

Barford St John & St Michael Parish Council Meeting
Wednesday 17th November 2021 at 7.30pm in Barford Village Hall

Present: Cllrs Turner, Eden, Charman, Cosgrove, Hobbs, and Mr Best, (Parish Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer). Two members of the public attended the meeting.

Apologies for absence: County Cllr Fatemian, District Cllr Williams, Cllr Best and Cllr Cox

21/080	Declarations of Interest: None
21/081	Minutes of the last meeting: It was RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting held on 1 st September were a true and accurate record (unanimous)
21/082	Matters arising from the minutes: None
21/083	<p>Public Participation:</p> <p>West Close Playground – The maintenance of the playground was discussed with two members of the Playground Committee following the annual inspections that had been carried out by ROSPA Playsafety. Chris Jarvis, an ex-playground inspector, who carries out maintenance work on Cherwell District Council play equipment advised that only items that are flagged red in the report need to be rectified immediately. Green and Amber coded items can be rectified when time and resources permit. The maintenance funds are derived mainly from the annual duck race which has not taken place for a few years but there are still funds available in the account. It is recommended that 10-15 minute weekly inspections are carried out and it was agreed that a rota will be established.</p> <p>Children have been observed playing on the bank along Murrays Lane. Parents and Guardians taking young children to the playing field will be aware of the road and ensure that the children play safely. Older children who go to the playground unsupervised should have been taught traffic awareness. It was agreed to plant more hedging rather than install post and rail fencing as fencing would just become another climbing frame so would not increase the safety along this boundary.</p>
21/084 21/084/1	<p>Clerk's Report:</p> <p>Allotments – Letters requesting rent have been sent out to allotment holders. There is currently one allotment available. Two became available but one has been rented out. One allotment holder wanted to move to one of the plots that was vacated but this information had not been passed on to the Clerk before it had been offered to the resident on the waiting list. Residents are reminded to contact the Clerk with any queries relating to the allotments.</p>
21/085	<p>Correspondence:</p> <p>A resident had written to request that the Parish Council reconsider their decision to mow the verges through the year rather than let them grow. Councillors voted by a majority not to implement No Mow May again next year apart from an area in the North East corner of West Close if volunteers come forward to rake up the grass when it is mown at the end of the year.</p>
21/086	County Councillor's Report from Arash Fatemian: None
21/087 21/087/1 21/087/2 21/087/3	<p>District Councillors Report from Bryn Williams:</p> <p>Access to Banbury Railway Centre – CDC are consulting on improvements to get busses, cyclists, and pedestrians to the railway station.</p> <p>Household support fund – The new Cherwell Household Support Fund is now open to support the most in-need residents with the costs of food, energy and other utility bills. Other essential household costs can also be met. £250,000 has been delegated from Oxfordshire County Council from a national funding grant and will be available through to 31 March 2022. Residents can self-refer by calling Citizens Advice North Oxfordshire on 0300 303 0993. An advisor will call them back to assess their needs.</p> <p>Better homes, better health with housing support service - Oxfordshire residents with health needs can now access support to reduce housing-related health issues thanks to the Better Housing Better Health service. The service aims to ensure safer, more suitable housing conditions, to signpost support for other social and health problems, and to promote independent living for those with existing health issues. It is a partnership project between us, our local authority partners and the voluntary and community sector. Read more about this initiative on the county council's website.</p>

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<p>21/088 21/088/1</p> <p>21/07882</p> <p>21/088/3</p>	<p>Parish Matters: Implementing Parking Restrictions in Villages – Oxfordshire County Council has asked Parish Councils to contact them if they would like to implement parking restrictions in their village. It was agreed that yellow lines do not look nice in villages and that there are no alternative areas for residents and visitors to park so no request will be submitted.</p> <p>Royal British Legion Donation – It was agreed to increase the annual donation to the Royal British Legion to £100.</p> <p>Hedge along Murrays Lane boundary of West Close – It was agreed to plant more hedging in February 2022</p>
<p>21/089 21/089/1</p>	<p>Planning: 21/02384/LB – The Old Forge – CDC permitted 5/10/2021</p>
<p>21/090</p>	<p>Reports from Meetings: None</p>
<p>21/091</p>	<p>Finance: Payments - The Clerk gained approval for payments totalling £1440.48. The combined bank balances are £9,035.26 after the receipts and payments.</p>
<p>21/092 21/092/1</p> <p>21/092/2</p> <p>21/092/3</p>	<p>Any Other Business: Dog Waste in Litter Bins – Dog walkers are asked to use the dog bins provided not litter bins for dog waste. It was agreed to erect the spare dog bin at the junction of Lower Street and Bloxham Road near the litter bin.</p> <p>Christmas Lights on The Green – It was agreed that replacement lights would be purchased as a lot of lights on the current set have failed. The new lights will be put in the tree and switched on as soon as they are delivered.</p> <p>Defibrillators – A lot of villages have defibrillators and residents have requested defibrillators in the villages. It was agreed that views from residents would be sought via the Barford News and the Annual Parish Meeting. Grants will be investigated</p>

The next Parish Council Meeting will be held on Wednesday 5th January 2022 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall.

There being no other business, the meeting closed at 9.06pm

Signed by Chairman.....

Date.....