

BEVERSTON PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 7th December 2021

Present: Mr Oliver Preston (Chairman), Mr D Morris, Miss C Lowsley-Williams, Mr D McMeekin, Mr J Rixen-Osterbro, Miss F Gunn (Clerk).

Mr Phil Kinch was in attendance for item 2.

1 Apologies: None

2 Phil Kinch: Phil Kinch, the owner of Beverston Castle Farm, was invited to the meeting to update the Parish Council on issues affecting the farm.

Mr Kinch said that now that he has owned the farm for two years he is working out what he wants to do with it. Half the farm is currently under the Stewardship Scheme (legumes and clover) and the remainder is wheat. He is trying to reduce the use of fertilisers and sprays.

He is going to plant and lay hedges and is keen to encourage native species.

He is still keen to build a new grain store, and will be submitting a new application, because he cannot sell assured grain from the existing buildings and this would take dust and noise away from the village. He said it would be very expensive to make the existing farm buildings fit for purpose and it is cheaper to build new and that there is a problem with lorries turning in the existing farmyard. The meeting discussed whether there were alternative locations and access points around the farm for the grain store but Mr Kinch said he has concluded that there was no other site it could be put. He also said that there is no plan "B" should the application be refused again. The PC noted Mr Kinch's position, but did not accept that the existing farmyard as purchased by Mr Kinch could not be cleared and made fit for purpose.

Regarding people walking he said that this involved Health and Safety and insurance. He is keen that people stick to the official footpaths. He was asked to consider the reinstatement of permissive walking rights East/West from the Macmillan Way to Beverston, as previously requested, and reminded that these were extremely important to a relatively small number of Beverston Parishioners. He agreed to give further sympathetic thought to this request.

Asked about parking for weddings and funerals he said that if asked he would generally say yes.

3. Minutes: The minutes of the meeting held on 23rd September 2021 were approved and signed by the Chairman.

4. Matters arising not on the agenda: None

5 Planning Applications: A planning application to extend St Anthony's cottage was not contested and has been approved. The Woodlodge application is still under consideration and it was noted that the Randall family are in dispute with Woodlodge about access.

6. Babdown Industrial Estate issues:

i Signs at the entrance. Woodlodge have offered to pay for a new sign with all organisations at the industrial estate listed on it. Councillor Morris said he would approach the organisations who have signs. Cotswold District Council should be contacted to find out what their view is. Councillors Preston and Rixen-Osterbro will liaise and consideration will be given to writing to District Councillor Richard Morgan.

ii Lights. Councillor Morris said that the lights had been quite bad recently noting that at 7.20 one evening all of Woodlodge's lights were on and some lights were on for the whole of a Saturday night. It was suggested that Councillor Rixen-Osterbro might keep a record of when the lights go on and off. It was agreed that direct contact should be made with the companies before an approach is made to Cotswold District Council.

7. Road and traffic: It was noted that a repair has been made to the road at the Tetbury end of the village but it was also noted that it had been badly done. The repair to the drain cover further up the village has not yet been done.

8. Financial: The Clerk reported that there is £21,528 in the Parish Council account. The is £5,878 in the Village Hall Trust Account and £1,260 in the Village Hall Operations Account.

9. Precept. After a discussion on the level of the precept for the next financial year 2022/23 it was agreed that the precept should remain the same as the last financial year - £6,000.

10. Any other business

- **Street cleaning.** The clerk reported that she had been in contact with Cotswold District Council with a request that the gutters and pavements are cleaned.
- **New noticeboard.** The clerk informed the meeting that the noticeboard in Beverston village is in bad condition and probably needs to be replaced. The Parish Council agreed that quotes should be obtained and Cllr Lowsley-Williams suggested that Wildlife World at Chavenage should be invited to quote.

11. Date of next meeting. Tuesday 12th April at 5pm