

Beckford Parish Council
Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on
18th September 2023 in Beckford Village Hall

Present

Nettie Mantle (Chairman), Diane Colvin, David Nicholds (Vice Chairman), Mike Wing, Alison Cort and Anne Worrall.

In Attendance

David Roscoe (Parish Clerk, Councillor A Hardman and Councillor B Hardman) and 1 member of the public.

1769 Apologies for absence.

1769.1 No apologies were received.

1770 Declaration of interest.

1770.1 None declared.

1771 Requests for Dispensation.

1771.1 None submitted.

1772 Minutes.

1772.1 The minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 17th July 2023 were approved and were signed by the Chairman.

1773 County Councillor's Report

1773.1 Councillor Adrian Hardman gave his report.

1773.2 Councillor Hardman will ask Overbury Estates to cut back the hedges.

1753.2 He confirmed that the "No Lorries" signage along Back Lane was still being processed. In the meantime, he will also enquire about "Beware of Pedestrians" and "Beware of Horses" etc.

1774 District Councillor's Report

1774.1 Councillor Beverley Hardman gave her report.

1774.2 She recommended that contact be made with the Wychavon Community Officer in order to arrange a visit to discuss possible projects within the community, funding etc.

1774.3 She confirmed that she had talked to the Planning Officers to remind them to keep the parish updated with long outstanding planning applications.

1775 Clerk's Report

1775.1 The clerk's report was reviewed and updated.

1776 Finance

1776.1 The Bank Reconciliation & Receipts & payments information had been circulated by David Roscoe (RFO) and were accepted. Proposed: Cllr Worrall, seconded: Cllr Colvin. Unanimous

1776.2 **It was resolved that** the following payments be approved. Proposed: Cllr Worrall seconded Cllr Colvin Unanimous.

Date	Payee	Chq No	Amount incl VAT	VAT	Reason
18/07/2023	D Roscoe (Clerks Expenses)	OB361	182.56	0.00	Clerks Expenses
15/07/2023	Worcs CALC	OB362	36.00	6.00	Training
15/07/2023	S Brown (May/June)	OB363	120.00	0.00	Speedsign Maintenance
18/07/2023	BCVH	OB364	28.00	0.00	Hall Hire
12/08/2023	D Roscoe (Clerks Salary)	DD	517.66	0.00	Clerks Salary
16/08/2023	M P Wing	OB365	87.00	0.00	Repairs
12/09/2023	D Roscoe (Clerks Salary)	DD	517.66	0.00	Clerks Salary
31/08/2023	WDC	OB366	502.52	0.00	Election Costs

19/09/2023	BCVH	OB367	38.50	0.00	Hall Hire
19/09/2023	D Roscoe (Clerks Expenses)	OB368	130.73	0.00	Clerks Expenses

- 1776.3 The Clerks Expenses were reviewed and approved. Proposed Councillor Colvin, seconded Councillor Cort. Unanimous.
- 1776.4 The Bank Reconciliation was reviewed and signed.
- 1776.5 The budget for 2023/24 was reviewed and accepted.

1777 Planning

- 1777.1 The following applications were considered.

Appl. Number	Application	Details	Result
W/23/01539/FUL	Rushymeade Farm Grafton Beckford Tewkesbury GL20 7AT	Erection of agricultural barn	Objections submitted

1778 To review the Risk Register including Little Beckford Playground

- 1778.1 Issues reported with the installation of the new library in the Little Beckford Bus Stop. This was discussed below.
- 1778.2 The Clerk will add another defibrillator to the list of Grafton assets on the Risk Register.

1779 To discuss Little Beckford Flood Alleviation.

- 1779.1 Cllr Nicholds had nothing to add from the last meeting but would continue to chase progress.

1780 To discuss communication from the WI re Severn Trent.

- 1780.1 Cllr Nicholds will send the WI the link and enquiries to Severn Trent that we used last time for them to use.
- 1780.2 Councillor Nicholds will forward details of the issues to Councillor Beverley Hardman who is meeting with Severn Trent on Friday.

1781 To discuss National Highways' proposal to upgrade the A46 to dual carriageway.

- 1781.1 Councillor Nicholds has nothing more to report.

1782 To discuss speeding on Ashton Road from the junction with Station Road up to the end of thirty mile limit in both directions.

- 1782.1 Excessive speeding concerns coming from the Ashton direction and approaching the junction from Station Road had been raised by villagers.
- 1782.2 It was agreed that this should be raised with the Local Police and ask for a speed survey to be undertaken. Also, to raise the issue that the use of mobile phones were seen whilst driving by motorists and cyclists.
- 1782.3 Also the Police should be asked whether residents can use their own mobile phones to capture evidence.

1783 To discuss cars blocking the pavement at Back Lane, Beckford, GL20 7AF near the junction with the bridleway.

- 1783.1 It was recognised that this was a serious problem, but people were able to park legally. The Parish Council had no powers to enforce.

1784 To discuss grass cutting, specifically areas which have been left uncut.

- 1784.1 It was recognised that Wychavon District Council were encouraging verges to be left uncut in order to promote pollination. It was agreed that articles regarding this issue would be put in the next newsletter and information boards produced and erected to explain why the areas are left uncut. Councillor Wing would investigate signage.

- 1785 To discuss verge cutting around the bollards on the bank in Back Lane.**
1785.1 **Action:** Councillor Colvin will discuss the issue with Barry Barnes at Highways to try and get the areas cut.
- 1786 To discuss cutting back the creeper on the hedge by Station House.**
1786.1 The creeper on the hedge, which has been recognised as an invasive species, has now been cut.
- 1787 To discuss the issue of lighting of bonfires during the day.**
1787.1 According to Wychavon Regulatory Services, (<https://www.worcsregservices.gov.uk/all-services/nuisance/bonfires/domestic-bonfire/>), householders can burn garden waste etc as long as garden fires do not create smoke that is that is prejudicial to health or a nuisance under the Environmental Protection Act 1990. It was recommended that the article be viewed via the link above.
- 1788 To discuss positioning of the new Little Beckford Library.**
1788.1 It was recognised that disabled access has become an issue. It was therefore agreed that the bookshelves be positioned at the end of the bus stop and secured to the frame to improve access.
- 1789 To discuss the Trees Call to Action Project (TCAP).**
1789.1 This will be included in the next newsletter to encourage landowners to plant trees.
- 1790 To discuss Councillor recruitment and community engagement.**
1790.1 **It was agreed that** the first instalment of £900 plus VAT be paid to mosaic. Proposed Councillor Nicholds, seconded Councillor Cort. Unanimous.
1790.2 Councillor Nicholds circulated the draft Communications Survey which was approved. Copies will be printed for distribution to local residents plus inclusion on the website, noticeboards and the Email Alert.
- 1791 To agree items for the next Newsletter.**
1791.1 To agree a Social Media and Communications Policy.
1791.2 To discuss access across the A46 from Little Beckford to Beckford.
1791.3 Items for inclusion in the next newsletter should be sent to Councillor Mantle.

The meeting closed at 8.40 pm

The date of the next meeting 20th November 2023 at 7:00 PM.

This will also be the Budget Meeting.