

# Babraham Parish Council: Minutes of Meeting held 10th Feb 2022

Present:

Stuart Laurie

Jane Goody

Charlotte Rogers

Clerk: Anne Charteris

Cllr Brian Milnes (County Councillor)

Chris Chapman (BRC )

Members of the public: 4

	<p><b>Part I: Non-Confidential Information</b></p>
2202/01	<p><b>To receive and approve apologies for absence</b> Peter McDonald- Cllr Brian Milnes spoke on his behalf</p>
2202/02	<p><b>To receive members' declaration of interest for items on this agenda</b></p>
2202/03	<p><b>To co-opt new Parish Councillors</b> As the Council was quorate with minimum number of members (3), dispensation was given to Jane Goody to be able to vote. There were three candidates and after hearing from them, and after a close run vote was taken, the two Councillors co-opted were Denise Dear and Damon Stanwell-Smith. The third candidate was thanked for applying and if still interested, asked to stand when the May elections were held. The two new Councillors then joined the other Councillors.</p>
2202/04	<p><b>To sign and approve minutes of meeting dated 13th Jan 2022</b> Agreed by all and signed off.</p>
2202/05	<p><b>Exclusion of the public</b> To determine which items, if any, from Part 1 of the Agenda should be taken with the public excluded.</p>
2202/06	<p><b>Public participation time – 15 minutes allowed</b> One resident voiced concern that the speed restrictions due to start the following week did not extend past the turn to Oak Close. Cllr Milnes said that it is too late to change things now as work due to start next week. Wait and see how the speed restrictions work and then look into further measures later on if required, Another resident asked if more policing in the village would be possible to ensure cars keep to the speed limit and not speed up between the bumps., Cllr Milnes said this shouldn't be necessary as cars don't usually do this. Speed sign in the village will be changed from 30 to 20mph.</p>
2202/07	<p><b>Report from South Cambridgeshire District Councillor P McDonald</b> Full report circulated to Councillors and posted on the website. Main points are: <b>Council Tax:</b> It is proposed to increase the S Cambs element by £5 to £160 for a band D property so a rise of 3.4%. The 3 year plan includes savings of c £1.5m over the next 3 years.</p>

	<p><b>CCC Budget:</b> The Joint Administration is to proposing a 4.99% rise in order to close the authority's £16m budget gap this year. Next year's funding gap is likely to be even worse. 4.99% would mean an extra charge of £1.04 per week for a Band B, and £1.19 for a Band C household. More than half of all homes in Cambridgeshire are in these two bands. Local government experts who visited in summer highlighted that historic decisions not to raise council tax in previous years had led to significant ongoing lost income to support services. The council is also proposing to set up and spend a £14m fund over the next five years to tackle inequality, improve lives and care for the environment.</p> <p><b>Fire Authority Budget:</b> Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Fire Authority is asking residents to have their say on proposals to increase the fire service's share of council tax for 2022/23. The Service is looking for a below inflation increase of £1.44 (around 2%) for the year, making the total contribution for the year £74.97 for a resident living in a Band D property.</p> <p><b>Police Budget:</b> Police funding comes from two main sources: 56% from central government (excluding specific grants) and the remainder from the policing part of council tax. In line with government guidance, the PCC is asking for people's views on his proposed increase of £10 per year (83p per month based on a Band D property). This, together with an increase of £4.8m from government (excluding specific grants), would enable the Chief Constable to further maintain, invest and support in three key areas.</p> <p><b>20's Plenty :</b> Progress on introducing new 20mph speed limits to improve transport safety in Cambridgeshire was discussed at the Highways and Transport Committee on Jan 25<sup>th</sup>. The Council is looking to establish a new process for the implementation of 20mph schemes. This would allow third parties – such as Parish Councils - to make an application for a 20mph limit in their chosen area, with a number of schemes then progressing following a period of assessment and prioritisation.</p> <p><b>Health and social care reforms juggling act</b> A major reorganization of health and social care is happening now, with legislation in the process of passing through Parliament. The reforms include raising money through the National Insurance contributions that working people pay; widening eligibility for County-funded social care from about 4% of the population now to an estimated 14%, in Cambridgeshire (which must be paid for of course); and requiring the local NHS (our local GPs, hospitals, etc) and the Local Public Health and Social Care Authority (Cambridgeshire County Council) to collaborate and integrate, and think at a 'neighbourhood' level.</p>
2202/08	<p><b>Report from Cambridgeshire County Councillors Brian Milnes and Maria King</b> Report circulated and posted on website. Points are the same as in Cllr McDonalds report</p>
2202/09	<p><b>Report from Babraham Research Campus (BRC) representative</b> Local Highways Initiative- most of the Campus is in favour of the scheme. There have been requests to open the Kiosk entrance in the village, however this will continue to be for the use of the Close residents and the Nursery users only. Local Plan- options are in the vision for growth. Chris Chapman said he would like to meet with the Parish Council to show the Vision to them, a date and time to be arranged. A later date will be arranged to show the village. BRC have been working with Hannah Thomas on the Forest Garden project.</p>
2202/10	<p><b>Clerk's Report</b> Form to reclaim VAT total of £2149.85 has been submitted, awaiting payment.</p>
2202/11	<p><b>Forest Garden Project.</b> To hear and comment on updates from Hannah Thomas</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Forest Garden Working Group</b> – A small 'Working Group' has been set up to steer the project and help wider engagement with the village</li> <li>2. <b>Trees and accessories have arrived for planting</b></li> </ol>

	<p>Tree guards, bamboo cane supports and all plants ordered from The Forest Garden in Falmouth have arrived. The bare root plants have all been made comfortable in preparation for planting. Four trees are on order locally and due for collection.</p> <p><b>3. Tree planting</b></p> <p>Tree planting days are arranged for Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> and Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> February in the morning and afternoon. On weekdays from 21<sup>st</sup> to 25<sup>th</sup>, morning sessions (9.30-12pm) are being organised depending on demand, and then lunchtime drop in sessions (12.30-2pm) are available for people to join when they can. These sessions have been extremely well received, and so far 68 adults have volunteered, with lots of children!</p> <p><b>4. Communications and outreach</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Website</b> - A Forest Garden page has been established on the Parish Council website, with information on what a Forest Garden is, the project progress and the species layout. Many thanks to Brad Charteris (Anne's husband) for wonderful support.</li> <li>- <b>Social media</b> – regular posts uploaded on Babraham Village Community site and Parish Council site about the emerging Forest Garden and the tree planting days.</li> <li>- <b>Babraham Campus and Institute newsletter</b> – the Marketing Teams for both Campus and Institute were keen to promote the Forest Garden and have shared the poster as part of the Newsletter. Additionally, the Forest Garden poster was circulated around the Green Labs group of environmentally-minded businesses and staff on campus.</li> <li>- <b>Poster</b> - posters describing the Forest Garden and inviting volunteers to join tree planting days were put up around the Forest Garden site. Unfortunately, 5 have been taken down (4 around the site and one at the bus stop). It would be very helpful if Parish Council could actively and visibly support the project, to demonstrate solidarity and remind villagers that this is a Parish council initiative.</li> </ul> <p><b>5. Fencing the Forest Garden area</b></p> <p>Fencing construction has started. The Campus Estate team has been very helpful with trimming the new growth lime tree saplings to make way for the fence line, and in-filling soil to level the uneven ground to reduce additional fencing construction costs.</p> <p><b>6. Engage with the Babraham Primary School</b></p> <p>The Headteacher has agreed that the EcoSquad team of children at the school will be involved in a specific Babraham School tree planting session that will enable the children to take ownership of specific trees in the site and be able to watch them grow.</p> <p>Activities planned for the month ahead</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>1. Fencing</b> Fencing to be finalised.</li> <li><b>2. Tree-planting</b> Around 15 tree planting sessions for both village and Campus groups between 20<sup>th</sup> – 27<sup>th</sup> Feb.</li> <li><b>3. Communications</b> Continued social media posts and flyers/posters will be developed.</li> <li><b>4. Building the raised beds at the Primary School</b> The rebuilding of the School's raised beds has been put on hold until the Forest Garden itself has been planted but the design was approved by EcoSquad children.</li> </ol> <p><b>2202/12 Greater Cambridge Partnership (GCP) Cambridge South East Transport ( CSET)</b> A representative from Stapleford has contacted the PC asking for our support for their plan. We cannot support in its present form and there would need to be changes eg we do not want a Park and Ride in Babraham. If changes are made then we will support them. Sawston PC have said that they are neutral to the plans.</p> <p><b>2202/13 Roads &amp; Traffic</b> Speed reduction work to commence half term week – 14th Feb 2022</p> <p><b>2202/14 Precept</b> To confirm Precept remains at last year's figure of £16144.45 This was voted on and passed unanimously.</p>
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2202/15	<p><b>Cheveley Park Farm Proposals</b> -follow up to last months presentation. No further action to be taken until the results of the decision is known.</p>
2202/16	<p><b>Neighbourhood Plan</b> Neighbourhood Plan Phase 1 - Progress Report February 2022</p> <p>Activities undertaken January to February 2022</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Formal Neighbourhood Plan Working Group</b> – After approval at the last Parish Council, Stuart Laurie replaced Rob Attwood on the Working Group as Parish Council Representative and Treasurer.</li> <li>• <b>Residents’ Survey</b> – The online survey for Babraham residents was open from 21<sup>st</sup> December to 24<sup>th</sup> January 2022 (5 weeks). 74 individual responses were received, and once the data were cleaned to remove obvious duplicate or error responses, we had 72 usable responses for analysis. From the electoral role information, Babraham Parish has 214 adults and 150 households, making the survey response represent an estimated 34% of Babraham Parish voting residents and up to 38% of households.</li> </ul> <p>Analysis is now complete and has been circulated to the NP Working Group for comment and checking. Once the group is happy, the results will be circulated to Parish Councillors, posted on the PC website, noticeboard and social media.</p> <p>Summary of results:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>HOUSING:</b> The majority wanted a low level of housing development in the village, which included affordable housing, and involved environmental sustainability measures, careful design and mitigation measures for the village.</li> <li>• <b>ENVIRONMENT AND GREEN SPACES:</b> &gt;80% said landscapes and views, habitats for wildlife and community green spaces were very important to them, most wanting tree planting/habitat restoration and wildflower verges.</li> <li>• <b>TRANSPORT INFRASTRUCTURE:</b> 79% of respondent did not support the CSET scheme as it stands, but if it did go ahead, 70% supported the Pink Variant Route, compared with 2% who supported the Brown Route.</li> <li>• <b>AMENITIES:</b> Most people felt the school, church, cricket pitch, pub and village hall were all very important. Most people ranked a shop as the number one community facility they’d like in the village, followed closely by a playground. By far the most concerning problem for the majority was traffic speed and/or volume, way ahead of other issues that were sometimes a concern (litter and dog fouling). Most people felt enhancing and joining up safe cycling and walking routes was very important.</li> <li>• <b>BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT:</b> most people answered as residents who did not own their own business or work in Babraham, and the majority were either against more business development in the Parish, or felt it depended on various factors, but only 1% supported more business development.</li> <li>• <b>Babraham Research Campus Vision Document</b> – as an important part of engaging with Babraham businesses and institutions to develop a workable Neighbourhood Plan, members of the NP Working Group met with Chris Chapman on Monday to hear about and discuss the Babraham Campus vision.</li> </ul>
2202/17	<p><b>General Village Matters and new items for discussion</b></p> <p><b>Platinum Jubilee-</b> to discuss how the village would like to celebrate this occasion. Several villagers are getting together to discuss what to do- possibly a street party. It was suggested that Honeysuckle Lane would be a good location for it. Bunting could be made-</p>

	<p>maybe a project for the schoolchildren? The PC said they would donate money towards catering.</p> <p>There is a grant available offering up to £700 to commemorate the Jubilee, it was decided that a new bench for the Forest Garden would be appropriate. Clerk to apply for this.</p>																								
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<b>2202/18</b>	<b>Receipts (as of 4th Feb 2022)</b>																								
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<b>2202/20</b>	<p><b>Payments were approved by all and duly signed.</b></p> <table> <tr> <td>Clerk Jan</td> <td>Salary</td> <td><b>£426</b></td> </tr> <tr> <td>HMRC Jan</td> <td>Tax</td> <td><b>£104</b></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Hannah Thomas</td> <td>Forest Garden Jan</td> <td><b>£200</b></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Hannah Thomas</td> <td>Neighbourhood plan</td> <td><b>£900</b></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Hugo Fox Nov</td> <td>Website provider</td> <td><b>£35.99</b></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Cllr Attwood</td> <td>Printing</td> <td><b>£64</b></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Brookfield</td> <td>Bins</td> <td><b>£135</b></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Ionos</td> <td>Email subs</td> <td><b>£22.80</b></td> </tr> </table> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A full list of payments were circulated and reviewed at the meeting.</li> </ul>	Clerk Jan	Salary	<b>£426</b>	HMRC Jan	Tax	<b>£104</b>	Hannah Thomas	Forest Garden Jan	<b>£200</b>	Hannah Thomas	Neighbourhood plan	<b>£900</b>	Hugo Fox Nov	Website provider	<b>£35.99</b>	Cllr Attwood	Printing	<b>£64</b>	Brookfield	Bins	<b>£135</b>	Ionos	Email subs	<b>£22.80</b>
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<b>2202/21</b>	<p><b>Balances and Bank Reconciliation at 4th Feb 2022</b></p> <p>Balances held</p> <table border="1"> <tr> <td>Unity Current A/C balance</td> <td>£27523.16</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Unity Savings A/C balance</td> <td>£61,246.62</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Cambridge Building Society</td> <td>£80,000.00</td> </tr> </table>	Unity Current A/C balance	£27523.16	Unity Savings A/C balance	£61,246.62	Cambridge Building Society	£80,000.00																		
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<b>2202/22</b>	<p><b>Planning Applications (as of 4th Feb 2022)</b></p> <p>No new applications</p>																								
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<b>2202/24</b>	<b>Correspondence.</b>																								
<b>2202/25</b>	<b>Items for inclusion in the next meeting</b>																								
<b>2202/26</b>	<p><b>Date of next meeting:</b> Thursday 10th March 2022 at 7:30pm Meeting closed at 9.05pm</p> <p><b>Part II: Confidential Information</b></p> <p>Exclusion of the Press and the Public: To resolve that in accordance with Section 1(2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 and by reason of the confidential nature of the remainder of the business, the Press and the Public be excluded from the meeting.</p>																								
	<p>Signature: <i>Anne Charteris</i>      <b>4th Feb 2022</b></p> <p>10 Duxford Road, Hinxtton, Saffron Walden, Essex CB10 1RB 01799 531827</p>																								