statement to the Councillors, with the Payment Schedule for April 2024 for the sum of £8345.84, It was proposed by Cllr I Mackay and seconded by Cllr J Dallison, all agreed for the payments on the payment schedule be paid, the schedule was duly signed by the Chairman.



**RESOLVED** to pay the payment on the schedule to the total sum of £8345.84(11/24 current account)

**12/25.** **Clerk Report**

The Chairman reported on the request to support Blandford Town Council in the quest to keep the monumental lamp on the bridge, as Dorset Council would like it removed as the lighting does not comply with highways regulations. It was suggested that the lamp should remain in place, as it is an original monument. It does not need to be lit, but should be kept for historical reasons.

A letter has been received expressing concerns over the protection of Hedgehogs. This matter will be looked at in more details for the meeting in June.

**13/25. Items for next agenda and date of next meeting**

**Community Hall - TBA**

**Signed…………………………………………………………………………………………**

**Website address http://www.blandfordstmary-pc.org.uk**

**Should you wish to contact any Councillor please**

**ONLY use this address.**

**Clerk@blandfordstmary-pc.gov.uk**

**Date of next meeting**

**The Parish Council meeting will be held on Wednesday 19th June 2023 meeting at The Brewery Hall in Hall & Woodhouse Visitor Centre, Bournemouth Road, Blandford St Mary**

**There being no further business the meeting closed at 20.10.**