

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 NOVEMBER 6TH 2023 @ 06:00 PM.

1 Present:

1.1 Cllr Malcolm Ryder (Chair); Cllr David Wintersgill (Vice Chair); Cllr Beverly Appleton; Cllr Leslie Allen; Cllr Lindsay Gregory; Cllr Peter Finbow; Cllr Lesley McLain (CDC)
Jeffrey Wright – Clerk.

Apologies:

1.2 Cllr Ian Middleton (OCC)

2 Minutes

2.1 The minutes of the parish council meeting on Monday October 2nd were unanimously confirmed as a true record.

3 Declaration of Disclosable Pecuniary Interests, Gifts or Hospitality

3.1 None

4 Matters Arising

4.1 Vacancy for a parish councillor – no applicants.

4.2 Proposed Dog Bin replacement Roundham – under discussion at KPC

4.3 New seat installed adjacent to A44/FP7. Secured with anchors to concrete pads.

5 A44, Highways & Begbroke Science Park

5.1 North Oxford Corridor Improvements Cassington Rd to Peartree Interchange – nearly complete but bus lane not in use yet.

5.2 Pedestrian Crossing – approved by OCC. Updates from Mike Wasley show that signal design is still outstanding. Clerk to write to say committee were concerned that this design is taking so long – Toucan Crossing and its signals are to a standard design – LTN 2/95? advise why there is such a delay from the designers? What other design elements are in progress or are they all completed? Bearing in mind that there will be a delay to obtain and accept a quotation, issue of contract and mobilisation of a contractor, is this project going to be implemented this fiscal year as promised?

5.3. Sandy Lane – discussions ongoing report from Cllr McLain distributed

5.4 Bus issues – under discussion regarding S7 to Begbroke. Charges will be reduced to £1 from December.

5.5 OCC are planning Lane Rental charges to utilities.

5.6 Oxford Parkway – use of bus lane for rail passengers to access station was proposed. Follow up with OCC

5.7 No other matters

6 Reports from County/District Councillors/Other contributors

6.1 County Councillor – report.

Ian Middleton – County Councillor Report – Kidlington South Division OUFC meeting

Cllr Mawson and I went to the OUFC briefing on the new stadium proposals for Stratfield Brake on the 20th October.

There wasn't really much more detail provided beyond that already published but we had a private briefing with the club's development consultants and PR person.

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They confirmed proposals to close the Oxford Road for an hour before and two hours after each football match and major event. This is to enable fans to get across the road from Parkway where they will either have arrived by train or have parked in the park & Ride car park.

The club's scoping report to CDC confirmed that the stadium would operate at capacity twice a week throughout the year which would essentially mean at least 104 times a year.

We also asked about other major events such as concerts but the club claimed that this would not happen. It seems unlikely that they will not take advantage of every opportunity to make money from a development that is going to be very costly to maintain.

The report from Thames Valley Police in response to the club's scoping report makes for quite alarming reading. They make the point that even if there was a bridge built to cross the Oxford Road it's unlikely that fans would wait the 45 minutes required to queue to cross it (this is based on OUFC's estimates) and so would spill across the road anyway. This makes road closures inevitable. The reports from BBOWT and also Dr Judy Webb re the environmental state of the Triangle makes for informative reading which is at odds with the OUFC environment reports to date.

However, from my discussions with key members of the administration they will not accept road closures of any kind, so this begs the question as to why they are allowing this project to continue.

Development sites PR9 & PR8

I have raised further concerns about the poor response from OCC to the potential flooding risks of building on Spring Hill. After numerous meetings and site visits, they still seem to be quite complacent about the likely impacts on Yarnton. I am waiting for a further response from the OCC flood engineer. Meanwhile Merton College have lodged an appeal on the grounds of non-determination. Currently the planning officer's recommendation is to continue to refuse the application until key issues are resolved (flooding being one of them). It remains to be seen what a planning inspector decides when it is brought before them.

I have also made a representation to the planning committee on PR8 highlighting many local concerns including flooding and access and the future of Sandy Lane.

Sandbags for potential flood areas

I've been asked by the Yarnton Flood Defence Group to obtain a supply of sandbags to be stored in the flood defence hut. As far as I know these are usually supplied by CDC, but the officer in charge there is telling me they have to be ordered from OCC now. I'm trying to get to the bottom of it. If any other local areas/groups need sandbags let me know and I'll try to arrange some.

Kidlington Roundabout

I understand that these works have now been put out to tender. I am still waiting for a response from officers and the new cabinet member for highways to give me a definitive date for the works to commence/complete.

A44 North Oxford Corridor Works

These are now largely complete and I am still pursuing a number of local resident's concerns about the finished result, particularly in and around Couling Close. The bus gate is now operational and it remains to be seen what impact this has on major traffic flows during rush hours.

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Yellow lining and verges

S106 contributions for yellow lines in and around the Bicester Road are still to be spent. There were some suggestions at the recent Traffic Advisory Group meeting that physical barrier might be a better option to prevent people parking on grass verges. I'm not sure if the S106 monies can be diverted to this but I have asked. This would still however leave the problem of on-street parking. I have suggested that Kidlington might like to employ its own parking enforcement operative and that this might be something they could share with other parishes. I am awaiting confirmation of how this would work and what it would cost. Yellow lines in Water Eaton Lane have been agreed as far as I am aware and I have asked officers to confirm the position.

ANPR to replace the rising bollard in Kidlington High Street

This is still a viable project as far as I am aware, but the officer responsible has become very elusive again. I am pursuing him as best I can.

Councillor Priority Fund

I am in the process of agreeing a number of applications to my fund including one to the Begbroke Newsletter and possibly another to Yarnton Village News. If there are any other local projects that need funding let me know. However, my preference is to make grants available to smaller community projects who would struggle to obtain access to other types of funding.

6.2 Cherwell District Councillor – report (Meeting attendance rota below.)

District Councillor Report Yarnton Parish Council October 5, 2023

Local Plan 2040

Now in consultation phase. Responses are required prior to 3rd November. Paper copy at Kidlington Library.

Sandy Lane should be mentioned within responses.

Housing figures on PR sites

CDC have confirmed that homes built on developments over and above the allocation of 4,400 for Oxford's Unmet Need will be available for Cherwell residents. The affordable element is yet to be clarified on non-OD sites.

Climate Action Plan.

CDC, in collaboration with OCC, is bringing forward an Action Plan on how to achieve their Carbon-Neutral targets.

Election Dates.

Date for next year's Local Elections will be 2nd May 2024.

20 Is Plenty

Speed changes are now under consultation for Yarnton.

Sandy Lane

The motion to retain the Sandy Lane vehicular link (passed unanimously at the last Council meeting) went forward for consideration by the Executive. The three Kidlington West Councillors attended to make representations on behalf of the community. On Officer recommendation, the meeting voted to refer the matter to Planning in the light of the current PR8 outline application (which references provision for an as-yet undefined over-bridge to the north of the present level crossing.) This proposed bridge would need to be the subject of its own separate planning application in due

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course. Network Rail have emailed that the TAWAO for closure of the present crossing is to be delayed by several months.

Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Lesley attended the most recent HOSC meeting, which discusses issues facing the health sector across Oxfordshire. This included the SEND report, Health Watch update, Oxfordshire Health Weight, Winter Planning, Health and Wellbeing Strategy.

Refuse collection – Pod Back Scheme.

Six tonnes of pods collected to date. A reminder this is now part of the door step collection, just sign up online for the free collection bags. Residents should check that their brands of pod are collected under this scheme- many are, but not all. Full details on the Cherwell District Council website.

Business carbon reduction training.

Subsidised training course to help local small and medium-sized businesses learn how they can cut their carbon footprint. Five session courses run over 10 weeks from 3 October.

<https://www.cherwell.gov.uk/carbon-reduction-training>

Grants Scheme.

For village and rural community halls, funded by the UK Shared Prosperity Fund (UKSPF) and the Rural England Prosperity Fund (REPF). Up to £25k available on a match fund basis. For capital projects that make our village halls more sustainable and useable. For further details, please call Kevin Larner on 01295 221706 or email grants@cherwell-dc.gov.uk

Dog Waste Bins.

CART is in the process of removing all waste bins from their areas.

The Triangle.

Scoping document issued. 23/02276. Oxford United will open a public exhibition of its plan at the Holiday Inn, Peartree Roundabout from 10-21 October. A councillors briefing was attended on Friday 20th October where the likelihood of road closures was discussed. It is understood that the OUFC team plan to submit a planning application by late November 2023.

Planning is in for: Stratfield Farm.

OUT Planning application is now available to view at CDC - 23/02098/OUT.

OS Parcel 3673 Adjoining and West Of 161 Rutten Lane, Yarnton, OX5 1LT (PR9)

Lesley McLean; Dorothy Walker; Jean Conway - Cherwell District Council

6.3 OALC Report - distributed.

7 Council Representatives

7.1 BVHMC Report Cllr Ryder --Begbroke Village Hall meeting Tuesday 17th October 2023

- Yarnton Blue want to use the football pitch on Saturday Morning for 2x 5 a-side football pitches with white lines and pitch maintenance. They will provide their own fold up goals which will fit inside ours.
- Hall are replacing the lounge carpet with Karndean - Luxury vinyl tiles
- A request is being prepared for larger patio area and 2x picnic benches. Marco to indicate what shape, obtain quotes and then we can consider financing the work.

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- The ramp was mentioned but not discussed further.
- The Légionnaires report on e-Mail was initially mislaid but found later.
- BPC committee thought a proper log of inspections such as asbestos and Legionella needs to be kept and available for hall users.
- Cricket and golf nets were discussed together with costs which could range from £300 - £2k with supporting equipment.
- Clerk had discussed doors with Marco and suggested that adjustment of striker plates and mechanisms was necessary before considering replacement. The annexed roof project should be reconsidered with Celotex insulation and felting to current standards.

Next meeting 12th December 2023

7.2 Oxford Airport Consultative Committee - no parish council attendee

8 New Business

8.1 Solar Farm - Merton have decided to continue with their existing approach to sustainability and biodiversity for land at Begbroke, rather than including some of their land at Hall Farm for consideration in the Botley West Solar Farm Project.

8.3 Annual review of member allowances was unanimously agreed.

8.4 Cherwell Liaison Meeting – is on 8th November. Details circulated.

9 Planning

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

9.2 Tree removal at the Old Rectory – application refused and TPO being implemented.

9.3 Cherwell Local Plan Review 2040. The consultation closed on 3 November 2023. Begbroke made no comments or observations.

9.5 Planning Application - 21/03522/OUT (PR9) Merton College – refused and they are appealing to Planning Inspector – probably February 2024

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

10.1 Cherwell Local Plan review 2040 document

11 Financial Matters

11.1 Balances/Liabilities: £22,511.80 Money. Bank Statements : Current £TBA Reserve £TBA
Transfer: £0.00 from reserve to current. Liabilities (listed below and outstanding cheques)

11.2 Income: Bank interest – TBA;

11.3 Expenditure

11.3.1 CDC Dog bin emptying Inv 2001240 CN:1087 £334.62

11.3.2 Ritetecltd – solar lights village Hall Inv £280.70 CN:1088

11.3.3 Jeffrey Wright Clerks salary 2023 £616.67 CN: 1089

11.3.4 HMRC PAYE/NI Liability to 22/10/2023 £130.20 CN:1090

11.3.5 Jeffrey Wright Clerks refundable expenses to 25 Oct 2023 £35.20 CN: 1091

11.3.6 NR Prickett – grass cutting play area and field. Inv 2053 £252.00 CN: 1092

11.3.7 OALC Training M Ryder Planning Inv W-3009 £66.00 CN:1093

11.3.8 NR Prickett – grass cutting play area and field. Inv 2091 £126.00 CN: 1094

11.3.9 The Link grant section 142 LGA £500 CN: 1095

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11.3.10 No other transactions

The above financial transactions were unanimously approved.

11.4 Quotations/Tenders/Grants

11.4.1 Link Magazine – request for grant of £1000. The committee had many concerns about the continuing viability of the publication (Yarnton's magazine has similar financial issues) They thought the costs were too high especially with the amount of colour and images that were not particularly relevant to the Village. However, as a gesture of goodwill, the committee decided to award a grant of £500 which they hope to match with a similar grant from the County Councillor. The committee considered that perhaps the magazine had come to a natural end and that other avenues of information distribution could be considered.

11.5 Bank Matters

11.5.1 None

11.6 Other Financial Matters

11.6.1 The Local Government Pay award 2022-23 for clerk was unanimously agreed for the period April 1st 2023- March 31st 2024. There will be a scale increment and back pay back to April 2023.

12 Health and Safety Matters

12.1 Playground inspection reports received for October – none for September

12.2 Rota: November - Beverly.

12.3 Parking of the Begbroke Van sales van at the A44/Service Road junction. Mike Wasley has said that he would arrange for OCC to contact clerk to discuss yellow lines.

12.4 Clerk has (today) fixed multiple cable ties as pigeon deterrents to swings. He also removed and replaced a corner strut to the northern goal. The "T" nut had been broken probably as a result of someone hanging on it.

13 Training

13.1 Cllr Ryder to attend How Councils fit into planning System on November 13th.

14 Freedom of information requests/receipts

14.1. None

15 Footpaths, Bridleways and Restricted Byway (RUPP)

15.1 Parkers Farm – no updates. However, a link has been circulated to OCC website to check progress. The application is currently forty-six on the list of applications awaiting resolution.

16 Village – Natural Environmental Matters

16.1 Woodland Trust – recording of ancient trees. [Ancient Tree Inventory - Woodland Trust](#)

16.2 Rowel Brook at Royal Sun – vegetation. Clerk to write to Royal Sun.

17 Website & Information

17.1 Website review

18 Proposed dates of the Next Meeting (s):

18.1 December 4th 2023

Signed _____ Malcom Ryder Chairman Begbroke Parish Council.