

BAYDON PARISH COUNCIL

Report

Cllr Sarah Chidgey chaired the Parish Council meeting on Monday 14th January 2019. All councillors were present along with 8 villagers.

The chair opened the meeting with a thank you to the temporary Clerk Karen Clay, who was also present. She said that she was very grateful for the guidance and patience given by Karen who was a huge help.

Cllr Chidgey then introduced the new clerk, Kim Lloyd, an experience clerk who also works for Chadleworth and Great Shefford.

The minutes of the last meeting were approved and signed. The finances were reported and payments approved. Income; Cricket Fund Interest £0.81:

Bank Statements; Barclays Community £28034.31: General reserve £16136.26: Cricket Fund £1211.48:

Payments: SSE Electricity on The Green £45.80: Aldbourne & Baydon Link Donation £300.00: Idverde Playground Inspections £33.20: Mrs Clay Remuneration & Expenses £421.33: Pittams Grass cutting £1485.00: Total January £2285.33.

The precept is set at £17000.00, so that individual payments for householders are less than last year.

Correspondence was noted. The Police report included only one issue in Baydon, that was a robbery at the Red Lion. A tree blocking Dark Lane was reported and cleared. Cllr Hugo Mackenzie-Smith said that he had attended CATG to ask for funding Zig Zag Lines at the entrance to Downsmead, and for Bollards to stop lorries mounting the pavement opposite the shop. A site meeting is to be arranged. CATG agreed that moving the 30mph signs at the Aldbourne end of Baydon would be a priority.

It was agreed to request a Metro Count in Manor Lane. If the speed of traffic is high enough, Highways will then put two more. Then they will make a decision as to whether to implement a 20mph restriction.

In P.Q.T April Jukes asked if the Parish Steward scheme is working for the village. Cllr Chidgey said it was not. She met with him and has agreed another meeting on the 28th January with a list of jobs for him. Cllr Steve Sutton agreed to attend also.

Mrs Jukes also reported fly tipping on the road to Baydon Hole. In particular she was concerned about the 200 or more buckets of Cannabis waste that had been dumped. The clerk suggested that the chair contact Environmental Health.

Alan Heasman from the Baydon and Aldbourne Link Scheme stood to thank the Parish Council for their support and generous donation towards the scheme. There are, he said, 30 – 40 volunteer drivers (2 from Baydon) and recently the scheme is paying out expenses to the drivers (45p per mile) more than they are receiving from the clients. Owing to the donation from both Parish Councils the books are balanced. Due to the publicity the donations are also increasing. The scheme was also looking for more drivers from Baydon.

Cllrs Mackenzie-Smith and Sarah Chidgey spoke to the youths waiting for the St. John's School bus one morning about restarting the Youth Club. The girls were interested in a craft or dance club, whereas the boys showed no interest at all. However no youth has contacted them since. It was decided to shelve the idea and put the monies towards improving the play area.

Swindon Science Park was discussed briefly. Cllr Sutton said that as it was a long way from Baydon it would have little impact on the village. Ten thousand houses already been approved on the land from Wanborough and beyond. More details can be obtained from Baydon website.

Planning:

Work on the beech tree at Rowan House, Barley Fields received no objections from the councillors:

Demolition of garages and erection of houses in Downsmead was returned with no comment. It has now been approved with condition (restriction of working hours).

Planning for a 2 bed dwelling on the Red Lion car park had been received which will be discussed when councillors have looked into it more fully.

Permission for a 2 bed 2 storey extension to 2 Aldbourne Road was also to be discussed further.

Cllr Brian Billington reported that he had repaired the bolts on the equipment in the Play Area, and plans to do some repainting.

CLlr Chidgey made an emotive plea for dog owners not to leave poo bags underneath a full bin. "If the bin is full, take your bags home" she said.

The Memorial Trees have been planted thanks to the Allotment Association, particularly Jenny Gribble. There are apple and plum trees. Once the trees are established it was agreed to have a dedication service and erect a plaque. Thanks were also extended to Gary Watson for the donation of ties and tree protectors, and giving valuable expert advice.

Thanks to Colin Philips the Village sign has been repaired. It is proposed to look for a suitable person to repaint the sign.

CLlr Sutton agreed to repair the village notice board at the bottom of Downsmead as soon as he has acquired some cork board.

The delegation of roles to councillors for all areas of the village was discussed and agreed.

It was agreed to have a village Litter Pick in February. Date to be Announced.

Thanks were extended to Higo Mackenzie-Smith for the donation of the Christmas Tree, and to Jim Grove and Mike Whale for transporting it to the Green. Various people who had helped put it up and take it down were also thanked. Debbie Moxon was thanked for organising the Singing Postman and his accompanist; Julie of the Red Lion was thanked for providing some excellent Mulled Wine and Mince Pies.

80 adults and children attended and was a huge success. It was suggested by the Postman that a charitable donation be made next time.

It was noted that Finches Lane is to be closed from end of January until early February by Thames Water.

The meeting closed at 8.47pm