

BALDONS PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 13 November 2023 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall

Present:	Andy Speight (Vice-Chairman; AS), Phil Price (PP), Adam White (AW), Lauren Collett (LC), Sally-Anne Williams (S-AW), Tom James, Robin Bennett (OCC)
Members of the public	There were eight members of the public in attendance

Ref	Item	Notes	Action
075/23	Introduction by the Chairman	The Vice-Chairman welcomed and thanked the members of the public for attending the meeting	
076/23	Apologies for absence:	Apologies were accepted from Dawn McGiveron (Chairman) and Sam Casey-Rerhaye (SODC)	
077/23	Declarations of Interests	There were no new declarations of interest made.	
078/23	Minutes of the Previous Meetings	The minutes of the meeting held on 11 September 2023 were approved as an accurate record Proposed: LC Seconded: AW	Approved
079/23	Matters Arising	There were no matters arising	
080/23	Open Forum	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Council was asked to respond to the issues with the culvert and ditch by Blenheim Corner. AS suggested that this was best dealt with at an on-site meeting. The east side of The Green should have been included in the play area questionnaire. The Clerk apologised for this oversight. The signage on the two noticeboards was questioned. The Clerk explained that The Baldons Parish Council comprises the parish councils of Toot and Marsh Baldon. Toot Baldon is represented by two councillors and Marsh Baldon by four councillors. At election time, the Parish Council is charged for two elections. Water is again flowing down by The Mole Inn. Previous attempts were successful at dealing with this problem; however, further work is required. The road sign to Toot Baldon (Access Only) has been knocked down. 	
081/23	Village Matters	<p>(i) Fireworks at the Seven Stars</p> <p>The PC has no objections to fireworks at the pub providing that all due diligence has been carried out. This includes insurance, risk assessment, consultation with neighbours and training.</p>	

BALDONS PARISH COUNCIL

		<p>(ii) Update on appointing a new Clerk/RFO The Council has not received any interest in the position. The January meeting will be the last meeting with the current Clerk. TJ suggested councillors contact OALC to enquire about a locum clerk.</p> <p>(iii) Update on Tinny Lane A large group of volunteers made real progress with the lane over a weekend. AS was thanked for organising the work. Further work will be needed in the Spring, which will include laying some drains.</p> <p>(iv) Update on planning application for houses on west side of The Green SODC planning committee will make a site visit on 20 November and will consider the application on 22 November. Anyone wishing to speak has to register before 21 November. The PC will attend and reinforce the objections already made</p> <p>(v) Questionnaire on play facilities on The Green LC summarised the findings of the play area questionnaire. There was broad support for such facilities. The next stage will be to provide examples of possible facilities for another round of consultation. LC was asked to include the data in the next newsletter. It was confirmed that the plans will not be approved without agreement of the residents</p> <p>(vi) Review of Neighbourhood Plan The first stage of the review will begin with a meeting between councillors and the Neighbourhood Planning Officer. The aim is to update the NP not rewrite the whole document.</p> <p>(vii) Expansion of Conservation Area in Toot Baldon The Council is looking to expand the Toot Baldon conservation area to include the road down to St Lawrence and the church and its grounds.</p>	
082/23	Report from OCC	<p>RB referred to his monthly report. A new Director of Children's Services has been appointed following an Ofsted inspection. Hopefully this will result in an improvement in the SEND support for children.</p> <p>A 20 mph limit has been approved for Nuneham Courtney. The application by the Council will be decided in December.</p> <p>Consultations for the next county plan will begin in January.</p>	
083/23	Report from SODC	<p>The monthly report from SC-R has been circulated to villagers.</p>	
084/23	Treasurer's report	<p>The reconciled accounts for September and October, verified by Cllr Price, were approved.</p> <p>Proposed: S-AW Seconded: PP PP alerted the Clerk to errors in the expenditure/budget update. These will be corrected and recirculated.</p>	

BALDONS PARISH COUNCIL

085/23	The following payments were approved:			
	30.8.23	Installing dog waste bin	W.Maggs	75.00
	31.8.23	External audit	Moore	252.00
	7.9.23	Google Cloud	Google	32.20
	25.9.23	Grass cutting on the green	Ady Podbery	189.60
	25.9.23	Dog bin emptying	Tactical Facilities	96.66
	25.9.23	Strimming grass around trees	Nigel Cullen	203.00
	25.9.23	Review of clerk's pay	Personnel Advice and Solutions	120.00
	29.9.23	Dog bin emptying	Tactical Facilities	103.10
	30.9.23	Grass cutting on the green	Ady Podbery	189.60
	6.10.23	Google Cloud	Google	32.20
	29.10.23	Dog bin emptying	Tactical Facilities	103.10
	1.11.23	Clerk's wages	Tjames	345.60
	1.11.23	PAYE (Tjames)	HMRC Cumbernauld	230.40
	1.11.23	Clerk's expenses	Tjames	232.19
2.11.23	Grass cutting on the green	Ady Podbery	94.80	
				15.80
086/23	Draft budget	TJ presented a draft budget for 2024/25. Appointing a new Clerk will, significantly, increase the cost of running the council. There was little room for other savings to offset this rise in expenditure. TJ recommended the Council should look to raise the Precept by between 7.5 and 10%. Final decision needs to be made at the January meeting.		
087/23	Local Planning	Cedars development for 6 single storey houses – Council has already submitted a response supporting the proposed changes. Dovers, The Green – the Council is in dialogue with the agent over various details Mole Inn – the Council is expecting the application to go to committee.		
088/23	Planning decisions	Permission had been granted for 25 The Green and DL Farm Garage		
089/23	Item for the next Agenda	Budget for 2024/25		
090/23	Date of Next Meeting	8 January 2024 at 7.30pm		
091/23	Future dates	11 March 2024 22 April 2024 – Annual Villages Meeting (to be confirmed) 13 May 2024 – BPC AGM 8 July 2024 9 September 2024 11 November 2024.		

Signed as a true record:

Date: