

Begbroke Parish Council

Clerk to the Council: Louise Wright, 21 Park Avenue, Kidlington, OX5 2AS.
e-mail at: clerk@begbrokepc.org.uk [Website: https://www.begbrokepc.org.uk/](https://www.begbrokepc.org.uk/)

Minutes Monday 3 February at 6.00pm

- 1. Attendance** Malcolm Ryder (Chair), Les Allen (Deputy Chair) Beverley Appleton, Peter Finbow, Lindsay Gregory, Cllr Ian Middleton, David Wintersgill, Louise Wright (Clerk)

Apologies: Dionne Wright.

- 2. Minutes of previous meeting of 2 December 2024.** Minutes of previous meeting unanimously agreed.

- 3. Declaration of Disclosable Pecuniary Interests, Gifts or Hospitality**
Nothing to declare.

4. Document reviews

2025 document review-To be circulated for approval

5. A44, Highways and Begbroke Science Park

5.1 Proposed station at Sandy Lane (MR)

Action: Malcolm Ryder (Chair) will be meeting the County Council to discuss this.

6. Reports from County/District Councillors/Other contributors

OCC and CDC report for November/December 2024

Cllr Ian Middleton – OCC and CDC, Cllr Fiona Mawson – CDC, Cllr Linda Ward – CDC

The government has issued a white paper proposing the devolution of power to local authorities, which would involve abolishing District Councils and restructuring County Councils into a Unitary Authority. Several Unitary Authorities could be combined into a strategic authority with an elected Mayor. OCC will make decisions on behalf of the district councils, and the potential structure of a unitary authority in Oxfordshire is unclear, with possibilities for a larger or smaller division, or even the City Council bidding for a standalone unitary authority. This uncertainty complicates the government's timeline and raises concerns about local consultation, which Greens emphasize as essential to maintain local democracy.

There is also concern about the future role of parish councils, which may take on new responsibilities or be abolished entirely.

In flood management, a new group, including representatives from local councils, agencies, and community groups, is working on flood defence strategies. OCC is investigating flood risks in areas like Yarnton and Kidlington, and residents are encouraged to report flooding issues.

Campsfield House remains under planning review, while a sports survey strategy has gained responses, with future meetings planned with local sports clubs. The Regulation 19 consultation for

the 2040 Draft Local Plan is ongoing, with feedback due by February 14, 2025. The Begbroke A44 crossing project is underway and expected to complete in 6-8 weeks.

ANPR cameras for Kidlington High Street are being considered after nearly two years of campaigning, while a planning application for Glebe House has been submitted for redevelopment into an assisted living home.

Oxford United's stadium proposal continues, with further consultations expected. Despite some objections, discussions on the project are ongoing, including transport and road closures. The CDC and OCC budget-setting process is underway, with public consultations now closed. OCC aims to become carbon negative, setting ambitious goals for carbon removal from its estate. Additionally, a Citizens' Assembly on transport schemes is planned for February.

A motion opposing the badger cull was passed, now awaiting Cabinet ratification. CDC's new offices are nearing completion in Banbury, with a move planned for March. A new housing allocation scheme, which includes domestic abuse victims and armed forces veterans, was approved by the CDC Executive in January.

OALC report-Forwarded to councillors

Cherwell Parish Bulletin

- Annual Electoral Register Publication – 3 February 2025
- Parish Precept Update
- Village Hall Week 17-23 March 2025
- Gambling Act 2005 – Revised Statement of Licensing Principles Consultation 2025
- Free Energy Assessments for businesses in your Parish
- Cherwell Business Spark
- Cherwell Business Accelerator
- Nature Notes – Big Garden Birdwatch 2025
- CDC Council & Committee Meetings

7. Council Representatives

BVHMC report

- Front door lock – instruction updated on web site.
- Unused heaters from main hall to be relocated to playgroup – will need control system separate from other parts of building - electrician awaited.
- Marco, Paddy & Bruce to be new trustees – transfer being progressed with Charity Commission.
- Most of rubbish from front of playgroup has been cleared.
- Bin area light – in progress.
- CCTV – plan of cameras developed – need to be 24/7 coverage to satisfy insurance requirements - therefore need to be mains powered.
- CCTV policy - draft policy has been developed - names of persons with authority to view should be included. Playgroup is not considered to be a 'tenant'
- Fire risk assessment - quotes awaited for Fire alarm system. LA has forwarded information on steel ramps to M Hopcraft. Actions on FRA are timebound - BVHMC to agree/ adjust and then sign the FRA document .
- Door hinge finger protection - costed and to be implemented.
- LA forwarded possible health & safety course details along with costs.

- Defibrillator - has been checked.
- Smart meter has been installed.
- General risk assessment for premises and grounds – in progress.
- Legionella certificate expires August 2025 - recommended review date was August 24.
- Playgroup fence replacement - scheduled for 8 February 2025.
- Apprentice for playgroup to be recruited.
- Bowls lawnmower requires repair.
- Proposals for a major park at Bucknell are out for second round of consultation.
- East West rail – discussions in progress over effect of land near Oxford Parkway station.
- £42K in bank.
- Bookings – increase in church bookings - African church and digital photography have not booked yet for 2025.
- No Representatives from Church or WI.
- 5-year plan requires updating.
- Next meeting - 20 March at 19.00hrs.

Oxford Airport report- updates given verbally by Ian Middleton. The airport are strongly objecting to solar farm-a consultancy firm have been taken on board who will be doing an audit of the amount of hot air that is generated from solar panels due to this interfering with transponders at the airport

The airport is also talking to Blenheim about objecting to the new housing up by the Bladon roundabout. There is still usage of helicopters at that end of the airport which cause a huge amount of noise due to them running constantly for testing.

Four parishes meeting-The agenda was sent but no recent minutes received as yet.

8. New Business

Solar farm update from Peter Finbow: Peter has now joined the steering group to represent Begbroke Parish Council and will attend meetings and report updates back to the council.

9. Planning

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

Application reference: 24/03360/ADV

The University of Oxford has put in an application for signage at Begbroke Science Park: The Council agreed they have no objection to the sign but agreed that it should only be up for a year.

Action: Clerk to upload a comment to planning portal to this effect.

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

11. Financial matters

a. Balances/Liabilities

Balance:£27 370.03 (SCRIBE) Bank Statements : Current £27 370.02 Service charge: £6.

b. Expenditure

£210.00	11.02.2025	BUS SHELTER MAINTENANCE	BAYLEE CONSTRUCTION
2283.60	11.02.2025	BUS SHELTER LIGHT	RITETECH Ltd
£9.00	27.01.2025	REFUNDABLE EXPENSES	BEGBROKE PARISH COUNCIL
£146.40	17.01.2025	STAFF COSTS	HMRC
£234.65	17.01.2025	STAFF COSTS	ASSISTANT CLERK
£646.03	17.01.2025	STAFF COSTS	CLERK
£59.99	07.01.2025	WEBSITE MANAGEMENT	FUNCTION 28
£57.60	07.01.2025	WEBSITE MANAGEMENT	FUNCTION 28
£36.00	07.01.2025	WEBSITE MANAGEMENT	FUNCTION 28
£288.00	07.01.2025	WEBSITE MANAGEMENT	FUNCTION 28
£90.00	07.01.2025	ACCOUNTANCY FEES	MODUS ACCOUNTANTS LTD.
£489.00	07.01.2025	VILLAGE NEW WORK	BAYLEE CONSTRUCTION
£1.00	08.01.2025	BANKING FEE	UNITY TRUST BANK
£146.20	27.12.2024	STAFF COSTS	HMRC
£234.85	27.12.2024	STAFF COSTS	ASSISTANT CLERK
£646.03	27.12.2024	STAFF COSTS	CLERK
£500.00	27.12.2024	Grant Application	Link Magazine
£23.00	27.12.2024	BANKING FEE	NatWest
£600.00	27.12.2024	HEDGE CUTTING	N R PRICKETT
£251.01	27.12.2024	REFUNDABLE EXPENSES	CLERK
£150.00	27.12.2024	Grant Application	Begbroke Womens Institute

c. Quotations/Tenders/Grants-None.

d. Online banking update (LW and LA)

Discussion on safety and online banking. Agreed that all invoices would be sent to councillors for information once payments have been made on online banking. For all payments approval is needed by 2 approvers.

e. Councillor allowances

Elected councillors are able to claim a yearly allowance for their work for the council. The Chair Malcolm Ryder will start to claim this allowance from this year.

Action: Clerk to action via online banking.

12. Health and Safety

12.1 Playground inspection reports-Handed to Clerk for scanning and saving.

12.2 Rota- February-Lindsay, March Leslie, April Malcolm

13. Training-Approval given by councillors for clerk to undertake end of year financials training.

14. Freedom of information requests/receipts/fixmystreet reports

The Chair reported that some of our fixmystreet submissions are not being dealt with. Cllr Ian Middleton offered to help put some pressure on the council if we are not receiving satisfactory outcomes from these.

Action: Chair to send outstanding reports to Ian Middleton.

15. Footpaths, Bridleways and Restricted Byway (RUPP)

It was noted that the Pathway in Begbroke lane that leads to Kidlington will need to be resurfaced.

Action: Clerk to talk to assistant clerk to follow up as he dealt with the path when it was originally surfaced.

16. Village and Environmental Matters

16.1 Gates on dual carriageway-There was a report from a villager that the gates on the carriageway have become rather tatty-Assistant clerk had already been in touch with the highways department prior to the meeting and a health and safety inspection had been done of said gates. It was agreed that due to their state of disrepair it would be safer to remove these and replace with a simple "Begbroke Village" sign. This is in process.

16.2 Crossing celebrations-It was agreed that it would be nice to have a celebration and thanks to all those involved in actioning the installation of the crossing and the Parish Council are happy for the members of the link magazine to organise this.

Action: Clerk to liaise with Jane at the Link to get the process underway.

16.3 Dog waste bin price increase-noted.

16.4 Gigaclear-No further updates.

16.4 Consideration of light in Western bus stop. It was agreed that it would be good to have a light in the Western Bus stop like the one already installed over the road.

Action: Clerk to contact the relevant parties to organise installation.

16.5 Grass cutting increase-was £194.00 last year & will rise to £204.00 a rise of 5%. Football field & play area will go from £105.00 each to £110.00 a increase of 5%- Happy to carry on with Prickett.

17. Website and Information – No updates.

18. Proposed dates of next meeting

March 3 2025

Louise Wright Clerk/RFO

