

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF BERINSFIELD PARISH COUNCIL held on Monday 7<sup>th</sup> March, 2022 in the Church Hall, Wimblestraw Road, Berinsfield, Oxon.**

**PRESENT :** Councillor B. Fearneyhough in the Chair  
Councillor I. Bunyan  
Councillor K. Chrisp  
Councillor S. Crawford  
Councillor S. Henry  
Councillor Mrs. A. Jones  
Councillor D. Scate

The following people were present at the meeting.

Mrs. A. Loveland, Clerk to the Council  
County and District Councillor Bennett was present from item No. 7(b)  
12 members of the public

**1. Items raised by Members of the public**

**a) Planning application P21/S5300/FUL** Conversion and extension of existing bungalow into 2 x 2 bed chalet units with wellness areas. 13 Bullingdon Avenue, Berinsfield, OX10 7PL. Several residents from Bullingdon Avenue attended the meeting to express their concerns about the planning application to convert the existing bungalow into 2 x 2 bed chalet units with wellness areas. The residents pointed out that each of the proposed ground floor bedrooms would have an ensuite bathroom and this, together with the proposed additional kitchen, would put additional pressure on the existing sewerage system which is already at capacity. The residents also have concerns about the design of the proposed conversion which is out of character with the other bungalows in the road by having an extension at the front of the property, whereas existing extensions have been built to the rear of the properties. The plans show a skylight on the first floor, which would overlook a neighbouring property and the windows in the wellness areas on the first floor would overlook neighbouring gardens. Residents also pointed out that there were only two car parking spaces shown on the plans and this would result in any additional vehicles associated with the property possibly parking in the turning area which is located in front of 13 Bullingdon Avenue. The Parish Council also noted the concerns of residents that the proposals to convert the property to 2 x 2 chalet units would result in the loss of one of the few bungalows located in Berinsfield.

The Chairman informed the residents of Bullingdon Avenue that the Parish Council would be discussing the application during the formal part of the Parish Council meeting and recommended that all residents should make their concerns known to South Oxfordshire District Council, as it is that authority that will be making the decision with regard to the application.

**b) Request for 30 mph Speed Limit – Burcot Lane, Berinsfield.** A member of the public asked if it would be possible to get the speed limit in Burcot Lane reduced from the national speed limit of 60 mph to 30 mph to assist people who wish to walk along the road to do so in reasonable safety. The Parish Council noted the information and agreed to liaise with Oxfordshire County Council about this. The Parish Council was also asked about having a 20 mph speed limit in the village. This Parish Council will discuss this with County Councillor Robin Bennett.

**2. Apologies for absence** were received from Councillors Bridge, Croft, Light and Scott-Ely.

**3. Declaration of Interests.** Members were asked to declare any personal or prejudicial interests under consideration at the meeting.

**4. County Councillor's Report.** County Councillor Robin Bennett had prepared a written report which had been circulated to all Members of the Parish Council. The contents of the report were noted by the Parish Council.

**5. District Councillor's Report.** District Councillor Robin Bennett had prepared a written report which had been circulated to all Members of the Parish Council. The contents of the report were noted by the Parish Council.

**6. To receive and approve the Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 7<sup>th</sup> February, 2022.** It was AGREED that the Minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held on 7<sup>th</sup> February, 2022 should be APPROVED.

**a) Request for double socket to be installed in Store Room at Pavilion.** Councillor Scate informed the meeting that he had met with the Chairman of the Football Club to inspect the batteries for the floodlights. He does not consider that the batteries would pose any risk if they were to be charged at the pavilion. It was AGREED that the Parish Council should discuss this matter further at the Finance Committee meeting to be held on 21<sup>st</sup> March, 2022.

**7. To consider planning applications and decisions received to date.**

**a) Decision on Application No. P21/S5167/LDP** Single storey rear extension of 3 m as shown on associated drawings. Land at 37 Lodden Avenue, Berinsfield OX10 7PY. The Parish Council noted that South Oxfordshire District Council had issued a Certificate of Lawful use or Development. It was noted that the Chairman, Vice-Chairman and Clerk had met with the Planning Officer following receipt of this decision.

**b) Planning Application No. P21/S5300/FUL.** Conversion and extension of existing bungalow into 2 x 2 bed chalet units with wellness area. 13 Bullingdon Avenue, Berinsfield OX10 7PL. The Parish Council considered this application and it was AGREED that South Oxfordshire District Council should be informed that the Parish Council objects to the application for the following reasons :-

- i) Over-development of the site.
- ii) The proposed development would be out of character with other properties in the area.
- iii) The sewerage system in the area is already at capacity with frequent blockages occurring and the waste from the additional bathrooms and kitchen would put increased stress on the system.
- iv) The proposal to convert the property into two units would result in additional traffic movements in Bullingdon Avenue, which is a narrow no through road with a turning area located at the end of the road, outside No. 13 Bullingdon Avenue. The plans show one parking space for each converted property which could result in additional vehicles from the properties being parked in the turning area, causing problems for drivers who need to turn around.
- v) The additional windows in the rear of the proposed properties will overlook the garden of the adjoining property and the skylight in unit 2 will face the adjoining property.

vi) The proposed conversion of 13 Bullingdon Avenue into two chalet units with wellness area will result in the loss of one of the few bungalows in Berinsfield.

c) **Planning decision. P22/S0005/FUL.** Replacement garage block to re-provide seven terraced domestic garages (part retrospective). Garage block to rear of 32-36 Lodden Avenue, Berinsfield OX10 7QB. The Parish Council noted that planning permission had been granted in respect of this application.

8. **Casual Vacancy on Berinsfield Parish Council.** The Parish Council was informed that there have not been any applications from eligible persons to fill the casual vacancy. It was AGREED that the vacancy should continue to be advertised.

9. **Correspondence and Items for Information.**

a) **Queen's Platinum Jubilee.** The Parish Council noted that the two flowering Cherry trees had been planted on the recreation ground near to the adult gym equipment and that the small spinney area near to the flowering Cherry trees had been cleared and would continue to be maintained to keep it clear from brambles etc. The Parish Council considered whether it would be appropriate to provide a seat in the area, as there are no seats nearby, and that a plaque could be installed on it to commemorate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee. It was AGREED that a suitable metal seat should be purchased and installed near to the flowering Cherry trees and that a plaque should be purchased and installed on it to commemorate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee.

b) **Grant aid from Berinsfield Parish Council.** The Parish Council noted that the grant aid scheme is currently being advertised in Your Village Voice, on the notice board and on the website. Applications will be discussed at the Finance Committee meeting to be held on 21<sup>st</sup> March, 2022.

c) **Water/waste supply to the Pavilion, and water supply to Burial Ground and Allotments.** The Parish Council noted the information contained in the agenda regarding the water and waste supply to the Pavilion and the water supply to the Burial Ground and Allotments. It was also noted that it would be possible to change the administration of the water and waste services from Castle Water to Everflow at a slightly lower administration charge. It was AGREED that the Clerk should be authorised to negotiate with Everflow with a view to changing the billing and administration for the Parish Council's water services from Castle Water to Everflow.

d) **Community Table Tennis.** The Parish Council was informed that South Oxfordshire District Council was working with Table Tennis England to install table tennis tables around the District and that one could be provided in Berinsfield, subject to grant funding being available from Table Tennis England. The Parish Council would need to identify a site and provide a suitable base for the table. The Parish Council considered the information and it was AGREED that South Oxfordshire District Council should be informed that Berinsfield would like a table tennis table and that this matter should be included on the agenda for the Finance Committee & General Purposes Committee meeting to further discussion about a suitable site and provision of a base.

e) **Nuisance caused by spectators at football matches kicking balls against the walls of properties located adjacent to the recreation ground.** The Parish Council considered the information contained in the agenda about ways in which spectators watching matches on the recreation ground could be advised not to kick footballs against the gable end walls of properties located adjacent to the recreation ground. It was AGREED that the

Football Club should be asked to monitor the situation in the first instance and, if required, advise anybody seen kicking balls in that location to move to another area of the field.

f) **Fallen tree, Glyme Drive Open Space.** The Parish Council noted that a large tree had fallen on the Glyme Drive Open Space and that arrangements are in hand to get the tree removed.

g) **Community Litter Picking.** The Parish Council AGREED to pay for the refreshments to be provided at the Youth Centre following the community litter pick being organised by the Church of St. Mary and St. Berin on 26<sup>th</sup> March, 2022. The Clerk was authorised to liaise with the Youth Club with regard to paying for the refreshments, which are estimated to be approximately £50.00.

10. **Statement of Accounts for payment in March, 2022.** It was AGREED that the statement of accounts in the sum of £6,698.68 should be APPROVED.

11. **Date of next meeting – 4<sup>th</sup> April, 2022**

12. **Confidential Items.**

Due to the confidential nature of the business to be transacted it was recommended that the public and press be excluded for the consideration of these items.

a) To receive and approve the Confidential Minutes of the meeting of Berinsfield Parish Council held on 7<sup>th</sup> February, 2022.

