**Notes from Berinsfield Garden Village Association**

Date: Tuesday 11th May 2021

Time: 6pm

Venue: Zoom

## Present:

Annette Loveland (Clerk for Berinsfield Parish Council)

Linda Town (Manager of the Library)

Stephen Perkins (Football Club, Berinsfield PC)

Phil Bridge (Vice Chair Berinsfield PC)

Stuart Scott-Ely (Chair of Berinsfield PC)

Sophie Charter (Head of Abbey Woods Academy)

Caroline Wade (Manager BIVC and group Chair)

Laura Harte (Manager of The Berin Centre)

Jackie Logan (Engagement and Communities Manager Soha)

Kim Jones (Berinsfield Community Association)

Daniel Scate (Health & Safety Advisor, and Berinsfield resident)

## Apologies:

Mel Corrigan (Boxing Club)

# Agenda Items

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|  | **Community Events**Summer of fun is starting with events at the church but inclement weather has made it difficult to put decorations in place.Expecting the Youth Club to confirm that they’ll organise a scarecrow hunt.The fair is still due to be coming to Berinsfield this year from the 28th June – 5th July (open to the public Thursday – Sunday). The fair organisers have received positive feedback from SODC, environmental health, and local town councils as to it’s Covid precautions. Dan Scate offered to informally check the fair once it’s set up to ensure we’re satisfied with covid precautions and social distancing in line with current guidance.3rd August Oxfordshire Play Association (OPA) Play Day in partnership with The Berin Centre.YOCO football tournament event on the 14th of August.BIVC have updated their [online calendar](https://teamup.com/ksv3gkoxqchxrxdkeh?fbclid=IwAR1_zoJd9Drj3GV8Gl8D9XWDsZt_NDLUmcz4O7cYb0dv6sCjYNC7IOi-aIU) with local community events, with dates listed as ‘TBC’.Caroline has spoken to Mike Light (Berry Nature) re: the sunflower growing competition and making hedgehog houses in the Autumn. Sophie still awaiting DFE guidance in order to organise the school sports day, but expects it to go ahead.Linda reports that the Library expects to do the Summer Reading Challenge from the beginning of July through to the end of September.Stuart announced that the British National Waterski championships will be held on the 12th-15th August at Queenford Lakes, and the public are welcome. There will be both able-bodied and disabled competitors, and the finals will be held on the Sunday.The Berin Centre Community Larder is moving back inside the main building from Wednesday the 19th of May, meaning members can choose their own items.BCA will be organising events over the coming months, now that government guidance is being refreshed. |  |
|  | **Communication to Village**Garden Village Steering Group are looking to have a public residents engagement meeting, potentially in June. |  |
|  | **Update on the Garden Village and SODC plans for regeneration**No real updates as yet, next meeting on Thursday. Have made clear that this group should be the conduit for resident engagement. Stuart has drafted some ideas for spend of Garden Village funds to come directly into the village. Laura & Caroline have been invited to Thursday’s meeting by Robin Bennet, to explore the possibility of some additional capacity being put into both organisations to help support resident participation in the plans.Phil reminded everyone to complete the questionnaire about local organisations if they haven’t already. Jackie will compile ideas from the questionnaire, from Stuart, and any other sources to present suggestions comprehensively at Thursday’s meeting about projects or investments that would benefit from funding. **Jackie will circulate this list along with the minutes.**All attendees went through Jackie’s existing list pooling ideas.Stuart reminded the group that we signed up to 1700 houses on the condition that we also got a new school, sports centre, health centre, and community hub. Details are still very vague so perhaps we should try to take the lead, incorporate these items into the neighbourhood plan and include costings.Jackie feels we need to know how much money is available for residents to be able to make informed decisions. Believes that SODC will want to see partnership working and collaboration in any proposals.Caroline feels SODC should hear first-hand how the community feels about needing to repeat the consultation process.Linda had a visit from Arthur Tizard (part of the Garden Village project team, SODC) asking what the library wants and what the public wants around the proposed developments. Linda voiced to him her dissatisfaction with the process to date. Arthur suggested corporate sponsorship of developments would be the most viable route.Sophie reports that the school has had no contact from the council, and neither has the Trust, regarding the Garden Village plans.Parish Council has met with Abbey Brown, an artist, to discuss improving the village signage. |  |
|  | **AOB** Should Parish Council have something at the Fete to try to engage residents about Garden Village plans? Stuart feels asking residents broadly what they think is the wrong approach, and instead we should encourage SODC to have a stall and share their proposal, so that people can give feedback.Caroline asked if we should invite Garden Village decision-makers to this meeting to ask them questions and deepen discussion – group agreed this may be useful after June.Membership of this meeting will remain open to ensure transparency and good communication.Phil raised a query about community ownership of community use buildings, which Stuart gave clarification on.Caroline has received feedback that many residents weren’t aware of the elections and felt it wasn’t well advertised. |  |
|  | NEXT MEETING: Wait until restrictions have eased on June 21st if possible. Aim to put in our next meeting shortly before SODC’s public consultation meeting about the Garden Village plans. |  |