



MINUTES

BAYDON ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

Friday 27 May 2022 - 8.00PM IN THE BYPA HALL, MANOR LANE

Present Cllr Sarah Chidgey (Acting Chair)
Cllr Brian Billington
Cllr Sutton

Public 10

1 **APOLOGIES**

Apologies received from Cllr Mackenzie Smith and Kim Lloyd, Baydon's Parish Clerk

2 **MINUTES FROM 2018 ANNUAL PARISH MEETING**

The minutes of the meeting held on 20 May 2019 were agreed to be a correct record of the meeting.

3 **REPORT FROM THE ACTING CHAIR OF BAYDON PARISH COUNCIL**

It was not possible to hold an Annual Parish Meeting since 2019 due to COVID which also meant that Parish Council meetings had to be held via Zoom.

15th June 2020 was the first remote meeting using zoom after our last face to face meeting in the BYPA in January 2020.

28th June 2021 was the first face to face meeting back in the BYPA.

We still need Parish Councillors. We should have seven and only have four. To be quorate we need three Councillors in attendance.

Covid

Thank you to everyone who helped everyone else during the COVID lock downs.

Especially, Nikki Davies who organised volunteers and Alan and Debbie Moxon who did so much more than just keeping the shop as well-stocked as possible

Baydon.org Website

Thank you to John Whistler for his continued work in keeping the Baydon website up to date and providing us with all the info we need.

New Village Sign

Thanks to Kareen Jackson who painted it so beautifully.

New White Gates

Were erected as you enter the village and then repaired following damage.

New Table Tennis Table

The Parish Council funded a new table for Baydon Table Tennis Club.

Small Grants Awards

Baydon Parish Council is committed to supporting and strengthening the community groups and organisations that help to make a positive difference to the residents in the Parish.

Small Grants Awards scheme is available from the Parish Council with an application deadline of August 31st; and the Grant payment under the scheme is awarded in May the following year when the precept is received.

Applicants are expected to demonstrate that they will raise a minimum of 50% of the grant purpose and therefore grants will not normally be awarded for more than 50% of the cost of the project and will not normally exceed £1,000.

Please see Baydon Website under the Parish Council tab for more details or email the Clerk.

VE Day Celebrations

It was not possible to do anything as a village because of COVID – but some people did celebrate in the Paddock and held small street parties.

Memorial Bench for Coralie Warner

The Parish Council made a donation.

Repair of WW1 Memorial Clock in the Church Tower

This was originally a quote to restore the clock face – but on further inspection by Smith of Derby there is an issue with timing.

Peter Chambers is working with the War Memorial Trust to see if we can obtain a grant that covers the more extensive work.

Once we know the position with the grant, we will get quotes.

Cost is estimated at £17K

The WW1 Memorial Trees

The trees planted in the playground are doing well, thank you to the Allotment Assoc for keeping an eye on them.

Allotments.

Thanks to Jenny Gribble for keeping track of the allotment tenants and giving out the invoices and chasing payments.

Defibrillator

The village has a new defibrillator and this is now firmly installed on the wall of the Fancy B. The Parish Clerk is trying to arrange a demo day.

30MPH signs

The signs were finally moved further out of the village and are now on the white gates as you come up from Aldbourne.

Smiley 30mph speed sign – VAS

This has finally been installed at the East end of the village

Litter Picks

Took place in 2021 and again this year and sadly were not that well attended.

Baydon Scene

Has had a change of editors. A big thank you to Alan and Debbie Moxon for the work they had done in keeping the Scene going and for transforming it into a colour magazine.

The new team will continue to produce an interesting and worth reading magazine.

‘Trench’: Chicane – East end of the village

Councillors and the Clerk are working to get the ‘trench’ running across the road by the Chicane, which was dug in order to install the utilities, to be properly prepared to reduce the noise levels as traffic passes over it.

Metro Count – Western End of the Village

The results should be received soon.

This is the first stage in seeing if it is possible to obtain a weight restriction on vehicles going through the village – this is most unlikely to happen because we would need approval from Wiltshire Council, East Berks Council and Swindon Council because the road through the village crosses these Councils' borders.

But Councillors can but try and the metro count will show how many heavy lorries are coming through and at what speed all traffic is entering the village.

School flashing 20 mph / 30 mph lights as you enter the village from the Eastern end.

The parish clerk is pushing to get these working.

Countryside Week at the Baydon St Nicholas School

This is an effort to teach local children what the countryside is about and where their food comes from and how to behave responsibly in the countryside – the Countryside Code and basics like keeping dogs on leads.

Councillors have worked with James Wright from Gore Lane Farm and a farm visit had been planned but this was not possible due to school staff shortages.

So James agreed to visit the school and talk to the children. This took place this morning (Fri 27 May) and was a huge success.

James was brilliant, he brought a big tractor and three calves into the playground.

A big thank you to Headmistress, Emma Gilbert and her team, for completely buying into this.

Platinum Jubilee Celebrations

Big thank you to Ali Howes and Barbara Furber and their team for the amazing work they have done.

Fly-tipping

This is an ongoing problem in the road leading to Baydon Hole.

The Parish Council along Mr and Mrs Jukes are continually working to get what is dumped removed.

Christmas Carols under the Christmas Tree

It was great to be able to hold this again last year. It was not as well attended as previously - but hey ho. Thank you to Needlefresh for donating the spectacular Christmas Tree and to Alan and Debbie Moxon for helping with the refreshments and of course to the 'Singing Postman'.

Fireworks

Have been hugely missed but will back this year.

Baydon Post Office and Stores

USE IT OR LOOSE IT. YOU ALL KNEW WHERE TO GO DURING LOCKDOWN AND ALAN AND DEBBIE WORKED SO VERY HARD TO KEEP IT STOCKED WITH WHAT WE ALL NEEDED, SO CONTINUE TO USE IT NOW OUT OF CHOICE TO SUPPORT A LOCAL BUSINESS.

4 REPORTS FROM LOCAL GROUPS AND ORGANISATIONS

Allotment Association, Jenny Gribble – submitted in writing.

All of the allotments are now occupied and there are 6 people on a waiting list.

People continue to successfully grow a variety of produce despite the weather being unpredictable.

Long spells of dry or wet conditions have set their challenges.

The memorial fruit trees continue to thrive in the play area as a reminder of the 9 Baydon inhabitants who lost their lives in the Great War.

Baydon Table Tennis Club, Bernie Gribble – submitted in writing.

Unfortunately, the table tennis club is in deep hibernation which may well be terminal, Baydon Table Tennis Club has never fully recovered from the last Covid lockdown with attendances often insufficient to cover the hire of the Hall. Recruiting new members has been a constant problem and clearly, we need to be looking at a much larger area around Baydon to attract the numbers required to make the Club viable. So it is with regret that our booking of the Hall on Friday night has been cancelled. I am hoping that this is not the end of the line. The tables are still with the BYPA and I am still interested in hearing from anybody wanting to play the game even on an ad hoc basis. I would like to thank the BYPA Committee and the Parish Council for their support over the last few years.

Baydon Social Club, Barbara Furber

After 11 years we have decided to end the Social Group. We have had many walks, talks, theatre, meals out and quizzes. We have also enjoyed several meals at the 'Fancy B'. It has also been suggested that we have an occasional get together and we are all meeting at the Jubilee to have a 'Posh Picnic'.

Baydon St Nicholas (VA) Church of England Primary School, Emma Gilbert– Headteacher – submitted in writing – please ignore the draft.....

Firstly, many thanks to you all for the opportunity to record an annual report for the school. It is incredible to look back on what has been achieved during such a tricky year due to the pandemic. Pupils have continued to be provided with a varied curriculum and the staff have worked tirelessly in order to provide 'above and beyond' experiences.

The number on roll is currently 108 pupils. We remain at five classes. Our Governing Body now has Mrs Fraza Robins in the position of Chair of Governors. School priorities over the past year have revolved around recovery after the disruption of the past two years however we need to acknowledge that as much as we would wish it, running a school was still not back to pre-pandemic 'normal' this year. We have, at times, due to the virus, been low on staff numbers, however we have managed to keep the school open daily for all classes since September.

On a more positive note we are now in a position to welcome back members of the community, so if anyone would like to support our school by reading with our children, or if anyone is interested in becoming governor (particularly a foundation governor) please do contact the school.

The school year, since the last annual meeting held has been interesting to say the least. This time last year pupils had just returned from the latest lockdown (though we remained open for children of key workers throughout, running two classes in school, and teaching everyone else remotely). Back in school we worked in 'bubbles' which meant staff and children were assigned to their own groups and stayed in these throughout the whole day. Nevertheless, we managed to find ways to bring our school together through events such as our annual Shakespeare Week. By the end of May, we also took part (still in bubbles) on a whole school walk around Baydon. We are very lucky to have our school in such a wonderful and beautiful part of the world.

The staff tirelessly continued over the summer to find ways to reengage pupils with learning, and give them experiences above and beyond the curriculum. Our Victorian day in June was one of these experiences, where pupils explored the rich history of our school through census records and the teacher diaries from Baydon. Younger children explored what life would have been like for a child.

The summer also gave us opportunities to visit places again, with Year 6 being able to head to their Residential at Rockley in Dorset for a week and our younger classes having a day trip to Cotswold Wildlife Park. We were also able to hold sports day (for pupils only) in school, and things felt that they were beginning to return to normal!

We finished the summer term with a goodbye to our previous head teacher, Mrs Caroline Knighton, who headed to her new school in Oxfordshire.

A new year began in September, and we were hopeful that life in school was returning to normal - that is until a wave of Covid hit through the school just at the end of Term One. The week before the half term recorded only 50% of pupils left in school. There were still moments of joy however. Pupils in years 4 & 5 attended a three-day residential at Braeside, Devizes, where lots of fun was had, including canoeing and a whole day walk! Charity days, led by our school captains in Year 6, supported Jeans for Genes and Children in Need.

We were thrilled to be able to visit the Watermill Theatre at the start of December, to watch their production of the Jungle Book. Children were enthralled.

This spring we have transitioned into more recognisable elements of the school day, including the re-introduction of whole school worships and in person visits from the Open the Book Teams We celebrated World Book Day and Shakespeare Week again this year, focussing on the play 'Twelfth Night' and great fun was had by all throughout school. Just today our current Year 6 are returning from Dorset after a week away enjoying water sports, and we are finally planning to recommence performing a school musical.

Working with the Parish Council

Many thanks to Sarah Chidgey for her support in helping form a learning experience which we named 'countryside week' this May. As part of this week, we taught pupils about the countryside, and celebrated our village. Pupils experienced sessions with the Wiltshire Wildlife Trust, found out about the countryside code in lessons (indeed our older pupils created videos to teach our younger children as well).

Finally, just today we finished off Countryside Week with a visit from James Wright, a local farmer. From a super presentation, to letting the children meet some calves and also see his tractor the children had such a fabulous time! The children were super enthusiastic and were so pleased that they were allowed to ask all their questions. A huge thank you to James for this wonderful opportunity. Thank you all in our community that continue to support our wonderful, special and unique school.

St Nicholas Church, Church Warden Report, Robert Smart -

Due to Covid, this is really two reports in one; but as the issues facing the Church are ongoing and have been since 2019, I won't go through them twice.

2021 saw lockdowns, social distancing and a much-reduced usage of the Church with no services at all until the run up to Easter. Thereafter, there were 27 services with an average attendance of 21, including one Funeral and one Baptism.

2022 we have been able to welcome the school back into a service and thank Emma Gilbert for her continued support. This has boosted the average attendance to 22 over the 20 services we have had so far this year. One Baptism this Sunday!

The Clergy team has continued to evolve. The Reverend Beth Hutton joined us as Team Rector in November 2020. With Sue Rodd retiring and Rhona Floate moving on to take up a Team Rector position, Beth has a lot to cover and our thanks to the lay worship leaders for their support.

Attendance figures to one side, it has continued to be a difficult period for our Church. The Church wall continues to need scaffolding. Peter Chambers continues to battle with planning permission extensions, grants, faculty applications, withdrawal of grant applications due to time delays and reapplication. A momentous task.

Fund raising continues with many innovative ideas, Cream teas, Book exchanges, Open Gardens, Bacon rolls, Metal Detecting and both Plant and Flower sales. As witnessed by the tremendous turn out, these are more than fund raisers but real community events.

A huge thank you to all who help the smooth running of the Church on a weekly basis – too many roles to mention individually, but thanks all of you including to the Parish Council who have generously continued to ensure that the churchyard is mowed and maintained.

Peter Chambers has been liaising with the Parish Council with regards to the village War Memorial – the Clock – which is due a service and needs resurfacing and is currently in the pre application mode with the War Memorial Trust.

Baydon Fireworks, Jim Grove

The Fireworks could not be held for the last two years, as a result of Covid, but will be back this year subject to training being available for the Fireworks 'Firing Team' following the enforced break.

Baydon Bash Golf Society

Last year the annual Baydon Bash weekend was held a Puckrup Hall in Tewkesbury with Gordon Buckingham winning the overall competition so he keeps the green jacket for a year. The venue for this year's event is Telford.

Baydon Website, John Whistler

The website is continually updated. Please contact John if you would like anything on the website, unlike a Facebook post that disappears, a post on the website can sit on the website for as long as needed.

Aldbourn & Baydon Link Good Neighbour Scheme, Ali Howes

The scheme provides assistance to anyone who may need to visit a surgery, hospital or dental appointment, who is unable to collect shopping or needs a small task undertaking in the home. People may just like someone to call for a chat or to exchange a library book or to take them to visit a spouse who is in care or hospital. I've recently undertaken a couple of gardening sessions to plant up a couple of borders for a lady who has recently had an operation so cannot garden herself.

The scheme started in 2006 so we are now our 16th year. The last couple of years have meant that most of our activities had to be suspended. People were not visiting GP or dental surgeries, or hospitals. Social distancing requirements stopped Link giving lifts. However, we are back on a more normal footing now. We are always looking for new volunteers and even an offer to provide a couple of lifts a year makes a big difference. Fuel expenses are paid.

If you don't want to be a driver there are also volunteers required to be co-ordinators who take the calls and receive requests for assistance and allocate them to a driver from the list of volunteers. There is also a role to undertake DBS checks for volunteers.

It's all about giving a helping hand to someone living locally.

Baydon Flyers-Cycling Group, Rob Howes –

The Flyers is Bayden's very own cycle club. We have 12 members who are interested in a broad range of cycling activities. We have recently done overnight cycle camping trips; we normally have an annual multi day tour but this hasn't happened for the last couple of years due to Covid.

We run a club ride every Thursday starting @ 6:30pm on the village green. We often run two groups: The Peleton our faster fitter riders and the Gruppetto which is for anyone who just wants to ride

their bike. The Peloton will do around 30 miles and the Gruppetto will normally do 20 to 30 depending on who's there and how everyone feels. Both rides are non-drop which means we'll always stay with the group and not lose the slower members. We all meet in the Fancy be for the vital recovery drinks after the ride. We find Guinness, Real Ale or in some cases Cider particularly refreshing!

We are a very relaxed and social club. New members are welcome.

Baydon Scene – Rob Howes

The first edition came out in April 1991 so it's 31 years old and in that time, it's had multiple producers. The last of which were Debbie and Alan from the shop who, did a sterling job of keeping it going through the pandemic when they were still having to run their business.

The new team comprises David Price-Goodfellow, Jo Cooling and myself. We'd like to say thanks to Debbie and Alan for their efforts and for the great handover so we could easily pick it all up.

The Scene has always been a look at what's on in the village. A place to advertise events being held and to hear about out institutions (school, church) and clubs. Somewhere to hear about the village amenities (pub and shop). Its aim is to be a non-contentious look at village life and to inform the villagers of what's going on.

We'd like to continue that but we'd also like to improve and add to it. We're interested in any events you may know about, any clubs, societies or organisations you think should be more widely known about.

The next edition will of course feature Bayden's celebrations of the once in a lifetime Queens Jubilee. We'll have reports on the beacon lighting, the Baydon Queen competition and the Picnic in the Paddock!

We are also planning a series featuring those who give their time and efforts free of charge by volunteering for things that benefit the village. People like the Parish Council, the Fireworks crew, The BYPA team, the Jubilee organisers just to mention a few. In the opening paragraphs of the first copy of the Scene The then editor, Raol Knox, mentioned the community spirit in Baydon and the new scene wants very much to support that. I should of course say a thank you to the Scene delivery team who get it through the letterboxes in all weathers!

You may have seen we've had a couple articles about what we can do to help wildlife and nature and if you have any knowledge or expertise in these areas, please feel free to contribute. "Townie" is always keen to make new "Knowledgeable Friends"!

We'd also like to hear more from the village youngsters. There was an excellent poem from Becky Turner who is 15 in the last edition. She brings a new perspective which we like.

Of course, age or anything else is immaterial, if you have something to contribute, please let us know via mail BaydonScene@gmail.com or call us.

Baydon Cribbage Team, Steve Sutton

The Baydon cribbage team play in the Ridgeway Cribbage League and its home venue is currently The Fancy B. From October matches will be on Wednesday evenings 8.30pm until 10pmish through to March wit the occasional 'bye' and a break over Christmas.

It is not necessary to be an expert crib player to join. The league is very friendly.

If you would like to join, even if you have not played before, come along and sit in on an evening and you will pick up the game in no time. Some practice games are planned for the Autumn.

The team finished 2nd in the league last year!

If you are interested in joining, please email: steveofbaydon@live.co.uk

The BYPA Village Hall, Catherine Stather

The number of groups using the BYPA reduced leading up to the pandemic and during it.

We received a grant from Wiltshire Council which was very welcomed.

Check2Check dance school started using the hall for two afternoon/evenings a week in 2021 and then reduced to one afternoon/evening a week since October. This resulted us finishing the year with a small surplus.

The table tennis group has cancelled their weekly Friday evening slot due to lack of members, but there is hope they might start up again soon.

A new martial arts group will also start using the hall in July.

We have had limited birthday parties over the last two years, but that is to be expected with the changing rules on groups.

The committee currently has 5 members. Ann Ludlam has joined the committee, but we lost Catherine Hughes from the committee last year and two other members of the committee have indicated they will need to step down soon as they have moved from the village. We are looking for new committee members.

Ken kindly laid a new concrete skirt around the hall last summer. He did a fabulous job and we were very grateful.

We are also starting a community garden in the bed at the front of the hall. We would ask the community to help maintain it and donate plants. In return they are welcome to take cuttings if they wish.

Baydon Jubilee Celebrations – Ali Howes and Barbara Furber

An overview of all of their and their team's hard work around the activities that were planned for the lighting of village Beacon and the picnic in the Paddock.

A big thank you to Jonathan Smith for allowing the use of the cricket field for the lighting of the Beach activities.

The Fancy B – Crystal Clifford-Budden

An overview of the huge amount of work that Melih and Tugba Tatli have done. They continue to support the village with regular quiz nights, special celebratory offers, etc. As noted, in the Baydon Scene, they are both very grateful for the support they have received.

5. NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

It had been agreed that this would be raised at the Annual Parish Meeting. Aldbourne is working on Neighbourhood Plan as is Lambourn.

A discussion took place around the need for Baydon to work on a Neighbourhood Plan but, this is an enormous undertaking and requires input from the village in the form of a Steering Group and liaison with an 'expert' consultant:

A Neighbourhood Development Plan is a method by which a community, typically a parish, works in conjunction with the planning authority (Wiltshire Council in this case) to co-author that part of the local plan. Once adopted – and it needs to go through a number of stages including an external examination and a referendum – it becomes as much part of the local plan as if the planning authority had written it all itself.

The local plan and the policies that flow from it constitute the ultimate authority and reference point for all planning decisions. It cannot prevent development in the parish but it can help pre-define where this does or doesn't take place and establish a number of principles and policies which must then be followed. It needs to be refreshed every 15 years when the local plan is but the doing the first one is the most time-consuming (taking three or four years). It therefore represents a once-in-a-generation opportunity for a community to influence how it changes and develops.

To quote from the Gov.uk website, "Neighbourhood plans can support the provision of affordable homes for sale that meet the needs of local people by including relevant policies and site allocations. Depending on the content of relevant strategic policies in the local plan or spatial development strategy, neighbourhood plans may be able to vary the types of affordable housing that will be expected, or to allocate additional sites that will provide affordable housing, where this will better meet the needs of the neighbourhood area."

A NP takes an enormous amount of work and the present Councillors are unable to take this on without a great deal of support from villagers and a steering committee
But is an opportunity for those of us who live in the village to contribute to future planning.

Mrs April Jukes agreed to work on information to be published in the Baydon Scene to raise awareness of the importance of a Neighbourhood Plan.

6 PUBLIC QUESTIONS ON ANY OTHER MATTERS

No further matters to report.

The meeting closed at 21:45

Signed

Cllr Sarah Chidgey(Chair)/ Date