

BAUNTON PARISH COUNCIL

MONDAY 13th NOVEMBER 2023

Present:

Cllr. Peter Davies - Chairman
Cllr. Marie Whiteman
Cllr. Adrian Potter
Cllr. John Milner
Cllr. Dave Walton
Cllr. Paul Hodgkinson – CDC Councillor

1. Apologies:

Cllr. Alan Rees - Vice-Chair
Cllr. Peter Moran
Cllr. Joe Harris – GCC Councillor

2. Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 14th August 2023

The minutes of the AGM on 15th May were agreed and signed as a true record. Proposed by Cllr. John Milner and seconded by Cllr. Dave Walton.

3. Matters arising

Village Green – still no progress. The chairman will contact GCC 's legal department again and if there is still no satisfactory response will seek to arrange a meeting with them.

Potholes - A discussion took place about the parish council repairing potholes in the village. The Standard has been checked but unfortunately our Insurers say that we would be legally accepting a level of liability for the road moving forward which would have a significant impact on our insurance premium and could result in them ceasing our cover.

Drains - the issue with two of the drains in the village has been reported to GCC. Both our CDC Councillor and our GCC councillor have been involved. The problems with both drains are not straightforward and more complex than at first thought. However, GCC have raised a ticket for the work which includes jetting, cutting any roots that have grown into the system plus a survey if necessary in case there are any structural issues in the pipe work.

4. Report from Councillor Hodgkinson

Cllr. Hodgkinson informed the meeting about the finances of Cotswold District Council and the difficult situation they are in at the moment. The Government have cut the grant to the Council by 50% and they are expecting another 25% cut in the next three years.

The Council is proposing to increase council Tax by £5 a year for a Band D property, increase parking charges and the Green Bin Licences. There will also be cuts to some services. Cllr Hodgkinson urged residents and businesses of the Cotswold District to give their views to help inform the budget plans for 2024/2025 financial year. The consultation is on the Council Website or on the email we sent to the database on 3rd November. The budget consultation ends on 8th December.

5. Cllr. Harris sent his apologies

6. Responsible Finance Officer report

The only spends since the last quarter is: £19.16 AGM expenses; £107.88 for the Website domain name, the renewal will last three years.

The summary Receipts and Payments account for the period ending the 30th September 30th can be viewed on the Parish Council's website. www.baunton.org

7. CIL – CDC infrastructure £167 – spend deadline October 2028

The Parish Council will receive £167 CIL money. This results from the conversion of the cottage north east of Mill View. The money has to be spent by October 2028. No decision will be made on how we spend it as hopefully we will get more from another current application at Baunton Rise.

8. Planning

- Truck stop – Planning appeal – The appeal by William Gilder against the decision of Cotswold District Council was dismissed.

23/03273/FUL – Baunton rise, Cheltenham Road. Demolition of existing dwelling and outbuildings. Replacement dwelling and garage/workshop.

The Parish Council discussed this application and unanimously supported the application.

9. Parish Plan Action sheet

Flooding/Riparian Group

The river level is quite high at the moment and there are concerns that the operation of the sluice gates, by the garage in Gloucester Street are not managed as well as they might be. However, after consultation with Cirencester Town Council we have been assured that the operation of the sluice gates has been through a robust review earlier

this year. This was in consultation with local Flood Wardens, Cotswold District Council and James Spicer at the Environment Agency, as well as the Churn Catchment Flood Prevention Group and Friends of Gumstool Brook. Cirencester Town Council are also carrying out a further review over the next couple of months.

There are four sluice gates in Cirencester, two operated by the Town Council and two by private operators. The sluice gates are regularly monitored and operated in accordance with the approved Memorandum of Understanding. The Parish Council has a copy of the Memorandum of Understanding if anyone would like sight of it.

- 10 Correspondence – None**
- 11. Any Other Business - None**
- 12. Date of the next meeting February - date to be advised**