

Meeting of the Bovingdon Parish Council

Held in The Memorial Hall, High Street, Bovingdon

08th January 2024 starting at 7.30 p.m.

Present:

Councillor Graham Barrett (Chairman)
Councillor Alison Gunn
Councillor David Stent
Councillor Hugh Schneiders
Councillor Julie Steer
Councillor Philip Walker
Councillor Adrian Watney
Councillor Mike Foulds
Councillor Pauline Wright

Also present:

Hertfordshire County Councillor Richard Roberts
Gemma Coventry, Parish Clerk

Press:

Gary Cullum, The Bovingdon Villager

Representatives from the Village:

Three members of the public

1.	To receive apologies for absence Apologies for absence were received from Borough Councillor Stewart Riddick & Borough Councillor Gbola Adeleke	
2.	Specific Declarations of Interest There were no Declarations of Interest	
3.	Public Question Time: There were no public questions	
4.	Signing of Minutes: Bovingdon Parish Council Meeting, 8th January 2024 Those Councillors present agreed the minutes of the meeting of Bovingdon Parish Council Meeting held on 8 th January 2024 were a true representation of the meeting and the minutes were signed by Councillor Barrett.	
5.	Matters Arising from Minutes: Bovingdon Parish Council Meeting, 8th January 2024	
5.1	HMP The Mount The Parish Clerk will arrange a walk through the village to look at the benches that need repairing.	Parish Clerk
5.2	Opening /closing of school gates on Saturdays Councillor Stent reported that 'K' café are opening and closing the gates on Saturdays and are happy to continue.	Councillor Stent

5.3	<p>Village Gates Councillor Walker & Councillor Schneiders will be fixing the gates on Bovingdon Green, The Mount & by the Bobsleigh on 09/12/2024 at a cost of £1,100 it was agreed that this will be paid for by CIL monies.</p>	Councillors Walker /Schneiders
5.4	<p>The Dock – damaged rail The Parish Clerk is still in the process of getting quotes although we have received one. The parish Clerk has also met with the Garden Company who have agreed to send a quote.</p>	Parish Clerk
5.5	<p>Drains Councillor Steer commented that there was more flooding outside the St Lawrence Church Hall in Vicarage Lane and because of this the coffee morning had to be cancelled again. Councillor Roberts has said that a fault had been actioned but he cannot give a firm date as to when the job will get done. He has said that he will keep Councillor Steer updated.</p>	Councillor Roberts/ Councillor Steer
5.6	<p>Tree Outside Library Councillor Roberts has agreed a budget of £300 for a replacement tree outside the Library Councillor Wright & Councillor Schneiders will purchase the tree over the next couple of weeks.</p>	Councillor Wright/Councillor Schneiders
5.7	<p>BP 10K Nothing to report</p>	
6.	<p>Crime Report The Crime report has been circulated. As part of his role with The Parish Marshalls it has been agreed that Ben Richardson will continue to circulate the Crime report. It was reported that crime is still low in our village compared to other areas.</p>	
7.	<p>Neighbourhood Plan (NP) Waiting feedback from Dacorum Council. Claire Norton is pushing to get things moved along ASAP.</p>	
8.	<p>To receive and adopt the following Committee reports: (8.1) Planning Committee Meetings: (i) 6 November 2023 (ii) 27 November 2023 (iii) 18 December 2023 (8.2) Finance & General Purposes Committee (i) 18 December 2023 (8.3) Memorial Hall Management Committee (i) 21 November 2023 Resolved that the minutes of these meetings as circulated, be received and adopted.</p>	
9.	<p>Feedback from Chair of Committees:</p>	
9.1	<p>Finance & General Purposes Committee (a) It was proposed by Councillor Steer, seconded by Councillor Stent the Council approve that a minimum RPI (Retail Price Index) based on the RPI at the end of October be applied across the Parish and Hall accounts each year.</p>	

(b) It was proposed by Councillor Steer, seconded by Councillor Stent the Council approve the draft budgets for the Memorial Hall for 2024/2025 as set out.

(c) It was proposed by Councillor Steer, seconded by Councillor Schneiders that the Council approved the draft budgets for the Parish for 2024/2025 as set out.

(d) It was proposed by Councillor Steer, seconded by Councillor Schneiders that the Council approves the proposed precept for 2024/2025

(e) To note the External Auditors comments on the Council's completed AGAR Part 3 documentation – Section 3 reviews has been reviewed and approved

(f) It was agreed that the Parish Clerk & Assistant will be added to the Parish/ Hall bank accounts and former Councillor Ben Richardson and RFO David Kirk will be removed from all Bank Accounts.

9.2 Memorial Hall Management Committee

Quotes to insulate the front of the building have are being requested it has also been suggested that we look into the possibility of grants to get this work done.

The replacing of the lights has begun as you can no longer buy replacement bulbs for the old units.

The emergency lighting needs to be fixed and we have been quoted £1,200 to do this works Councillor Steer reminded the council that if we have no emergency lights then the hall will need to close.

9.3. Outdoors Committee

Two new trees have been planted one each side of the entrance to the Archway.

3,800 Daffodils have been planted opposite the Halfway house down towards Vicarage Lane, To the front of Newhall Close and On the Half Moon outside Old Dene/Hyde Meadows.

The Village Warden has started Clearing the drains in the Village. Councillor Wright has been obtained quotes to have hanging baskets installed onto Lamposts, Councillor Wright has advised that the quote is for the installation and full maintenance of the Baskets Councillor Wright also said that the first year will be the most expensive as there will be a charge for the brackets. The quote is approximately £6000.

We have been made aware that a Sunnyside Rural Trust employee has been subjected to some antisocial behaviour. The police have been informed and are investigating however Sunnyside have advised that the warden duties have been suspended.

9.4. Personnel Committee

It was agreed to appoint Councillor Foulds to serve on this committee.

It has been agreed that the office staff job descriptions will be reviewed

9.5.	<p>Planning Committee Greymantle objection submitted</p>	
10.	<p>Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) A meeting will be held in March a date is TBC.</p>	
11.	<p>Bovingdon Improvement Plan (BIP) Working Group There was no report.</p>	
12.	<p>Report from the Council's Representative on outside groups/bodies: (12.1) Bovingdon Primary Academy In the absence of the representative there was no report (12.2) Bovingdon Community Library Councillor Steer reported that it is business as usual. (12.3) Chilterns Conservation Board Councillor Watney reported that it is business as usual.</p>	
13.	<p>80th Anniversary of D-Day - 6 June 2024 There was nothing to report</p>	
14.	<p>Parish Marshall Ben Richardson (lead Parish Marshal) presented to the council a full report on the activities etc of the provisional trial of the Parish Marshal (PM) role. Following the success of the trial the Council has approved the continuation of the role on a permanent basis. To facilitate this move the Council will set up a permanent email address for PM activities - to enable an effective communication channel directly to the PM team. The Parish Clerk will look into this.</p>	Parish Clerk
15.	<p>Christmas Light's switch-on and street fayre Sunday 3rd December 2023 Final figures have not been finalised however all costs were covered. Councillor Gunn reported that the event was a success despite the weather The council would like to thank all involved.</p> <p>It was suggested bringing next year's date for the event forward The Parish Clerk will contact Berkhamsted Council and see what date they are planning their event.</p>	Councillor Gunn Parish Clerk
16.	<p>Any other urgent business (16.1) Councillor Roberts advised that the Pot Hole in Old Dean will be fixed on the 17th December. (16.2). It has been decided that a Comms group need to be set up for the Parish council. (16.4) Councillor Roberts will look into the continuous flooding at Middle Lane and Water lane to see there is anything that can be done.</p>	
17.	<p>To note date of the next Bovingdon Parish Council meeting: Monday 4th March 2024 to be held in The Memorial Hall, Bovingdon starting at 7.30 p.m.</p>	

Meeting closed at 10.30p.m.

DRAFT