

BALDONS PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of the Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 9 January, 2023 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall

Present:	Dorothy Tonge (DT; Chair), Lauren Collett (LC), Stephen Dance (SD), Dawn McGiveron (DMcG), Elizabeth Gillespie (EG; arrived 20.15) Tom James (TJ; Clerk) Robin Bennet (RB; OCC), Sam Casey-Rerhaye (SC-R; SODC)
Members of the public	There were eight members of the public in attendance

Ref	Item	Notes	Action
094/22	Introduction by the Chairman	The Chairmen welcomed everyone to the meeting. Members of the public were invited to speak during the Open Forum. If appropriate, the agenda will be suspended on a particular item for a member of the public to make a statement.	
095/22	Apologies for Absence	Apologies were accepted from Laurence Attewill (LA)	
096/22	Declarations of Interests	There were no declarations of interests from councillors	
097/22	Minutes of the Previous Meetings	The minutes of the meeting held on 14 November 2022 were approved as an accurate record	Minutes approved
098/22	Matters arising	The school pond has been viewed by a representative from the Earth Trust and a report will be received in due course. The hedgerow restoration grant has been applied for.	
099/22	Open Forum	The council was urged to be bold when dealing with the problem of traffic travelling down the Baldons Lane from the A4074. SD advised that the lane was certainly unsafe, especially at night. Concerns were also raised the dangers to young families and children walking to the bus stop in Nuneham. However, it would appear that the usual government response to such lanes is to install lighting rather than unlit pavements and passing places. The Clerk suggested that, once the 20mph speed limit had been agreed for the villages, then the Council could look to installing speed awareness signage. Concerns were raised about the apparent lack of waste bin storage at the new development at Durham Leys Farm and with problems with waste bin collection. The Council sympathised with the problems and suggested that the concerns should be raised with the developers and SODC waste services. If there has been a breach in planning regulations, the Council will refer the breach to SODC planning.	

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100/22	Village Matters (i) Date of Annual Villages Meeting	The Council approved 17 April 2023 as the date for the Annual Villages Meeting	<u>Date of villages meeting fixed</u>
101/22	(ii) Date of annual village clear-up	The villages clear-up day will take place on Sunday 26 March.	Clear-up day on 26 March
102/22	(iii) May elections	There are elections for both Marsh and Toot Baldon Parish Councils on 4 May 2023. Councils wishing to be stand for re-election should inform the Clerk as soon as possible.	Councillors to inform Clerk if intending to stand for re-election
103/22	(iv) A4074 corridor consultations	Councillors were unable to attend the recent consultation due to the short notice of the meeting. OCC are keen to hear the views of the Council on the proposed 40% increase in traffic following the Culham/Thames bridge and other road projects. The following ideas were put forward: 1. Traffic lights at the junction of Baldons Lane with the A4074 2. Restoration of the direct bus route from Nuneham Courtenay and the city centre 3. Pelican crossing by Nuneham Courtenay bus stops 4. Restoration of village bus service 5. Creation of a traffic hub to enable local residents to park their car by A4074 and travel by bus to the city. 6. Traffic calming measures through Marsh and Toot Baldon to deter drivers from using the village roads as a cut through to the Watlington Road and Cowley.	
104/22	(v) Ditch along Tinny Lane	The Council was informed that Savills had contacted a local farmer for help clearing the ditch along Tinny Lane.	
105/22	(vi) Coronation	At present there are no plans for any village celebration for the coronation. Baldons Events committee has expressed an interest in organising an event. There was no support for spending funds on coronation mugs for children at the school.	
106/22	(vii) Charging for use of the village green	The Council unanimously agreed that organisations should be charged a flat-rate for use of the village green for charged-for events by outside agencies.	
107/22	(viii) Code of Conduct	The Clerk informed councillors that there was a new Code of Conduct to be adopted by Oxfordshire councils. It had been decided to delay the introduction of the new code until after the May elections	Code of Conduct to be introduced with new council

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108/22	Report from OCC	<p>The January report had been circulated to councillors prior to the meeting.</p> <p>RB announced that Parishes with gravel reserves should be aware that OCC will be launching a new Mineral and Waste plan.</p> <p>For some unknown reason the planning meeting to discuss the Golden Balls/Culham Bridge was cancelled. It is assumed that this project will be discussed at the next planning meeting.</p>																																													
109/22	Report from SODC	<p>SC-R highlighted the need for voters to have some form of photo ID to vote in the May elections. Other matters had been circulated in the monthly report.</p>																																													
110/22	Treasurer's report	<p>(i) The accounts, were adopted as an accurate record. SD confirmed that the accounts had been checked against bank statements.</p> <p>(ii) The following payments were approved:</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="523 801 1257 1144"> <thead> <tr> <th>Date</th> <th>Description</th> <th>Payee</th> <th>Amount (incl VAT) (£)</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>11.11.22</td> <td>Dog waste bin emptying</td> <td>Tactical Facilities</td> <td>96.66</td> </tr> <tr> <td>21.11.22</td> <td>Clerk's expenses (It and Zoom)</td> <td>Tjames</td> <td>274.12</td> </tr> <tr> <td>21.11.22</td> <td>Clerk's salary claim (£384)</td> <td>Tjames</td> <td>230.40</td> </tr> <tr> <td>21.11.22</td> <td>PAYE payment (Tjames)</td> <td>HMRC</td> <td>153.60</td> </tr> <tr> <td>29.11.22</td> <td>Installing noticeboards</td> <td>W.Green</td> <td>318.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>5.12.22</td> <td>Set-up Google payments for Domain</td> <td>Google Ireland</td> <td>0.33</td> </tr> <tr> <td>7.12.22</td> <td>Grass mowing at Wilmots</td> <td>N.Cullen</td> <td>135.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>12.2.22</td> <td>Grant to PCC for churchyard mowing</td> <td>Baldons and Nuneham PCC</td> <td>1200.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>27.12.22</td> <td>Dog waste bin emptying</td> <td>Tactical Facilities</td> <td>77.33</td> </tr> <tr> <td>28.12.22</td> <td>Newsletter</td> <td>Baldons and Nuneham PCC</td> <td>139.99</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>(iii) The Treasurer distributed a revised budget for 2023/24, which was approved and adopted by the Council.</p> <p>(iv) Given expected rise in the costs of fuel-heavy activities such as grass cutting and tree-management, it was unanimously agreed that the Precept should rise by 10% for the current year. The Precept for Marsh Baldon will be £8,800 and the Precept for Toot Baldon will be £4,400 for 2023/24.</p> <p>Proposed: SD Seconded: EG</p> <p>(v) The Annual CIL report for 2022 was circulated to councillors. Treasurer explained that all the CIL funds from the Durham Leys development had been spent on restoration of the southern track.</p> <p>(iv) Auditing Solutions were appointed as Internal Auditors.</p>	Date	Description	Payee	Amount (incl VAT) (£)	11.11.22	Dog waste bin emptying	Tactical Facilities	96.66	21.11.22	Clerk's expenses (It and Zoom)	Tjames	274.12	21.11.22	Clerk's salary claim (£384)	Tjames	230.40	21.11.22	PAYE payment (Tjames)	HMRC	153.60	29.11.22	Installing noticeboards	W.Green	318.00	5.12.22	Set-up Google payments for Domain	Google Ireland	0.33	7.12.22	Grass mowing at Wilmots	N.Cullen	135.00	12.2.22	Grant to PCC for churchyard mowing	Baldons and Nuneham PCC	1200.00	27.12.22	Dog waste bin emptying	Tactical Facilities	77.33	28.12.22	Newsletter	Baldons and Nuneham PCC	139.99	<p>Monthly accounts approved</p> <p>Payments approved</p> <p>Draft budget</p> <p>Precept fixed for 2023/24</p> <p>Annual CIL report circulated</p> <p>Internal auditors appointed</p>
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111/22	Local Planning	<p>PP22/S4310/HH at 6 The Croft: This application was approved by the Council.</p> <p>P22/S4322/FUL at land to the west of the Green. The council unanimously objected to this application, for the following reasons:</p>																																													

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		<p>1. No demand for housing to justify loss of Green Belt or impact on the characteristics of the village</p> <p>2. Negative impact on key village characteristics eg gappiness</p> <p>3. Harmful to habitat and biodiversity.</p> <p>4. The application is a ‘backland’ development which is against Neighbourhood Plan and would create a precedent for later applications.</p> <p>Objection to the plan was proposed by: SD Seconded by: DMcG</p> <p>The Clerk was asked to draft a planning response and circulate to councillors.</p> <p>Councillors noted the decisions of SODC planning.</p>	
112/22	Item for the next Agenda		
113/22	Dates of the next meetings	<p>13 March</p> <p>15 May</p> <p>10 July</p> <p>11 September</p> <p>13 November</p> <p>At 7.30 pm at the Village Hall</p>	

Signed as a true record:

Date: