**BECKBURY PARISH COUNCIL**

**18 Caynton Rd,**

**Beckbury,**

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**Parish Council Meeting Wednesday 1st March 2023 at 7.30pm**

Minutes

In attendance- David Cummings (Chair), Peter Gibbins (Vice Chair), James Paice, David Tooth and Peter Hopkins

1. **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:**

No one in attendance.

1. **APOLOGIES:**

Councillors De Courcy, Clerk Carl Steventon, and Matt Wild

1. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:**

None declared.

1. **MINUTES:**

The minutes were agreed and passed with one correction to para 10a should read “external inspection every 12 months”.

1. **Election of New Parish Councillor**

Matt Wild had been selected as the new co-opted councillor at the last meeting but was unable to attend to be confirmed in this role.

1. **BECKBURY VILLAGE HALL:**

Councillor Paice reported that the lighting had been sorted out since the last meeting.

1. **POLICE MATTERS:** There were no new police matters to reportbut Councillor Gibbinsmade the members aware that there had been a number of recent burglaries in Badger.

The recent document “Local Policing Community Charter” was discussed, and it was agreed that the key priorities for the Parish should continue to be the prevention of theft from dwellings, farms and outbuildings.

1. **BECKBURY PLAYING FIELDS:**
2. Councillor Gibbins reported that the new playground, opened on 1st January had proved very popular with the children. Since opening, new fencing and picnic benches had also been installed.   
   The VAT had now been reclaimed and a phase 2 was being planned to utilise the balance of the funds. This will probably include 2 more pieces of play equipment and a small pump (cycle) track in the far corner of the field.
3. Playdale have quoted for the annual inspection of the playground at a cost of £312 +VAT, the next inspection due January 2024.
4. The Chair reported on the request from the RAF WARMA to make use of the playing field for their annual march, on the weekend of April 15/16th with a one day practice on March 4/5th . A fee of £150 & £75 respectively had been requested by the Clerk and we are awaiting confirmation from the RAF.
5. The situation with the request from Albrighton FC to make use of the football field was again discussed as no progress had been made in meeting with Gary Wellburn to discuss the issue. It was proposed that we should advise Gary that we were prepared to offer Albrighton FC a 3 month trial of limited use to give us the opportunity to monitor the impact on the condition of the field. To do this we would need to know the forward programme for Beckbury Badgers and the Chairman agreed to draft a letter to Gary before we responded to Albrighton...
6. **VILLAGE MAINTENANCE:**
7. The problem of water collecting at the entrance to Bigwood Farm due to a blocked culvert, reported at the last meeting, had not been resolved and the Clerk would be asked to raise the matter again.
8. Councillor Gibbins reported that the AED (defibrillator) battery was now over 3 years old and that he intended to purchase a replacement.

1. **BECKBURY VILLAGE SHOP:**

After a quiet January trade had picked up and we had recruited a couple of new volunteers. Bread supplies from Catherines Bakery had been recently restarted and was proving popular.

1. **PLANNING APPLICATIONS:**

PLANNING REFERENCE - 23/00563/FUL

DEVELOPMENT PROPOSED - Replacement of existing ancillary coach house with new ancillary coach house, garage, and storage.

LOCATION: - Lower Hall, Madeley Road, Beckbury, Shifnal, Shropshire.

There were no objections made to the above.

**13. FINANCE:**

1. The Clerk presented the following accounts for information.



Balance as at 23/2/23 - £14.637.78

1. **ANY OTHER BUSINESS**
   1. Funding for Beckbury Parish Church Clock.

The Parish Council had previously paid £500 for the annual maintenance of the clock for a 3-year cycle. It was agreed that this should continue, and that the next 3 years should be funded at a cost of £552 plus vat which could be reclaimed.

b. The "Big Health and Wellbeing Conversation" circular was comsidered. It was agreed that the Clerk should access the communication toolkit and take the appropriate steps.

c. The Chief executives bulletin was also noted.