

Begbroke Parish Council

Website: <https://www.begbrokepc.org.uk>

Clerk to the Council: Jeffrey Wright, 27 Willow Way, Begbroke, Kidlington, Oxon. OX5 1SD.

e-mail at: clerk@begbrokepc.org.uk

MINUTES OF

MEETING OF BEGBROKE PARISH COUNCIL ON MONDAY 2ND AUGUST 2021 @ 06:00 PM.

1 Present:

1.1 Cllr Malcolm Ryder (Chair); Cllr David Wintersgill (Vice Chair); Cllr Beverly Napier; Cllr Leslie Allen; Jeffrey Wright – Clerk;

Apologies:

1.2 Cllr Lindsay Gregory; Cllr Ian Middleton (clerk to write to Cllr Rudkins to find out current situation)

2 2.1 Minutes

The minutes of the meeting were Monday 19th April were confirmed as a true record.

3 Declaration of Disclosable Pecuniary Interests, Gifts or Hospitality

3.1 None

4 Matters Arising

4.1 Bus stops has been coated with Anti-Vandal solution. The slightly darker colour was noted.

4.2 No feedback received on draft Annual parish meeting minutes.

4.3 Other matters arising

5 A44 and Begbroke Science Park and London Oxford Airport

5.1 A44/Begbroke Science Park matters.

5.1.1 Oxford University has just received funding to expand the science park, almost doubling its space, into an innovation district. The wider masterplan is the long term is creating a live/study/work environment with a hotel, restaurant, bars, cafes, shops, educational, community and sports facilities. Future phases will develop 2,000 new homes with a mix of affordable housing and subsidized key worker accommodation.

5.2 Airport representative required. Invitation to re-engage with the Airport Consultative Committee (Oxford Airport - Kidlington) invitee/consultee. Clerk said that subject to work commitments, Cllr Gregory may be able to attend with Cllr Allen as an alternative if available.

5.3 Letter from Oxfordshire County Council with their supportive views on the proposed closure of Sandy Lane Crossing.

5.4 There were no other matters related to item 5

6 Reports from County/District Councillors/Other contributors

6.1 County Councillor – report.

Ian Middleton – County and District Councillor report – Begbroke Parish Council OCC

The new administration on the county council is an alliance between the Lib-Dems, the Greens and Labour, now known as the Oxfordshire Fair Deal Alliance (OFDA).

A new Cabinet was elected at the first council AGM on 18th May although the ultimate aim of the new administration is to revert to a more open standing committee structure. No other business was transacted at that meeting. I am on the Performance and Scrutiny Committee and the Audit and Governance Committee. We are about to agree that the scrutiny committee will be split into 3 as we have recognised that there is a huge amount of the council's operations that are not properly scrutinised. Both committees have had one meeting since, but I was unfortunately unable to attend either as all meetings are now face to face and I was away dealing with some personal matters.

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I have been to internal briefings though and I understand the work programme for the Scrutiny Committee is being ramped up to deal with many issues outstanding from the last administration, not least things such as procurement, care funding other governance matters.

The next full council meeting was on the 13th July where the above proposals were accepted along with the final reports from the outgoing administration.

I have subsequently attended meetings of the Performance and Scrutiny Committee and the Audit and Governance Committee along with a number of internal briefings. These have set out the forward plan for the OFDA which include increases in funding for Special Educational Needs and a renewed focus on the environment. You will have seen in the press that the OFDA have laid out a number of aspirations and proposals for the next 4 years which I look forward to playing an active part in as well as representing everyone in Begbroke as their county councillor.

Highways

This is unsurprisingly one of the biggest local issues of concern and I've already had one site meeting with OCC Communities and highways officers along with Keith and David from YPC looking at road repairs and other matters. We looked at the problems with the layby on the A44 and the damaged road surface on Sandy Lane. These issues have now been addressed and there has been some resurfacing work done.

I also raised the matter of some of the more overgrown pathways and cycle paths, especially on the A44 and this has been remedied. There is quite a bit of work going on within OFDA to look at more long term methods of dealing with verges. Whilst we're keen to allow verges to become more of a haven for insects and wildflowers, I think there needs to be some balance struck between that and the effective use of these active travel facilities. I've also met with Tim Bearder, the cabinet member for highways, to discuss a number of local concerns including the Sandy Lane crossing and the proposals for a crossing on the A44 at Begbroke. I'm committed to pushing that project forwards, but we are at an early stage of dealing with the financial implications of how highways management was left by the previous administration. That said, as we now know the judicial review into CDC's LPPR has been dismissed it seems likely that the most forthcoming source of funding will be developer's contributions or Section 106 monies. I will be ensuring that Begbroke gets its fair share of that and that part of that will be towards the provision of the long-needed crossing.

I'm happy to raise any other concerns if anyone wants to pass those on to me. I have asked that we set up some dates for a walkabout in each parish to look at current highways and road repairs issues. That is something to consider for the future.

Planning

Hot on the heels of the dismissal of the judicial review (in fact in advance of it) I have been invited to a briefing on plans for site PR9 by CDC. I imagine things will be at an early stage, but these developer PR events seems to be a fairly common thing now. I have attended a couple already and I'm not really sure how valuable they are. As I'm not the district ward councillor for Begbroke I won't officially be representing this area, but as a local resident and county councillor I will be. It looks like being a very difficult time for all our communities in the coming years, especially with the recent news that the Science Park intend to massively expand its operation and turn our area into a new university campus with no input from, or consultation with, us.

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Airport Consultative Committee

*I attended a meeting of this committee on 8th June. This is the first such meeting I've been to as none have been convened in the past 2 years. I am the liaison person for KPC and YPC on this committee. The meeting itself was reasonably well natured, although there was a degree of pent up anger being released about development proposals and overflights. I can make the minutes of the meeting available if members have not already seen them. We are hoping to have another meeting in September and I am also trying to arrange a full public meeting for all interested residents to attend when a suitable venue becomes available in the near future. Obviously if anything else comes up under either my CDC or OCC remit, you know where to contact me. Apologies again for missing another meeting, but I hope to be at the next one. **Ian Middleton***

6.2 Cherwell District Councillor – No report.

6.3 Other contributors - none

7 Council Representatives

7.1 BVHMC Report. Cllr Allen.

Reported on the following: H&S policy in place; Risk assessments are ongoing; Walter quality assessment is necessary; accident book is non-compliant with legislation; Funds are satisfactory; AGM will possibly be 9th September; trees were pruned and the offcuts have been dumped at top end of field near goal with no proper plan for disposal; Fire exits need to be properly designated; provision of ramps to those exits. The committee agreed to place a formal request to the committee to provide some football goals – especially after the Euros and impending World Cup next year. These could be portable ones.

8 New Business

8.1 Wooden Bus stop planters now deteriorating rapidly – members unanimously agreed replacements from vprecycledplastic.co.uk – cost £1,164.00

8.2 COMF Grant update - report to CDC given saying how grant was spent – Link £1000 and PC Zoom licence £268

8.3 Cherwell - full district review of all parishes, towns, wards – CDC have confirmed request to be included. This could have implications such as alteration of parish boundaries, creation of new parish councils, abolishing a parish council or changing electoral arrangements. Clerk will require details of issues to submit to CDC by Friday 17th September.

8.4 The governments powers to close venues including halls have been extended until 27th September and other guidelines and updates.

8.5 The Royal Sun – State of the building and grounds. Adjacent to conservation area. It was unanimously agreed to write to Star Pubs [Royal Sun Begbroke | Star Pubs & Bars](#) (Heineken) and request site is tidied up.

9 Planning

9.1. Legal Hearing for Cherwell Development Watch Alliance / Begbroke & Yarnton Green Belt Campaign - legal challenge to Cherwell's LPPR has been dismissed in a judgement handed down just today in the High Court. Barrister has (provisionally) told B&YGBC that she cannot see any grounds on which to appeal. The committee thanked Giles Lewis for all his and his teams efforts.

9.2 Other planning applications or issues

21/00752/F22 Spring Hill Road Begbroke OX5 1RX Variation of condition 2 (plans) of 16/02145/F - 1) Application Permitted.

20/02575/SCOP - OS Parcel 3673 Adjoining land West Of 161 Rutten Lane Yarnton

21/00759/F – Rose Cottage - Proposed domestic rear double storey extension – permitted

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21/01183/F - 41 Fernhill Road Begbroke OX5 1RR – consent

21/00414/F 47 Begbroke Crescent RETROSPECTIVE, side extension (not constructed in accordance with 20/01000/F) 08/02/20 Application Permitted

10 Correspondence (see register for full details of postal correspondence)

10.1 None

11 Financial Matters

11.2 Balances and Liabilities and Income

11.2.1 Balance £10,603.36 (Money) Bank Statements : Current £9,307.00 Reserve £1,907

11.2.2 Transfer: £0.00; Income: Precept 1st payment £14,513 Bank interest – £0.02 £1,268 COMF Grant for Link (£1k, Zoom £268) Liabilities £180

11.3 Expenditure

11.3.1 CDC Dog bin emptying £180.76 CN: 902

11.3.2 Function28 Zoom Licence £288.00 CN: 903

11.3.3 The Link COMF Grant £1000.00 CN: 906 (CN: 904 voided)

11.3.4 Jeffrey Wright – Clerks Salary April 2021 £564.43 CN:905

11.3.5 HMR&C PAYE/NI Liability to 22 May £117.00 CN:907

11.3.6 NR Prickett Hall Hedge Playing Areas & Field £588.00 Inv 1403 £198.00 CN: 908

11.3.7 NR Prickett Village Grass Cutting Inv 1404 £198.00 CN:909.

11.3.8 Baylee Construction – Play area and Bus Shelter Maintenance £210.00 CN:910

11.3.9 Jeffrey Wright – clerks' salary May £564.43 CN:911

11.3.10 Jeffrey Wright – clerks' refundable expenses to 20 May 2021 £30.76 CN:912

11.3.11 HMR&C PAYE/NI Liability to 22 June 2021 £117.00 CN:913

11.3.12 NR Prickett Village Hall Hedge Playing Areas & Field & Village Grass cutting Inv 1423 £468 &1424 £198.00 £666.00 CN: 914

11.3.13 Baylee Construction – Play area repairs, dog bin, anti-graffiti coating to bus shelters and Bus Shelter Maintenance £1,494.00 CN:915

11.3.14 Ms M Murchan Gardening work – planters. £72.50 CN:916

11.3.15 Jeffrey Wright – clerks salary June £564.23 CN: 917

11.3.16 HMR&C PAYE/NI Liability to 22 July 2021 £117.00 CN:918

11.3.17 John Dovey Payroll and Submission to HMR&C and P60 preparation £144.00 CN: 919

11.3.18 NR Prickett Village Hall Playing Areas & Field £468.00 Inv 1445 CN: 920

11.3.19 Jeffrey Wright – clerks salary June £564.43 CN: 921

11.3.20 HMR&C PAYE/NI Liability to 22nd August 2021 £117.00 CN:922

11.3.21 Baylee Construction – Asset inspection/Bus Shelter Maintenance Inv B102-3 CN:923 £180

11.3.22 NR Prickett Playing Areas & Field & Village Grass cutting Inv 1469 £432.00 CN: 924

The committee unanimously approved the above financial transactions.

11.4 Quotations/Tenders

11.4.1 V P Recycled Plastic Ltd - Recycled plastic planters £1,164.00

11.5 Bank Matters

11.5.1 None

11.6 Other Financial Matters

11.6.1 Reverted to Dovey Accountancy Services from Connolly Accountants for payroll and PAYE/NI. Merger of companies was unsuccessful.

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11.6.2 Unanimously agreed for clerk to continue/deal with urgent business including payment of suppliers.

12 Health and Safety Matters

12.1 Playground inspection reports received by clerk up to 31st July.

12.2 Playground Inspection sheet – replacement issued by clerk was review and whilst not perfect was unanimously agreed. Cllr Ryder uses a separate spreadsheet for reports.

12.3 Parish Council meeting return Risk assessment – was unanimously agreed.

12.4 Parish council H&S policy – was unanimously agreed.

12.5 Councillor Activities list of activities and decisions. Insurance requirement that risk-assessments are held for activities and those of volunteers. Activity list agreed is only for meetings, play area inspection, meeting contractors and other meetings such as village hall/local authority representatives. If people carry out other work such as planting trees or cutting highway grass – it is their own personal responsibility or acceptable by other bodies to whom they belong such as ramblers.

12.6 Annual Playground inspection report by RoSPA was arranged for July – report awaited

12.7 Public Liability Certificates obtained for Baylee and Nigel Prickett. Activity Risk Assessment/SHE Plans in place. Other contractors who could not supply have been removed from the contractor list.

13 Training

13.1 Play area inspection training – Yarnton would be willing to attend a joint training session when available.

14 Freedom of information requests/receipts

14.1 FOI Request for details of pedestrian and other crossings refused on grounds of costs (estimated 35 hours work) Two further requests submitted. One for future projects and one for past projects with fewer search fields. Response from OCC. EIR 18290 Requests for projects this financial year now received. The committee did not consider a full list of schemes as previous list had missed crossings such as Woodstock and Summertown. Consider further requests to gain further information of funding sources.

15 Footpaths, Bridleways and Restricted Byway (RUPP)

15.1.1 FP 5 – DMMO Application pack received for FP 5 – requires completion. Two user evidence statements obtained – more required.

15.1.2 Begbroke Lane – OCC remedial work disastrous with surface damaged and uneven – images sent to OCC but no reply.

15.1.3 FP 10 - A44 entrance – hedge and path obstructions not cleared by landowner - images sent to Katie Walther who will measure for correct access/egress to FP 10 - low priority with Countryside services.

15.1.4 Chairman had met with owners of Spring Hill House to discuss footpath routes.

16 Village – Natural Environmental Matters

16.1 None

17 Website

17.1 Website was reviewed.

Signed Chairman/Vice Chairman 13th September 2021.

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