

**Present:****Councillors**

Paul Wooldridge, Mike Wykes, John Simms, and Paul Darby.

In attendance:

County Councillor Bob Johnston
 District Councillor Emily Smith
 Brian Rixon – Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer
 2 Parishioners

25/23**Questions and comments from visiting councillors and members of the public**

County Councillor Bob Johnston commented on social media reaction to adjustments to the school bus scheme. He also said the planning application for the Lodge Hill interchange will go before the full Planning and Regulatory Committee in June and the slip roads should be started in autumn.

District Councillors Emily Smith confirmed the 5-year housing plan is now in place. Also, the Abingdon Walking and Cycling Route is now on the agenda again, but no funds are available until new S106 funds are agreed.

26/23**Apologies for absence.**

Parish Councillors Colin Weyer, Gina Bale and James Greenman

27/23**Declarations of members' interests in respect of any item.**

No declaration was made.

28/23**To approve the Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 23 February 2023.**

The Council unanimously **RESOLVED** that the minutes from the council meeting on 23rd February be accepted as a true record and be signed by the Chairman.

29/23**Planning applications**

The following planning applications were considered: -

Reference	Location	Proposal	Parish Council response
P23/V0637/HH	1 Woodland Cottages Bayworth	Replace garage and add shed and study	No objection but recommendation that it is ancillary to the main house.
P23/V0492/LDP	TLA Fitness premises	Change of use to include sale of farm produce	No objection or comment.
P23/V0610/HH	The Barn House	Side and rear extensions	No objection or comment.

30/23	Village Hall car park.
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Signage

Following adverse comments from Parishioners, the parking signs at the Village Hall car park were temporarily removed.

The Council acknowledged the concerns raised by residents to the wording on the signs and re-acted accordingly.

The Council welcomed the constructive comments from Parishioners and unanimously agreed not to display any signage in the car park at the present time.

Safety measurements

Cllr Mike Wykes reported on his investigation to seek advice and costing of safety barriers to be installed on the car park with the aim of stopping vehicles from impacting with the boundary fences. Two different solutions were forthcoming and were discussed against the detailed specifications that Cllr Mike Wykes had explained to the alternative contractors.

The Council unanimously RESOLVED that wooden bollards will be inserted with a spacing of 1500mm for a length of 20m on the Pond Cottage boundary and 18.5m on the Church View boundary. The total cost will be £3,096 including VAT to be funded by reducing the previously agreed budget for a traffic survey relating to the Lodge Hill interchanges.

31/23	Children's playground on the cricket field.
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The parish council has contacted the cricket club to suggest that the children's playground should be significantly updated. It is hoped a meeting between the parish council and the cricket club can be arranged soon to discuss the proposed project.

It was noted that the scheme for a playground upgrade had been discussed in previous council meetings and it was generally recognized that, being beyond the financial capacity of the parish council, it would have to be funded by grants from pertinent bodies (TOE etc) and that this would be the basis for progressing an upgrade scheme.

If the cost of a playground upgrade were found not to be realizable through grant funding, then a refurbishment of the existing playground (needed anyway at some point in the near term on grounds of aging of existing playground apparatus) could be funded from the SPC budget at a target project cost of £20k to £40k maximum, of which £10k is covered in the 2023/24 budget year.

32/23	Lest We Forget benches for Bayworth Triangle.
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In March last year the council agreed to contribute up to £700 towards the purchase of two "Lest We Forget" benches for Bayworth Triangle.

Councillor Paul Darby has made good progress in raising funds and sought confirmation from the council that the part funding would still be available.

The Council unanimously RESOLVED that it would fund up to £700 towards the project and the budget for the new financial year would be amended accordingly.

33/23	Election information: -
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The current membership of the Parish Council will retire on Tuesday 9th May following the election on the 4th of May. This does not apply to the Chairman who will remain in office until a successor is appointed at the council meeting on Thursday 25th May.

The March financial statement was presented and approved.

This included the receipt of £7.96 bank interest and the following payments: -

Clerk	Salary, Office supplies.	744.78
HMRC	PAYE	140.20
Sage Payroll	Monthly subscription	8.40
Geoff Taylor	Install village hall signs and posts	130.00
Oxford Association of Local Councils	Annual subscription	194.39
Sloane & Sons	Coronation bench for village hall car park	839.00
Society of Local Council Clerks	Annual membership	70.00
Cllr Paul Wooldridge	Chain and padlock for Coronation bench	16.84
Parish Online	Mapping software annual subscription	45.00
Geoff Taylor	Extend base for Coronation bench	181.00
Treescape	Pollarding of pond willow tree	1320.00
Storm Fireworks	Deposit 25% for 4 th November 2023 display	412.50
Geoff Taylor	Fix Coronation bench to base and post	30.00
Paul Copestake	Move Bayworth white gates and refurbish	520.00

The next Parish Council Meetings will be on **Thursday 27 April 2023 at **7:30 p.m.**
in **Sunningwell Village Hall****

The Chairman closed the February meeting at 9:15 p.m.