

# Babraham Parish Council: Minutes of meeting held 9<sup>th</sup> May 2024

Present:

Denise Dear: Chair

Stuart Laurie

Jane Goody

Charlotte Boast

Richard Bandy (arrived late)

Chris Chapman (BRC)

Anne Charteris: Clerk

Members of the Public 0

	<p><b>Part I: Non-Confidential Information</b></p> <p>Prior to the meeting, Richard Bandy and Charlotte Boast had informed the Clerk that they would be standing down as members of the Council after this meeting. Thanks were given to both for all the work they had done for the Village.</p>
<b>2405/01</b>	<p><b>To receive and approve apologies for absence</b> None received</p>
<b>2405/02</b>	<p><b>To elect a Chair of the Parish Council for the ensuing year</b> Stuart Laurie was proposed by JG, seconded by CB, all in favour</p>
<b>2405/03</b>	<p><b>To elect a Vice Chair of the Parish Council for the ensuing year</b> Denise Dear was proposed by LS, seconded by JG, all in agreement</p>
<b>2405/04</b>	<p><b>To elect Council Representatives to outside bodies</b> Neighbourhood Plan Forest Garden Babraham School Village Hall</p> <p><b>Deferred until the next meeting.</b></p>
<b>2405/05</b>	<p><b>To receive members' Declaration of Interest for items on this agenda</b> None declared</p>
<b>2405/06</b>	<p><b>To sign and approve Minutes of Meeting dated 14th March 2024</b> Approved and signed</p>
<b>2405/07</b>	<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>
<b>2405.08</b>	<p><b>Public participation time – 15 minutes allowed</b> No public present</p>
<b>2405/09</b>	<p><b>Report from South Cambridgeshire District Councillor P McDonald</b> The report can be found in full on the website, but in brief:</p>

2405/10	<p><b><u>Housing trajectory and five year land supply</u></b>  Greater Cambridge Shared Planning has just published a report on the housing trajectory and land supply for Cambridge and South Cambridgeshire. This includes an evaluation of the 5-year land supply for this area, which is now at 6.5 years. The land supply is being kept safely above 5 years to ensure that the local authorities retain control over planning issues, something the previous administration had failed to do, leading to a flurry of speculative development. Further information on the housing trajectory and land use can be found on the council's web site.</p> <p><b><u>Planning department shortlisted for award</u></b>  Greater Cambridge Shared Planning has been shortlisted for the Planning Awards 2024 Local authority planning team of the year. The Planning Awards celebrate outstanding achievements within the planning industry.</p> <p><b><u>Vape recycling introduced at recycling centres</u></b>  Vape recycling has just been introduced at all of the county's recycling centres, including our local centre at Thriplow. The new vape recycling bins offer a safe and environmentally friendly way for residents to dispose of single-use and reusable vapes</p> <p><b><u>Zero Carbon Communities Grant</u></b>  The 2024 application window for Zero Carbon Communities Grants is open until 2 June. Grants of between £2,000 and £15,000 are available to parish councils and community groups to help take local action on climate change and biodiversity. More information on the scheme and previous successful applications can be found on the web site</p> <p><b><u>Shared Prosperity Fund green space improvement funding</u></b>  The council has secured funding of around £100,000 from the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority to help improve up to six green spaces in South Cambridgeshire during the current financial year. The first phase of the project covered improvements in Great Shelford, Little Wilbraham, Coton and Orwell. Parish Councils can bid for funding in the second phase if they have land available that they would like to improve to benefit the community. This will be announced formally in mid May. In the meantime, please send any questions and expressions of interest to james.croft@scambs.gov.uk .</p> <p><b><u>Rural England Prosperity Fund grants available</u></b>  Almost £900,000 in funding is available for business and community projects in South Cambridgeshire thanks to a grant launched in the District this week, funded by central government. The Rural England Prosperity Fund is designed to support local businesses for things like diversifying or creating jobs, plus a range of community initiatives such as rural travel, volunteering opportunities, digital projects or schemes that create a sense of local pride.</p> <p><b><u>Community growing project grants Grants of up to £500 have been launched by South Cambridgeshire District Council to support communities to grow their own food sustainably and help with the cost-of-living crisis.</u></b>  These grants can be used by Parish Councils, schools or community groups to buy equipment and tools, or build raised beds for growing vegetables. The scheme will run until the end of March 2025, or until the funds are exhausted</p> <p><b>Report from Cambridgeshire County Councillors Brian Milnes and Maria King</b>  The report can be found in full on the website, but in brief:</p> <p><b>Cambridgeshire County Council meeting</b>  The Council met on 19 March, and received reports on senior manager pay, pay policy, and gender and ethnicity pay gaps. Five motions were proposed.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To work with partners to ensure our Armed Forces Covenant Officer is properly resourced; and write to Government about support for veterans, Afghan refugees, and dependents of Commonwealth veterans (PASSED)</li> </ul>
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To ask the Government to disband the Greater Cambridge Partnership and transfer its functions to the Cambridgeshire &amp; Peterborough Combined Authority but still let us keep the money (DEFEATED)</li> <li>• To oppose any new ‘locally imposed forms of taxation’, cost up lots of ‘ambitious transformational strategic infrastructure interventions’, and discuss with the Government how to pay for it. (DEFEATED)</li> <li>• To ask the Government to introduce a proportional voting system for Police &amp; Crime Commissioners and Mayors, and work with partners to encourage greater understanding of our tiers of local government and increase young people’s participation in local elections (PASSED)</li> <li>• To ask the Government to commit to making the benefits and opportunities created by growth in Greater Cambridge accessible to all residents of Cambridgeshire and to commit to essential infrastructure and services to deliver growth, establish ambitious targets for affordable housing, and invest in training and education (PASSED)</li> </ul> <p><b>‘High intensity users’ of A&amp;E services</b> Cambridgeshire County Council will host the ‘High Intensity Users’ team working with patients who frequently attend hospital A&amp;E departments. Last year the NHS in Cambridgeshire &amp; Peterborough spent an estimated total of £28 million on emergency care for 4,500 people who attended A&amp;E departments between five and ten times a year. Many of these patients have complex needs, and identifying and supporting them early can save the NHS at least forty per cent of these costs.</p> <p><b>EV charging cross-over pilot</b> A trial will take place across the county on a first-come first-served basis of EV car charging solutions that involve cables crossing the highway. We have encouraged council officers to be ambitious in this. Cambridgeshire &amp; Peterborough will need ten thousand public plug-in stations by 2030, as more and more residents without off-street parking and charging capacity will be wanting to make the switch to electric vehicles.</p> <p><b>Domestic abuse survivors with learning disabilities</b> A campaign has been launched to find carers for people with learning disabilities who have experienced domestic abuse. The initiative—the first of its kind in the country—is a joint scheme between Cambridgeshire Shared Lives and the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence Partnership. Its aim is to recruit Shared Lives Domestic Abuse Carers who will be self-employed with the scheme paying their fees. Carers can offer support just for a few hours in the daytime, for an overnight stay, or for an extended break. <a href="https://sharedlivesplus.org.uk/scheme/cambridgeshire-shared-lives-scheme/">sharedlivesplus.org.uk/scheme/cambridgeshire-shared-lives-scheme/</a></p> <p><b>2405/11 Report from Babraham Research Campus (BRC) representative</b> Report was to be given in the APM following this meeting.</p> <p><b>2405/12 Forest Garden Project.</b> 1. <b>Forest Garden Steering Group</b> The Steering Group held its inaugural meeting on 6<sup>th</sup> October 2023 with representatives for the project, the Parish Council, the Research Campus, and the Community. The function of the Steering Group is to agree an appropriate governance structure for the Forest Garden, understand any site liabilities and enable any funds to be directed to the Forest Garden in the long term. Terms of Reference were created to reflect the group’s remit. The Group has met three times and, after reviewing the range of possible governance structures, is currently reviewing the suitability of a leasing arrangement between BRC and the Parish Council.</p>
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	<p><b>2. Babraham Community Forest Garden Project - Year 3 Summary</b></p> <p>Activities carried out during Year 3:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 2 wild cherry trees planted</li> <li>- 5-bar gate lock fixed (gate posts had warped)</li> <li>- Multiple working party days for mowing, strimming, planting, weeding</li> <li>- Forest Garden presented at Sustainable Babraham event at BRC</li> <li>- Facebook page maintained</li> <li>- Presentation at the Parish Council meeting in March 2024 on the objectives of the Forest Garden and all work completed so far (copy provided for circulation)</li> </ul> <p><b>Next steps</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Budget, design and produce signage to describe the objectives of the Forest Garden and what the community to expect to see in the site</li> <li>- Inventory of plants</li> <li>- Permanent labelling</li> <li>- Summer working parties</li> </ul>																							
<b>2405/13</b>	<p><b>Year End and Annual Governance and Accountability Return</b></p> <p>CLRs had been sent these in advance to read and also the Internal Auditors Report . This was approved and signed off .</p>																							
<b>2405/14</b>	<p><b>Village Hall</b> -Bush and Bennett are trying to change the status of the terms so that outside bodies can use the new building, at present it is just to be used for educational purposes.</p>																							
<b>2405/15</b>	<p><b>Neighbourhood Plan</b></p> <p>Presubmission NP draft completed (April)</p> <p>Informal Consultation with Local Planning Authority (May)</p> <p>Very significant delays to the Local Plan which means:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Proposal for taking BRC out of the green belt not yet adopted.</li> <li>• All of Babraham Parish remains in green belt.</li> <li>• Any housing allocations in the NP likely to be rejected due to the Green Belt</li> <li>• This means that the NP will be ready before the Local Plan is adopted</li> </ul> <p>Housing allocation and masterplanning for the Close will need to be taken out of the NP. Potential to resubmit as an amendment to NP once Local Plan adopted.</p>																							
<b>2405/16</b>	<p><b>General Village Matters and new items for discussion</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Adding some interest to Pocket Park for children eg wooden Trim Trail- Clerk to source brochures and prices.</li> <li>• Fly Tipping. Rubbish from the litter pick was left by the fly tipping heap, all was collected by the Council. Thanks to Lucy and the team for doing this.</li> </ul>																							
	<p><b>FINANCE</b></p>																							
<b>2405/17</b>	<p><b>Receipts (as of 2nd May 2024)</b></p> <p><b>SCDC Precept £14,000</b> (now paid in one lump sum rather than 2 in April &amp; Sept)</p> <p><b>Unity Trust Interest £975.85</b></p>																							
<b>2405/18</b>	<p><b>Payments (as of 2<sup>nd</sup> May 2024) (2 months)</b></p> <table border="0" style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td style="width: 30%;">Clerk</td> <td style="width: 40%;">Salary/Tax/Expenses-</td> <td style="width: 30%; text-align: right;"><b>£1220.24</b></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Hugo Fox</td> <td>Website provider</td> <td style="text-align: right;"><b>£71.98</b></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Brookfield</td> <td>Bins/grasscutting</td> <td style="text-align: right;"><b>£900.00</b></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Ionos</td> <td>Email subs</td> <td style="text-align: right;"><b>£45.60</b></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Scribe</td> <td>Accountancy subs</td> <td style="text-align: right;"><b>£370.85</b></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Yorkshire Tax Bureau</td> <td>Payroll</td> <td style="text-align: right;"><b>£180</b></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Dropbox</td> <td>Subs</td> <td style="text-align: right;"><b>£95.88</b></td> </tr> </table>			Clerk	Salary/Tax/Expenses-	<b>£1220.24</b>	Hugo Fox	Website provider	<b>£71.98</b>	Brookfield	Bins/grasscutting	<b>£900.00</b>	Ionos	Email subs	<b>£45.60</b>	Scribe	Accountancy subs	<b>£370.85</b>	Yorkshire Tax Bureau	Payroll	<b>£180</b>	Dropbox	Subs	<b>£95.88</b>
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	Groundwork	Unspent Neighbourhood Plan money	<b>£4685.38</b>																				
	Unity Trust bank	Bank charges	<b>£21.30</b>																				
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A full list of payments was circulated and approved at the meeting.</li> </ul>																						
<b>2405/19</b>	<b>Balances and Bank Reconciliation at 2<sup>nd</sup> May 2024</b>																						
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<b>2405/20</b>	<b>Planning decisions (as of 2nd May 2024)</b>																						
<b>2405/21</b>	<b>Correspondence.</b>																						
	Clerk applied for funding from the Local Highway Improvement scheme to repair the path in front of the thatched Cottages near Home Farm entrance, this was turned down. Clerk was then asked to approach Highways to see if they could resurface this, again the response from Highways was negative. Clerk will now see if they can just repair the worst parts.																						
<b>2405/22</b>	<b>Items for inclusion in the next meeting</b>																						
	Cycle Path to Abington- footpath renovations. Trim Trail Newsletter Turning right from the High St onto the A1307- Clerk to contact Highways. Archive storage- Clerk to see if this can be done by Cambs Council.																						
<b>2405/23</b>	<b>Date of next meeting: Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> June 2024 at 7:30pm</b>																						
	<b>Part II: Confidential Information</b>																						
	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.																						
	Signature: <i>Anne Charteris</i> <b>2<sup>nd</sup> May 2024</b>																						
	10 Duxford Road, Hinxton, Saffron Walden, Essex CB10 1RB 01799 531827																						