

BERINSFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk to the Council: Alex Marasco

Berinsfield PC, PO Box 4987, Swindon DO, SN3 9GQ

Tel: 07491152091 Email: clerk@berinsfield-pc.gov.uk Website: www.berinsfield-pc.gov.uk

**You are summoned to attend the meeting of
Berinsfield Parish Council which will take place on
Monday 3rd February 2025 at 7.15pm in
The Church Hall, Wimblestraw Road, Berinsfield OX10 7LW**

20th January 2025

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 6th January 2025.**
7. **To consider planning applications and decisions received to date (if any).**
 - a) P24/S3955/S73 - The Berin Centre, Wimblestraw Road, Berinsfield - Removal of condition 6 (BREEAM rating) on application P24/S0483/FUL (Proposed community cafe) - not financially viable to achieve the target.
 - b) P24/S3655/HH – 60 Cherwell Road, Berinsfield, OX10 7PA – Garage Conversion. Decision Received – Planning Permission.
8. **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.
9. **Abbey Woods Spinney.** To receive an update on the progress of the Abbey Woods Spinney scheme and any information arising between meetings.
 - a) Tree works are due to be carried out in Abbey Woods Spinney on 7th February with the removal of a Scots Pine tree.

- b) Two new Scots Pine trees are being purchased in line with the TPO that was granted. A&W Grounds have submitted a quote for the planting of the trees of £160.00.
 - c) A magnifying post has been purchased and delivered to A&W Grounds who will be installing it as part of the quoted for grounds work.
10. **Open Spaces Committee.** The Open Spaces committee meeting will take place on 5th February 2025, at The Berin Centre, Wimblesstraw Road, Berinsfield.
11. **The Pavilion.** On 11th January 2025, a leak occurred in the loft of the Pavilion which led to extensive flooding and the collapse of the ceiling to the meeting room. The meeting room, kitchen, toilets and hall have been affected and there is flooding to the walls and ceiling.
- a) The Clerk has initiated an insurance claim for the damage to the Pavilion. At present the insurers have appointed a loss adjuster and a drying contractor. The drying contractors have provided a date of 4th February to attend site. The Clerk is enquiring with insurers if we can appoint another drying contractor sooner.
 - b) The Clerk has contacted all users to inform them that the Pavilion is not in a usable condition.
 - c) All three football teams have been affected by the damage sustained at the Pavilion. One of the football teams has negotiated the use of Abbey Sports Centre facilities during the closure of the Pavilion. This football team has asked for a reduction in the cost of the hire of the pitches, in lieu of the use of the Pavilion. The Parish Council is asked to consider this request.
12. **Internal Audit.** An interim audit report has been submitted by Theresa Goss, appointed internal auditor. The report will be circulated to councillors with this agenda.
- a) The Council is asked to consider providing the Clerk with a debit card, in order to make purchases, as recommended by the internal auditor.
 - b) The Parish Council is asked to consider adopting a ‘Reserves Policy’ and publishing it on its website.
 - c) The Parish Council is asked to consider adopting an ‘Investments Policy’.
 - d) The Internal Auditor recommended that the Parish Council considered engaging the services of a payroll company to complete payroll for its members of staff monthly.
13. **Berinsfield Regeneration Strategy.** A consultation survey has now been opened for the regeneration strategy of Berinsfield. The Parish Council is asked to consider a response to this survey.
14. **Berinsfield Neighbourhood Plan.** The Berinsfield Neighbourhood Development Plan referendum will be held on 6th February 2025.
- a) Various local groups are organising meet ups and walks to the polling station.
15. **Correspondence and items for information.**
- a) Commemorative Plate – The Clerk has had discussions with the library regarding the commemorative plate that was gifted to the Parish Council by relatives of service personnel stationed on Berinsfield. The library has agreed to take the plaque, subject to its viewing.

- b) Green Lane – A&W Grounds have reported that Green Lane hedges (area no. 24 of the maintenance contract) has become overgrown either side and access is becoming restricted. They have provided a quote of £450.00 for the cutting back of these hedges.
- c) Crutch Furlong – Communication has been received from a resident regarding maintenance of the grass verges in Crutch Furlong. A&W Grounds have been made aware and will attend the site to assess and cut back any overgrowth.
- d) The Berin Centre – Men In Sheds Project – The Clerk met with Sue Bright from The Berin Centre to discuss a project that they are bringing to Berinsfield. The Berin Centre is interested in the use of outdoor space in the carpark at the Pavilion for this project which supports mental health. The Parish Council is asked to consider if this space can be provided, and for what charge.
- e) Christmas Lights – Mr Garvey kindly volunteered to display the Christmas lights on behalf of the Parish Council in 2024. At present, he is not able to remove the lights. Mr Garvey has suggested that the Parish Council may like to consider leaving the lights up year-round, but removing the batteries. He believes that this will be easier for the Parish Council in future years.
- f) Meeting with Freddie Van Mierlo MP – A date has been set for a meeting between Freddie Van Mierlo MP and the Parish Council. The meeting is scheduled to take place at 10.00am on Friday 11th April 2025 at the Pavilion, Lay Avenue.
- g) The Clerk is now operating a social media presence for Berinsfield Parish Council. Councillors are asked to note that the Facebook page has the user name BerinsfieldParishCouncil.

- 16. **Statement of Accounts for payment in January.** To be circulated at the meeting.
- 17. **Bank Statements.** To inspect the balances on the bank statements for the Parish Council's three accounts and to sign the reconciliation.
- 18. **Items for report to Chairman.**
- 19. **Date of next Parish Council Meeting** - 3rd March 2025.