

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 TUESDAY JULY 3RD 2023 @ 06:00 PM.

1 Present:

1.1 Cllr Malcolm Ryder (Chair); Cllr David Wintersgill (Vice Chair); Cllr Lindsay Gregory; Cllr Leslie Allen; Cllr Peter Finbow; Cllr Lesley McLean(CDC) Cllr Ian Middleton (OCC); Jeffrey Wright – Clerk;

Apologies:

1.2 Cllr Beverly Appleton;

2 Minutes

2.1 The minutes of the Annual Council on meeting Tuesday 16th May 2023 were unanimously confirmed as a true record.

2.2 The minutes of the Annual Parish on meeting Tuesday 16th May 2023 were unanimously confirmed as a true record.

3 Declaration of Disclosable Pecuniary Interests, Gifts or Hospitality

3.1 None declared.

4 Matters Arising

4.1 Botley West Solar Farm Scoping Report – basic additional comments such as substation plant is to remain after 42 years added for a further response to be made by 16th July. However, the documents presented by the promoters were too complex for the layman to properly respond – especially when the final decision will not be taken locally.

4.2 Four parishes meeting update – it was decided they were a valuable discussion forum but there should be minutes.

4.3 Sandy Lane – was discussed at length – types of bridges and proposals.

4.4 Glass recycling Bins – two bins have been placed out of use. Further complaint made about dumped rubbish and dog walkers complain. Collector has difficulty due to parked vehicles, broken glass and rubbish is often left and CDC do not clear up. People walk adjacent to van sales on the road which is dangerous. Clerk to send images to Lesley.

4.5 Royal Sun – now open – but they are still organising supplies and payment methods. New sign required and up to date notices in board. Apparently, no key for front door.

4.6 Vacancy for a parish councillor – advertised on notice board. More publicity necessary apart from notice boards, minutes and adverts in the Link and website.

5 A44, Highways & Begbroke Science Park

5.1 North Oxford Corridor Improvements Cassington Rd to Peartree Interchange – work continues but regular 20-minute traffic delays encountered,

5.2 Pedestrian Crossing – updates received from Mike Wasley. After discussion, it was considered the old path highlighted in green should be removed after construction and foliage cut back.

5.3 Begbroke Innovation District – Fencing to FP 7 & 8 – removed as a condition of planning after meeting with OUD, CDC Andrew Thomson, BPC and OCC. This was welcomed by all parties.

5.4 Preview exhibition of the outline application masterplan that is due to be submitted this summer Village Hall **Wednesday 12th July, between 5:00 - 6:00pm**

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5.5 20mph speed limit proposal from Geoff Barrell was discussed and decided against in Begbroke. (It is not easily enforced (the 50 mph limit is not enforced); It has been inappropriately applied in certain areas of Oxfordshire - some roads pose no danger to cyclists or pedestrians (there is a compulsory signed separate alternative) yet there is a 20 mph limit imposed which quite a lot of vehicles including public transport and cyclists ignore; 20 mph is a bad speed for modern vehicles causing the use of lower gears and therefore more pollution - 25 mph would have been better; there were higher priorities for the use of funds - including our crossing.

5.6 Cllr Allen considered the lay by opposite the van sales could be a useful school bus stop although this would restrict residents parking. Often filled with employees and customers vehicles from the van sales.

6 Reports from County/District Councillors/Other contributors

6.1 County and District Councillor report – Ian Middleton

Begbroke Crossing

“This does now seem to be progressing and an indicative drawing has been produced ready to go to consultation. I’m still being advised that these works will be carried out this year but I am still pushing on that in the background. The project will also need cabinet approval and of course I will also be lobbying for that with cabinet colleagues.

PR8 footpaths

I attended site a few weeks ago with members of BPC. The paths seem to be generally complete although the bridge across the brook is being upgraded and this work has yet to be completed. OUD have applied to OCC for a further closure notice to complete the works which on the face of it seems unnecessarily long as it is slated to last for 6 months. I took a look at the state of the bridge works over the weekend and it looked like it was all but completed in terms of the groundworks. So, I am querying this with officers.

PR8 Planning

New sports facilities such as swimming pool, gym, etc. These are being looked at in conjunction with a new school so they can share the amenities. The school site hasn't been finalised yet but will work towards providing new recreation for the increasing population.

Cycling routes from Kidlington to Marlborough School - I have raised this with OUD to possibly incorporate safe cycling routes across the PR8 site which would cut down road usage, so shorter distances but also safer and cleaner travel for the students.

Langford Lane Science Park

The last few buildings have been approved, so 11 in total are now on this site. Three buildings are already occupied and up to 300 jobs per building space could be created.

Airport Site

The 5 research and development buildings have been approved at the front of the airport. Up to 400 jobs could be created specifically for the aero industry. Completion date is anticipated around 2027.

Travel along Langford Lane

We’ve had a discussion with Andrew Thompson, the CDC planning officer in charge of this area. Active sustainable travel is finally going ahead from this area and to connect with Kidlington and

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beyond. S278 money will be coming forward towards these alterations. Specifications include 20mph along certain sections of Langford Lane, banning HGVs unless they are delivering to specific sites, safer cycling routes and crossings and also access to bus routes for Oxford Parkway P&R to encourage alternatives to car use. These are still being developed and details will come out in the next few months.

Campsfield House

Demolition works have begun on site although there's some confusion over if this has been started before the scoping report has been completed. I've been approached by Dr Evelyne Godfrey, Director Oxford City of Sanctuary with a view to setting up a meeting to discuss the future of Campsfield House. I suggested that a meeting with members of KPC would be appropriate. Members of BPC may also want to be involved. Let me know and I will ask for members to be invited if/when a meeting is set up.

Control of CDC after the elections

It was hoped that a rainbow alliance of Labour, Lib Dems, Greens and Independents would take control of CDC after winning an overall majority (between us) during the local elections. This had all been agreed until the Labour National Executive blocked the proposals the day before we were due to take control. This has been a fairly common approach by Labour nationwide.

After 2 AGMs an alliance could not be formed with Labour and so the Conservatives regained control after a vote where only positive responses could be recorded.

It was a very frustrating experience, but the Lib Dem, Green, Independent Alliance is still the largest single group and we continue as the official opposition.

Local Plan

This is now being resurrected with a public consultation expected in September. Details are yet to be fully known but it's suspected that as the previous administration that was responsible for the draft plan remain in control, it's unlikely that there will be any significant changes.

OUFC Stadium

I raised a question at Cabinet concerning the background to the club losing their right to renew their original licence at Kassam. This would have allowed them to remain in occupation until 2046. The club has made a statement explaining that this licence was terminated in 2021 but have not explained why. There are only 2 possible reasons for this with one of those being default. I have asked for clarification from OCC who say they have seen the termination notice that would answer this question but that OUFC are refusing to allow them to release it. I have asked for an explanation for this and OCC have referred it to the club for a response. I've yet to hear anything further. I have also raised concerns that there is no chance for members outside the OCC Cabinet to comment on was the survey into the proposals for the Triangle is being run until the process is completed in September.

A44 NOC works

These are due to be completed in July. I have asked for confirmation of this.

OCC offices

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It's proposed that OCC move its administration offices to Speedwell House in Oxford within the next 2-3 years. This is to save money and make better use of space after changes in working habits partly inspired by the pandemic"

During the report a discussion took place about bus services. It was highlighted that despite earlier representations to OCC and bus companies, Begbroke had no services to Oxford Parkway or hospitals without changing buses at either an S7 route stop, Woodstock or Oxford City Centre.

(Document titled Bus Consultation 2021 Rev 3, sent to councillors)

6.2 Cherwell District Councillor Lesley McLean and Dorothy Walker – District Council Report. Sandy Lane.

Network Rail have published their traffic assessment of the crossing closure. It's based on the OUD re-aligned road option, proposing an earth sided bridge over the railway for pedestrians and cyclists, not a metal one, sited north of the present crossing. The traffic assessment is not related to the solution now being consulted on by NR, which offers a metal pedestrian/cycle bridge replacing the existing vehicular level crossing.

Surprisingly, the traffic assessment estimates the additional time taken to drive between Yarnton and Kidlington using the Frieze Way or Langford Lane routes at only 4 minutes. It does not cover the social, environmental or business costs of closing the Sandy Lane community link to vehicular traffic. Motion to be raised at CDC, questioning environmental impacts of alternative routes.

Drop-in session on Wednesday 5th July 4-7pm – Exeter Hall.

Meeting booked with Ian Boll and planning offers for early July.

Development Updates.

PR7a (North) – Hills. Planning has gone back to developers with some suggestions.

PR7a (South) – Bellway. Outline planning, developers querying sports provision.

PR7b Stratfield Farm, due shortly.

PR6a/b – In discussions with developers.

PR9 – In outline.

Additional - Park View Woodstock, Campsfield Road. 500 homes for Blenheim.

OUD – PR8

Masterplan release dates;

Begbroke Village Hall 12th July 6-8pm

Yarnton Village Hall 13th July 1-3pm

Kidlington Football Club 13th July 6-8pm

Planning application at end of July, virtual briefing 4th July for CDC councilors.

Garden Party – 1st July, free buses from Exeter Hall.

Hallam Land (Begbroke South) have extended the deadline for comments to 1st July.

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Campsfield House

The Home Office has submitted an application to demolish some of the structures on the site – this has now been approved. The application form and screening statement outline the eventual intention to refurbish and extend the Centre, although this is not the subject of the current application. I have written to CDC Planning to express concerns about the impact that the demolition work will have on the already heavily congested traffic network serving the site. (The impact on the road infrastructure and on areas such as water and sewage services of the eventual construction, and of the operation of the proposed re-opened Centre will obviously need to be examined when the application for that development is submitted).

OCC Highways are clearly similarly concerned about the traffic impact of the demolition work. Their consultation response stipulates stringent restrictions on heavy vehicle movements to and from the site at peak hours and a local information leaflet to be distributed before the project starts.

OCC Highways have stipulated timings for large vehicle movement.

East West Rail.

CS1 (Oxford to Milton Keynes) is on track to come on-line mid-2025. Operator is likely to be Chiltern, rolling stock is being negotiated. Alterations to Parkway are likely to enhance Active Travel options.

Oxford Parkway Park and Ride.

Currently being assessed by OCC for a range of charging points, plus solar car ports.

Innovation Corridor / Technology Park

Phase 1 is almost complete.

Complaint raised about noise and soil build up, complainant is monitoring site activity, soil build up is expected to be top soil for final dressing. CDC planning enforcements has been notified.

Kidlington Voice - Next meeting Friday 30th June.

Toilets

Plaza toilets are due to be refurbished, final agreement with contractors towards the Autumn, likely to be cashless with a RADAR key. Unclear about an alternative whilst closed, but awaiting response.

S106 Funds Identified.

17/01556/F – Play Space Contribution - £26,613.58 for the refurbishment of Briar Close Play Area. (The S106 states Brian Close, but I think this must be a typo, I'm sure it should read Briar Close).

19/02341/F – Community Hall Facilities - £20,413.82 towards the provision of additional or enhanced facilities at Exeter Hall.

Local Plan timetable.

Back to Council in Early September. We will have four weeks to respond.

Kidlington to become 'Urban Centre' for local villages.

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Rural England Prosperity Fund.

Did we apply, if so, Cherwell should have funding for us.

London Oxford Airport

Attended Airport Consultative Committee meeting 25 April. Key points:

- 10% reduction in training flight activity due to the shift to Leading Edge's training site in Spain. This reducing trend expected to continue. The Airport's business plan is to build up its activities in other areas.
- Although starting from a low base, business aviation and private aircraft flights are increasing (up by 70% in the last year).
- London Oxford Airport (LOA) have recently submitted a full planning application for the redevelopment of the Gateway portion of the Airport site into a business park occupying the corner of Langford Lane and The Boulevard. It will offer premises to R&D/Life Sciences companies.

Additional Services.

Doorstep coffee pod collection.

6.3 OALC Report was shown.

6.4 Cherwell Parish Bulletin – not discussed.

7 Council Representatives

7.1 BVHMC Report Cllr Allen.

- £36k in bank
- Last month in the red - due to expenditure on patio extension emergency light repairs and fire extinguisher inspection.
- Bookings looking OK
- quotes in for playgroup ceiling completion and upgrade of main hall heaters. - Heysham's likely to get electrical content circa £9K.
- End of year accounts now due.
- Bowls - some new players have joined.
- WI - full program for year - post box topper design excellent
- Playgroup - very busy especially in September. 1 member of staff leaving. Yarnton reopening as day classes.
- PCC/St Michael's - tower to be repointed.
- Social club - £850 takings on coronation events.
- Parish Council - larger goals suggested and approved. Parking restrictions near glass bins discussed and in general agreement. Also parking restrictions suggested by BVHMC at junction of Begbroke Lane and service road. Update given on footpaths. Safety surface installed on swings & crazy springboard seesaw. Play equipment inspection training to be carried out 15 June. Advance notice given of OUD garden party.

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- Health & Safety - Fire risk assessment carried out in 2021 review required. PAT carried out in Feb 22, re test due. Defibrillator replaced in April 23. Next 5-year fixed installation electrical test due 2027. Legionella RA carried out in 2022, review due 2024.
- AOB - keys to bus stop notice board handed to BVHMC. Vandalism continuing - locks broken off rainwater tanks and contents emptied. Anti-climb paint suggested for playgroup roof and garage. CCTV system to be considered.
- Date of AGM - Wednesday 13 September 2023
- Date of next BVHMC meeting 25 July 2023.
- Clerk wondered if payments could be made between organisations in order to save on VAT. Clerk to check with OALC.

7.2 Oxford Airport Consultative Committee – no meeting.

8 New Business

8.1 Meetings for 2023-24 – see below

8.2 Proposed additional seats – near pumping station and A44 at junction with FP 7. The clerk is awaiting The University of Oxford to confirm ownership of land near pumping station.

9 Planning

9.1 [Search Results - Planning register](#) | [Planning register](#) | [Cherwell District Council](#)

9.2 Langford Lane Technology Park work – complaint from resident regarding noise, out of hours activity and piled up spoil. Referred to CDC enforcement and now appears to have abated.

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

10.1 None

11 Financial Matters

11.1 Balances/Liabilities: £12,943 Money. Bank Statements : Current £10,706.52 Reserve £3,955.84 Transferred: £10,000 from reserve to current. Liabilities (listed below and outstanding cheques)

11.2 Income: Bank interest – £13.54

11.3 Expenditure

11.3.1 Jeffrey Wright – Expenses - plants, paper and notice board magnets £21.99 CN: 1057

11.3.2 N R Prickett – grass cut Play Area, Field & Village invoice 1937 £722.40 CN:1058

11.3.3 Redlynch Leisure. Wet pour to Swing & Springy. Inv.10104 £6,276.00 CN: 1059

11.3.4 CDC Election Charges Inv 20010893 £100.00 CN: 1060

11.3.5 Karen Squibb-Williams EN Group Grant £90 CN 1061

11.3.6 Malcom Ryder – refundable expenses – travel and parking at course £18.50 CN: 1071

11.3.7 MH Goals Ltd Football Goals Inv 16023 £3,631.32 CN: 1063

11.3.8 Baylee Construction various village jobs Inv BPC 109A £695.00 CN: 1062

11.3.9 Jeffrey Wright Clerks salary June 2023 £616.67 CN: 1064

11.3.10 HMRC PAYE/NI Liability to 22/07/2023 £130.20 CN:1065

11.3.11 Dovey Accountancy – Inv 2023/06/60 £120.00 CN: 1066

11.3.12 N R Prickett – grass cut Play Area, Field, village hall hedge & Village invoice 1973 £722.40 CN:1067

11.3.13 Jeffrey Wright – Expenses - plants, paper and notice board magnets £21.99 CN: 1068

The above transactions were unanimously approved.

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11.4 Quotations/Tenders/Grants

11.4.1 Application to 2023-4 Councillor Priority Fund for 50% funding of goals (£1,825). Cllr Middleton is considering application. Clerk confirmed that the official submission has been made.

11.4.2 See 11.3.5

11.5 Bank Matters

11.5.1 New

11.6 Other Financial Matters

11.6.1 Confirmation from external auditors that AGAR was received and they have received the basic documents expected (sent in April)

11.6.2 Clerk has produced new asset register to cover notice board and MH goals. Submitted to Zurich insurance who advised a slight premium increase of around £45 on renewal.

12 Health and Safety Matters

12.1 Playground inspection reports for June received from Cllr Finbow. New inspection sheet circulated.

12.2 Playground repairs and maintenance. Wet pour has been replaced to base of large swings and springy. Climbing frame metal work painted red.

12.3 New football goals installed on field. Already well used with nine people on field the first evening. "Do Not Climb" and "Do Not Sit" stickers have been applied in suitable places to goals – duty of care following incidents of climbing and sitting on crossbar by young children.

12.4 Inspection Rota, July- Lindsay; August – Les.

12.5 No Other matters

13 Training

13.1 No Requests

13.2 Cllr Allen had met with representative of OPFA who was very complementary about facilities and was considering holding future course at Begbroke.

14 Freedom of information requests/receipts

14.1. Network Rail – reply awaited from request 08/06/2023

15 Footpaths, Bridleways and Restricted Byway (RUPP)

15.1 Footpath to Parkers Farm – no update

15.2 FP 11 – issues – electric fence blocking paths – reported to Merton. No response.

16 Village – Natural Environmental Matters

16.1 Woodland Trust – recording of ancient trees. To be investigated.

16.2 Overhanging trees at junction of Begbroke Lane/Sandhill Rd – reported to Fix my street for attention.

17 Website & Information

17.1 Website was reviewed.

18 Proposed dates of the Next Meeting (s):

18.1 August 7th 2023; September 4th; October 2nd; November 6th; December 4th

Signed ____ Cllr Malcolm Ryder Chairman Begbroke Parish Council August 7th 2023

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