



## MINUTES

### BAYDON ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

Friday 19<sup>th</sup> May 2023 - 8.00PM IN THE BYPA HALL, MANOR LANE

**Present:** Cllr Sarah Chidgey (Chair), Cllr Brian Billington, Cllr Wyatt-Hawkins

**Members of Public:** 11

1 **Apologies**

Apologies were received from Cllr Mackenzie Smith

2 **Minutes from Annual Parish Meeting held on 27<sup>th</sup> May 2022**

The minutes of the meeting held on 27<sup>th</sup> May 2022 were agreed to be a true record of the meeting and were signed by the Chair.

3 **Report from The Chair of Baydon Parish Council**

Highlights/things of note for June 22 onwards

**July HM Queen Elizabeth's Platinum Jubilee Celebrations**

Excellent celebrations organised by Ali Howes and Barbara Furber – seems like a long time ago now.

Queen, Princess and Duchess of Baydon were crowned. Everyone gathered at the Paddock in the afternoon and had a good time.

**Restoration of the WW1 Memorial Clock – on the Church tower**

Received funding from the War Memorial Trust, Cllr Sutton is overseeing, waiting for some paper work from the Diocese and work will hopefully commence as soon as possible.

**Neighbourhood Development Plan**

We have unsuccessfully tried to get this off the ground but due to a lack of response for help from the village this has been put on the back burner. Should anyone want to get involved and work with the Parish Council on this, please contact the Clerk. A Neighbourhood Plan is a level of protection for planning.

**Road noise close the chicane at the East End of the Village**

This was an issue for residents living at the side of Ermin Street and Wiltshire Council Highways did repair a significant stretch of the road which has alleviated the problem.

**Our Sept Mtg was cancelled as we were not quorate.**

**Sept Death of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II**

Baydon Parish Council carried out all the necessary actions, in line with Operation London Bridge, including placing a book of condolence in the Church, which has to be kept in the Parish, it is currently in my office.

**Nov: Fireworks Team**

Baydon Fireworks returned after the break due to Covid. Another stupendous display was provided – big thank you to the fireworks team

**Dec: Carols under the Christmas Tree**

Thank you to Jim Grove and the Christmas Tree gang for putting up the tree.

Successful event with the singing postman and refreshments supplied by Debbie Moxon despite her and her family having to deal with the tragic loss of Steven. Rob Howes/Jim Groves helped put the gazebo up (with some help from Brian) and Rob and Ali helped with handing out the refreshments.

## **Jan – Gary Wyatt-Hawkins co-opted on to the Parish Council**

We now have five councillors which is great.... We can have two more.

Sadly Kim Lloyd resigned as our Parish Clerk of four years.

She looked after 5 parishes, resigned from four, kept the parish in which she lives and has taken on Greenham Common in Newbury. Gillian Woodward was appointed as our new clerk in time for our March meeting but quickly resigned. Fiona Ryder took up this position on 1<sup>st</sup> May.

### **Litter Pick**

Thank you to Cllr Wyatt-Hawkins for a successful litter pick which was well attended.

### **Coronation Celebrations**

Huge success that brought the village together. Big thank you to the school for letting us use its premises. Thank you to Crystal Clifford-Budden and her team for the organisation and to Rob Smart for playing the Bagpipes.

## **4 REPORTS FROM LOCAL GROUPS AND ORGANISATIONS**

### ***Baydon Fireworks, Jim Grove***

After a two year absence the Baydon Firework Display returned in November 2022. It was another wet day for the team to set everything up but thankfully the rain eased a little for the display to go ahead. Although numbers were down from previous years we still have a total of £326.54 to go towards this year's display. Training is ongoing by Pains Fireworks and seems to be becoming more intense every year.

We would to thank everyone concerned for their continued support and for all the help on the day to make this such a successful event and we look forward to seeing you all again in November.

The Team have been working hard to bring in new younger members. Although donations are requested there are still some that try to enter without paying. Thanks were given to Burger Bob who provided the team with bacon sandwiches.

The Chair thanked the team for their hard work and gave appreciation for all that goes into the display.

It was asked if guided tours of the set up of the fireworks could be given to the public. This was deemed unsafe. An offer to take photos of the set up to be included in the Baydon Scene to show the amount of work and planning involved was received.

### ***Baydon Bash Golf Society***

Baydon Bash Golf Society meet up a couple of times a year, once at Christmas, weather permitting and once for a weekend away at a hotel/course, normally within a 2-2 ½ hr drive.

In September 2022 we made the trip to Telford Golf and Country club in Shropshire for the 3 day event. This was based on 3 rounds of golf with dinner bed and breakfast for 2 nights.

It has been known, on occasions, that once dinner has finished some empty bottles of red wine miraculously get filled with Port and are enjoyed by the members long into the evening.

12 members of the society attended the event and all got back to the Fancy B for the prize giving on Sunday night. The golf format is generally Stapleford with double points on some holes and to mix things up, we divide into two teams and run a team competition alongside the singles. It became apparently obvious last year that the temporary organiser, Andrew Head, clearly chose the venue to suit his game, claiming the longest Drive, Nearest the Pin and the overall winner of the weekend. Evening entertainment for anyone that wants to join in, is normally provided by Gordy Buckingham singing in his Norfolk tones, which no one understands and playing the guitar. Unfortunately last year the entertainment was cut short when Gordy snapped his "G" string mid song. Sounds very painful. Several offers of assistance came from the Welsh female choir ladies, who were also on their weekend golf trip, but needless to say Gordy had it all in hand. This year there are 12 of us and we are going to the Forest Of Dean Golf and Country club on the 21-23<sup>rd</sup> September.

Anyone wishing to get information about forthcoming events please contact the temporary organiser Andrew Head – 07359 437341, [andrewhead22@icloud.com](mailto:andrewhead22@icloud.com)

***Baydon Website, John Whistler***

The Baydon Website is for the village and although sponsored by the Parish Council, welcomes items from all villagers. Posts can remain active for as long as required, but please note we do not carry 'commercial adverts', formal advertising is done through the Baydon Scene.

A new revamped version of the website has unfortunately been delayed by equipment failure, but is ongoing, hopefully for 2024. As part of this new version it is hoped to introduce a "User Guide to Baydon" for those moving into the village, particularly from outside the area; and we would appreciate input from recent arrivals, or village 'old timers', as to the type of information they would like to see, or think would be useful. Please contact [Website@Baydon.org](mailto:Website@Baydon.org) with ideas or items for the site.

***Allotment Association, Jenny Gribble.***

The allotments are still very well supported and we have two people on the waiting list.

Lockdown prompted quite a few people to ask for an allotment, so all of the plots became occupied and we had a waiting list for the first time.

Over the last year we have had four people giving up their plots which has enabled us to offer five plots to people on the waiting list. Because people are very busy these days and are not always able to cultivate a whole plot we have now made more half plots available. People are finding these more manageable. When we began we had 14 full plots available and we now have 21. We are forging links with the Ramsbury Horticultural Society, membership of which will be open to anyone in the village.

The weather has been kind to us so far this year although it does have a tendency to be unpredictable. However, people are producing a lot of very good produce. We are all very busy planting and tending our plants and hoping for a good crop of vegetables and flowers.

***Baydon Table Tennis Club, Bernie Gribble***

This year has seen a return of fortunes for the Club as we have recruited new players that are not only experienced at the sport but able to turn up regularly to our Friday meetings. As a result we are all noticing an improvement in our play and beginning to talk about how to enhance our skills further and even arrange visits to other clubs in the area.

Our financial situation is also improving as a result of the increase in membership to the extent that we are giving serious consideration to the purchase of a training robot a number of which are currently available for table tennis players. The robot would be attached to one end of the table which is surrounded by a net designed to collect the balls and feed back into the machine. The function of the robot is to shoot balls down the table towards the player who must attempt to return them. The robot does not have a bat so has no capability of returning a ball however it can do clever things to the ball as it shoots them out such as vary its speed, frequency, direction and spin. Spin is the most important parameter which all good table tennis players strive to produce so learning how to return spinning balls is key to playing the game.

Hopefully in a few months we will have sufficient funds to buy a robot which will add another dimension to our Friday night sessions.

Earlier this month we held an open evening for the whole village which was a first for the Club which turned out to be a very pleasant social evening with table tennis being played by many of those present. Of particular good news was that two of the visitors promised to join the Club and hopefully play on a regular basis. It is likely that the open day will become a regular event

In summary all is well with Baydon Table Tennis Club. Our skills are improving, we have ideas on what to do in the future concerning equipment improvements, coaching and competitive playing.

The one area where we are lacking, which was not the case about four years ago, is that we no longer have any regular student players. This then should be another target for the coming year on how to attract a 'self-sustaining' group of students back into the Club

***The BYPA Village Hall, Katherine Stather***

The number of groups using the BYPA is still lower than pre-pandemic.

Check2Check dance school are using the hall on Tuesday afternoon/evenings.

We are delighted that the table tennis group has started up again and is now meeting regularly.

A martial arts group were using the hall one evening a week from July. They sadly stopped using the hall at the end of October but one of their members has started using the hall on a fortnightly basis for fencing. The Flyers have also used the hall during the autumn and winter and will start again in September. The annual accounts for the year ended 31 December 2022 showed the hall making a slight loss of £106. This year the committee continues to undertake a number of building improvements. As you can see the lights have been updated and we are due to start working on fixing the steps and the guttering shortly. The Parish Council kindly offered to include the maintenance of the banks and weed killing of the paths to their maintenance schedule. This has made a real difference as the committee were finding this unmanageable.

Our Treasurer will be stepping down in September, so we are looking for new committee members. Gordon Walker has also stepped down from the committee but is happy to continue as a Trustee. A Facebook appeal has been made to see if anyone is willing to assist.

#### ***Aldbourne & Baydon Link – report read by Sarah Chidgey***

LINK is a Good Neighbour Scheme which offers practical assistance to anyone living in Aldbourne and Baydon who needs help with transport or in the home. Most of the jobs are lifts to and from Lambourn and Ramsbury Surgery, GWH, Savernake hospital and various dentists. People also use the scheme to go shopping or visit the bank or friends and relatives. It is a lifeline for one gentleman to visit his wife in a care home in Marlborough each week.

Our Scheme is now in its 16th year. There are now 5 of us operating as co-ordinators and we have computerised our system which has made things a lot easier. One of the problems with the increased demand is that most of the requests are for daytime journeys. Although we have around 30 volunteers, only half are available during the day. We do not get many evening and weekend jobs.

There is only one driver from Baydon at the moment whereas Aldbourne have about 30. As people from Baydon use the scheme it would be good to recruit some more volunteers from Baydon. You would need to be DBS checked which takes about 30 minutes and all mileage expenses are reimbursed.

If you would like to give a few hours of your time to a community project, the Link Scheme can be very rewarding. Please contact Alan Duck (Chairman & Recruiting Officer) on 01672 540198.

Baydon contact – Ali Howes 01672 541290/07990 802976

#### ***Baydon Flyers-Cycling Group – report read by Sarah Chidgey***

Firstly, apologies for not being able to attend in person.

The Flyers remains healthy and continues to cycle and most importantly support the Fancy B for the post ride liquid protein snacks. We organise a club ride on Thursday nights which is a “No-drop” event so no one gets left behind. Anyone who has a mechanical or other problem will benefit from the assistance of their ride companions.

Rides are around 25 miles long and we can support two groups, the Peloton, our faster fitter group and the Grupetto which goes at a slower pace and decides what distance it fancies.

Our members also organise and take part in other events and rides on an AD Hoc basis and we have a lively WhatsApp group to enable this and other club interactions.

We currently have 14 members and we are happy to welcome new members.

Contact Rob 07903 830259 or Nial Cooling 07770 790194

#### ***Baydon Scene – report read by Sarah Chidgey***

A lot of work has gone into the Scene as you see it now which is hopefully visible in the last edition. We welcome contributions from the community and include items and pictures supplied where we can. We would very much like to include more advertising since finances are very tight. So if you know anyone...

The next edition will cover the Coronation celebrations including the excellent efforts of the volunteers who made it happen. It will also feature the village litter pick organised as part of the Big Help Out. We are planning a bit of a feature on local volunteering because even a small effort makes such a contribution and really does make Baydon a lovely community.

### ***St Nicholas Church, Church Warden Report, Robert Smart***

The last year has been something of a rollercoaster with some major milestone moments in everyone lives – the highs of the Queen's Platinum Jubilee and sadly her State funeral in September and on to the celebrations for King Charles III's coronation in May. Giving a couple of great reasons for a party and thanks to the hard work of those dedicated village stalwarts, we had fantastic events that brought the village together. On behalf of the church, many thanks to those who provided flowers decorations and flags for everyone to enjoy at the Church. We had so many comments from those popping in to say how fantastic the church looked.

The school has continued to hold regular services in the church, six over the last 12 months. These are always very well attended and we again thank Emma Gilbert for her continued support. In addition to these services the Church offers a variety of regular services: Family Worship, Informal worship, Matins, Morning Prayer and Holy Communion and reflective spaces services. Hopefully tending to everyone's spiritual needs. We also had two funerals, one interment of ashes and a baptism. Ros kindly gave an organ recital after the Sunday service during the coronation bank holiday weekend. It was tremendous to just sit and let such fantastic music flow over you!

The Reverend Beth Hutton is our Team Rector supported by, and with thanks to, the lay worship leaders. Given the cost of living crisis, a thank you to those leaving food donations in the church these go to the Swindon Food Collective and on to many struggling to make ends meet. With summer approaching it is worth mentioning that the church is open between circa 8am to 4pm and being a massive stone building it may be the coolest place to sit!

The Church building itself continues to need our support. The church wall continues to need scaffolding, although as the ground has stabilised over the last couple of years and the cracks in the north wall do not appear to have worsened, we have managed to remove the scaffolding on the north wall. Peter Chambers continues to collate all the information, meet with many different groups and while we now have planning permission for the ironwork and buttress originally suggested to support the north wall, a more cost effective proposal with metal ties is also being floated, costed and discussed as an alternative. These plans would then require different permissions, grants and faculties. The job has got no smaller!

The fund raising team is planning various events over the summer including open gardens, cream teas, book exchange, plant sales, a wine tasting evening to name but a few.

A huge thank you to all who help the smooth running of the Church on a weekly basis – too many roles to mention individually, but thanks all including the Parish Council who have generously continued to ensure that the churchyard is mowed and maintained.

As mentioned last year, Peter Chambers has been liaising with the Parish Council with regards to the village War Memorial – the Clock – which is due a service and needs resurfacing. This is ongoing.

After three years in the role I am stepping down as Church Warden this year but am delighted to report that Tony Topp and Peter Chambers have been elected as Church Wardens for 2023.

### ***Baydon Cribbage Team – report read by Sarah Chidgey***

Crib season 2022 – 23

We had an enjoyable season, reduced to 10 Home and 10 away matches due to a few teams leaving the league. We finished 4<sup>th</sup>, and 5<sup>th</sup> in the Beer league, though we value enjoyment and sociability more than success. We thank Melih for hosting us at the Fancy B on Wednesday evenings, 8 till about 10, through the winter.

We would welcome any new members. It is a very simple game to pick up, but can take a fair bit of concentration through a match. Contact Steve Sutton 07769 773979 if you are interested in joining us next season. Should start mid-September.

## **Baydon St Nicholas (VA) Church of England Primary School**

### School Overview

The number on roll is currently 107 pupils, though we started the year at 99. We continue to have quite a large amount of in year admissions. The school structure remains at five classes with breakfast and after school clubs provided. The Governing Body has increased in size and for the first time in many, many years I am pleased to say we do not currently have any vacancies for Foundation Governors! Mrs Fraza Robins, after undertaking the chairs position for the past year finished her term as governor. Mr Dave Madden, who works at Marlborough College in Marlborough, has taken over the baton. My thanks to Fraza for filling this vital role last year. We welcomed two new members of teaching staff to our school in September, Miss Nakita Brades, a newly qualified teacher (now referred to as an ECT - Early Career Teacher) to work with Years 1 and 2 in the goldfinches classroom and Mrs Georgina Sturla, who works over two classrooms for two days each week. They have both been excellent additions to the teaching team. Our care for pupil's personal, social and emotional health has continued to be invested in. We now have two qualified ELSAs (Emotional Learning Support Assistants) for pupils to work with (Mrs Xavier and Mrs Waterer) and we have continued with Forest school provision for Key Stage 2 and intervention groups this year with Morvern Herasimtschuk joining our team as forest school leader. We are very fortunate to have her join our school!

### School Priorities

School priorities over the past year have revolved around the curriculum, including the new introduction of a phonics scheme and to ensure that reading in Key Stage 2 is more uniformly taught. In November we received a visit from Ofsted, which was a very different experience from previous visits. During the one day visit it was judged as good but they will return in 1-2 years to run a full (two day) inspection. As a small school the current framework that Ofsted are using for inspections is a challenge, and especially considering some members of staff had only been teaching in our school for only a handful of weeks before the visit the bar to reach to remain good was high - I am thankful that we maintain this grade.

### Community Links

Members of the community continue to support the school by reading, or supporting the curriculum using their strengths (for example cooking lessons). We have had several past pupils return this year to support Wagtails, our breakfast and after school club, as part of their work in the Duke of Edinburgh scheme. It is a lovely testament to the school that these young adults are dedicating and giving back to the school. The upcoming coronation has given the opportunity for the school to support the local community by letting the grounds be used for this very special occasion.

### The School Year

The school year, since the last annual meeting held, has been action packed! The summer of 2022 heralded the long awaited return of several school events, including the school Musical (The Lion King) and Sports Day. Year 6 completed their week long residential in Dorset and the whole school set off for a most wonderful day trip to Legoland in Windsor! This trip gave all pupils the opportunities to be involved in robotics sessions (very exciting) but also the moment to enjoy being together and having a wonderful shared experience- many thanks to Friends of Baydon School for heavily subsidising this marvellous opportunity!

In the autumn we welcomed a relatively small cohort in reception to our school. From September the school week was much more 'normal' compared to the last few years, with Open the Book teams and the clergy all visiting weekly. During September we received a county safeguarding audit, which I am pleased to report went very well. During this term the children heard the sad news regarding the death of Queen Elizabeth II and shared responses and feelings in a special worship created by the Church of England for all schools. At the end of the term we celebrated Harvest in the church.

During Term 2 we held a charity day, led by our school captains in Year 6, supporting Children in Need. The whole school enjoyed two visits during this term, firstly to the Westonburt Arboretum in early November to enhance our science and geography curriculum, and the Watermill production of Rapunzel at the start of December. Children in Years 4 & 5 were lucky to be able to participate in the first of a series of cooking sessions with the Head Chef from The Vineyard, as part of their work into the community. At the end of term

we were able to put on the Christmas productions for the first time in a long time the more traditional way, with audiences enjoying a traditional nativity performed by our youngest pupils to the older pupils retelling of the nativity in a less traditional way with music, dance and drama.

Spring Terms contained two charity days, led by the house captains in Year 6 for Red Nose Day and NSPCC number day. The whole school enjoyed a house day (where children move around school completing activities in their house) which celebrated World Book Day and we also held our annual Shakespeare Week, investigating the play Romeo and Juliet. This term also contained strike days, which impacted the school. At the end of term representatives from the church hosted 'Experience Easter' in the church which retold Easter through interactive story stations and was very well received. The term finished with the Easter service, which was well attended by our families. The past few weeks have been quite different from a normal May, with the coronation being a big focus. The school celebrated the event throughout all classes and we were delighted to be able to support the community by allowing our premises to be used. Thank you to all in our community that continue to support our wonderful, special and unique school.

5 **PUBLIC QUESTIONS ON ANY OTHER MATTERS**

School Parking issues were raised, with a Police presence at school times being requested. The comments were noted and Cllr Chidgey will make a call to the PCSO team and ask the School to also contact the Police. The Parish Council are investigating the possibility of a Speed Indicator Device in Aldbourne Road and will be requesting the yellow zig-zags be repainted.

Footpath maintenance was discussed.

There are vacancies on the Parish Council, if anyone is interested in joining the Parish Council please contact the Clerk.

Members of public present thanked the Parish Council for all that they do throughout the year.

The meeting closed at 9:15pm

Signed

Cllr Sarah Chidgey(Chair)/ Date .....