

# Baldons Parish Council

## Parish Council Meeting

held Monday 10th November 2025 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall

### Minutes

**Councillors Present:** Dawn McGiveron (Chair) (DMcG), Andy Speight (AS), Adam White (AW), Anne Viscintin (AV), John Clark (JC)

**In attendance:** Jo Garvey (Clerk), Robin Jones (OCC)(RJ), 2 Members of the Public

1. **Receive apologies for absence:** Sally-Anne Williams (SW), Tom James (TJ)
2. **Receive Requests for Dispensations, Declarations of interest, gifts, hospitality:** None
3. **Approve Minutes of the Previous Council Meeting:** Proposed AS, 2nd AV, **Agreed**
4. **Consider Matters Arising (items not covered elsewhere on the Agenda)**

A proposal was heard for the Parish Council to take over management of the Allotments. Various issues were discussed including water, lessees, insurance, and protection of the land. Legal expertise on the lease would be required. It was **agreed that** the issue of water would require a separate discussion. It was **agreed that DMcG** would request further information, **the Clerk** would ascertain if insurance is included in the current policy.
5. **Receive Questions and Contributions from Members of the Public:**

A question was raised regarding communication with SODC over drainage, would full disclosure be made. DMcG reported that a Drainage Engineering visit was made suggesting two options for improving drainage around the whole green, but no decisions have been made. Residents would be informed.
6. **Receive a report from Oxfordshire County Council:** Written report received.

RJ confirmed that Berinsfield Development was progressing slowly. Discussion ensued regarding a development between Golden Balls Roundabout and Berinsfield, RJ reported that he did not know of any proposed development, but would inquire.  
RJ reported that the cycle route was progressing, and the Roman Road portion seemed to be more advanced in planning state.  
A question was raised regarding transport, and would be delivered via email.
7. **Receive a report from South Oxfordshire District Council:** Written report received.
8. **Review Planning Applications received, and any others received between circulation of the agenda and this meeting:** Noted

P25/S2391/FUL - The Barn southwest of Manor Barn Toot Baldon - Demolition of barn and construction of dwelling with garage and associated works: Will move to planning committee early December, response agreed, **DMcG confirmed** she will attend.

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P25/S3222/HH - Parsonage Farm The Green Marsh Baldon OX44 9LJ - Internal and external alterations including dormer window to rear roof slope. Local resident expert advised that alterations were suitable. DMcG to draft response for submission.

P25/S3224/LB - Parsonage Farm The Green Marsh Baldon OX44 9LJ - Internal and external alterations including dormer window to rear roof slope. DMcG to draft response for submission.

P25/S3370/S73 - Land west of The Green Baldon Lane Marsh Baldon OX44 9LL - Variation of condition 2 Approved Plans) on application P22/S4323/FUL (Construction of five dwellings, 1 x 2 bed, 3 x 3 bed and 1 x 4 bed, to be accessed via a new driveway from the public highway). It was agreed that a response should be submit raising drainage issues. DMcG to draft for submission.

- 9. Consider and agree action regarding the Village gates:**  
AS reported that conditioning is possible, **AS will** develop a proposal.
- 10. Take a report and agree action regarding Pond(s) clearance:**  
DMcG issued a report from TJ including wildlife checks to be made. It was **agreed to** cease work given the time of year.
- 11. Consider and agree action regarding Flooding:**  
Issues discussed, considered checking all drains/gullies in the Village, a mapping survey would be required. The system includes Farm land drains. It was **agreed that AS** would get quotes for the survey.  
DMcG reported a broken culvert, no longer removing water, **DMcG to** monitor.
- 12. Take a report and agree action regarding Trees around the Green:**  
Expecting a Tree Safety Report, it was **agreed that DMcG** would follow up with Queens (Savilles).
- 13. Consider and agree action regarding setup of a volunteer Village IT Support Group:**  
After discussion it was **agreed that** there is no need at present.
- 14. Consider and agree action regarding Marsh Baldon/Toot Baldon Parish Councils merger:**  
DMcG reported on discussions, with information that the Councils are currently joined so any official merger would require un-joining prior to merger, offering no benefit to the Councils. It was **agreed that** the proposed merger would not go ahead.
- 15. Take an update and agree action on Village Hall generator:**  
3 quotes would be available by next week, much to consider, particularly around the age and updateability of the Village Hall electrical system. It was **agreed that DMcG and AS** would generate the Grant application (Up to £10k, should meet most of the expense).
- 16. Consider and agree action regarding Howe Trust request for donation:**  
It was **agreed that** a £50 donation be made, the **Clerk to** inform. Further **agreed that JC** would propose a Grants Policy at the next meeting.
- 17. Consider and agree action regarding use of Scribe for Parish Accounts:**

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Costs: Setup £149, Clerk Setup/Import time 8 hrs est., Monthly Subscription £31  
Saving: RFO time ½ hr per week est. The Clerk reported proposed benefits to the Council. It was **agreed to** use Scribe going forward, **Clerk to** action.

**18. Discuss and agree budget for PC tools and equipment:**

Purchase of equipment including heavy duty chainsaw and Flail Mower was discussed. Potential Budget requirement of £2000. It was **agreed that AS** would investigate the cost of items, further agreed that the **Clerk would** investigate insurance cover.

**19. Discuss and agree action regarding move to .gov website/email:**

Clerk provided information regarding perceived lower domain/website/email costs as recently gathered.

JC reported that he and SW had obtained quotes and decided that the move to .gov website/email was not necessary, and he would provide a specification to the Clerk via email.

**20. Approve Schedule of Payments: Approved.**

DESCRIPTION	PAYEE	INVOICE	TOTAL
TRACK WORKS	REEDS CONSTRUCTION	174184	9180.00
GOOGLE CLOUD	GOOGLE	5397397189	49.00
GROUNDS MAINTENANCE	TACTICAL FACILITIES MANAGEMENT	SL-4515	219.50
DOG BIN EMPTYING	TACTICAL FACILITIES MANAGEMENT	SL-4439	111.70
CLERK SALARY	CLERK		222.69

**21. Confirmation of scrutiny of accounts by Cllr McGiveron: Confirmed.**

**22. Agree the 26/27 Budget and Precept:**

DMcG reported on a CIL allocation to be amended (Clerk confirmed that this did not affect the accounts as provided and scrutinised, and was relevant to the budget allocation.)

DMcG proposed a precept increase of 4% (CPI rate). **Clerk to** update line by line and circulate, for decision at the next meeting. (Precept request to be returned by 15th January)

**23. Councillor Reports - To consider reports without decision: None.**

**24. Take items for the Next Agenda: No additional items.**

**25. Note dates of future Meetings: Noted**

12th January 2026, 9th March 2026

11th May 2026, 13th July 2026, 14th September 2026, 9th November 2026

The meeting closed at 9.10pm.