

BIX AND ASSENDON PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
10TH JAN 2023

Parish Council Meeting - held on 10th Jan 2023 at Bix Village Hall.

Attendees:

Mrs. Ina Chantry (Chair), Mr William Murdoch (Vice Chair), Councillor Jeremy Montagu Williams, Cllr Karen Duthie, OCC Councillor David Bartholomew, SODC Councillor Lorraine Hillier Karen Wheeler (Clerk), 3 x members of the public.

Key: BAG – Bix & Assendon Grapevine alert email service to residents
CIL – Community Infrastructure Levy
OALC – Oxfordshire Association of Local Council
FMS – Fix My Street – website to report highway problems

1. Apologies for absence

SODC Councillor Jo Robb, Jackie Walker Village Hall

2. Member's declarations of personal and prejudicial interests

None

3. Confirmation of the minutes on 7th November 2022

These minutes were declared a true and accurate account of the meeting, then signed by the chair, Ina Chantry.

4. Matters arising from the minutes

Councillor vacancy – Vacancy still exists, any interested parties should contact the Parish clerk.

Spring litter pick – 12th March 2022, 10am- 11.30am. Meeting points - Car park VH, triangle Lower Assendon and the layby opposite the rainbow PH.

Notice boards – Bix notice board is also in need of attention –grant application submitted 10.11.22 and Cllr Lorraine Hillier confirmed that this has been approved. Clerk to order and get erected.

Noise cameras – Crowmarsh Meeting relating to speeding was held with Police and Crimes commissioner however output was disappointing. No further progress.

Grass cutting survey – At the November meeting Councillors approved to move forward with the following cutting regime. One cut by OCC late summer, Parish Council to cut a narrow strip around the triangles. OCC to cut dual carriageway. HTC to continue the cutting of lower Assendon triangle by the Fairmile. Clerk to seek clarification on ownership of land to be established in a number of areas. Rules around ownership if you maintain a piece of land to also to be established. Initial focus should be on the triangle at the Fairmile.

20mph zone – application submitted ref: 2993 9834 0756 2431

Grant policy – Councillors approved the policy which will be publicised via BAG.

Community Speed watch – the parish has a mobile speed watch device however it is not easy to use due to size.

5. OCC Report – Cllr David Bartholomew

See separate document.

6. SODC Report

See separate document.

Query re additional bins along the dual carriageway (clerk to investigate)

7. Public comments/questions

None.

8. Chairs Report

A Happy New Year to parishioners.

The heavy levels of rainfall in the last two months have caused increasing damage to the road surface. The dual carriageway in heavy rain has very high levels of surface water running down, this combined with the narrow lanes makes it particularly dangerous. It is clear the drains cannot manage the excess water. Karen is regularly chasing up FMS reports and if there is no action contacting Cllr David Bartholomew for a follow up.

The level of litter on the dual carriageway is significant with a some very large pieces, given the high winds we often experience these pieces could pose a safety risk to drivers. Hopefully, SODC will organise a litter sweep sooner rather than later.

The Smith Centre planning application has been re-submitted, it includes reports regarding a variety of questions raised by SODC and HTC. In these reports Elysian Homes believe they have answered all the issues. As a PC we objected last time.

9. Planning

Cllr, William Murdoch

Received NEW

P22/S4331/HH

Foxhill Meadow Bix

Proposed garden room.

Target decision by SODC 24th Jan 2023

Decisions received

P19/S1548/FUL

Grey Lodge Old Bix Road Bix RG9 6BY

Application proposal, including any amendments :

Demolition of existing dwelling and studio and replacement with a new house.

(As clarified by bat survey report dated October 2022)

SODC GRANTED

P22/S3545/HH

Longacre Lower Assendon

Single storey extension to existing house and outdoor swimming pool.

SODC GRANTED

Applications Awaiting SODC decision

P22/S2194/HH

The Fables Bix

Proposed erection of a garage and car port with storage area, and erection of a front porch to the existing house. This application follows lapsed permission granted in 2018 (P18/S0480/HH).

Target decision 9th Sept 2022

P22/S3033/FUL,

The Smith Centre Fairmile Henley-on-Thames

Demolition of the existing office floorspace and construction of an Extra care residential development (C2 Class Use) together with ancillary amenity spaces, landscaping, car and cycle parking and associated plant.

A discussion took place which highlighted the concerns raised last time. These were over-development of the site, the drawings which clearly show a five storey building (with the lower level as an undercroft) and lack of parking on the site. Parish councillors expressed concerns that visitors would park on the roadside, damaging the verges and possibly blocking clear site lines of the busy main road. **Comments by 23rd September 2022 Target decision 31st Jan 23 -**

Amendment (no. 2) received 5 January 2023

10. Village Hall report

New storage doors have been fitted at the back of the hall. The preferred location for the dog bin to be installed has been discussed at the last VH meeting in November and decided to be on the fence where most dog walkers come into the common, our preference is to raise it with the common field holders.

Sophie Marriott (Montessori School) will be fitting locks to the cutlery drawer, where the knives are kept, and to the two long cupboards where all the nursery provisions are kept. Also, as the chicken run is in a poor state after all the rain, she will be putting down a layer of mulch and an assortment of bars to help the chickens get off the ground. The AGM for the Village Hall will be held 21 Feb 2023.

11. HTC liaison report

No update

12. Allotment report

One allotment payment outstanding for the year. Resident chased by letter 1st Nov 22.

13. Footpath report

Nothing specific to report

14. Fix my street

Main open items are pot holes across many of the Parish roads as well as drainage issues following heavy rains. *One area is the lane at the junction of White Lane and Rectory lane, which is regularly covered with surface water. It is unclear who owns the land surrounding the damaged area of road and this would need to be clarified before any requests for action could be made.* Urgent is the central bollards along the Fairmile that are exposed following an accident – this has been raised by Cllr David Bartholomew.

Pathway alongside the dual carriageway – a large thank you to all those that made a fantastic effort in clearing the overgrown foliage.

15. Correspondence

Henley Standard, Defib recall.

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16. Finance

- a. **Payments** – Clerk salary £352.63 per month. £60.40 replacement ink
- b. **Income received** – £5.59 Interest
- c. **Bank balance:** Parish Council £9566.04 as at 09/01/23.
- d. **Budget 2023/24** – approved and signed
- e. **Precept** – Councillors agreed to increase precept to £8200
- f. **CIL** - £3850 within balance above, additional £10,464 being held by SODC. Clerk to investigate suggestions made at the meeting e.g. board showing Common history, walking paths, new noticeboard, community orchard.

17. Any other business

White Lane has been put forward to be formally registered

Next meeting 6th March

The meeting ended at 9.08pm