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## BYGRAVE PARISH COUNCIL

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**A meeting of Bygrave Parish Council was held in the Church of St. Margaret of Antioch on Monday 11<sup>th</sup> December 2023 commencing at 8pm.**

**Present:** Cllr. P Hills (Chairman)  
Cllr. C Phipps  
Cllr. J Northern

Mrs K Clark (Clerk)

**In Attendance:** District Counsellor Tom Tyson and County Counsellor Steve Jarvis and 3 members of the Parish

**1. Apologies for absence**

None

**2. To approve and sign the minutes of meeting of 18<sup>th</sup> September 2023**

Approved

**3. To seek to co-opt Councillor vacancies**

Two members of the Parish who are interested in the vacancies were welcomed to the meeting and asked to attend a couple more so they can obtain a view of the role.

**4. Finance – expenditure approval and accounts**

£20.00 Donation for gift of thanks in relation to the Solar project work  
£200.00 Church rent for 2023 Parish Council meetings

**5. To set precept 2024/2025**

Precept agreed to keep the same as last year at **£8096**

Projected figures for 2024/2025

Clerks Salary

£4237

Office allowance

£312

Mileage

£150.00

Memberships

£600.00

Insurance

£600.00

Audit

£165.00

Rents Field and church meetings  
£450.00  
Grass Cutting & Churchyard Maintenance  
£1,900

Total £ 8414.00

Consideration of approx. £500 expense to have a mandatory .gov email address by 2025 and upgrade of website to WordPress to meet accessibility requirements

Project account balance is £3043.87  
Current account balance is £5705.28  
Projected expenses until April 2024  
Grass cutting £460  
Salary £ 1413.12 ( 4 months)  
Office allowance £104 ( 4 months)  
Church rent for 2023 £200  
Total £2177.00

Therefore  $£3043.87 + 5705.28 - 2177 =$   
Projected reserves £6572

## **6. To approve Planning applications as notified by the District Council**

None received.

## **7. Updates on Baldock Expansion**

The consultations arranged by Urban and Civic were Friday and Saturday 24th and 25th November and Wednesday 28th November - we do hope you found time to visit. BPC attended one consultation and the following was noted particularly: - • That Ashwell Road from the new proposed roundabout where the new road through the new estate joins the Ashwell Road will become a greenway i.e. there will be no vehicles allowed into Baldock from this point. This will mean for Bygrave and Ashwell we will have to turn left onto the new road and join the roundabout at the A505 and Royston Road Junction. At peak times Bygrave and Ashwell will be joining the new estate traffic (from 3000 dwellings) to enter the new road. In addition to go to Baldock down the Royston Road will mean that we will encounter all the HGVs and vans servicing the expanded industrial area. • It is proposed that under the railway bridge there will be single line traffic both ways to allow sufficient room to install a cycle track. This single lane will be operated from another set of traffic lights aligned with the ones at the junction. These two sets of lights may cause holdups if not aligned properly • It is not intended to increase car parking at the station. If one lives 2miles or less one is expected to cycle or walk • It is

proposed that there will be no left turn at the filter from Whitehorse Street into the A507 Great North Road preventing vehicles to get to the station or return from Tescos from town. Instead, the route will be via South Road up to the Buntingford Road and then straight across at the Whitehorse Street traffic lights. BYGRAVE PARISH COUNCIL • There is a possibility that the Surgery may be moved to another location so parking may become an issue if parking is not allowed.

Further comments invited to be sent to [clerk@bygraveparishcouncil.org.uk](mailto:clerk@bygraveparishcouncil.org.uk) by 25<sup>th</sup> December 2023

## **8. Update on Solar Farm**

Bygrave Parish Council is in favour of a solar farm but not on the site put forward by PACE the developer on land immediately adjacent the upper village and encompassing the last dwellings. BPC set up a separate working party 'BAG' to deal with this specific issue. The Team have spent an inordinate amount of time researching and composing reports for HCC Highways; NHDC Planners and for the Planning meeting itself. We have contended that PACE have not been entirely open book with their submission and in turn HCC and NHDC have not challenged PACE sufficiently on what has been submitted. The Planning Application has been heard by NHDC and they voted to obtain further information and the next time the application will come before the Planning Committee will be in February 2024

## **9. Speed through the village**

Options for speed measures will be designed and considered by the County Council in the next financial year.

## **10. Defibrillator**

**An application is being made through the British Heart Foundation to have this asset in the village**

## **11. District and County Councillors items -village entrance gates**

**It was proposed that new gates similar to those in Weston that were made from durable plastic would be considered in the new financial year.**

## **12. Correspondence**

Circulated via email

## **13. To confirm date and time of next meeting at 8pm on**

**Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> Feb 2024**

**Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> May 2024**

**Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> Sept 2024**

**Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> Nov 2024**