

Annual Meeting of the Parishes of Marsh Baldon and Toot Baldon

(The Village Meeting)

Minutes of the Annual Joint Parishes Meeting Monday 17th April 2023

Councillor Attendance	Dorothy Tonge (Chair) (DT), Dawn McGiveron (DMcG) ; Stephen Dance (SD), Elizabeth Gillespie (EG), Laurence Attewill (LA), Tom James (TJ, Clerk), Sam Casey-Rerhaye (SODC), Robin Bennett (OCC)
Public	Alison Porter, Phil Price, Peter Burke, Adam White Andrew Speight, Beverley Oakley, Alan Johns, Rev Teresa Stewart-Sykes, Paul Fermer, Niki Evans, Carole Trinder
Apologies	Apologies were received and accepted from Lauren Collett (LC)

Ref	Item	Notes	Action
VM/01/23	Introduction	Cllr. Dorothy Tonge welcomed all to the meeting.	
VM/02/23	Minutes of meeting	<p>The minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on 4th April, 2022 were confirmed and signed by the Chair.</p> <p>The approved joint minutes for Marsh and Toot Baldon were proposed by Alison Porter and seconded by Andrew Speight</p> <p>The minutes for this meeting will be approved in principle by the parish councillors at the May 2023 meeting and then added to the village website. This allows for the Annual Joint Parishes minutes to be into the public domain within a month rather than 12 months later.</p>	Minutes approved and adopted
VM/03/23	Open Forum	<p>Carole Trinder raised two points:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Would the council please reconsider the idea of laying a drainage pipe along Tinny Lane. It was explained that no decision had been taken over Tinny Lane. This will for the new council to decide. 2. Could some of the CIL money held by the council be used to reinstate the brick gate pillars that once held gates to the southern track. CIL money is intended to support improvements in village infrastructure. It is a one-off payment and, as such, the council will need to consider the best use of this valuable resource. 	

		<p>Paul Fermer enquired if it would be possible for the council to consider, in the future, live-streaming meetings.</p> <p>Other possible uses of CIL funds were play equipment on the green and an extension or refurbishment of the village hall.</p> <p>LA suggested the new council reviews the Neighbourhood Plan with a view to update the possible building sites in the villages.</p>	
VM/04/23	Report from the Chairman	<p>The Chairman's report was circulated in advance of the meeting.</p> <p>Key points:</p> <p>The Chairman recognised the excellent contributions made by Cllr Maskell who resigned from the council in December 2022. In particular, he has successfully campaigned for mains sewage for houses in Toot Baldon. DMcG was welcomed as his successor.</p> <p>Restoration of the track was an excellent example of the villagers coming together to improve the infrastructure of the village. The council was grateful for financial support from Lucy's and from the Seven Stars committee.</p> <p>The number of new houses now exceeds the limit proposed in the Neighbourhood Plan. While some new houses were welcomed, however the council strongly opposes applications where the number of dwellings is not in-line with the Neighbourhood Plan. For example, the council has objected to application for houses on land west of the green.</p> <p>The council is expecting its application for a 20mph speed limit through the villages to be approved this year.</p> <p>The Chairman was thanked for all her hard work and tireless attention to detail for over 20 years.</p> <p>Reported was accepted: Proposed: Andrew Speight Seconded: Adam White</p>	
VM/05/23	Report from the Treasurer	<p>The Treasurer presented the Annual Accounts. Due to CIL money and other grants, income had risen to over £37000, while expenditure rose to £35,888. A large proportion of this expenditure was on the southern track and the Treasurer thanked the committee and, in particular, Peter Cave and Andrew Speight for all their help and support with the project. Despite a healthy balance sheet, there were several costly projects ahead which would require considerable expenditure.</p> <p>The increase in income and expenditure means that the accounts will require an external audit.</p> <p>Annual accounts were approved:</p>	

		Proposed: Adam White Seconded: Andrew Speight	
VM/06/23	Annual Report from Oxfordshire County Council (OCC)	Cllr Bennett circulated a written report in advance of the meeting. He highlighted the importance of improving transport hubs within the county. The council was committed to investing in inclusive, integrated and sustainable transport networks. There was strong support from villagers for safe cycle routes to and from the city.	
VM/07/23	Report from South Oxon. District Council (SODC)	Cllr Casey-Rerhaye highlighted some key strategic priorities from her written report: Community Hubs, setup during Covid, will remain in place to support the local community. Climate action and nature restoration Delivering cost-effective housing Improving the finances and efficiency of the council	
VM/08/23	Annual Report: The Baldons Fuel Charity	An annual report was circulated prior to the meeting. 24 villagers had benefitted from grants. The trust is managed by financial managers who delivered a good return on the investments, despite the impact of Covid. No new trustees were appointed, and David Greenaway and Chris Nicholls were re-elected.	
VM/09/23	Annual Report on Marsh Baldon CFE School	The Chairman of Governors recognised and thanked Beccy Harris for her continued commitment and hard work with the school. Once again, the school is full and continues to perform above the national average. The Chairman thanked the Elizabeth Lane Foundation for its continued financial support and for the governing board for their wisdom and commitment to the school.	
VM/10/23	2024 Annual Joint Parishes Meeting	The 2024 Annual Parish Meeting of Marsh Baldon with Toot Baldon will take place on 22 April 2024. This date will be confirmed in the near future. The Chair closed the meeting at 9.00pm	

Signed as a true record: Chairman of Baldons PC

Date: 17 April 2023