

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF BERINSFIELD PARISH COUNCIL held on Monday 5<sup>th</sup> February 2024 at 7.15 p.m. in the Church Hall, Wimblestraw Road, Berinsfield, Oxon.**

**PRESENT :** Councillor S. Scott-Ely - Chairman  
Councillor P. Bridge - Vice Chairman  
Councillor Mrs. Beeby  
Councillor I. Bunyan  
Councillor K. Chrisp  
Councillor S. Crawford  
Councillor Mrs. A. Jones  
Councillor D. Scate  
Councillor Mrs. L. Sweetland  
Councillor A. Woodington

Annette Loveland, Clerk to the Council  
County and District Councillor Robin Bennett  
Mr. Charles Campion from JTP  
One member of the public

1. Items raised by Members of the public

a) **Berinsfield Emerging Masterplan Proposals.** Mr. Charles Campion attended the meeting and informed the Parish Council that approximately 100 people attended the exhibition about the Berinsfield Emerging Masterplan Proposals which was held at the Berinsfield Community Association premises on 23<sup>rd</sup> January, 2024 from 1 – 8 p.m. Mr. Campion informed the meeting that an application for outline planning for the Mount Farm site would be submitted in 2025.

Councillor Bridge expressed concern about the number of ponds shown on the masterplan and of the safety issues that could occur with children possibly playing in them. He also pointed out there was no provision for a possible future extension to the Burial Ground.

The member of the public queried whether there was going to be a bus turning point near to the Burial Ground, but was assured this was not the case. She also asked if the proposed new houses would have car parking spaces and was informed they would.

Councillor Scott-Ely pointed out that the scheme was supposed to be community led and asked if the Parish Council would be able to see revised plans before the outline planning application was submitted. Mr. Campion stated that the Parish Council would not see the revised plans, but District Councillor Robin Bennett agreed to ask if it would be possible for revised plans to be made available at a Berinsfield Garden Village meeting. The closing date for comments to be made is Monday 12<sup>th</sup> February and Mr. Campion asked that Councillors email their comments to [community@jtp.co.uk](mailto:community@jtp.co.uk) by that date.

The Chairman thanked Mr. Campion for attending the meeting.

b) **Brambles overhanging Fane Drive near to Pearce's depot.** It was reported that brambles are growing over the highway near to Pearce's depot. The Parish Council will report this to the appropriate agency.

2. **Apologies for absence** were received from Councillor Henry.
3. **Declarations of interest.** There were no declarations of interest on any items on the agenda.
4. **County Councillor's Report.** County Councillor Robin Bennett had prepared a written report, which was circulated to all members of the Parish Council. Members of the Parish Council noted the information in the report including the Oxfordshire County Council budget and the planning inquiry into the Didcot HIF1 project.
5. **District Councillor's Report.** District Councillor Robin Bennett had prepared a written report, which was circulated to all members of the Parish Council. The Parish Council noted the information in the report and in particular that funding has been secured to provide a Multi Use Games Area in Berinsfield. The District Council is currently investigating possible sites for the unit.
6. **To receive the Minutes of the meeting of Berinsfield Parish Council held on 8<sup>th</sup> January, 2024** It was AGREED that the Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on the 8<sup>th</sup> January, 2024 should be APPROVED
7. **To consider planning applications and decisions received to date.**
  - a) **Application No. P24/S0045/LDP** Taxi parked on drive, 2 Colwell Road, Berinsfield OX10 7NS. The Parish Council was not asked for comments on this lawful development application.
  - b) **Application No. P24/S0296/LDP** Parking of catering van in Library car park and serving of hot food. Berinsfield Library, Green Furlong, Berinsfield OX10 7NR. The Parish Council was not asked for comments on this lawful development application.
8. **Casual Vacancy on Berinsfield Parish Council.** The Parish Council noted that the casual vacancy is being advertised for the statutory period and that if an election is not called, the Parish Council can advertise for an eligible person to be co-opted as a Member of the Parish Council. The Parish Council AGREED that the Clerk should be authorised to advertise the vacancy for co-option if South Oxfordshire District Council confirm that an election has not been called.
9. **Appointment of Internal Auditor.** The Parish Council was informed that Rachel Brown, Internal Auditor, would be prepared to carry out the Parish Council's internal audit for the year 2023-24 at a fee of £320.00 plus mileage at 0.45p per mile. The Parish Council AGREED to appoint Rachel Brown as its Internal Auditor and authorised the Chairman and Clerk to sign the Agreement of Terms document in this respect.
10. **Berinsfield Neighbourhood Development Plan.** The Chairman, Councillor Stuart Scott-Ely informed the meeting that Mr. Neil Homer, Consultant and Mr. Ricardo Rios and his colleagues from South Oxfordshire District Council are assisting the Parish Council with the Berinsfield Neighbourhood Development Plan. There is a delay of about two months in the programme at the present time and further information will be reported to the Parish Council in due course.

## 11. Correspondence and Items for Information.

a) **South Oxfordshire and Vale of White Horse District Councils Joint Local Plan to 2041.** An extract from the South Oxfordshire and Vale of White Horse District Council Joint Local Plan to 2041 relating to Policy AS1 – land at Berinsfield Garden Village, had been circulated to all members of the Parish Council. The Parish Council discussed the document and it was AGREED some minor amendments should be made and submitted to South Oxfordshire District Council on behalf of the Parish Council.

b) **Fix my Street Superusers.** The Parish Council was informed that Oxfordshire County Council would like to encourage more volunteers to become Superusers for the Fix my Street scheme. Councillors Chrisp and Mrs. Sweetland indicated that they would be prepared to be trained to be Superusers and it was AGREED to inform Oxfordshire County Council and to ask if they could arrange training for them and for any existing Superusers who may wish to update their training.

c) **Public Transport Representatives meeting.** The Parish Council does not currently have a Public Transport Representative. It was noted that the next Public Transport Representative meeting would be held on Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> March via Teams. The Clerk will circulate the link for the meeting to all members of the Parish Council when received.

d) **Grant Aid for Voluntary Organisations.** The Parish Council noted that the scheme was currently being advertised and that the deadline for applications is 8<sup>th</sup> March, 2024.

e) **Notification of Public Inquiry – HIF1**  
Town and Country Planning Act 1990 - Section 77 and Town and Country Planning (Inquiries Procedure) (England) Rules 2000 Application by Oxfordshire County Council Planning Application for - the dualling of the A4130 carriageway (A4130 Widening) from the Milton Gate Junction eastwards, including the construction of three roundabouts;  
- a road bridge over the Great Western Mainline (Didcot Science Bridge) and realignment of the A4130 north east of the proposed road bridge including the relocation of a lagoon;  
- construction of a new road between Didcot and Culham (Didcot to Culham River Crossing) including the construction of three roundabouts, a road bridge over the Appleford railway sidings and road bridge over the River Thames;  
- construction of a new road between the B4015 and A415 (Clifton Hampden bypass), including the provision of one roundabout and associated junctions; and  
- controlled crossings, footways and cycleways, landscaping, lighting, noise barriers and sustainable drainage systems.

At Land between A34 Milton Interchange, and B4015 north of Clifton Hampden, Oxon.

The Parish Council noted that the public inquiry regarding the above full planning application which has been referred to the Secretary of State under section 77 of the T & CP Act 1990 will be held at Bee House, 140 Eastern Avenue, Milton Park, OX14 4SB opening on 20<sup>th</sup> February at 10 a.m. Lesley Coffey, an Inspector instructed by the Secretary of State will hold the inquiry. Members of the public can participate in the inquiry by contacting [Planning@Oxfordshire.gov.uk](mailto:Planning@Oxfordshire.gov.uk)

f) **Football pitches spring renovation works.** Quotations have been received from Elite Sports Turf to carry out the maintenance of the football pitches on the recreation ground in Berinsfield. Two treatments will be required, one during the Spring and one during the Autumn. The Parish Council has included funds in its budget for 2024-25 towards the cost of the works and it has also obtained a grant from the Football Foundation. It was AGREED that the quotation from Elite Sports Turf should be accepted and that dates should be arranged for the works to be carried out.

**Spring renovation.**

Scarify with BM50 and collect debris – green waste removal will be required	£1750
Vertidrain at 5 inch centres	£1025
Supply and apply 3 cultivar Ryegrass mix using Disc seeder in three directions	£2125
Supply and apply 5 – 6 month CRF Fertiliser	£1250
Selective weedkiller application with Praxys herbicide	£525
Haulage	£200
60 tonnes of sand dressing to alleviate undulations	£3800
Total	<u>£10,675 plus VAT</u>

**Autumn works**

Early Autumn fertiliser application	£1100
Early Autumn Vertidrain	£1025
November Shockwave	<u>£1050</u>
Total	<u>£3175 plus VAT</u>

g) **Deep Cleanse in Berinsfield.** The Parish Council noted that South Oxfordshire District Council would be carrying out a deep cleanse in Berinsfield from 19<sup>th</sup> – 21<sup>st</sup> March 2024 which would include litter picking, sweeping and removing weeds and moss on pavements and land to which the public is permitted access and is under the direct control of the District Council. It was AGREED to inform South Oxfordshire District Council that the road requires sweeping in Green Furlong and the areas outside both parades of shops require deep cleaning and weed removal as well as the paths in the village that are under the control of South Oxfordshire District Council.

h) **Enforcement action, 37 Lodden Avenue, Berinsfield.** The Parish Council noted that South Oxfordshire District Council has allowed the owners of 37 Lodden Avenue to have an extension until the 29<sup>th</sup> February 2024 to comply with the enforcement notice on the property which requires them to take down the first floor extension. The owners have asked for the extension of time in order to take delivery of windows they have ordered. The Parish Council AGREED to note the information.

i) **Rugby Posts.** The Parish Council has ordered the rugby posts and they should be delivered and installed at the end of February 2024.

j) **Replacement panel for bus shelter on A4074.** It was AGREED that an order should be placed with GW Shelters to supply and install a replacement panel of polycarbonate in the northbound bus shelter on the A4074 at a cost of £395.96. The works are required due to the existing panel being vandalised.

k) **Flooding at junction of Fane Drive and Burcot Lane.** Following the flooding that occurred at the junction of Fane Drive and Burcot Lane, South Oxfordshire District Council arranged for two road gullies to be cleaned and will also reinstate the damage that occurred to their open spaces in the area.

l) **Elaine's ditch.** The Drainage Engineer from South Oxfordshire District Council will be inspecting the District Council's stretch of Elaine's ditch to see if further works are required.

12. **Statement of Accounts for payment in February 2024.** It was AGREED that the statement of accounts for payment in February 2024 in the sum of £20,392.69 should be approved.

13. **Bank statements.** The bank statements for January were circulated at the meeting and the balances were noted by the Parish Council.

14. **Items for report to Chairman.**

a) **Berinsfield Health and Wellbeing Survey Report January 2024.** A copy of the report had been circulated electronically to all Members of the Parish Council and the contents were noted.

15. **Date of next meeting – 4<sup>th</sup> March, 2024**