

BERINSFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk to the Council : Alex Marasco

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**You are summoned to attend the meeting of
Berinsfield Parish Council which will take place on
Monday 2nd December 2024 at 7.15 p.m. in
The Church Hall, Wimblestraw Road, Berinsfield OX10 7LW**

25th November, 2024

Alex Marasco
Clerk to the Council

AGENDA

1. **Items raised by Members of the public.**
2. **Apologies for absence.**
3. **Declaration of Interests.** To receive declarations of any personal or prejudicial interest under consideration on this agenda in accordance with the Parish Councils (Model Code of Conduct) Order 2001.
4. **County Councillor's Report.**
5. **District Councillor's Report.**
6. **To receive and approve the Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 4th November, 2024.**
7. **To receive and approve the Minutes of the Finance Committee meeting held on 18th November, 2024.** Recommendations from the Finance Committee meeting are as follows:
 - a. The precept for the year 2025-2026 should be £152,500.
 - b. Fees for the burial ground, the Pavilion and allotment plots should be increased, as shown in the attached schedule.
 - c. A&W Grounds should be advised to stop their current work of locking the burial ground gates.
 - d. The NJC pay recommendations for local government services should be agreed. Pay rates shown in the attached schedule.
8. **Precept 2025-26** Subject to the approval of the Minutes of the Finance & General Purposes Committee meeting held on 18th November, 2024, the Parish Council is asked to resolve that the precept for 2025 - 26 should be £152,500.00, an increase of 4.81%.
9. **To consider planning applications and decisions received to date (if any).**

10. **UK SPF Funding for Berinsfield. Design and construction of a new pump track. Design and construction of an extension to the existing skateboard park. Repairs to the existing skateboard park.** To receive an update on the progress of the planning application and any other relevant information relating to the projects.
11. **Abbey Woods Spinney.** To receive an update on the progress of the Abbey Woods Spinney scheme and any information arising between meetings. The Parish Council is asked to consider an operation model for the Forest School in the Abbey Woods Spinney.
12. **PO Box for Written Correspondence.** The Parish Council is asked to consider the purchase of a PO Box for official written correspondence. A PO Box will allow the Clerk to retain privacy in not publishing their full address in public. The cost is £424.20 for a 12 month period.
13. **The Pavilion Fees.** Councillors are asked to consider the fees for use of The Pavilion and if they are currently set out in the optimum form.
14. **Remembrance Day Service.** The Parish Council received a commemorative plate from the relatives of former service personnel stationed at Berinsfield. Councillors are asked to consider the best use and location for this.
15. **Social Media.** Councillors are asked to consider whether the Parish Council should instruct the Clerk to create a social media presence for Berinsfield Parish Council in order to engage residents.
16. **Method of Receiving Agendas, Minutes and Correspondence.** The Parish Council is asked to consider whether agendas, minutes and correspondence should be sent electronically on an optional basis, in line with “THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT (ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATIONS) (ENGLAND) ORDER 2015” legislation.
17. **Internal Audit.** The Parish Council is recommended to consider the appointment of Theresa Goss as Internal Auditor of Berinsfield Parish Council accounts 2024-2025. The cost of which is £350, there is an additional surcharge of £70.00 for late provision of documents, £0.45 per mile for mileage and £35.00 per hour for any hours over the original 8 hours provided for.
18. **Correspondence and items for information.**
 - a) **Communication From a Resident Regarding Fireworks.** A resident sent emails on two occasions complaining about fireworks outside of 5th November. The resident’s complaint specifically mentions displays that were taking place on days that are not 5th November. This includes the display held on The Recreation Ground.
 - b) **Dangerous Surface to Footpath Adjacent to Wimblestraw Road.** The Clerk met with a resident who fell on an uneven surface near Wimblestaw Road. This has been reported to Highways Engagement.
 - c) **Bottle Bank within Berinsfield.** Correspondence has been received from a resident on two occasions during November detailing the recycling bottle bank not being emptied and bottles sat on the floor outside of the bank. SODC have advised that they are not always able to gain access due to parked vehicles. The resident that reported the matter has suggested installing a barrier.
 - d) **Berinsfield Community Insight Enhancing Health and Wellbeing Grant Scheme.** The grant scheme panel will be meeting at the Pavilion on Tuesday 3rd December. The Parish Council is asked to provide the Pavilion for this meeting at no charge.

- e) **Oxfordshire County Council - Various Roads (South & Vale Districts) - Proposed Disabled Persons Parking Places.** The Parish Council is invited to comment on the proposals to provide additional 'Disabled Persons Parking Places' (and also remove ones no longer required) at various locations throughout the South and Vale districts of Oxfordshire. Details are available to view at https://letstalk.oxfordshire.gov.uk/southvale_dppp_nov2024 . Comments should be made before the deadline of Friday 20th December, 2024.
 - f) **Handover of Clerk Duties.** A handover “roadmap” has been produced for the transfer of duties between the previous Clerk and the current Clerk. Duties are being transferred as per the earliest convenience of both members of staff.
 - g) **Salting of The Recreation Ground.** A&W Grounds have been asked to provide a quote for the salting of paths around The Recreation Ground during the winter. A quote has been received at 2 hours per occasion, £35.00 per hour.
 - h) **Construction of Pétanque Court.** Construction has been underway for a Pétanque Court within Berinsfield. Residents have reported that they were not aware of this construction and have raised concerns around water mains and access.
 - i) **South Oxfordshire District Council – Investment in Gym Equipment within Berinsfield.** South Oxfordshire District Council have issued correspondence to inform the Parish Council of investment in gym equipment in Park Sports Centre in Wheatley, Abbey Sports Centre in Berinsfield and Thame Leisure Centre worth £210,000.
19. **Statement of Accounts for payment in December.** To be circulated at the meeting.
20. **Bank Statements.** To inspect the balances on the bank statements for the Parish Council’s three accounts and to sign the reconciliation.
21. **Items for report to Chairman.**
22. **Date of next Parish Council Meeting** - 6th January, 2025.