

COATES PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING TUESDAY 1 JUNE 2021
7.00PM COATES VILLAGE HALL

Present:

Councillors and Officials:	
Harrison, Richard (RH/Chair)	Chairman
Dobson, John (JD)	Councillor
Hobson, Andrew (AH)	Councillor
Harris, Stephen (SH)	Councillor
Torry-Harris, Gilly (GTH)	Councillor
Wainwright, Barry (BW)	Councillor
Coates, Caroline	Clerk & RFO

Members of the Public:
4 members of the public

1. INTRODUCTION AND WELCOME

Councillors and members of the public were welcomed to the meeting by the Chairman. New Councillors, the Clerk and members of the public were briefly introduced.

2. MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING 23 APRIL 2019

The minutes of the last meeting were approved and signed by the chairman. There were no actions to provide an update on.

Proposed: RH Secoded: SH

Councillors resolved to approve the minutes for 23 April 2019

3. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Chairman Richard Harrison delivered his report on the work of the Parish Council April 2020-March 2021. A copy of this is attached as Appendix A.

4. STATEMENT ON THE PARISH COUNCIL ACCOUNTS FOR YEAR ENDING 31 MARCH 2021

The Chairman provided information on the financial position of the Parish Council. A copy of this is attached as Appendix B.

5. UPDATE ON THE FUTURE OF VICTORY GREEN

The Clerk recognised the support and dedication of the working group to develop the Victory Green consultation and feedback for villagers. The Chair thanked members of the working group on behalf of the council. The Clerk provided an update on the Victory Green consultation, with a huge range of exciting ideas provided by villagers, and planned next steps. A follow-up flyer to be sent to all households in the village was shared. A copy of this is attached as Appendix C.

A resident shared concerns about the future use of Victory Green, the potential impact on neighbours and possible breach of covenants.

SH provided details on the implications of the covenants and that it is still possible to make use of Victory Green as a community space.

JD provided clarity regarding discussions with the Village Hall committee and possible provision of benches.

To use Victory Green as a community space and progress some of the ideas provided it is important that people step forward to help lead and shape this.

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6. RECOGNITION OF CONTRIBUTION TO THE COMMUNITY

The Chair shared the desire to thank members of the village who had helped in numerous ways to support the community throughout the pandemic. In particular

- AH in co-ordinating the volunteer group and for helping with litter picking
- Simon Large in acquiring the 400 whippets and then coordinating volunteers to plant these
- The garden volunteers in creating a positive environment on Parish land at the entrance to May Tree Close.

The Chair asked for ideas and suggestions to recognise contributions to the community and that these be sent to him. It was also asked that if individuals know of people that should be thanked that this is done on an individual basis on behalf of the village.

7. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

The Chair invited the public to raise any matters of interest or concern

- **Cotswold Stone Wall running through the village from the Village Hall to Shepherds Arms**

Concern was expressed that in many sections the wall had fallen into a state of disrepair. It is believed by the villager that the wall belongs to the Bathurst Estate and help was sought to work with the Estate to maintain the wall.

ACTION: The Clerk will contact the Bathurst Estate Office and copy in the villager who raised the concern.

- **Bathurst Estate and 'infill' plots**

Councillors are seeking greater clarity from the Bathurst Estate through a meeting on 14 June 2021. The Estate Office will be invited to share plans and thoughts at the next Parish Council meeting 5 July 2021.

- **Potential building by Bledisloe**

Councillors are in discussion with the owners of Bledisloe House regarding potential new buildings and ways to work together with the village. It is recognised by Councillors the importance of keeping the village involved in dialogue and communications.

- **Cleaning and Surveying the Sewer Pipes in the village.**

Thames Water will be cleaning and surveying the sewer using high power jets on 11 June for the day. Traffic controls will be in place throughout the village. Households effected should have already received communication from Thames Water. The Clerk is in dialogue with Thames Water to seek and share further details for all villagers.

ACTION: The Clerk to follow-up with Thames Water

- **Request for a standing pipe and tap at the entrance to May Tree Close**

The difficulties experienced to water the new gardens at the entrance to May Tree Close were shared. A resident has investigated the cost by Thames Water to provide a standing pipe – between £1000 and £2000 plus a plumber to add a tap. Thames

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Water will need identified ownership to bill for the ongoing water supply.
The Chair was not sure this is legally possible through the remit of a Parish Council.
An interim suggestion is to approach neighbours closer to the gardens and to come to an informal arrangement for the watering of these.
Councillor Stephen Hirst has been approached and is interested to see the gardens and investigate ways to support this through a possible grant.
The Clerk shared the 'Spacehive' initiative Cotswold District Council has launched to provide match-funding to crowd funding projects available to any community group.
Water butts were also suggested as an alternative.
There is a need for public consultation on the request.

ACTION: Clerk to investigate the powers of Parish Council regarding this matter. Item to be added to the agenda of next Parish Council meeting.

The meeting formally closed at 8.00pm

DRAFT