

# BALDONS PARISH COUNCIL

## Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 11 March 2024 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall

<b>Present:</b>	Dawn McGiveron (Chairman; DMcG), Andy Speight (Vice-Chairman; AS), Phil Price (PP), Sally-Anne Williams (S-AW), Adam White (AW), Catherine Morgan (Clerk), Robin Bennett (OCC)
<b>Members of the public</b>	There were nine members of the public in attendance.

Ref	Item	Notes	Action
107/23	Introduction by the Chairman	The Chairman welcomed and thanked the members of the public for attending the meeting.	
108/23	Apologies for absence:	Received from Councillor Lauren Collett & District Councillor Sam Casey-Rerhaye.	
109/23	Declarations of Interests	There were no new declarations of interest made.	
110/23	Minutes of the Previous Meetings	The minutes of the meeting held on 8 January 2024 were approved as an accurate record. Proposed: AS Seconded: S-AW	Approved
111/23	Matters Arising	S-AW enquired about progress on the neighbourhood plan. DMcG currently reviewing draft for revision and aiming to draw the team together on this by the end of March.	
112/23	Open Forum	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Potholes - details of largest potholes have been submitted via <a href="http://www.fixmystreet.com">www.fixmystreet.com</a>. It was <b>RESOLVED</b> to publish a note on Baldons Info to invite more people to report potholes on <a href="http://www.fixmystreet.com">www.fixmystreet.com</a>.</li> <li>Fly tipped spoil/tree/debris on the verge adjacent to the ditch. It was <b>RESOLVED</b> to make enquiries as to source of this.</li> <li>Cycleway - County Council Active Travel Delivery Team having funding to carry out a feasibility study of the two options being considered (one of which would pass through The Baldons).</li> <li>Pedestrian crossing in Nuneham Courtney - particular concern expressed for children crossing the main road to catch the bus. Cllr Bennett explained that this is waiting on the new 20 mph limit to settle in but is in discussion and he will ask next time he's at Nuneham Courtney.</li> <li>Concerns raised regarding turning right out of Baldon Lane into Nuneham Courtney as the sightline is frequently obscured by vehicles parked in the bus lay-by here. Could be improved if there were double yellow lines.</li> </ul>	<p>Action DMcG</p> <p>Action DMcG</p>

# BALDONS PARISH COUNCIL

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Gigaclear project (fibre to properties, not just to cabinets) - still gathering information about this, but will publish as soon as possible. Project completion due 2026. Workmen recently operating in Toot Baldon claimed they were installing ultra-fast broadband on behalf of “the government”. Unlikely to be connected to Gigaclear project but it was <b>RESOLVED</b> to look into this.</li> </ul>	Action DMcG
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Sewage pumping stations project - no update yet but believed target date to start work is summer 2025.</li> <li>Concern raised about level of traffic around and erosion of The Green and that a new playground could exacerbate this. Councillors discussed this later in meeting.</li> </ul>	
113/23	Village Matters	<p>(i) <b>Review Financial Risk Assessment 2024/2025.</b></p> <p>(ii) <b>Report on Play Area Project:</b> Three councillors met with a playground company in January to discuss potential locations for this and to acquire initial costings. Two preferred locations have been identified a) by the large oak tree &amp; bench on the South side of the brook on the North side of the Green and b) the grassed area by the village hall. This will form the basis of the next round of consultations, which will be published via email, Facebook and the newsletter.</p> <p>(iii) <b>Agree response to application for contribution to grass-cutting at churchyards.</b> It was <b>RESOLVED</b> to increase last year’s contribution (previously £1200) by 6%, in line with the rise in precept - to be reviewed on an annual basis. Clerk to inform the church.</p> <p>(iv) <b>Agree next steps for Tinny Lane</b> Last year a clearance was carried out along the ditches in addition to the removal of trees and debris. The Northern end could do with further work, but this could be affected by the sewage pumping stations project, so should be left for now. However, the Southern section more urgently requires attention and would require machinery. It was <b>RESOLVED</b> to find a contractor to recut the ditch, clear mud and ensure runoff goes into the ditch.</p> <p>(v) <b>Agree next steps on footbridge at bottom of church fields:</b> This is not an official footpath thus not county council responsibility. It was <b>RESOLVED</b> to seek quotes from contractors for installing a footbridge here.</p> <p>(vi) <b>Agree next steps on erosion on Croft and broader Green erosion issues</b> A number of areas of erosion were raised and discussed. Gabions were suggested as a possible visually sympathetic retaining measure as well as reinstating some of the wooden posts already owned by the Council but currently in storage (approximately 18). Some of the land in question, in particular The Green, is owned by Queens College so perhaps some of the financial responsibility could be shared with them. There are also issues in Toot Baldon but it was felt that the ongoing development there means this will be part of highways reinstatement requirements. It was <b>RESOLVED</b> to undertake further research in these issues and to discuss again at the next meeting.</p>	<p>Approved</p> <p>Action Clerk</p> <p>Action AS</p> <p>Action AS</p> <p>Action AS</p>

# BALDONS PARISH COUNCIL

		(vii) <b>Agree next steps for new village grass cutting arrangements</b> After discussion of the various areas to be addressed within these arrangements, it was <b>RESOLVED</b> to tender this work and above all to ensure the current standard of maintenance is retained.	Action Clerk																																																							
114/23	Report from OCC	<p>A new, weekly bus service through the Baldons is scheduled to commence on 16th April. Oxfordshire County Council passed its budget, which includes extra money for social care, SEND, highways improvements and transport.</p> <p>Cabinet agreed that the County Council will be taking oversight for the Oxfordshire Local Enterprise Partnership (often known as OxLEP),</p> <p>The Local Nature Recovery Strategy (LNRS) is a new strategy designed to target actions that help nature in locations where they are most needed. Local Nature Recovery Strategies are expected to help join up national efforts to reverse the decline of biodiversity. This initial survey closes on 31st March: <a href="https://letstalk.oxfordshire.gov.uk/lnrs-phase1">https://letstalk.oxfordshire.gov.uk/lnrs-phase1</a></p> <p>Didcot HIF1 planning inquiry is continuing after the end of March.</p> <p>Residents whose homes were internally flooded and businesses who were affected by flooding as a result of Storm Henk in January can formally apply for financial support in South Oxfordshire until 18th March.</p>																																																								
115/23	Report from SODC	None received.																																																								
116/23	Treasurer's report	<p>(i) To receive the current status of the accounts.</p> <p>(ii) To approve the invoices since January meeting.</p> <table border="1"> <tbody> <tr> <td>15.12.23</td> <td>Parish Newsletter</td> <td>Baldons PCC</td> <td>235.74</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>18.12.23</td> <td>Fibrillator pads</td> <td>S.McDouall</td> <td>136.74</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>31.12.23</td> <td>Dog bin emptying</td> <td>Tactical Facilities</td> <td>103.10</td> <td>17.18</td> </tr> <tr> <td>8.1.24</td> <td>Google Cloud</td> <td>Google</td> <td>32.20</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>10.1.24</td> <td>Clerk's wages</td> <td>Tjames</td> <td>381.60</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>10.1.24</td> <td>PAYE (Tjames)</td> <td>HMRC Cumbernauld</td> <td>254.40</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>4.2.24</td> <td>Dog bin emptying</td> <td>Tactical Facilities</td> <td>128.88</td> <td>21.48</td> </tr> <tr> <td>7.2.24</td> <td>Google Cloud</td> <td>Google</td> <td>32.20</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>20.2.24</td> <td>Baldons Village Hall hire</td> <td>Baldons Village Hall Committee</td> <td>232.00</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>20.2.24</td> <td>Churchyard maintenance costs Invoice 012022</td> <td>PCC</td> <td>1200.00</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>29.2.24</td> <td>OALC subscription</td> <td>OALC</td> <td>168.00</td> <td>26.00</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Proposed: PP Seconded: DMcG</p>	15.12.23	Parish Newsletter	Baldons PCC	235.74		18.12.23	Fibrillator pads	S.McDouall	136.74		31.12.23	Dog bin emptying	Tactical Facilities	103.10	17.18	8.1.24	Google Cloud	Google	32.20		10.1.24	Clerk's wages	Tjames	381.60		10.1.24	PAYE (Tjames)	HMRC Cumbernauld	254.40		4.2.24	Dog bin emptying	Tactical Facilities	128.88	21.48	7.2.24	Google Cloud	Google	32.20		20.2.24	Baldons Village Hall hire	Baldons Village Hall Committee	232.00		20.2.24	Churchyard maintenance costs Invoice 012022	PCC	1200.00		29.2.24	OALC subscription	OALC	168.00	26.00	<p>Accounts approved</p> <p>Invoices approved</p>
15.12.23	Parish Newsletter	Baldons PCC	235.74																																																							
18.12.23	Fibrillator pads	S.McDouall	136.74																																																							
31.12.23	Dog bin emptying	Tactical Facilities	103.10	17.18																																																						
8.1.24	Google Cloud	Google	32.20																																																							
10.1.24	Clerk's wages	Tjames	381.60																																																							
10.1.24	PAYE (Tjames)	HMRC Cumbernauld	254.40																																																							
4.2.24	Dog bin emptying	Tactical Facilities	128.88	21.48																																																						
7.2.24	Google Cloud	Google	32.20																																																							
20.2.24	Baldons Village Hall hire	Baldons Village Hall Committee	232.00																																																							
20.2.24	Churchyard maintenance costs Invoice 012022	PCC	1200.00																																																							
29.2.24	OALC subscription	OALC	168.00	26.00																																																						
117/23	Local Planning	<b>P24/S0486/HH</b> Hornbeam Cottage Marsh Baldon OX44 9LS Construction of dropped kerb to create a vehicular access to site. Consultation end date 13th March 2024	No objections																																																							
118/23	Item for the next Agenda	Fast Broadband in The Baldons (as per Gigaclear & discussion above). Erosion around The Green.																																																								

# BALDONS PARISH COUNCIL

<b>119/23</b>	<b>Date of Next Meeting</b>	22 April 2024 at 7.30pm (Annual Villages Meeting)		
<b>120/23</b>	<b>Future dates</b>	13 May 2024 (BPC AGM) 8 July 2024 9 September 2024	11 November 2024 13 January 2025 10 March 2025	

Signed as a true record: .....

Date: .....

DRAFT