

BIX AND ASSENDON PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
6TH MAR 2023

Parish Council Meeting - held on 6th March 2023 at Bix Village Hall.

Attendees:

Mrs. Ina Chantry (Chair), Cllr Karen Duthie, OCC Councillor David Bartholomew, Karen Wheeler (Clerk), SODC Councillor Jo Robb, 5 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

Mr William Murdoch (Vice Chair), Councillor Jeremy Montagu Williams, Jackie Walker Village Hall
Therefore, making the meeting not quorate.

2. Member's declarations of personal and prejudicial interests

None

3. Confirmation of the minutes on 10th January 2023

As the PC were not quorate, the minutes were unable to be approved and will be reviewed at the next meeting.

4. Matters arising from the minutes

Co-Opting a new Councillor – Unable to Co-Opt as not quorate.

Spring litter pick – 12th March 2022, 10am-11.30am. Meeting points - Car park VH, triangle Lower Assendon and the layby opposite the rainbow PH. Additional bin in layby on dual carriageway requested. BAG to be sent.

Notice boards – Confirmation of grant application approval now received. As of 6th March waiting for funds to be received ahead of ordering the noticeboard.

Grass cutting – Land ownership – Clerk to seek clarification on ownership of land to be established in a number of areas. Initial focus should be on the triangle at the Fairmile. Clerk to send summary to Cllr David Bartholomew for OCC assistance.

20mph zone – application submitted ref: 2993 9834 0756 2431 – no further updates received.

Grant policy – BAG sent – two applications have been made by Clean Slate and Comet Bus (see 16e). Not quorate so will be reviewed at the next meeting. Clerk to advise applicants.

5. OCC Report – Cllr David Bartholomew

See separate document.

6. SODC Report

See separate document.

7. Public comments/questions

Residents raised the road fatality within Bix. Cause unknown but noted that there are considerable numbers of deer at the moment. Could the speed limit be reviewed? Clerk to relook at FMS relating to deer and send to Cllr David Bartholomew.

8. Chairs Report

Preparations have started for the King's Coronation. It is currently planned that each village will hold a picnic and grateful thanks should already go to residents in Lower and Middle Assendon who have agreed to offer a location. There will also be a church service on the Sunday, followed by a shared meal in the village hall and the possibility of a return of the pop-up pub at the village hall. A walk is possibly being planned for the Monday.

I have received a complaint from one of the allotment holders about the ruts forming from the entrance the gate to the paddock above the allotments. I have written to SODC to ask if something can be put down to improve the surface.

Another complaint was raised about damage caused to the Oxfordshire Way by a vehicle accessing the rear of their property. OCC have investigated and the landowner has also been in contact with the resident. As a result the damage has been made good and a stretch of fencing that was in a state of disrepair has been replaced.

The level of litter on the dual carriageway is high. Some of it is coming from commercial vehicles from other litter is coming from private cars. SODC and OCC have been contacted and there are plans to improve the situation.

A tree is to be planted on the triangle at the junction of the Fairmile and Lower Assendon. The planting has been arranged by OCC, which leads us to assume that OCC has ownership and should therefore be paying the mowing costs. This is being investigated.

Finally it is election ear, as a parish council we are always interested to hear from residents who might wish to be councillors.

9. Planning

Cllr, William Murdoch

Received NEW

[P23/S0232/T56](#)

Great Hill Barn Great Hill near Lower Assendon RG9 6AN

Installation of mobile telecommunications equipment.

Target Decision 16th March 23 (not open to public consultation)

[P23/S0450/FUL](#)

Former Orchard Dene Nurseries Lower Assendon RG9 6AG

Erection of two detached dwellings including garages, with associated car parking, landscaping and associated works, together with new pedestrian access onto Old Bix Road following demolition of existing structures (additional SAP calculations received 23rd February 2023).

Target decision 3rd April 2023

Decisions received

[P22/S4331/HH](#)

Foxhill Meadow Bix

Proposed garden room.

SODC Granted

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).

SODC REFUSED

Applications Awaiting SODC decision

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.

Considerable comments received by SODC and both Bix and Assendon Parish Council and Henley Town Council have raised concerns and recommended refusal – Further Amendments (no. 2, 3 and 4) 2023 Target decision 17th April 23

Concerns were raised about a development of a wooden structure along Old Bix road - clerk to investigate.

10. Village Hall report

The Montesori School has three children from the village and a waiting list.

The village hall held its annual meeting on 21st February where all officers agreed to continue and were duly elected.

This years budget has been agreed which includes an amount to cover increasing electricity costs. There was also agreement to the Treasurer's suggestion of making a donation to the Coronation, this needs to be discussed with the parish council.

The replacement doors to the storage room re also causing issues. Bill Dowling will be investigating this and will also repair the hole near the bench on the terrace.

The Village Hall Committee will also contact the Common Filed Holders to discuss the hole in the car park and action.

Field House opposite the village hall has asked if the car park could be used while work was taking place on the house it was agreed that this needed to be approved by the Common Filed Holders.

11. HTC liaison report

No update

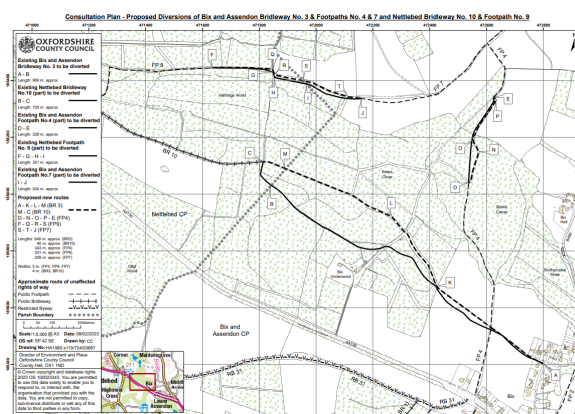
12. Allotment report

Vacant allotment – advert sent but no response received. Also still have one allotment payment outstanding, Chair to follow up.

13. Footpath report

Amendment request - Proposed Diversion Under the Highways Act 1980 s.119 - Bix & Assendon Bridleway No.3 and Footpaths Nos. 4 & 7 (parts) and Nettlebed Footpath No. 9(part) and Bridleway No. 10 (part).

BIX AND ASSENDON PARISH COUNCIL MEETING 6TH MAR 2023



14. Fix my street

Main open items are pot holes across many of the Parish roads and some signage items.

Junction of White Lane and Rectory lane is regularly covered with surface water. A resident confirmed ownership of the land surrounding the damaged area of road and this is now in progress with OCC.

Central bollards along the Fairmile that are exposed following an accident – this has been raised by Cllr David Bartholomew and work has been completed but not all the worksite cleared.

Dual carriageway closure – diversion doesn't seem to be the most sensible route Cllr David Bartholomew has challenged.

Pavement in Bix - OCC confirmed it is their land and an assessment will be made.

15. Correspondence

Footpath Bix – OCC in progress

5 x relating to rubbish on the bypass – requested on deep clean

Comments on Orchard Dene planning proposals – PC responded

Tree planting by OCC - w/c 6th March

Oxfordshire way – vehicle use - resolved

Letter from Crowmarsh PC to Thames Valley Police - Inspector Gavin Biggs as the officer responsible for the policing of the roads in the area.

Plans for Coronation – clerk to follow up to ensure Parish wide communication can be sent.

16. Finance

- a. **Payments** – Clerk salary £352.63 per month.
- b. **Income received** – £18 Allotment Whittington
- c. **Bank balance:** Parish Council £8,878.78 at 03.03.2023
- d. **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.
- e. **Donation requests** – to be reviewed next meeting as not quorate.

17. Any other business

Next meeting 11th May 2023

The meeting ended at 9.02pm